

# Information that may be of interest...

**March 9, 2020**

This information is provided by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association. We are sharing it as a service to our members. If this notice does not interest you, please disregard it.

You can also find these weekly newsletters online in PDF (printable) format at [www.murrayhillnyc.org](http://www.murrayhillnyc.org) in the News section, look for Weekly Eblasts 2020.

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## Public Service Notice

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Source: Email from Caremount Medical Murray Hill, March 4, 2020

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has arrived in the New York metropolitan area. The number of confirmed cases is almost certain to rise in our region over the next several weeks as verified testing becomes more available. At this time no physician offices have the ability to test for COVID-19. The test can only be done by New York State and the Center for Disease Control. For more information visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov).

**Risks:** The overall risk of serious illness from COVID-19 is low. Most patients who are infected will have mild upper respiratory symptoms including fever, nasal congestion and cough. A minority of patients can however develop pneumonia and some of these will require hospitalization. A small proportion of these patients will sadly have a fatal case. Those at greatest risk are elderly people and those with chronic medical conditions such as COPD, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. Parents—it is natural to worry for our young ones, but so far the data appears to show that the overwhelming majority of children have a mild upper respiratory illness, or no illness at all from this virus.

**Prevention:** Since the illness is predominantly spread between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, it is imperative that we all practice vigilant hygiene. Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds. Cover coughs and sneezes with the crook of your arm. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Teach your children proper hygiene practices as well. Forgo shaking hands with people this winter—they will understand.

**Treatment:** If you develop flu-like symptoms and are not short of breath, the best thing you can do for yourself and your community is stay home. You can contact your medical provider for advice...If you are feeling more severely ill, and in particular, are having trouble breathing, do not delay seeking medical care. If you are unable to get to a local emergency room, call 911. Warn 911 if you have risks for having the coronavirus (travel to China, Italy, South Korea, Iran or Japan in the last 14 days, or close contact with someone proven to have the virus).

**State Department's Travel Advisories:** If you are planning to travel to other countries, check [travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html).

As of 3/6/20, countries that are high risk are **China, Iran, South Korea, Japan, Italy and Hong Kong**. Travelers to those countries are being asked to self-quarantine for 14 days.

**Medicare Part B** (Medical Insurance) covers a test to find out if you have Coronavirus. Note: Your provider must wait until after April 1, 2020 to submit a claim to Medicare for this test.

**Related article: [Addressing coronavirus fears, chancellor says every NYC school will soon have a nurse](#)**

March 5, 2020, *chalkbeat.org*, by Christina Veiga

**Related article: [After mixed messages, NYC will not count absences in middle and high school admissions amid coronavirus fears](#)**

March 4, 2020, *chalkbeat.org*, by Christina Veiga, Alex Zimmerman

**[New York schools and colleges ramp up coronavirus response as more cases emerge](#)**

March 3, 2020, *politico.com*, by Nick Niedzwiadek and Madina Toure

Public and private universities in New York are suspending travel and calling back students studying abroad as they confront the growing spread of coronavirus.

**Related article: [NYC schools scramble to track student and teacher travel amid coronavirus threat](#)**

March 5, 2020, *chalkbeat.org*, by Christina Veiga

It's unclear how many school-organized trips to affected...have taken place since the coronavirus outbreak...Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for travelers returning to the U.S. has shifted since the students returned. The most recent guidance advises people returning from Italy to stay home for 14 days.

**Related article: [Combatting Coronavirus](#)**

Source: Email from Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY-12), March 7, 2020

Congress passed the bipartisan, bicameral emergency coronavirus response funding package, \$8.3 billion in emergency funding to help combat the coronavirus. Rep. Maloney voted to support this bill. Earlier this week, she joined with Economic and Consumer Policy Subcommittee Chairman Raja Krishnamoorthi, National Security Subcommittee Chairman Stephen F. Lynch, and Government Operations Subcommittee Chairman Gerry Connolly in sending letters to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the testing, diagnoses, and costs of treating the coronavirus. The Oversight Committee will also be holding a hearing on this next week. We need to do all we can to stop the spread of this virus.

## [Senate Bill S7919 - Signed by Governor Cuomo: Relates to issuing by the governor of any directive necessary to respond to a state disaster emergency; appropriation](#)

Permits the governor to issue by executive order any directive necessary to respond to a state disaster emergency; and makes a \$40,000,000 appropriation from the state purposes account of the general fund for responding to the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

### **Related article: [A new paid sick leave plan for coronavirus](#)**

March 3, 2020, *cityandstateny.com*, by Zach Williams

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he would amend his budget proposal on paid sick leave to include a provision that would require employers to pay workers and protect their jobs if they are quarantined because of the coronavirus. Assembly member Dick Gottfried, voted against the controversial measure.

### **Related article: [Street and White House Diverge on Coronavirus \(paywall\)](#)**

March 7, 2020, *wsj.com*, by Scott Patterson

Two starkly different views on ability to contain crisis add to sense of anxiety. In Washington, the coronavirus is serious but manageable and the economy is solid. On Wall Street, it is a full-blown crisis that will cause a deep recession and seriously damage global trade.

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## The MHNA Discount Program

Please be prepared to show proof of membership when you ask for a discount.

Full list of discounts offered to MHNA members:

[Restaurant and Food Discounts](#)  
[General Discounts](#)

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## Upcoming events

Thursday, March 12 6pm

### [Community Board 5 - Full Board Meeting](#)

Agenda items for businesses near Murray Hill. Send comments or questions to Community Board Five via email at [office@cb5.org](mailto:office@cb5.org) or call 212-465-0907.

- 18 East 33rd Street (Captain's Bar and Grill) - The establishment is applying to add DJ, live music, karaoke, dancing at private events, trivia night and to extend their hours to 4am, Monday-Saturday.

- 16 East 30th Street (16-18 East 30th Street LP) - a new application for a liquor license at a hotel lobby bar with a patio/deck.
- 250 5th Avenue [28th Street] (Cosmic Realty Partners LLC) - A new application for a hotel with restaurant/bar and private event spaces. The license would feature a DJ, live music, patron dancing, security personnel and outdoor terraces. This license is within CB5's Broadway Corridor Restricted Licensing Area.

at Xavier High School  
30 West 16th Street, Second Floor Library

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emergency-planning-for-nonprofits-tickets-94014097697>

**April 7 & 20**

### **[Emergency Planning for Nonprofits](#)**

Free. Presented by Human Services Council. NOTE: participants MUST attend both sessions! Is your nonprofit ready to respond to a disaster that impacts the organization or their clients? Human Services Council offers hands-on training for senior managers on how to produce a concise and effective emergency plan.

at Human Services Council of New York  
130 East 59th Street, 7th Floor

## **Kudos!**

### **MHNA P&D Committee Honored by GANYC**

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Preservation & Design Committee was honored by the Guides Association of New York City with an *Apple Award for Outstanding Achievement in Support of NYC Preservation*. Susan Demmet, Co-Chair of the P&D Committee, received the award on behalf of the committee at the 2020 GANYC Apple Awards event on March 2 held at the SVA Theatre. The P&D Committee has several programs that brought their work to the attention of GANYC. The committee recently produced a new DVD of the Murray Hill walking tour. They also offer monthly walking tours throughout the year and at the annual street festival. They are working with the Landmarks Preservation Commission to get landmark designation for additional buildings in Murray Hill, and they launched a program in 2018 to install Cultural Medallions on buildings in the neighborhood. Cultural Medallions give a short description of significant people who lived in Murray Hill. Four buildings now have cultural medallions.



Photo of Susan Demmet receiving the GANYC Apple Award.

## Murray Hill in the news



### [How BTS Filmed a 'Top Secret' Video in Grand Central Terminal](#)

February 25, 2020, *nytimes.com*, by Andrea Salcedo

A performance by the wildly popular K-pop group for "The Tonight Show" inside the iconic transit hub took an army to pull off.

### [Lady Gaga's Dad Boycotts Rent At Grand Central Resto: Report](#)

February 28, 2020, *patch.com*, by Brendan Krisel

Restaurant owner Joe Germanotta claims the homeless presence at Grand Central is hurting his business.

### [Integration efforts kick off in Manhattan's District 2, home to some of NYC's most affluent and coveted schools](#)

March 4, 2020, *chalkbeat.org*, by Christina Veiga

District leaders last week presented the outlines of a pilot proposal to rethink admissions and make schools more welcoming for all students, stemming from a state grant aimed at improving schools by making them more diverse.

## Business resources

### [Small Biz Agenda website](#)

The Small Business Agenda advocacy group wants to ensure that business owners are heard by government officials in the policy-making process.

## Traffic and transportation

### **Temporary bus stop on 3rd Avenue between 34th & 35th Street will be removed.**

Source: Email from Community Board 6, February 25, 2020

The temporary bus stop that was located on 3rd Avenue between 34th & 35th Street was causing problems for cars trying to get into the right lane on 3rd Avenue on that block. Between 34th & 36th Street, the right lane on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is designated as a turning lane into the Queens Midtown Tunnel. This caused traffic and safety issues. The bus stop will be removed. The nearest bus stops are 31st Street and 37th Street on 3rd Avenue. The regular bus stop on 3rd Avenue between 34th Street & 33rd Street is temporarily closed due to street construction on that block.

### [Compromise could be close on DMV access, trusted traveler dispute](#)

February 27, 2020, *buffalonews.com*, by Tom Precious

Federal homeland security officials say a stalemate with New York State over access to motor vehicle records may be ending following an offer by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo to give driver's license information to federal agents minus drivers' Social Security numbers.

### **Related article: [New Yorkers Still Waiting For Federal Government To Refund \\$100 Global Entry Fees](#)**

March 3, 2020, *gothamist.com*, by Sophia Chang

### [Meet New York City's new Train Foster Mom](#)

February 28, 2020, *cityandstateny.com*, by Rebecca C. Lewis  
Sarah Feinberg has been tapped as the interim transit chief.

## [Mayor Bill de Blasio And Billy Idol Declare 'War On Idling'](#)

February 27, 2020, *gothamist.com*, by Jake Offenhartz

Mayor Bill de Blasio has enlisted the help of Billy Idol to force drivers to cut their engines while parked.

## [Manhattan Panel to DOT: Use Curbside Space for More Than Just Parking](#)

February 24, 2020, *nyc.streetsblog.org*, by Dave Colon

## **Affordability, homelessness & zoning**

### [City Council Members and De Blasio Planning Chief Spar Over Neighborhood Rezoning at Budget Hearing](#)

March 5, 2020, *gothamgazette.com*, by Samar Khurshid

What was ostensibly meant to be a City Council hearing on the proposed preliminary budget for the Department of City Planning on Tuesday turned into a debate about the de Blasio administration's approach to neighborhood rezonings. Several Council members expressed their displeasure with rapid gentrification and resident displacement, and what they believe are the city's insufficient efforts to stop those trends while at times exacerbating them through rezonings, while Mayor Bill de Blasio's planning chief, Marisa Lago, defended the administration's approach to housing and community development...Lago—who is the director of the Department of City Planning and chair of the City Planning Commission—found herself on the defensive as she explained the administration's strategy behind its neighborhood rezoning plans, which undergird de Blasio's 12-year plan to build and preserve 300,000 units of rent-restricted housing. DCP plays a central role in that rezoning process, while the City Planning Commission winds up voting to approve or disapprove the proposals that make their way through the city's land use review process...If the administration were to stop rezoning wide swathes of neighborhoods, market-rate "as-of-right" housing would continue to be built, Lago said. As she explained at the hearing on Tuesday, 80% of housing construction in the city takes place "as-of-right," which involves private development where the city does not have a role to play...Acknowledging that its affordable housing plan needs to create deeper affordability, the administration has reset its housing program multiple times, most recently by expanding the number of units that will be set aside for the lowest income and homeless New Yorkers, Council members have repeatedly said the rezoning plans don't create enough housing that is affordable for the current residents of the neighborhoods involved. That's also why some Council members have sought to downzone parts of their districts in neighborhood rezonings, to preserve the character of their communities and prevent the kind of rapid development that they fear will lead to rising rents that push out long-time residents..."We are seeing displacement occur with or without rezoning," Lago emphasized, noting that the city's approach has been to prevent displacement through various other means including free legal services to low-income tenants facing eviction and anti-tenant harassment measures, among others.

### [High Rises Are Not High Density](#)

Housing Density: From Tenements to Towers at the Skyscraper Museum shows how New York City became de-densified.

February 26, 2020, *metropolismag.com*, by Anthony Paletta

### **[NYC's Crackdown on Illegal Airbnb Empires Has a New Target](#) (paywall)**

March 2, 2020, *wired.com*, by Paris Martineau

In a subpoena filed Monday, city officials say startup Guesty has facilitated the expansion of short-term rental empires that violate local rules...The news marks the latest chapter in the high-profile feud between New York City officials and Airbnb. Platforms like Airbnb are typically associated with mom-and-pop-style homesharing—where a homeowner rents out a spare room to earn cash on the side, or lists their place for rent occasionally when they're out of town—but in reality, much of the industry's money comes from large-scale commercial operators who have transformed multiple properties or residential spaces into de facto hotels, which are rented out full-time to short-term guests through sites like Airbnb...

## **Census**

### **[How the U.S. Census Bureau Counts People Living in Unconventional Places](#)**

March 2, 2020, *census.gov*, by America Counts Staff

People from every generation live in unconventional ways and locations. Some reside at horseracing stables or travel with circuses and carnivals...others live on boats, docking at marinas most of the time...If they have a more permanent home elsewhere, the Census Bureau considers the place they spend most of their time their address...For census purposes, enumeration of the transitory population does not include people who are experiencing homelessness and live in makeshift tents or RV encampments where they do not pay to stay. This population is counted in a separate "group quarters" operation called Service-Based Enumeration.

### **[It's Not Too Late to Apply for a 2020 Census Job](#)**

The U.S. Census Bureau is still hiring to fill temporary part-time positions with the 2020 Census. Apply to earn extra income and help your community. The positions offer competitive pay, flexible hours, paid training, and weekly paychecks. Anyone age 18 and older, such as recent high school graduates, college students, veterans, retirees, military spouses, seasonal workers, and people who are bilingual are highly encouraged to apply. People who already have jobs and want to earn extra income evenings and weekends are also encouraged to apply. Apply online at <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>

## **Budget & taxes**

### **[Trump: Government will start withholding funds from sanctuary cities after court ruling](#)**

March 5, 2020, *thehill.com*, by Brett Samuels

President Trump on Thursday said his administration will begin withholding funding from self-described sanctuary cities after a federal court ruled last week that it could do so...The 2nd Circuit Court of

Appeals in Manhattan ruled on Feb. 26 that the Department of Justice (DOJ) could withhold funding from cities and states that refuse to cooperate with the Trump administration's crackdown on undocumented immigrants.

### **Court dismisses lawsuit challenging city's property tax system**

February 27, 2020, *politico.com*, by Janaki Chadha

A state Supreme Court judge ruled Thursday to dismiss a lawsuit seeking to upend the city's convoluted property tax system, writing that its myriad flaws do not violate equal protections under the Constitution...The coalition [Tax Equity Now New York] has long argued that the system will never be reformed without a court mandate.

## **Resiliency**

### **Protecting New York from Future Storms like Hurricane Sandy**

Source: Email from Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY-12), March 7, 2020

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recently announced the indefinite suspension of a critical NYC coastal resiliency study. The New York and New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study (HATS) is critical in enabling New York to best prepare for any future weather events that may cause storm surges and flooding.

Rep. Maloney wrote to Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of USACE, this week to urge him to immediately reinstate this study. The decision to cancel this in-progress study is highly unusual and goes against the USACE's mission to reduce the risk of natural disasters. Long-term mitigation strategies can take decades to implement, and it is crucial that the feasibility study continue without any further delay so that we can best plan and prepare.

You can read her full letter to the Lieutenant General: <https://maloney.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-maloney-urges-reinstatement-of-critical-coastal-resiliency-study>

## **Survey**

### **Survey: Do you want to share your opinions on the biggest legislative proposals being debated in Albany?**

City & State is partnering with Honan Strategy Group on a survey about the top New York policy issues and the biggest legislative proposals being debated in Albany. [Take the online survey](#), which takes less than five minutes to complete. Your opinions are very valuable to them. Please note that your responses will be kept strictly confidential and will only be looked at in aggregate.

## **Government, legislation, rules, policies (including pending)**

### **NYPD, de Blasio blame bail reform for crime spike as defenders question police stats**

March 5, 2020, *politico.com*, by Erin Durkin

Mayor Bill de Blasio and the NYPD reported a major spike in crime for the second straight month and doubled down on blaming the jump on bail reform — even as public defenders charged police may be manipulating the stats to push their agenda...The gap between reported crime and cases reaching court is explained by prosecutors declining to prosecute more cases, the NYPD argues.

### **Sen. Gillibrand introduces legislation to form new government agency to protect Americans' online data**

February 23, 2020, *nydailynews.com*, by Clayton Guse

Legislation introduced by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) on Sunday would give Americans more control over their online data — and keep millions of people from having their personal information abused by private companies.

### **Assembly Leader: No Deal on Marijuana Without Revenue Stream for Impacted Communities**

February 28, 2020, *nynow.wmht.org*, by Dan Clark

### **NYC Lawmakers Want Big Food Delivery App Fees To Go**

February 27, 2020, *patch.com*, by Kathleen Culliton

Seamless and GrubHub are the targets of new legislation to regulate food delivery app fees in New York City...Legislation that would amp up regulations of food delivery apps in New York City was introduced in City Council...The legislation...would cap commissions at 10 percent, prohibit charges for phone orders that never happened and mandate the apps disclose commissions paid.

### **'I Wanna Quit The Gym' Bill Passes In NY State Senate**

February 27, 2020, *patch.com*, by Kathleen Culliton

A new law would make it easier for New Yorkers to get out of notoriously hard to cancel gym memberships..."Exercising regularly is tiring enough," said state Sen. Brad Hoylman, the Manhattan representative who sponsored the bill. "New Yorkers shouldn't have to jump through hoops simply to quit their gym and join another." The bill now heads to the New York state Assembly for a vote.

### **Climate Act Compliance: Buildings Must Lower Emissions to Avoid Heavy Fines**

February 24, 2020, *cooperator.com*, by Darcey Gerstein

[T]he sweeping nine-bill Climate Mobilization Act passed in May of 2019 and taking effect this year will have the real estate industry scrambling to get with the program -- and to avoid the steep financial penalties for noncompliance...The first step (and one that is currently required of buildings every 10 years) is to perform an energy audit—an analysis of a building's systems and equipment for the production and consumption of energy. This fall...buildings will get their letter grades in conformance with LL84 based on benchmarking that is due May 1, 2020...if you exceed [the limits as published in the law], you could start working on addressing what carbon management plan you need to put in place to address that by 2024...New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) offers its support to buildings undergoing or considering such projects...Go to <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All->

[Programs/Programs/Commercial-Property-Assessed-Clean-Energy](#) to find out more information about these programs.

### [De Blasio's tech czar rips Google-linked group for WiFi kiosks delays](#)

March 3, 2020, *nypost.com*, by Rich Calder

City Hall's new tech czar threatened Tuesday to take the Google-linked consortium supplying the Big Apple's free WiFi kiosks to court over massive installation delays and its failure to pay the city more than \$30 million. The city's technology chief, Jessica Tisch, told a City Council hearing that the firm — CityBridge, which is partially owned by Google's parent company, Alphabet — is dragging its feet on new "LinkNYC" stations...And, she ripped CityBridge for taking too long removing hundreds of the city's last remaining payphones. "All of this is against the backdrop of millions of dollars in advertising revenue that CityBridge has reported it received over the same period," she said... "CityBridge has maintained LinkNYC's free services for the public — across all five boroughs — at no cost to users or taxpayers" [said a CityBridge spokesperson].

### [State doesn't have equipment, data to properly regulate Spectrum, audit finds](#)

March 3, 2020, Updated March 4, 2020, *syracuse.com*, by Rick Moriarty

The New York Public Service Commission is literally not equipped to properly monitor Spectrum and other utilities across the state, according to an audit released Tuesday by state Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli. Auditors from DiNapoli's office found regulators lacked the equipment to measure internet speeds, used inaccurate data to track service reliability and imposed only four penalties in four years, according to the audit.

### [A bid to replace New York's complete joke of an ethics watchdog](#)

March 6, 2020, *nypost.com*, by Post Editorial Board

It's a watchdog that answers to the folks it's supposed to police, so the state Joint Commission on Public Ethics has been a joke since it launched in 2011. Now a group of state lawmakers led by Sen. Liz Krueger (D-Manhattan) are pushing a solution. Krueger & Co. aim to amend the state Constitution to replace JCOPE with an ethics body made up of five members appointed by judges and just four named by elected officials.

## Public service notices

### **What's a money mule scam?**

March 4, 2020, [consumer.ftc.gov](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov), by Lisa Weintraub Schifferle, Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer & Business Education

Scammers may try to use you to move stolen money. If you help them, you could be what law enforcement calls a money mule. Money mule scams happen several ways. The story often involves online dating, work-at-home jobs, or prizes. Scammers send money to you, sometimes by check, then ask you to send (some of) it to someone else. They often want you to use gift cards or wire transfers. Of course, they don't tell you the money is stolen and they're lying about the reason to send it. If you deposit the scammer's check, it may clear but then later turn out to be a fake check. The bank will want

you to repay it. If you give the scammer your account information, they may misuse it. You could even get into legal trouble for helping a scammer move stolen money.

How can you avoid money mule scams?

- Don't accept a job that asks you to transfer money. They may tell you to send money to a "client" or "supplier." Say no. You may be helping a scammer move stolen money.
- Never send money to collect a prize. That's always a scam, and they might be trying to get you to move stolen money.
- Don't send money back to an online love interest who's sent you money. Also always a scam, and another a way to get you to move stolen money.

If you think you might be involved in a money mule or money transfer scam, stop transferring money. Notify your bank, the wire transfer service, or any gift card companies involved. Then, report it to the FTC at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint).

## Business resources

### [The Startup Roadmap: Your Guide to Successfully Starting a Business](#)

Online training for startup businesses. A Step-by-Step, How-To Guide for Starting a Business

The Startup Roadmap presented by SCORE and sponsored by FedEx outlines each step in starting a business with information and resources on the most difficult tasks. It also contains tips for working "With Your Mentor" on each topic.

## Stories we are following

### [How Hard Will the Robots Make Us Work?](#)

February 27, 2020, *theverge.com*, by Josh Dzieza

In warehouses, call centers, and other sectors, intelligent machines are managing humans, and they're making work more stressful, grueling, and dangerous.

### [Could coronavirus push gig workers' labor fight to the fore?](#)

March 4, 2020, *cityandstateny.com*, by Annie McDonough

Could the coronavirus put more emphasis on gig workers – and the long-simmering policy debate over how to protect them?...they don't have paid sick leave or paid time off...this has not gotten to the level of impacting the conversation about the gig economy..."Gig workers and other misclassified workers are more vulnerable both because they don't have paid sick leave, and because they live day to day under poverty wages and with little to no job security," [Bhairavi Desai, executive director of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance] wrote in an email.

### **(opinion)** [Train of thought: The MTA fails to enforce its bad ban on political ads](#)

March 4, 2020, *nydailynews.com*, by Daily News Editorial Board

The city Transit Authority's policy prohibiting all political and message ads...just went from stupid to downright brain-dead...[They] somehow okayed widespread promotion of something called the Sex

Workers' Pop-Up. What is it? An art and performance exhibit next week organized by a number of advocacy organizations, including DecrimNY, which says it's "working to decriminalize, decarcerate and destigmatize the sex trades in New York city and state." ...In other words, despite chilling other paid political speech, the MTA has just okayed the placement of a patently political ad underground. Will it now allow a rebuttal from the National Organization for Women, the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women or others who virulently oppose the legalization of prostitution? It must.

## **FreshDirect, After Broken Eggs and Angry Customers, Stages a Comeback**

February 21, 2020, *nytimes.com*, by David Yaffe-Bellany

Battling a troubled move and loss of shoppers' trust, the New York online grocery service now contends with increased competition. FreshDirect's move to a larger, more complicated warehouse in the Bronx in 2018 led to canceled orders and missing items.

## **Our government representatives**

When contacting your representative, be sure to state your address so that they know that you are a constituent. You can see the District maps and sign up for their emails on their websites.

**Manhattan Community Board 5:** [www.cb5.org](http://www.cb5.org), 212-465-0907, [office@cb5.org](mailto:office@cb5.org)

**Manhattan Community Board 6:** [cbsix.org](http://cbsix.org), 212-319-3750, [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org)

**NYC Councilwoman Carlina Rivera, Council District 2:** [council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera](http://council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera), 212-677-1077, [District2@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District2@council.nyc.gov)

**NYC Council Speaker, Corey Johnson, Council District 3:** [council.nyc.gov/district-3](http://council.nyc.gov/district-3), 212-564-7757, [SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov](mailto:SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov)

**NYC Council Member Keith Powers, Council District 4:** [council.nyc.gov/keith-powers](http://council.nyc.gov/keith-powers), 212-818-0580, [KPowers@council.nyc.gov](mailto:KPowers@council.nyc.gov)

**Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer:** [manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov), 212-669-8300, [info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov](mailto:info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

**Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, #GetHelp,** The Office of the Public Advocate assists with complaints and inquiries involving government-related services and regulations. Telephone Hotline: 212-669-7250, email: [GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov)

**Mayor Bill de Blasio:** [www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor), 311, online message: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>

Landmarks Preservation Commission: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page>

NY State Senator Liz Krueger, 28th Senate District: [www.nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger](http://www.nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger), 212-490-9535, [lkrueger@nysenate.gov](mailto:lkrueger@nysenate.gov)

NY State Senator Brad Hoylman, 27th Senate District: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/brad-hoylman>, 212-633-8052, [hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov)

NY State Assembly Member Dan Quart, Assembly District 73, [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Dan-Quart](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Dan-Quart), 212-605-0937, [quartd@nyassembly.gov](mailto:quartd@nyassembly.gov)

NY State Assembly Member Harvey Epstein, Assembly District 74, [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein), 212-979-9696, [epsteinh@nyassembly.gov](mailto:epsteinh@nyassembly.gov)

NY Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried, Assembly District 75, [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Richard-N-Gottfried](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Richard-N-Gottfried), 212-807-7900, [GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov](mailto:GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov)

U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney, New York's 12th Congressional District: <https://maloney.house.gov>, 212-860-0606, website contact form: <https://maloney.house.gov/contact-carolyn/email-me>

U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer: [www.schumer.senate.gov](http://www.schumer.senate.gov), 212-486-4430, website contact form: <https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck>

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand: [www.gillibrand.senate.gov](http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov), 212-688-6262, website contact form: [www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me](http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me)

U.S. President Donald Trump: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/people/donald-j-trump> website contact form: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

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Contact the MHNA by email at [info@murrayhillnyc.org](mailto:info@murrayhillnyc.org)

