



# Murray Hill

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## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Information that may be of interest...

**March 21, 2022**

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.

Please share this email with a friend, neighbor or colleague. You can sign up for these emails at [www.murrayhillnyc.org](http://www.murrayhillnyc.org), scroll down the Also Happening column.

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## March is Irish-American History & Heritage Month

and

## Women's Month

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## Transportation advisories

Please visit [murrayhillnyc.org](http://murrayhillnyc.org) Traffic Updates section to see the latest work notices.

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### Grand Central Terminal Safety Reminder

Please note: wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth is still mandatory when you're in the Terminal, on Metro-North trains, and within all indoor stations, even if you are fully vaccinated. Violators are subject to a \$50 fine and may be removed from facility or train. Please maintain a safe social distance of 6 feet or more where possible. Under updated CDC guidance, masks are not required on outdoor Metro-North Railroad stations and platforms. Once a customer boards a train, masks are required.

Seated indoor dining restaurants and bars are operating in accordance with New York State safety guidelines. Masks must still be worn except when eating and drinking.

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## Department of Sanitation advisory

### **DSNY no longer requires a bulk appointment to pick up your bigger trash items.**

Please check with your building for their own rules for disposing of larger items. It's ok to put your items out according to your normal collection schedule. Find your collection schedule at [www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/collectionSchedule](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/collectionSchedule).

And, as always, if your item has some life left, consider donating it! You can find options at [www1.nyc.gov/assets/donate/site/home](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/donate/site/home). Some groups will even pick up your item!

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## Make your views known

### **Senator Hoylman's update on the Governor's budget proposal to lift the 12 FAR cap for residential development in New York**

March 18, 2022, email from State Senator Brad Hoylman

Thank you for contacting me about the Governor's 2022-23 Executive Budget proposal that would lift the 12 FAR cap [[FAR is a zoning acronym](#) meaning Floor Area Ratio] for residential development in New York State. I appreciate your reaching out to me on this important issue...the removal of this height cap was not included in the Senate's budget response to the Governor's budget proposal, called the "Senate One House." Please be assured that I oppose this proposal being included in the NYS final Budget as I have in years past and will work with my colleagues to this effect as we negotiate the budget over the coming weeks.

[Editor's note: State Senator Liz Krueger has also stated that she is opposed to lifting the 12 FAR cap. The Assembly also passed their One-House Budget proposals. Legislators also removed the governor's proposed replacement for the controversial 421a tax break for real estate developers. The State budget is due on April 1.]

***Village Preservation, an activist group for historic preservation, has a prepared (editable) email that can be used to thank our elected representatives for keeping the lifting of the 12 FAR out of the first Senate version of the New York State budget and to urge them to keep it out of the Final Budget***

<https://p2a.co/yvbs7ep>.

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## Think Before You Tap That Handy App

Did you know that our local restaurants pay a sizable commission to delivery apps like Grub Hub, Seamless and Uber Eats? Those commissions can reach as high as 25%, wiping out any profit a restaurant makes. We polled a few of the most popular eateries in Murray Hill. One of them gets 70% of its orders from Grub Hub. The owner of another told MHNA that the 25% commission he pays is killing his business despite his valiant attempt to keep afloat.

So, we urge you to think before you tap that handy app. Just dial the restaurant directly to place your order. It will make a big difference in keeping our beloved local restaurants alive and thriving.

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## Pandemic updates

The home page on the NYC Department of Health website shows the NYC alert level as **Low**. [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page). Data taken on March 19, 2022.



### COVID-19 Alert Levels

Alert Level: **Low**

There is low COVID-19 community spread.

- **Precautions:** Get vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19; consider wearing a face mask in public indoor settings where vaccine status is not known; and get tested if you have symptoms or are at high risk for poor health outcomes. Basic public health precautions, like good hand hygiene and staying home if sick, should be followed.
  - **Recommended Government Actions:** Maintain current employer and school vaccine mandates; require face masks in settings with vulnerable individuals and where vaccine status is not verified, such as health care facilities, congregate settings, and public
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transportation; consider mandating up-to-date vaccination status in certain settings if there is a sustained increase in cases or a new concerning variant.

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[CDC Covid data tracker](#)

[CDC Covid data tracker county view](#)

Covid data from March 19, 2022, the 7-day percent positivity for New York county (Manhattan) is 1.92% (increasing).

Cases are trending up in a dozen countries, driven by the BA2 subvariant of Omicron, which is more transmissible (not more lethal) than the original omicron.

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### [\*\*Fauci warns COVID-19 infection rates likely to increase\*\*](#)

March 18, 2022, *thehill.com*, by Lexi Lonas

White House adviser Anthony Fauci is warning that COVID-19 infection rates are likely to rise in the next few weeks in the United States after their dramatic drop following the omicron variant's rapid spread across the country...Fauci's prediction is based on the United Kingdom, where cases have slightly started to go up...they're not seeing a blip up of severe disease.

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### [\*\*'Stealth' Omicron Is Stealthy No More: What's Known About the BA.2 Variant\*\*](#)

March 18, 2022, *nytimes.com*, by Carl Zimmer

[R]esearchers estimated that during an outbreak of BA.2 in a public housing complex, the virus doubled every 1.28 days...Covid cases are still falling drastically in the United States—even as BA.2 is accounting for a greater fraction of those dwindling cases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that as of March 12, BA.2 accounted for 23 percent of cases...Researchers in Qatar found that booster shots were about 40 percent effective against infection with either BA.1 or BA.2 a month after injection. The boosters were about 90 percent effective against hospitalization...The antiviral drugs Paxlovid, molnupiravir and remdesivir all remain highly effective against both BA.1 and BA.2 if taken soon after a positive test.

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### [\*\*NYC's new health czar makes case for keeping private sector vaccine mandate and masks for young kids\*\*](#)

March 18, 2022, *nydailynews.com*, by Chris Sommerfeldt and Michael Gartland

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Dr. Ashwin Vasan laid out the case for continued pandemic caution during a COVID-19 briefing...his first since taking over as the city's health commissioner [replacing Dr. David Chokshi] earlier this week...The two primary coronavirus restrictions that remain in effect are the school mask mandate for kids younger than 5 and the vaccine mandate for the city's private workforce — and Vasan said he believes neither of those requirements should be lifted anytime soon.

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## **[NYC hits another COVID-19 milestone: 40,000 total deaths](#)**

March 17, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Nsikan Akpan

Thursday, New York City reported 40,000 deaths due to the pandemic...The mark comes the same week as the second anniversary of New York City's first reported death from COVID-19...It's hard to conceptualize just how intense this last wave has been. New York City alone recorded 1.1 million cases since infections began rising again at the beginning of November...Suddenly, booster shots became necessary for everyone, according to public health officials. That was especially true for at-risk groups—like older adults and the immunocompromised—that were more vulnerable again...Health department data show only 36% of New York City residents are boosted, despite eligibility having been open for months.

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More Covid-19 information towards the bottom of this newsletter at the section [NYC's Reopening](#).

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## **In memoriam**

### **The MHNA notes the passing of Isabelle Goldberg, MHNA member**

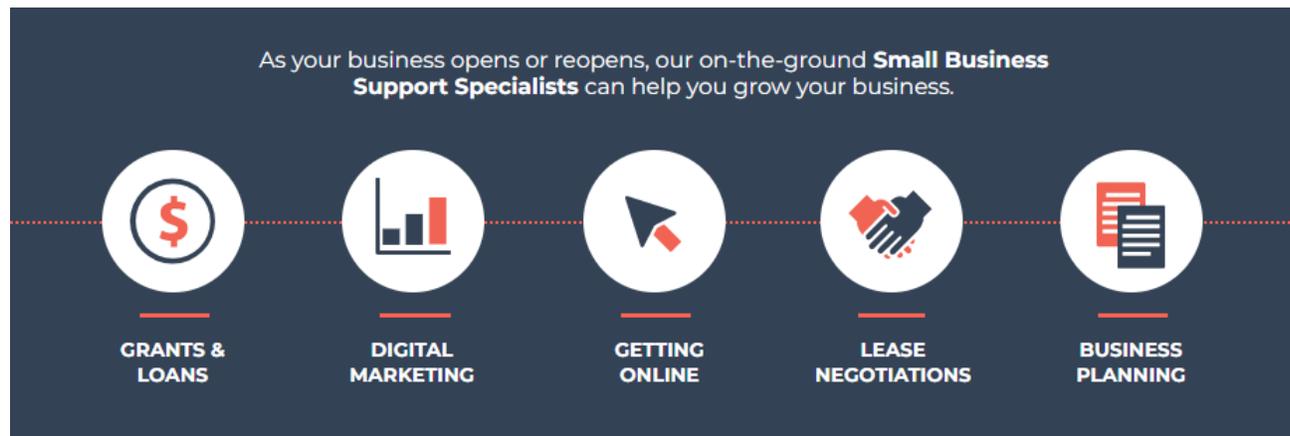
The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association expresses condolences at the passing of Isabelle Goldberg, a long time MHNA member. Originally from Spain, she was former director of the United Nations Women's Guild, Manhattan Group, and she was also a licensed real estate principal.

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## **For businesses and nonprofits**

On March 15, 2022, **the SBA announced additional deferment of principal and interest payments for existing COVID Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program borrowers** for a total of 30 months deferment from inception on all approved COVID EIDL loans. The extended deferment period will provide additional flexibility to small business owners impacted by the pandemic, especially those in hard-hit sectors managing disruption with recent variants, as well as recent supply chain and inflation challenges amid a growing economic recovery. Learn more at [sba.gov/article/2022/mar/15/sba-administrator-guzman-announces-key-policy-change-existing-covid-economic-injury-disaster-loan](https://sba.gov/article/2022/mar/15/sba-administrator-guzman-announces-key-policy-change-existing-covid-economic-injury-disaster-loan).

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## NYC Small Business Resource Network

Does your business need help recovering from the Pandemic? The NYC Small Business Resource Network (SBRN) is a citywide initiative that provides free resources and individualized support to small businesses to help them navigate and recover from the pandemic. SBRN can help with finding grants, improving your business plan, reinventing your marketing strategy, etc. The SBRN is a team of small business support specialists across the five boroughs that includes Tech Specialists, Grant Specialists and Restaurant Specialists who offer expertise and guidance on topics such as digital marketing, restaurant guidelines, and grant applications through free consultation. To access free assistance and get connected, businesses can register at [nycsmallbusinessresourcenetwork.org](https://nycsmallbusinessresourcenetwork.org).

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**March 21 12 - 1pm**

### **(virtual) Business Recovery in the Wake of COVID-19**

Was your small business affected by COVID? Do you hear all the talk about resources but are unclear as to how they can help you? Don't really know where to start looking for help? You are not alone. Lots of small businesses have been looking for resources and assistance and haven't found someone who can truly explain...so we've asked a representative from the Small Business Administration to share this valuable information with you. Register at [nypl.org/events/programs/2022/03/21/business-recovery-wake-covid](https://nypl.org/events/programs/2022/03/21/business-recovery-wake-covid). This program is presented by The New York Public Library, [Thomas Yoseloff Business Center](#), 455 Fifth Avenue (40<sup>th</sup> Street), 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library.

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**March 29 11 am – 1 pm**

### **(virtual webinar) *Preparing Your House of Faith for New Environmental Laws***

Sponsored by the nonprofit [BricksandMortals.org](https://BricksandMortals.org). New energy efficiency regulations and requirements are coming for all buildings in NYC, including houses of worship. Faith-based organizations do have alternative paths to compliance, but must take action now. Bricks and Mortals is hosting a series of events to help prepare for these changes. Experts will share their

expertise to help bring your building into compliance with the law—affordably. Call 218-389-1055 or register online at [bricksandmortals.org/events/preparing-your-house-of-faith-for-new-environmental-laws-2](https://bricksandmortals.org/events/preparing-your-house-of-faith-for-new-environmental-laws-2).

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## Kudos!

### [Celebrating Female Legislative Champions for Preservation Priorities](#)

March 11, 2022, *forum.savingplaces.org*, by Hanna Stark

[T]he National Trust [for Historic Preservation] would also like to recognize the work of...Sen. Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY).

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### **Historic Districts Council Announces the 2022 Six to Celebrate**

March 10, 2022, [Press release](#)

The Historic Districts Council (HDC), New York's city-wide advocate for historic buildings and neighborhoods, is pleased to announce the 2022 Six to Celebrate, its annual program honoring historic New York City neighborhoods and cultural sites and the local community groups working to preserve and enhance them. The list includes **Save Chelsea - Penn Development Area**, Manhattan. The Empire State Development Corporation's Pennsylvania Station Project seeks to remove multiple blocks of important historic buildings around Penn Station. Working with Andrew Cronson and David Holowka of Save Chelsea, HDC will highlight and advocate for the landmarking of these threatened buildings. In addition, Save Chelsea aims to expand outreach efforts to residents of the neighborhood and elected officials to call attention to the need to preserve the area's historic fabric. **Save Chelsea** is a broad coalition of organizations and individuals concerned with preserving the integrity of the Chelsea Historic District and maintaining as varied a mix as possible of economic, social and generational populations in our neighborhood, [savechelseany.org](https://savechelseany.org). The Six to Celebrate is generously supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. Additional FY22 support is provided by New York City Council Members Margaret Chin, Corey Johnson, Ben Kallos, Stephen Levin, Mark Levine, and Keith Powers. Historic Districts Council, 232 East 11th Street, 212-614-9107.

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## Job, volunteer and selling opportunities

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**Applications are now open**

**May 6 - 8**

**May 13 - 15**

**May 20 - 22**

### **Urbanspace's Spring Makers Market returns to Bryant Park**

Urbanspace is accepting applications to participate in Makers Market at Bryant Park. The Market will feature 85 local makers setting up pop-up stalls over the course of three weekends in May. They are looking for vendors who are creating one-of-a-kind handmade items you can't find in stores. All businesses who apply to the Makers Market should be local to New York or the Tri-State area and feature products that are 100% designed by them and produced locally. Spaces are limited. Apply now! Learn more and apply at [urbanspacenyc.com/makersmarket-at-bryant-park](https://urbanspacenyc.com/makersmarket-at-bryant-park).

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**April 4 (application deadline)**

### **Governor Kathy Hochul announced the opening of the application process for the 2022-2024 class of Empire State Fellows**

The prestigious 2-year program attracts exceptional and diverse talent from New York and around the country to serve in high-level positions in the administration. The Empire State Fellows program is a full-time, mid-career fellowship program that prepares the next generation of New York State policymakers. The Governor's Office appoints selected Empire State Fellows to work directly with a Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or other high-level officials in a State agency or Authority or in the Executive Chamber. Annual salary is \$76,500, plus a generous benefits package. Visit [ny.gov/new-york-state-fellowship-programs/empire-state-fellows-program](https://ny.gov/new-york-state-fellowship-programs/empire-state-fellows-program) for more information on the program and instructions on how to apply.

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**April 22 (deadline for applications)**

### **NYC Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) jobs.**

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Applications are online or can be completed in person at a participating community-based organization during the application period. Call 311 or DYCD Community Connect at 1-800-246-4646. There are two six-week cohorts beginning July 5 and running through August 20. Teens 14-15 years old learn about career opportunities and work on paid projects; ages 16-24 work in paid summer jobs in a variety of industries throughout NYC. Learn more at [www1.nyc.gov/site/dycd/services/jobs-internships/summer-youth-employment-program-syep.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/dycd/services/jobs-internships/summer-youth-employment-program-syep.page). Apply at [application.nycsyep.com](http://application.nycsyep.com).

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### **Javits Center Tour Guide Job Openings**

From April to October each year, the Javits Center offers public tours to provide visitors with an inside look at its operations, while demonstrating the importance of sustainability and the positive impact of the events industry. A tour guide would lead these educational tours on a regular basis, playing an integral role in communicating the mission and goals of the Javits Center and its business partners. A qualified candidate must be able to navigate the entire Javits Center campus (from 34th to 40th streets and between 11th and 12th avenues) and be able to communicate with tour groups for the full length of the tour. Training on an ongoing basis will be provided by staff, along with a handbook that outlines the history and operations of the convention center. Tour guides will receive a uniform (hat, shirt and light jacket) to wear during tour operations. Applicants can submit a resume via e-mail to [careers@javitscenter.com](mailto:careers@javitscenter.com). Questions should be directed to Human Resources at [careers@javitscenter.com](mailto:careers@javitscenter.com).

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### **Several job openings on the Bryant Park Team**

House Manager, Games Host, Digital Media Associate, internships are available for people looking to have fun and make connections in some of the most dynamic public spaces in the world. More information on the roles, and how to apply, is available at [bryantpark.org/about-us?mc\\_cid=a2732f70ed&mc\\_eid=1165e24a4c#job-openings](http://bryantpark.org/about-us?mc_cid=a2732f70ed&mc_eid=1165e24a4c#job-openings).

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### **The Board of Elections in the City of New York is hiring Poll Workers to serve at poll sites across New York City**

Become an Election Day Worker and you can earn up to \$2,750 for working up to 10 days. Learn more and apply at [vote.nyc/page/poll-worker-positions](http://vote.nyc/page/poll-worker-positions).

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### **PS116 is looking for crossing guards**

# NYPD SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD



## SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD

### HELP YOUR COMMUNITY WHILE EARNING GOOD PAY AND BENEFITS

School Crossing Guards help children safely cross busy intersections on their way to and from school. Crossing Guards control traffic flow around schools in the morning, at lunch time and at the end of the school day.

#### PART TIME JOBS ARE AVAILABLE NOW

Some of the benefits include:

- Pay starting at \$15.45/Hour
- Health/Benefits Insurance 20 + hour work week.
- Work close to home



SCAN ME

Apply Here

There are no formal education or experience requirements for this job, but all candidates must be able to understand and be understood in English. All candidates are subject to a background investigation and medical screening, which includes drug screening, prior to appointment.

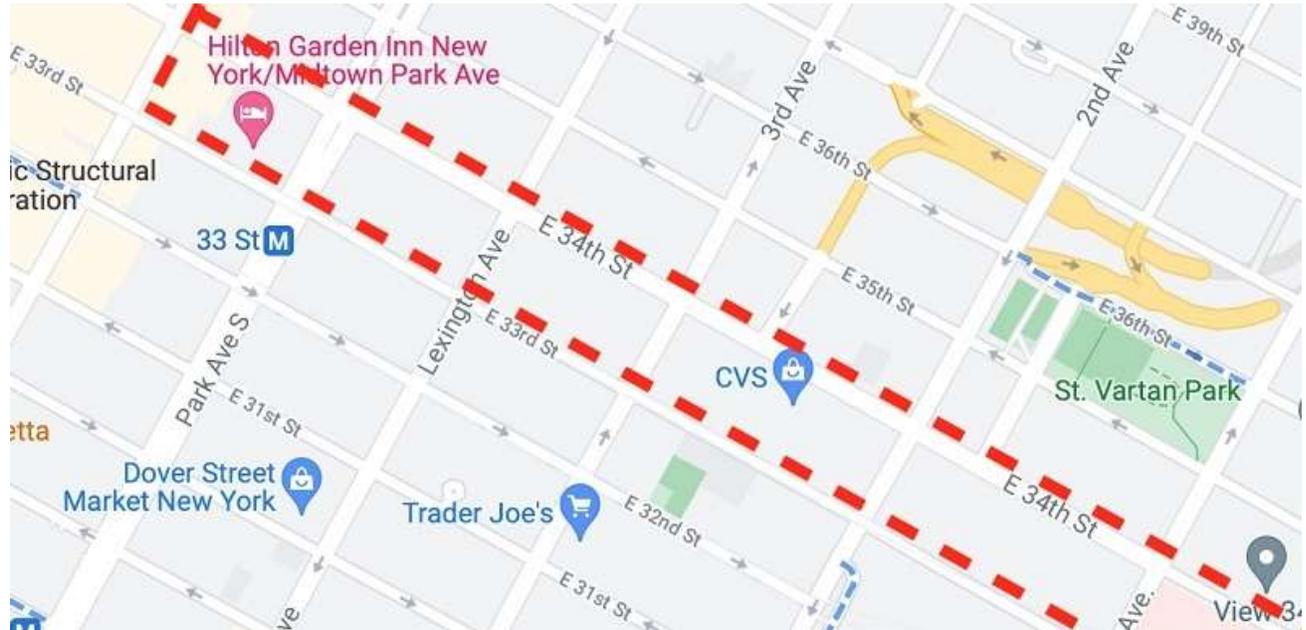
## How you can help



## Join the crew for the Murray Hill Spring Cleaning Series!

Let's clean up our neighborhood together, block by block! Care for your neighborhood and volunteer! Please bring your grabbers or tongs, recyclable bags, wear gloves and wear your Keep Murray Hill Clean vest! Organized by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Keep Murray Hill Clean group.

**March 26 Meet at 33rd & 1st**



Save the dates for more cleaning events: April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23, April 30 - Earth Day event at St. Vartan's Park. [Flyer](#) [Learn more.](#)



*De Lamar Mansion, 233 Madison Avenue at 37th Street, New York  
Drawing by Dean Avery (detail)*

ARE YOU A HISTORY BUFF?  
A LOVER OF ARCHITECTURE?  
INTERESTED IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

***If so, and you have an interest in sharing your knowledge with others, apply to become a volunteer walking tour guide!***

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Preservation and Design Committee is seeking volunteer walking tour guides for its award-winning program. Walks are usually conducted on the last Sunday of the month from March through November from 1:30-3pm. Prospective guides should be available a few times during this time period, and, if possible, also available to conduct short tours at the annual street festival. Training sessions will be conducted specific to the history and architectural gems of the neighborhood, and you will receive material for self-study, and visual aids for use on the walks. If interested, kindly reply to [preservation@murrayhillnyc.org](mailto:preservation@murrayhillnyc.org).

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### **Join a MHNA committee**

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization. We need your help to keep the Association's work going. Volunteering can be for individual events, such as the Street Festival, and also for ongoing activities, such as Membership. Many administrative activities can be done remotely. [Learn more about the different committees](#). If you are interested in joining a committee, please email [info@murrayhillnyc.org](mailto:info@murrayhillnyc.org).

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## **Upcoming events**

**daily from 2 – 11pm**

### **For elementary through high school students: Free One-on-One Online Tutoring**

Get free online homework help from one-on-one tutors, daily from 2 – 11pm. Available in English and Spanish, from early elementary through high school grades, in core subject areas. Video content and other resources are also available 24 hours a day.

**For older students:** As New York state standardized tests approach, boost your skills using Brainfuse—free with your library card. Get free one-on-one online tutoring for English, math, and more.

Learn more at [nypl.org/about/remote-resources/kids-and-teens/homework-help-brainfuse](https://nypl.org/about/remote-resources/kids-and-teens/homework-help-brainfuse).

through April 14 3-K applications (for NYC children born in 2019)  
ongoing Elementary School, 3K and EarlyLearn enrollment

## **NYC Public School applications**

Middle schools won't be allowed to use academic screens, but high schools can. The only screening criteria will be first semester grades from this school year and a work sample (no attendance or state test scores). The screening process will also be managed centrally, rather than by individual schools. High schools will be allowed to use borough and zone geographic priorities.

Offers will be sent in May. Learn more at [schools.nyc.gov](https://schools.nyc.gov), at [schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade) and at MySchools NYC [myschools.nyc/en](https://myschools.nyc/en) (other languages are available), by phone at 718-935-2009 or at a Family Welcome Center

[schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/family-welcome-centers](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/family-welcome-centers). EarlyLearn is for toddlers to 2 years old and is available for eligible families. Learn more at [schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/earlylearn-nyc](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/earlylearn-nyc). If you missed enrollment for your child, contact [myschools.nyc](https://myschools.nyc) to find out what your options are.

Kindergarten applications are closed.

Middle School applications are closed.

High School applications are closed.

Pre-K applications (for NYC children born in 2018) are closed.

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March 21 12 - 1pm

## **(virtual) An event to promote the objectives of the United Nations 66th Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW66): global unity, social justice and sustainable development affecting women and girls confronting climate change**

[Church of the Covenant](https://www.churchofthecovenant.org) Elder, Barbara Edmonds, will speak at this virtual event, sponsored by the [SMVA Trust](https://www.smva.org), a nonprofit humanitarian organization dedicated to creating a better world by empowering women and girls through education, improved health, safe housing and clean water. The organization has large-scale projects in Southern India, offering K to 12 education and beyond; primary health care; specialized medical and surgical services; rehabilitation of the physically and mentally challenged; water purification installations; housing construction for displaced families; poverty reduction; organic farming; and green economy to fight climate change. Currently they also partner with organizations in Uganda and Nigeria to alleviate the effects of climate change as well as to bring education and information to underprivileged communities. The keynote speaker, HH Amma Sri Karunamayi, the founder and inspiration of SMVA Trust, speaks in venues across the world, including at the United Nations, sharing a visionary message of eliminating human suffering, and promoting global unity, sustainability and a higher spiritual awareness in the new millennium. Register at [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlpc-CvrzluH9YVjBsfdKeZJ8NX4upDiBtw](https://zoom.us/join/zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlpc-CvrzluH9YVjBsfdKeZJ8NX4upDiBtw). Church of the Covenant, [cocnyc.org](https://www.cocnyc.org), 310 East 42nd Street, 212-697-3185.

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**March 21 (Comment-By Date)**

**March 22 (Hearing Date)**

### **Proposed Rules Change: NYC Scholarship Accounts**

The Office of the Mayor is proposing rules that would establish a child savings account program to create NYC Scholarship Accounts for students who are enrolled in participating NYC public schools and charter schools across the City. The program is intended to support eligible students in building financial assets for higher education. Read more at [rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/nyc-scholarship-accounts](https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/nyc-scholarship-accounts). Send comments by Email: [TRIE@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:TRIE@cityhall.nyc.gov).

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March 22 [1pm hearing](#) OR [5pm hearing](#)

March 29 [1pm hearing](#) OR [5pm hearing](#)

March 31 [1pm hearing](#) OR [5pm hearing](#)

### **(virtual) Public Statement Hearings on Con Edison Proposed Rate Increases**

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Edison) filed amendments to its electric and natural gas tariff schedules seeking approval from the NYS Public Service Commission (Commission) to increase its annual electric and natural gas delivery revenue in its service territories of New York City and Westchester County, to be effective January 1, 2023. Con Edison is proposing to increase its electric delivery revenue by approximately \$1.2 billion (a 17.6 percent increase in base delivery revenues), and its natural gas delivery revenue by approximately \$500 million (a 28.1 percent increase in base delivery revenues). The Commission will hold a series of virtual public hearings to solicit input and comments from affected communities. Participants not able to register or login to the hearing electronically may join by phone. Any person wishing to provide a public statement must pre-register by 4:30pm on the day before the hearing you wish to attend. Use the links below to register electronically or call 1-800-342-3330 to register by phone. Speakers will be called in the order in which they registered. To register, click on the link above to the hearing for which you wish to pre-register. Additional details on how to participate at the public hearings and how to submit comments are available in the [Notice of Public Statement Hearings](#). Information about the case can be found on the case page [22-E-0064](#) or [22-G-0065](#) on [dps.ny.gov](https://dps.ny.gov) website.

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**March 22 1 - 2pm**

### **(virtual) Establishing a Successful Cannabis Marketplace**

(free) A panel of experts will discuss establishing a successful cannabis marketplace in New York, provide best practices for a collaborative approach and views from the key market players talking about how New York will benefit from a successful cannabis marketplace! Roundtable Panel: Emily Whalen, Cannabis Practice Lead and Attorney, Brown & Weinraub (moderator), Ngiste Abebe, President, New York Medical Cannabis Industry Association, Vince Ning, Co-Founder and Co-CEO, Nabis, David Urbanowicz, Director, External Affairs and Business Development, Metrc. Register at [cityandstateny.com/feature/Establishing-A-Successful-Cannabis-Marketplace](https://cityandstateny.com/feature/Establishing-A-Successful-Cannabis-Marketplace).

**Related: [New Yorkers With Marijuana Convictions Will Get First Retail Licenses](#)**

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**March 23 12 noon**

**(virtual) Segal Talks: *Ukraine on My Mind* with Natalia Kaliada (Belarus)**

The Segal Film Festival '22 is extended to the 31st of March! Join Segal Talks for an urgent conversation with Belarusian artist Natalia Kaliada about the horrific situation in Ukraine, especially for theatre artists. The Segal Center speaks for the entire New York theatre community in expressing solidarity with Ukrainian artists under siege. Segal Talks are free, open access, without ads, and will be live-streamed in English from Wednesday to Friday on HowlRound Theatre Commons at [howlround.com](http://howlround.com) and on the Segal Center Facebook [facebook.com/SegalCenter](https://facebook.com/SegalCenter). This program is presented in collaboration with HowlRound Theatre Commons, based at Emerson College. All Segal Talks are archived on HowlRound, and on the [Segal Center YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvPmSqG5nT5KyMJViL8sRDQ). Send your questions during the live streaming at [SegalTalks@gmail.com](mailto:SegalTalks@gmail.com). Contact [mest@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:mest@gc.cuny.edu) for more information on the Segal Talks program. Contact Frank Hentschker at [fhentschker@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:fhentschker@gc.cuny.edu) for press information. The Martin E. Segal Center, The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue (34th Street), 212-817-1860, [theSegalCenter.org](http://theSegalCenter.org).

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**March 23 6pm**

**(virtual) Community Board 5 Land Use, Housing & Zoning Meeting**

Agenda: Update and Discussion from the CB5 Open Restaurants Task Force. Layla Law-Gisiko, Chair, Aaron Ford, Vice-Chair. Register for meeting at [zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vPmSqG5nT5KyMJViL8sRDQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vPmSqG5nT5KyMJViL8sRDQ).

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**March 24 11am (Hearing)**

**March 28 (deadline for comments)**

**Proposed Rules Change: Prevailing Wages for Coop and Condo Building Staff**

The New York City Department of Finance is proposing an amendment to the Department's rules concerning the Partial Tax Abatement for Residential Real Property Held in the Cooperative or Condominium Form of Ownership. The proposed rule would amend Chapter 50 of Title 19 of the Rules of the City of New York to effectuate section 467-a of the Real Property Tax Law ("RPTL"), as amended by Chapter 422 of the laws of 2021. The hearing will be conducted remotely through Webex Event Center. See submitted comments at <https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/prevailing-wages-for-coop-and-condo-building-staff>. Learn more on how to participate and comment at [rules.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DOF-Proposed-Amendment-of-Real-Property-Tax-Abatement-Rules-Preliminarily-Certified-Submitted-for-Publication20220211-.pdf](https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DOF-Proposed-Amendment-of-Real-Property-Tax-Abatement-Rules-Preliminarily-Certified-Submitted-for-Publication20220211-.pdf). Send comments by Email: [DOFRules@finance.nyc.gov](mailto:DOFRules@finance.nyc.gov), Fax: 1-212-748-6981, Mail: NYC Department of Finance, Legal Affairs Division, Att: Dara Jaffee, 375 Pearl Street Room/Floor: 30th Floor ; New York, New York 10038.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
**ERIK BOTTCHE**  
THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT

**VIRTUAL TOWN HALL:  
NEXT STEPS IN THE  
PANDEMIC**

An interactive discussion about the path forward in our recovery from the Coronavirus

featuring

**MARK LEVINE**  
MANHATTAN  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**DR. JAY VARMA**  
FORMER SENIOR ADVISOR FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
IN THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24 • 5:30PM**  
REGISTER AT PROVIDED LINK

For questions about accessibility, or to request additional accommodations, please contact us at least three business days before the event.

**March 24 5:30pm**

### **(virtual) Town Hall: Next Steps in the Pandemic**

Where do we go from here in the fight against COVID-19? Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and Dr. Jay Varma, Mayor de Blasio's senior advisor for public health, have released a plan. Council Member Erik Bottcher (Council District 3) is hosting this Town Hall. Register at [us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcocOiuqTljHNLEhP-NyB7WjUI3pioB\\_sDC](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcocOiuqTljHNLEhP-NyB7WjUI3pioB_sDC).

**Read more about the plan** [nycitynews.com/news/politics/new-york-elections-government/ny-covid-manhattan-task-force-mark-levine-jay-varma-vax-daddy-20220207-mew36nehcfnubnz4i42v34vzeq-story.html](https://nycitynews.com/news/politics/new-york-elections-government/ny-covid-manhattan-task-force-mark-levine-jay-varma-vax-daddy-20220207-mew36nehcfnubnz4i42v34vzeq-story.html).



**March 24 7:30pm (pre-concert talk at 7pm)**

**Per Tengstrand and chamber music group Opus perform Schumann's piano concerto**

Per Tengstrand and chamber music group Opus will return for the final concerts of the season. Program: *Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 54*, the only concerto written by Robert Schumann. Tickets are \$30 (\$25 ASF Members) Learn more and purchase tickets at [scandinaviahouse.org/events/music-on-park-ave-march-24](https://scandinaviahouse.org/events/music-on-park-ave-march-24). The Music on Park Avenue series hosted by Scandinavia House will continue with a performance on April 21. at Scandinavia House  
Victor Borge Hall  
58 Park Avenue (between 37th & 38th Street)

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**March 25 8 - 9am**

**(virtual) Coffee with Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, via Zoom**

RSVP required and submit questions in advance at [docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8uR6MpaWIS2RY1bzPojpSfEiHziktjYXGkySOByP83kNtQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8uR6MpaWIS2RY1bzPojpSfEiHziktjYXGkySOByP83kNtQ/viewform).

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**March 26 8pm**

**April 23 8pm**

**ArtBath, a new concert series**

Art Bath is a new monthly salon performance series that fosters artistic community, exploration, and exchange. Hosted at the historic Blue Building on East 46th Street, Art Bath presents an eclectic spectrum of artists in a raw and intimate environment. Part immersive concert and part art party, Art Bath offers fertile ground for forward-thinking artistic creation and experimentation. Learn more at <https://www.artbathnyc.com/whats-on>. [Tickets are all sold out, but perhaps you can ask to be on their waiting list, and sign up for their notices, if interested.]

Art Bath

222 East 46th Street (between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue)

[artbathnyc.com](https://artbathnyc.com)

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**March 27 1pm**

**(In-Person) Live Music at The Morgan Library: Sunday Afternoon Classical**

Students from Manhattan School of Music perform a variety of classical offerings in the Gilbert Court during the Morgan Café brunch.

The Morgan Library & Museum

225 Madison Avenue (between 36th and 37th Street)

[themorgan.org](https://themorgan.org)

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March 27 3 – 4:30pm

### **(in person) Walking Tour of Historic Murray Hill**

Come walk around Historic Murray Hill with a knowledgeable guide and learn about its many historic landmarks. The tour also features information about the well-known architects who designed them and the famous people who once called this neighborhood home. Tour guides will focus on the unique architectural qualities of the buildings as well as the historic evolution of the neighborhood and its preservation as a residential oasis in Midtown Manhattan. The historic Murray Hill neighborhood is from 34th Street to 42nd Street and from Madison Avenue to Third Avenue. Your tour guide will be Robin Garr. Tickets \$10 MHNA members / \$20 General public. Spaces are limited. [Learn more and purchase tickets.](#)

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**March 27 - April 10**

## **Macy's Flower Show**

With special Flower Show programming. Learn more at [macys.com/s/flower-show](https://macys.com/s/flower-show).  
at Macy's Herald Square  
(Sixth Avenue at 34th Street)

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**March 29 6:30pm**

### **(virtual) Talk: Harvey Fierstein & Alison Stewart at NYPL**

(free) The New York Public Library and WNYC's book club hosts Alison Stewart and actor Harvey Fierstein at the rooftop event space at their newly renovated central circulating library for a discussion and audience Q&A about his memoir. Register at [showclix.com/event/get-lit-harvey-fierstein](https://showclix.com/event/get-lit-harvey-fierstein) (in-person tickets are sold out)  
at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL), 7th Floor Event Center  
455 Fifth Avenue (40<sup>th</sup> Street)

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**March 31 9am - 5pm**

### **(virtual & in-person) The Future of New York City: Charting an Equitable Recovery for All**

A day-long hybrid event hosted by The Federal Reserve Bank of New York will feature some of the city's—and the nation's—key leaders and thinkers on topics including the future of remote work, the role of cities in a post-pandemic economy, and the role of transportation in the city's future. The global pandemic was a historic blow to both New York's people and its economy. This event will focus on charting a path to an inclusive recovery, featuring presentations and discussions on why New York City has thrived through pandemics, depressions, wars, and recessions; how to foster a recovery that reduces urban inequality; and big ideas from local innovators. Among the speakers are New York Fed President and CEO John C. Williams, who will deliver opening remarks; Stanford

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University Professor of Economics Nicholas Bloom, Harvard University Professor of Economics Edward Glaeser; National Urban League President and CEO Marc Morial; and U.S. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy Christopher Coes. Audience: This hybrid event is open to the public and media. Limited in-person seating will be available by invitation only. All remarks are on the record and the event will be livestreamed with a recording to be made available afterwards. Learn more and register at [newyorkfed.org/newsevents/events/regional\\_outreach/2022/0331-2022](https://newyorkfed.org/newsevents/events/regional_outreach/2022/0331-2022).

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**April 1 4pm (application deadline)**

**Creative Capital’s 2023/2024 grant cycle “Wild Futures: Art, Culture, Impact”**

Artists are invited to propose experimental, risk-taking projects that push boundaries formally and thematically. The Creative Capital Award provides artists with varying amounts of up to \$50,000 per project plus advisory services and networking opportunities. Artists will be able to submit applications for their projects in performance, technology, and literature. Learn more at [creative-capital.org/about-the-creative-capital-award](https://creative-capital.org/about-the-creative-capital-award). Information session Tuesday, March 22, 3 – 4pm, register at [donate.creative-capital.org/event/wild-futures-info-session/e390235](https://donate.creative-capital.org/event/wild-futures-info-session/e390235).

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**April 8 6pm**

**Metropolitan Synagogue Shabbat Services with Passover Seder Music**

Metropolitan Synagogue invites you on Friday night April 8 at 6pm to in-person Shabbat services with Passover seder music, including Sephardi virtuoso and singer Avram Pengas at their new location, Scandinavia House. All are welcome to join and bring friends for a musically uplifting Shabbat service with Passover music—a time to meet and greet friends, old and new. Please write back to [inquiries@metropolitansynagogue.org](mailto:inquiries@metropolitansynagogue.org) if you will be in attendance and have any questions. Proof of vaccination required for entry.  
at Scandinavia House  
58 Park Avenue (between 37th & 38<sup>th</sup> Street)

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**April 18 (deadline to file taxes)**

**NYC Free Tax Prep for eligible individuals and families**

NYC Free Tax Prep is available for individuals who earned \$50,000 or less and families with dependents who earned \$72,000 or less in 2021. The Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Credit could help returns thousands to individuals and families. Learn more about NYC Free Tax Prep services and eligibility for tax credits at [www1.nyc.gov/site/dca/consumers/file-your-taxes.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dca/consumers/file-your-taxes.page).

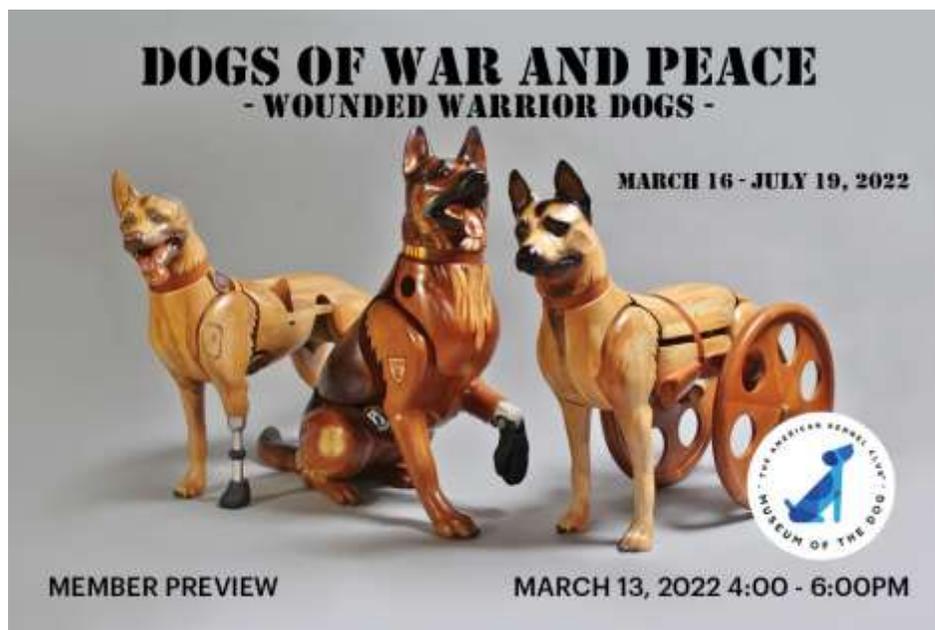
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# MOVEMENT

through April 30

## Gallery35 virtual exhibit, *Movement*

From the tiniest particle to the vast cosmos, *Movement* is everywhere! Gallery35 artists became more and more excited by the idea of depicting *Movement*, understanding that art doesn't need to be a literal picture but might be many things, perhaps as simple as the gesture of the artist's hand and brush. Please visit Gallery35's online exhibit and enjoy the artists' diverse visions! [gallery35nyc.com/2022/03/01/artists-explore-movement-in-art](https://gallery35nyc.com/2022/03/01/artists-explore-movement-in-art).



through July 19

## Museum of the Dog exhibit *Dogs of War and Peace: Wounded Warrior Dogs*

(in person) Ten life-sized, carved-wood allegorical memorials by sculptor James Mellick will be on display from his Wounded Warrior Dogs and Over the Rainbow Bridge collections, along with the museum's permanent collection, which includes sculptures, paintings, collars, vests, photographs, and more. Telephone 212-696-8360, purchase tickets at [museumofthedog.org](https://museumofthedog.org).

at AKC Museum of the Dog  
101 Park Avenue (40th Street in the plaza)

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## Changes in the neighborhood

### **The Vanderbilt YMCA has reopened**

Special incentives to join. Mon-Fri 6:30am – 8:30pm, Sat-Sun 8am – 3pm. Pool, classes, basketball court, kids classes, daycamp, preschool, indoor running track and more.

Vanderbilt YMCA

212-912-2500

224 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street (3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue)

[ymcanyc.org/vanderbilt](http://ymcanyc.org/vanderbilt)

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### **Find secure bike storage at Grand Central**

To help support more ways to travel sustainably, the MTA has partnered with Brooklyn-based startup Oonee to pilot a secure bike storage solution in Grand Central's covered "Taxi Stand" at 43rd Street and Vanderbilt Avenue.

**And remember: bicycle permits are no longer required to bring your wheels onto Metro-North Railroad and Long Island Rail Road trains.**

Learn more at [new.mta.info/press-release/mta-announces-launch-of-secure-bike-storage-pilot-grand-central-terminal](http://new.mta.info/press-release/mta-announces-launch-of-secure-bike-storage-pilot-grand-central-terminal).

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And across town...

### **[Penn Station 'head knockers' are coming down](#)**

March 9, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Stephen Nessen

The low-hanging beams in a section of Penn Station between 7th and 8th Avenue weigh 10 tons, they're set at 6 feet 8 inches high and are known as "head knockers." After more than 100 years, they're coming down this week...The cramped Long Island Rail Road concourse along 33rd Street has been under construction since 2019, a \$559 million project that will double the height and width of the corridor, which makes up about 20% of Penn Station. The new concourse will be 57 feet wide and 18 feet high. The MTA had to build a new roof and supports under Madison Square Garden before the two head knockers – which date from the original 1910 Penn Station – could come down..."These are the main culprits in making Penn feel so dungeon-like, among other culprits," MTA Chairman Janno Lieber said Tuesday. "And so unappealing for human beings."...Additionally, the agency has been able to "reclaim" space and increase the ceiling height by removing "abandoned water and gas lines" and other underutilized space under street level...The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2022 or early 2023. Stores in the concourse have been closed since construction began. The MTA and Vornado, which owns the retail space, have not said what stores will be there when the corridor reopens, but it's likely the K-Mart will not be coming back.

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*Rendering of 7-9 East 30th Street. Developed by Castellan Real Estate Partners*

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### **[7-9 East 30th Street Nears Completion In NoMad, Manhattan](#)**

January 25, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young

Construction is wrapping up on 7-9 East 30th Street, a 227-foot-tall residential building in the Midtown, Manhattan neighborhood of NoMad. Designed by SWA Architecture and developed by Castellan Real Estate Partners, the 23-story reinforced concrete edifice will yield 41,992 square feet with 54 residences and 2,142 square feet of ground-level retail space. The property is located between Madison and Fifth Avenues and is being built by Titanium Construction Services Inc.

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470 Park Avenue South - Courtesy of SJP Properties

### **[New Amenities Revealed For 470 Park Avenue South In Midtown, Manhattan](#)**

February 3, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Sebastian Morris

SJP Properties and PGIM Real Estate have unveiled an expanded collection of amenities at 470 Park Avenue South, an 18-story office building in Midtown, Manhattan. The new amenity spaces include a rooftop terrace with views of the surrounding Midtown skyline, a ground-floor lounge that feeds into the building's lobby, and a landscaped courtyard with ample seating, a bar, and a fire pit. The property is located between East 31st and 32nd Streets...“The shift in priorities of office tenants has only further strengthened the importance of not just common areas that can facilitate safe, team-based work, but also outdoor amenities, which were previously unheard of in this submarket,” said Alexander Erdos, senior vice president of leasing and marketing at SJP Properties.

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### **[Rabina Closes On \\$540M Financing Package For 520 Fifth Avenue Supertall In Midtown, Manhattan](#)** [between 43rd & 44th Street]

March 9, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Sebastian Morris

New York development firm Rabina has closed on a \$540 million construction package to complete a new supertall tower at 520 Fifth Avenue. Designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox, the structure will top out at 1,000 feet and contain a collection of condominiums and associated amenity spaces, boutique office space, a ground-floor retail component, and public recreation space. When complete, 520 Fifth Avenue will be the second-tallest building on Fifth Avenue, after only the Empire State Building. The structure will comprise 450,000 square feet, rising 76 stories above ground.

### **[Related: Excavation Underway For Kohn Pedersen Fox's 520 Fifth Avenue Supertall In Midtown, Manhattan](#)**

March 1, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young

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Excavation is progressing at 520 Fifth Avenue...Designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox for Rabina, which took over as the lead developer in 2019 from Ceruzzi Properties and SMI USA, the 995-foot-tall, 507,608-square-foot structure will yield 98 residential units, commercial space, and four cellar levels. Suffolk Construction is the general contractor for the project, which is located on a 10,625-square-foot lot at the corner of Fifth Avenue and West 43rd Street...It was last reported that the first three levels of 520 Fifth Avenue will house restaurants, followed by offices from floors four through 28, mechanical space on floors 29 and 30, and residential space from floors 31 through 68.

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### **[Demolition Underway For Extell’s Potential Supertall At 570 Fifth Avenue In Midtown, Manhattan](#)**

March 2, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young

Demolition is underway at 570 Fifth Avenue, the site of a potential supertall skyscraper in Midtown, Manhattan. Developed by Extell, the tower could reach a height of 1,100 feet and 78 floors on a 43,011-square-foot plot at the corner of Fifth Avenue and West 46th Street. The parcel had mostly sat vacant for the past several years, and includes several old structures that are now in the process of being razed. There is still no architect publicly announced, nor clear indication of the building’s programming, though a series of zoning and massing diagrams and ground-floor plans suggest either an office complex or a residential and hotel development, with the latter reaching supertall status.

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100 East 53rd Street. Photo by Michael Young

### **[Foster + Partners’ 100 East 53rd Street Rebrands As ‘Selene’ In Midtown East, Manhattan](#)**

February 8, 2022, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young

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Occupancy is available for Selene, a 63-story residential skyscraper at 100 East 53rd Street in Midtown. Designed by Norman Foster of Foster + Partners, the slender 711-foot-tall reinforced concrete edifice is wrapped in a sleek undulating glass curtain wall and yields 94 bespoke residences with prices starting at \$1.875 million dollars...100 East 53rd Street is located at the corner of Lexington Avenue and East 53rd Street, directly across Lexington Avenue from the Citigroup Center.

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## Murray Hill in the news

### [Man Charged With Hate Crimes After 7 Asian Women Are Attacked in 2 Hours](#)

March 2, 2022, *nytimes.com*, by Karen Zraick

The women were attacked in a spree of violence in Manhattan on Sunday. A guard at the library where the man was arrested said he had been a frequent visitor...A 28-year-old man was arrested and charged with hate crimes Wednesday evening in connection with a two-hour spree of attacks on women of Asian descent in Manhattan over the weekend, another example of a grim wave of violence against Asian Americans. There was no indication that the assailant knew any of the seven victims, two of whom were treated at local hospitals. The police charged the man, Steven Zajonc, with seven counts of assault and attempted assault classified as hate crimes, as well as with seven counts of aggravated harassment and harassment. Mr. Zajonc, whose address was listed as a Midtown drop-in shelter, was taken into custody at a public library on Wednesday, a police spokesman said. The police said Mr. Zajonc, who is originally from Florida, declined to make a statement after his arrest. The New York Public Library said that guards at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library on 40th Street and Fifth Avenue had recognized the man as a regular and had alerted the police...The first attack took place at about 6:30 p.m. on Sunday around East 30th Street and Madison Avenue, about a half-mile southeast of the library, when an assailant approached a 57-year-old woman and, without uttering a word, punched her in the face, the police said. Ten minutes later and a block west, the nightmare repeated itself. The second victim was 25...Lt. Elmirel Cephas, a guard who has worked for the library system for 22 years, said in a phone interview that he had seen Mr. Zajonc in the library in recent months, often six or seven days a week from opening to closing time. He kept to himself and did not cause trouble.

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## Schools and students

**School report cards for covid testing are shown below.**

**COVID-19 Report Card for [PS 116 Mary Lindley Murray](#).** Total Students Enrolled + Teachers/Staff=464. Ninety positive tests were reported since September 2020 (66 students, 24 staff). Two staff tested positive in the past 14 days.

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**COVID-19 Report Card for [The River School](#).** Total Students Enrolled + Teachers/Staff=516. Ninety-seven positive tests were reported since September (78 students, 19 staff). One staff tested positive in the past 14 days.

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**COVID-19 Report Card for [Murray Hill Academy](#).** Total Students Enrolled + Teachers/Staff=299. Forty-six positive tests since September (34 students, 12 staff). No positive tests in the past 14 days.

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**COVID-19 Report Card for [J.H.S 104 Simon Baruch](#).** Total Students Enrolled + Teachers/Staff=1,108. One hundred eighty-two positive cases since September (175 students, 7 staff). Eight students tested positive in the past 14 days.

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**March 25 (survey deadline)**

**(for public school families) Please take the NYC School Survey**

Every year, the NYC Department of Education asks public school families to make their voice heard by responding to the NYC School Survey. All families and teachers in grades 3-K through 12, and students in grades 6-12 are eligible to take the survey, along with select school support staff. Available in ten languages, the survey collects information designed to support a dialogue among all members of school communities about how to make their school a better place to learn. Results will be released publicly in the fall of 2022. Families can access the survey by logging into their NYC Schools Account (NYCSA) or by going to [nycschoolssurvey.org](https://nycschoolssurvey.org).

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**[NYC brings back Summer Rising, offering academics and enrichment for all students](#)**

March 11, 2022, *ny.chalkbeat.org*, by Christina Veiga and Amy Zimmer  
Mayor Eric Adams pledged to expand the [Summer Rising] program to 110,000 elementary and middle school students...For high school students, the city is expanding its Summer Youth Employment program, aiming to provide jobs and internships for about 100,000 New Yorkers ages 14-24...This year's free summer program for K-8 students will run from 8 a.m. through 3 p.m., with the option to extend the day until 6 p.m. For elementary school children, the program is from July 5 through Aug. 19, while it ends Aug. 12 for middle schoolers. Learn more at [schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/summer/grades-k-8](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/summer/grades-k-8). Students will spend their morning with licensed teachers, while staffers from community based organizations will lead afternoon activities such as sports and field trips. For high school students, programs are expected to run for a half day from July 5 through Aug. 12. The opportunities provided and daily schedule will vary by school, according to the education department. In addition to work opportunities, high school students will be able to

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make up previously failed classes as well as participate in college prep courses. Enrollment is expected to begin in April.

**Related: March 11, 2022, Mayor Adams Announces Summer Learning and Enrichment Program for K-8 Youth** [www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/124-22/mayor-adams-summer-learning-enrichment-program-k-8-youth](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/124-22/mayor-adams-summer-learning-enrichment-program-k-8-youth).

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### **Chancellor Banks outlines vision for public schools**

March 2, 2022, *ny1.com*, by Jillian Jorgensen

Schools Chancellor David Banks outlined his vision for the nation’s largest school system, vowing to cut back on bureaucracy and deliver better results for kids...“I am eliminating the position of executive superintendents in the New York City public schools,” Banks said...There are eight executive superintendents around the city, each with their own offices and staff. The position was a highly-paid layer of management between the DOE’s headquarters and the city’s 46 district superintendents. Banks said he’ll give more power to those 46 superintendents...Banks said he also wants to change the way schools teach reading, empower successful principals, and involve parents in policy decisions...he outlined other plans, including the launch of a Virtual Academy next fall for children who want to learn remotely...With the number of weapons recovered in city schools on the rise, Banks said he also wants to increase the number of school safety agents, and explore new technology that could find weapons while being less invasive for students than current metal detectors.

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### **Multiple COVID cases won’t trigger health department assessment in schools**

March 18, 2022, *nypost.com*, by Cayla Bamberger and Susan Edelman

Multiple COVID-19 cases in New York City public schools will no longer trigger “epidemiological assessments” by the health department, according to an internal memo obtained by *The Post*. The city Department of Education memo to principals comes as the new Omicron subvariant, BA.2 sparks fears of a possible surge...If there’s a breakout of multiple cases in classrooms or on sports teams, the memo says, principals should distribute COVID-19 home test kits to students who have been exposed...The superintendent’s office can help assess “what may be causing the increase in transmission” and consult the Office of School Health “to minimize further transmission.” ...DOE spokesman Nathaniel Styer [said] “There is a citywide shift away from universal contact tracing, but all of the same alerts and systems are in place in our schools,” he said. “The ask of the principal remains the same as it has been since January.”...On Thursday, the DOE reported 205 new COVID cases – 145 students and 60 staff. No classrooms were closed or quarantined.

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### **Orthodox Yeshivas Decry New Guidelines For NY Private Schools**

March 15, 2022, *patch.com*, by Matt Troutman

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Orthodox yeshiva leaders are up in arms over potential new guidelines for teaching secular subjects in New York's private schools. All private academies, including New York City's yeshivas, are required to provide education "substantially equivalent" to that in public schools – and the rules unveiled last week by State Department of Education officials aim to fulfill that goal. Many critics, including those within Orthodox Jewish communities, argue yeshivas are doing their students a disservice by not teaching the basics of many subjects. But many yeshiva leaders have long bristled over what they view as secular infringements on religious education. Agudath Israel of America, a group that advocates for yeshivas, criticized the guidelines and argued they failed to value religious studies, some of which are quite rigorous, as part of an equivalent education.

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### **Free education can change the trajectory of students' lives for the better**

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney stood with Borough President Levine, Assemblymember Epstein, CUNY students, and the Hotel Trades Union calling on New York State to step up, and make free, quality education a reality by passing the #NewDealForCUNY.

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## **Policing & police reform**

### **Weekly crime reports**

#### **17th precinct**

[www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime\\_statistics/cs-en-us-017pct.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-017pct.pdf)

#### **13th Precinct**

[www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime\\_statistics/cs-en-us-013pct.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-013pct.pdf)

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### **The NYPD deploys Neighborhood Safety Teams beginning March 14**

From the Mayor's press release describing his *Blueprint to End Gun Violence in New York City*: "The NYPD is our first line of defense against gun violence. We will make new efforts to strengthen and reinforce it, while continuing our mission to involve the community. We will start by putting more officers on patrol in key neighborhoods throughout the city. We will enhance existing Public Safety Units with new Neighborhood Safety Teams, which will focus on gun violence. We will launch these additional teams in the next three weeks, with deep focus on the 30 precincts where 80 percent of violence occurs, even as the Public Safety Units continue their lifesaving work. In doing this, we will avoid mistakes of the past. These officers will be identifiable as NYPD, they will have body cameras, and they will have enhanced training and oversight."

**Press release** [www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/045-22/mayor-adams-releases-blueprint-end-gun-violence-new-york-city#/0](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/045-22/mayor-adams-releases-blueprint-end-gun-violence-new-york-city#/0)

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## **Blueprint to End Gun Violence” in New York City**

[www1.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/press-releases/2022/the-blueprint-to-end-gun-violence.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/press-releases/2022/the-blueprint-to-end-gun-violence.pdf)

### **Related: [Adams revamps anti-gun unit as NYC grapples with deadly week](#)**

March 16, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Elizabeth Kim

Mayor Eric Adams on Wednesday introduced a specialized force of more than 200 police officers who will target gun violence in New York City, a key strategy of his public safety plan that he promised would reduce shootings while avoiding overly aggressive tactics that have tarnished similar efforts in the past. The rollout of the new units known as Neighborhood Safety Teams began on Monday...the new unit of officers will not be in plainclothes, but wear modified uniforms that make them identifiable as police officers to the public...They will cover the areas hardest-hit by gun violence, ramping up to 30 precincts and four housing commands, which cover public housing projects, officials said.

[Editor’s note: We reached out to our NYPD Neighborhood Coordination Officers, and to their knowledge no Neighborhood Safety teams have been deployed to Murray Hill, Kips Bay or Times Square. They are being deployed in the neighborhoods most affected by violence.]

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## **[Why Is New York’s Bail Reform So Controversial?](#)**

February 21, 2022, *thecity.nyc*, by Josefa Velasquez and Rachel Holliday Smith

Critics like Mayor Eric Adams say bail reform should be rolled back. Are they right?...If the bail amount can’t be paid either way, then the person has to wait in jail until their trial ends...Critics of New York’s old bail laws argued that they penalized poverty, creating a two tiered criminal justice system in which the wealthy can post bail while they await trial while the poor who have to sit in jail...Cash bail is prohibited for most misdemeanors and non-violent felonies under the 2019 changes. In these types of cases, judges are required to release people with the least restrictive conditions imposed to ensure they return for their court dates...For violent felonies and some misdemeanors, such as purposefully trying to prevent someone from breathing, judges have discretion over how to use an arsenal of tools available to make sure a defendant returns to court—such as setting bail, electronic monitoring, surrendering passports or treatment programs. Judges can also hold people in detention pending their trial in very serious cases.

### **Related: [Spike in violence unrelated to NY bail reforms, Sen. Krueger says](#)**

March 18, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by David Giambusso

“The Legislature discussed, debated, conferred on bail reform and the dangerousness standard question for years before we made the changes we did in bail reform,” [State Sen. Liz] Krueger (28th Senate District) said...The issue gained new relevance this week after current Gov. Hochul drafted a [10-point plan to revise the bail laws](#) once again...Krueger and criminal justice advocates say the spike in crime is happening nationwide and is unrelated to the bail changes...Krueger maintained that Democratic lawmakers are very concerned about the issue of violence but suggested that city and state lawmakers should focus on other areas to address the uptick. “We have been proposing and even begging the city and the state to expand the number of residential psychiatric beds available,” Krueger said. “Expand the types of shelter beds that are targeted to those who are suffering the most — the safe haven model shelters.” “Safe havens” are typically facilities that

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provide individual units along with mental health treatment and counseling services for people experiencing homelessness...Krueger also called for an expansion of mental health courts, requiring some people to be admitted to mental health care facilities and better case closure rates in law enforcement.

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Also see **Budget** section below for more news on policing.

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## Housing, homelessness & affordability

**April 20 (application deadline)**

### **Housing lottery for Manhattan Plaza at 400 West 43rd Street**

Waiting lists for studio, one-bedroom and two bedroom Mitchell Lama units are now open. You must be a NY state resident. See details on how to enter, and the rents and income requirements at [council.nyc.gov/gale-brewer/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2022/03/ML-Only-Ad-1.pdf](https://council.nyc.gov/gale-brewer/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2022/03/ML-Only-Ad-1.pdf). (As an example, studios rent for \$1950, utilities included, and minimum income is \$93,612.) You do not have to be in the arts to qualify. [Source: Gale Brewer's weekly email of March 19, 2022]  
**SAG-AFTRA notice** [sagaftra.org/manhattan-plaza-wait-list-open](https://sagaftra.org/manhattan-plaza-wait-list-open).

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### **Tenants threatened with eviction face housing court without lawyers**

March 9, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Chau Lam

Nearly two months after New York's statewide moratorium on evictions expired, a shortage of attorneys and a housing court system determined to clear its backlog of cases are leaving some New Yorkers to face eviction from their homes without legal representation — undermining a city program that provides free legal services, according to attorneys and tenant advocates...Lawyers in New York City housing courts have voiced their concerns with the courts as judges bring new eviction cases on line and clear backlogs that piled up when the pandemic temporarily halted evictions...the advocacy group Right to Counsel NYC...said judges who presided over courtrooms where indigent clients are assigned a lawyer used to hear one case every 30 minutes. Now, the group said judges are hearing two cases every 15 minutes...The New York City Council established the Right to Counsel law in 2017. The law...became available to all eligible New Yorkers last year. A family of four that earns less than \$55,000 a year, for example, would qualify for free legal representation if they face eviction...Judge DiFiore asked Supervising Judge Jean T. Schneider, head of the city's housing courts, to respond to advocates' concerns. In an email Schneider sent to the coalition...the judge said workload and capacity are issues between legal services providers and the city's Office of Civil Justice — the entity charged with implementing the Right to Counsel program. "The Court will not reduce its calendars at a provider's request," Schneider wrote.

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## [How New York officials want to tackle housing costs](#)

March 9, 2022, *nystateofpolitics.com*, by Nick Reisman

State lawmakers in New York are debating how to make housing more affordable across the state as the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an inventory crunch, a dash for real estate and a sharp rise in rents in many cities. The discussions surrounding ways of addressing affordability in housing comes as lawmakers are debating a broader \$216 billion spending plan proposed by Gov. Kathy Hochul that is due at the end of the month, and as legislators weigh whether more aid for financially struggling tenants and landlords are needed. On Wednesday at the Capitol in Albany, advocates rallied for a measure meant to make it harder for landlords to raise rents and evict tenants if they cannot afford to pay the increases. The proposal known as "good cause" eviction has been met with a chilly reception from organizations that represent landlords and property owners. But some Democratic lawmakers say the measure is necessary after tenant protection provisions lapsed earlier this year for people who could not make rent during the pandemic, making it easier for landlords to begin eviction processes. "We need to protect tenants' long-term stability," said state Assemblyman Harvey Epstein. "This is a piece we need to get done. Good cause is a critical piece of the housing landscape that we need to work on." Landlord organizations, however, insist the measure would not address the cost of rent facing tenants while also creating a burden on property owners.

## **Related:** [N.Y. governor contender Jumaane Williams lays out 'Housing for All' policy](#)

March 18, 2022, *nydailynews.com*, by Michael Gartland

As part of his plan, Williams vowed to pour more state funding into housing subsidies, end the sale of public land to for-profit developers and revamp the Empire State Development Corp. to build and preserve more affordable housing... "Under this system, housing would be available to all people at a range of income levels," he wrote in a policy statement shared with the Daily News Thursday. "Moderate income households, paying 30 percent of their income in rent, will be able to cross-subsidize lower rents paid by lower-income families. The state can make up any funding gap through both new and existing subsidy programs."...the way it would work is that rent in new affordable-housing developments would be set at 30% of a tenant's income. Instead of just housing low-income earners, the units would also go to higher earners, whose 30% would amount to a more significant chunk of change and help subsidize the overall upkeep of the building.

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## [Dozens of encampments found inside subway system, MTA says](#)

February 24, 2022, *ny1.com*, by Dan Rivoli New York City

Over the pandemic, while ridership tanked, there was an increase in the number of people who entered the tracks, with hundreds of homeless people in dozens of encampments inside subway tunnels. "The subway is no place to make your home," MTA Chairman Janno Lieber said. According to the MTA, a survey last month found over 350 people living in 29 encampments inside subway tunnels, and 89 encampments in subway stations... The MTA's study of track intrusions found 1,267 cases of people entering the tracks unauthorized, a 20% increase from 2019. MTA officials are looking to closed-circuit television cameras, front-facing cameras on trains to detect people on the [tracks], as well as expanding use of laser intrusion systems. The MTA provided NY1 with a list of the top stations with the most cases of people entering the tracks. West 4th Street had the most,

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followed by: Times Square-42 Street, 125 Street on the 4 5 and 6 lines, Grand Central, 42 Street-Port Authority Bus Terminal, 14-Union Square, 34 Street-Penn Station...Appearing on PIX11 Friday morning, Mayor Eric Adams said the city would “be dismantling every encampment in our system.”

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### [Jane Jacobs Rented a Desk Here for \\$8 a Week. Now It’s Asking \\$8.9 Million.](#)

February 16, 2022, *curbed.com*, by Alissa Walker

The plaque outside 555 Hudson Street says that Jane Jacobs lived there when she wrote the hugely influential *The Death and Life of American Cities*. But the process of putting words to paper required a room away from the kids, and Jacobs’s defining work was written in a 1836 townhouse four very walkable blocks away, a pale-blue Greek Revival building where she rented an upstairs desk for \$8 a week. Now, 27 Bethune Street is for sale for the first time in 60-plus years...The longtime owner of the house, Otis Kidwell Burger, who was also an author, bought the building in 1959 for \$30,000 with her husband and rented the upstairs rooms to writers like Jacobs as well as many other actors and artists, some of whom lived there.

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### [Watch: Why Wall Street loves this controversial path to homeownership](#)

February 23, 2022, *therealdeal.com*, by TRD Staff

New episode of "Paydirt" breaks down the players behind the growth of rent-to-own

If you had to pick one phrase at the center of the American dream, it would be

“homeownership.”...The reality today, however, is that owning a home is out of reach for most

Americans. Rising home prices and increasing affordability issues coupled with stagnant wages

means that many would-be buyers are forced to remain in the rental market – and landlords are

reaping the rewards...But a fast-growing – and highly controversial – offering wants to bridge the

gap. It’s called rent-to-own...Rent-to-own refers to giving renters the option to purchase a property

they are renting for a fixed price, provided they can come up with the money in an agreed-upon time

period – typically three to five years...The sale price is locked in at the start of the lease...Wall Street

and Silicon Valley see huge riches in store for this market. But will it work out well for the aspiring

homeowners?

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## **Elections & voting**

### **Important election dates**

NOTE: Voters must be registered with a party to vote to nominate that party's candidate in a Primary Election (the deadline was February 14 to change party affiliation for the upcoming Primary Election).

Use the *Voter Registration Form* to indicate your party when you register to vote, if you would like to change your party affiliation or to change your address. We recommend using the online forms where possible. Election rules are set by the State.

New York City Board of Elections website [vote.nyc](https://www.vote.nyc)

New York State Board of Elections website [elections.ny.gov](https://www.elections.ny.gov)

Check your voter registration status at [vote.nyc/page/am-i-registered](https://www.vote.nyc/page/am-i-registered) or call 1-866-868-3692.

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Register to vote (Voter Registration Form) at [vote.nyc/page/register-vote](https://vote.nyc/page/register-vote)  
Political calendar from the state Board of Elections  
[elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2022PoliticalCalendar.pdf](https://elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2022PoliticalCalendar.pdf)  
NY State BOE Voting Deadlines calendar [elections.ny.gov/VotingDeadlines.html](https://elections.ny.gov/VotingDeadlines.html).

**March 1 - April 7**

June 3

June 8

June 13

June 18 - 26

**June 28**

August 4 - 10

October 14

October 18

October 24

October 29 - November 6

**November 8**

Petitioning period for Primary candidates

Deadline for voter registration for Primary Election

Deadline for change of address for Primary Election

Deadline to request Absentee Ballot

Early voting

**Primary Election**

Judicial Convention

Deadline for voter registration for General Election

Deadline for change of address for General Election

Deadline to request Absentee Ballot

Early Voting

**General Election**

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## **[State Board of Elections Begins Enforcing Campaign Finance Disclosure Laws](#)**

March 14, 2022, *thecity.nyc*, by Sam Mellins

This story was published in partnership with New York Focus, an independent, investigative news site covering New York state and city politics. Following a series of reports by New York Focus into the state Board of Elections's failure to enforce a 2019 reform law meant to limit corporate dark money in New York's elections, the Board's top enforcement official said last week that it has begun to enforce the law by notifying thousands of corporate donors that they are violating it. The 2019 reforms were passed to eliminate a quirk of New York campaign finance law that allowed a particular type of corporation—the limited liability corporation, or LLC—to anonymously funnel millions of dollars into the campaign coffers of elected state officials. For three years...key provisions of the law went unenforced, and LLCs continued to make anonymous donations to the campaigns of prominent elected officials—including nearly \$400,000 in anonymous contributions to Governor Kathy Hochul last year...Notifying LLCs is just the first step towards full enforcement. Actually imposing consequences on campaigns and donors would be more difficult...Current law — which the Board has asked the legislature to update—does not allow the board to bring penalties against LLCs that violate the law. To force LLCs to follow the law, the board must bring a suit, and get a court to order an LLC to file its disclosure—a process too cumbersome to be used against thousands of noncompliant LLCs...LLCs also violated annual donation limits, donating as much as eight times the \$5,000 cap...The 2019 law, sponsored by Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon (D-Brooklyn) and Brian Kavanagh (D-Manhattan/Brooklyn), aimed to change this. It capped LLC contributions at \$5,000 total in a calendar year, and required all LLC donors to submit a form to the Board at the end of each year listing their owners and how much of the company each one owns.

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## [Lawsuit over noncitizen voting rights in local elections faces new delay](#)

February 25, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Brigid Bergin

A lawsuit filed last month seeking to block newly enacted legislation that would expand voting rights in local elections to more than 800,000 noncitizens hit a snag after the New York City Board of Elections (BOE), which is usually represented by the city's Corporation Counsel, requested its own lawyer. "To protect its interests in this matter, BOE wants to consult with other counsel to ensure that no potential conflict exists with the other municipal defendants."

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## Budget, finances & taxes

### [New York is no longer a 'donor state' – at least for now](#)

March 9, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Jon Campbell

For years, New York was one of just a handful of states whose residents and businesses paid more in federal taxes than they got back in federal funding. That's no longer the case – at least for now. And that can be chalked up to yet another thing the COVID pandemic has turned on its head. State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli issued his annual report Wednesday detailing how much federal tax revenue originates in New York and comparing it to how much federal funding the state and its residents get back.

**State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli report New York's Balance of Payments in the Federal Budget Federal Fiscal Year 2020** [osc.state.ny.us/files/reports/budget/pdf/federal-budget-federal-fiscal-year-2020.pdf](https://osc.state.ny.us/files/reports/budget/pdf/federal-budget-federal-fiscal-year-2020.pdf).

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### [State employment rate continues to recover, except in New York City](#)

March 15, 2022, *nystateofpolitics.com*, by Nick Reisman

New York's jobless rate picture remains a tale of two states as unemployment rates are far higher in the five boroughs of New York City than the rest of the state. Numbers released Tuesday by the state Department of Labor show a slow, but steady recovery of jobs in nearly every region of upstate New York as well as on Long Island. But in New York City, the recovery has taken longer. Tourism and hospitality businesses have struggled to regain employment as the pandemic has continued on in the last two years, hurting areas like New York City that rely on the industry for jobs. New York City's unemployment rate fell over 12 months from 13.3% to 7.3%. Still, that remains above the 5.3% jobless rate statewide, and outside of the city the unemployment rate is only 4.3%.

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### **NYC Comptroller Brad Lander's report *A Better Way Than 421-a* *The High-Rising Costs of New York City's Unaffordable Tax Exemption Program***

[comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/a-better-way-than-421a](https://comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/a-better-way-than-421a)

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Building on the principles and recommendations in the New York City Advisory Commission on Property Tax Reform's Final Report in December, [the NYC Comptroller Brad Lander's] office urges comprehensive property tax reform that would include the following elements:

- Tax 1-3 family homes, co-ops and condominiums, and small rental buildings at the same rate. Build in tax relief programs that favor primary and low-income residents and replace the current assessed value growth caps.
- Bring tax parity to new residential constructions (both rentals and homeownership) to provide a broad, strong, fair incentive for new construction going forward. This would largely eliminate the need for a 421a-style development incentive program.
- Establish a new, targeted affordable housing tax incentive that would match the level needed to achieve genuine affordability, rather than provide a tax exemption that underwrites both market-rate and income restricted units. This new incentive should also come along with strong labor standards to provide good jobs for New Yorkers.

It's time to let 421-a sunset—and take our best shot to build a fair and stable property tax system that eliminates disparities, facilitates rental development, and focuses our scarce affordable housing resources on genuinely affordable housing.

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## **[A New Type of Pied-à-Terre Tax: A Surcharge on Non-Primary Owners](#)**

March 18, 2021, [jdsupra.com](http://jdsupra.com)

At the end of last year, we discussed the latest pied-à-terre tax proposal introduced in the New York Legislature, Senate Bill S44B, and how it compared with prior versions reported in this blog over the past six years. (As you may recall, New York State Senator Brad Holyman sponsored the original proposal to impose a real property tax on nonprimary residences...[T]he New York Assembly released its Tax and Revenue budget proposals for 2021-22, Assembly Bill 3009-B (the "Assembly Proposal"), which includes a new type of pied-à-terre tax, a surcharge on the owner! (The Senate declined to include such tax in its budget proposal.)...For condominiums and cooperatives, the rate would range from 10% to 13.5% percent of the properties assessed value (or, for property held in cooperative form of ownership with an assessed value attributable to the tenant-stockholder's percentage interest on a per unit basis) in excess of \$300,000. In contrast to the prior pied-à-terre tax proposals reviewed in this blog, the imposition of the tax would be on the owner of the property, versus on the property itself.

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## **[Councilmembers direct sharp questions and criticism at NYPD during budget hearing](#)**

March 18, 2022, [gothamist.com](http://gothamist.com), by Matt Katz

In all, the NYPD budget for the current fiscal year is \$5.6 billion, 90% of which is personnel costs, [NYPD Commissioner Keechant] Sewell said. With pensions and debt service factored in, the budget is roughly \$11 billion, according to the Citizens Budget Commission. Adams's proposed budget would leave police spending relatively flat next year...NYPD's top brass also detailed a key component of Adams' plan to stem the rise in gun violence since the pandemic: The new neighborhood safety teams, made up of groups of officers who target those who carry guns in the

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30 most violence [sic] precincts. So far, 26 of the planned 34 neighborhood safety teams have been deployed, with 176 officers now on the street. Ultimately, more than 500 officers could be on these teams.

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### **Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \$2 Billion in Wagers Over the First 30 Days of Mobile Sports Wagering**

February 14, 2022, Governor's Press release, [governor.ny.gov/news](https://www.governor.ny.gov/news)

This record-breaking success, more than any other state has ever reported, will generate more than \$70 million in tax revenue for New York State...According to State law, tax revenue generated by the mobile sports wagering industry is required to go toward elementary and secondary education, grants for youth sports programming, property tax relief, and problem gambling prevention, treatment and recovery services...On January 6, 2022 the Commission authorized four platform providers and operators - Caesars, DraftKings, FanDuel, and Rush Street Interactive - to commence operations effective January 8, 2022...Since that time, 3 more operators have commenced operations - Bet MGM, Points Bet and Wynn Interactive...The Commission implemented regulations requiring operators to prevent underage gaming, provide bettors the availability to impose spending limits, and provide information on the risks associated with gambling and signs of problem gambling. New Yorkers struggling with a gambling addiction, or who know someone who is, can find help by calling the State's toll-free, confidential HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or by texting HOPENY (467369).

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### **The race is on to build a casino in New York City**

February 6, 2022, [politico.com](https://www.politico.com), by Joseph Spector

New York state has a ban on new casinos until 2023, but Gov. Kathy Hochul wants to end that moratorium this year, allowing up to three casinos to open downstate. And already nine gambling giants are eager to bid on the contracts and are likely to offer grandiose plans for casinos, hotels and entertainment venues to boost their proposals...The operators submitted preliminary details in December to the state Gaming Commission on their plans for New York City-area casinos...A New York City casino is considered a crown jewel of the U.S. gambling sector – the largest untapped market in the largest metropolitan area in the nation, with a population of 20 million people and a steady stream of tourists...state lawmakers seem receptive to opening up the bids for downstate casinos this year – rather than wait until 2023 – as a way to bolster the state's coffers. They would need to overturn the 2014 law...In addition to Resorts World in Queens, which is owned by the Malaysia-based Genting Group, and MGM in Yonkers, there are a number of other suitors. UE Resorts International Inc.; Las Vegas Sands Corp.; Wynn Resorts; Rush Street Gaming; Hard Rock International; Bally's Corporation and the Water Club in Manhattan also submitted proposals. All the details were redacted by the state Gaming Commission...The high-stakes battle is likely to set off an aggressive lobbying effort in Albany, lead to clashes with community leaders in the five boroughs and attract the attention of a global industry stretching from Atlantic City to Las Vegas to Macau, China.

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# Government, executive orders, legislation, rules, policies (including pending)

## Mayor Adams' plan for NYC's economic development, March 2022, [Rebuild, Renew, Reinvent: A Blueprint for New York City's Economic Recovery](#)

This is a plan to accelerate job creation [regain the 400,000 jobs lost during the pandemic] and more quickly reach pre-pandemic employment levels, which were the highest in recorded history...our goal is not to return to the previous status quo but to move forward stronger than before, making sure our recovery is centered on equity and economic mobility. This is also a vision to make communities more resilient to future environmental and public health emergencies, financially stronger, and more connected...Executive summary...five core strategies:

1. Restart our city's economic engines and reactivate the public realm
    - Tackle public safety and quality of life concerns to strengthen corridors where New Yorkers live, work, and play
    - Revive the city's vitality and dynamism by activating public spaces
    - Encourage visitors to return to New York City and rebuild and strengthen our tourism and hospitality industries
    - Reenergize the soul of our city—New York City's creative economy
    - Continue to support Open Restaurants, particularly those in lower-income communities
  2. Support small businesses, entrepreneurship, and a more equitable economy
    - Overhaul how City government interacts with small business
    - Help small businesses grow
    - Promote Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and immigrant entrepreneurship
    - Invest in neighborhoods
    - Pursue Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) procurement reforms
  3. Drive inclusive sector growth and build a future-focused economy
    - Maintain and grow New York City's competitiveness as a global economic powerhouse
    - Further diversify the economy by investing in promising growth industries
    - Center equity in the evolution and development of both legacy and emerging industries
    - Invest in the creative and cultural economy
  4. Connect New Yorkers to quality jobs and in-demand skills
    - Reimagine the public workforce system
    - Increase New Yorkers' ability to successfully skill and upskill by providing wraparound support
    - Make foundational investments in adult education and digital literacy
    - Build holistic K-16 and adult workforce strategies for our target sectors
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- Advocate for worker protections and longer-term wage supports and solutions for lower-wage sectors
5. Plan and build for inclusive growth now and in the future
- Accelerate and find efficiencies in the processes for building in New York City
  - Re-envision the city's jobs hubs in response to shifting trends in where New Yorkers live and work
  - Invest equitably in neighborhood infrastructure
  - Increase opportunities for low-cost housing in every neighborhood in New York City
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## **How Mayor Adams is Reorganizing City Government**

March 8, 2022, *gothamgazette.com*, by Samar Khurshid

Mayor Eric Adams came into office promising a more efficient and effective city government that doesn't operate in silos and he's taken steps in his first weeks on the job that he says will achieve that goal. Adams has reorganized the structure of city government, merged and consolidated several offices, created new roles while separating previously existing ones at the top of City Hall and established his top priorities in doing so. Like other mayors before him, Adams instituted a new city government organizational chart [www1.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/office-of-the-mayor/misc/NYC-Organizational-Chart.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/office-of-the-mayor/misc/NYC-Organizational-Chart.pdf).

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## **'An Unprecedented Job Program': Adams Promises Overhaul of Workforce Development in New York City**

January 14, 2022, *gothamgazette.com*, by Ethan Geringer-Sameth

New York City's wounded economy and the rise and fall of key sectors during the pandemic has heightened pre-pandemic concerns about the match between the labor needs of employers and the skills of hundreds of thousands of jobseekers. Eric Adams made better preparing the city's workforce a major area of focus as he pitched his vision of the city's recovery... "We are going to launch an unprecedented job program to link out-of-work New Yorkers not just with jobs, but with skills and training," Adams said... After a partial comeback, over 350,000 New Yorkers are unemployed, more than double pre-pandemic levels. But not all sectors have fared the same and while some, like retail and food service, have been brought to the brink of collapse, others, like tech, healthcare, and advertising, have seen growth that exceeded trends before the pandemic. Industries with more accessible jobs – positions that require fewer formal credentials – that tend to employ lower-wage workers have suffered dramatic losses, particularly in retail, bars and restaurants, and hospitality. That has raised concerns among economists and others who see a mismatch between the increasing number of well-paying jobs with the potential for career advancement and the training opportunities for and qualifications of much of the labor market. This is especially true in a city where the poverty rate remains at 18% and 42% of students who graduate high school were not deemed college- or career-ready in 2020 (the year for which the most recent data is available).

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**Related: JobsFirstFYC/Center for an Urban Future Report: Making Rezoning Work. Integrating Workforce Development Into New York City’s Rezoning**  
[nycfuture.org/pdf/CUF\\_MakingRezoningWork.pdf](https://nycfuture.org/pdf/CUF_MakingRezoningWork.pdf).

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February 23, 2022, **The Food and Drug Administration announced that women will no longer have to visit a doctor's office or clinic in order to obtain an abortion pill**, and will be able to do so through telemedicine and receive it via the mail, U.S. health officials said Tuesday. The Food and Drug Administration announced the change in a letter to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a group that has sued over the Trump-era restriction (*The Associated Press*, [abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/correction-virus-outbreak-abortion-pill-story-83085212](https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/correction-virus-outbreak-abortion-pill-story-83085212))...According to a study released on Thursday by the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights, more than half of all U.S. abortions are now done with pills, not surgery, In 2020, pills accounted for 54 percent of all U.S. abortions, up from roughly 44 percent in 2019 (*The Associated Press* [apnews.com/article/abortion-science-health-medication-56972af9e9b0fc2fc97e06041f6e96ce](https://apnews.com/article/abortion-science-health-medication-56972af9e9b0fc2fc97e06041f6e96ce)).

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### **[State Bill Would Vacate Past Convictions for Street Vending Offenses](#)**

March 15, 2022, [citylimits.org](https://citylimits.org), Daniel Parra

New York street vendors held a press conference Monday followed by a 24-hour sleep-out in front of Gov. Kathy Hochul’s office in Midtown Manhattan, calling on the governor to support and legalize street vending through a bill under consideration in Albany as the state budget deadline draws near. The bill, S1175 / A5081, would reshape the street vending sector in New York by requiring the city to create and adopt a program for regulating vendors that would do away the current cap on the number of licenses, which critics say has for years led to the penalization of vendors who are unable to get their hands on one to operate legally. While another piece of legislation passed by the City Council in 2021 expanded the number of vendor licenses the city can offer by a few hundred a year, the state proposal would go further by prohibiting the city from restricting that amount at all, to “make sure every street vendor is licensed,” according to the text of the bill...The case for mobile food vendors follows a similar pattern. Under city rules, they’re required to have both a license and a permit from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH). This means that mobile food vendors must pass a DOHMH Health Academy food protection course, hold a New York State Certificate of Authority to collect sales tax, while abiding by citing rules and food safety regulations at all times...But her bill will likely face opposition, just as the City Council legislation approved last year—which made far more modest reforms than what the state bill is proposing—drew the ire of some, including city business and real estate groups. “With the exception of street vendors, who in this city is calling for more street vending, more business conducted on the street, more cooking fumes, more illegally parked cooking trucks and inventory trucks, more crowding of the sidewalks, sanitation concerns?”...New York City has detailed rules and regulations in place to designate the time, place, and manner in which vendors can run their business.

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## **[Give Anti-Overdose Drugs Kits To NYC Nightclubs, Lawmakers Say](#)**

February 24, 2022, *patch.com*, by Matt Troutman

Anti-overdose drugs soon could be stocked in New York City nightclubs. A pair of City Council members introduced a bill Thursday to provide nightclubs with up to 10 free kits of drugs that reverse opioid overdoses. "Overdose deaths are on the rise in New York City, in part due to deadly substances like fentanyl and heroin that permeate our city's clubs and bars," said Keith Powers, who introduced the bill alongside Council Member Chi Ossé, in a statement...Lawmakers also hope to install vending machines stocked with overdose-reversing medication and clean needles in neighborhoods across the five boroughs...A release from the Council members touted the bill as a "harm reduction" measure.

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## **Mental Health For All**

New York City has launched [MentalHealthforAll.nyc.gov](https://MentalHealthforAll.nyc.gov), a comprehensive hub with helplines and services that offer a range of free direct support services to meet the needs of all New Yorkers, including young people, communities of color, and people with serious mental illness. Visit [MentalHealthforAll.nyc.gov](https://MentalHealthforAll.nyc.gov) to find mental health resources and substance use disorder support that meet your needs.

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## **(opinion) [Let New Yorkers attend community board meetings virtually](#)**

March 16, 2022, *nydailynews.com*, by Mark Levine and Brad Hoylman, Levine is Manhattan borough president. Hoylman represents Lower and Midtown Manhattan in the state Senate.

[D]uring the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw that it was not only possible to hold Community Board meetings virtually, the benefits of that increased accessibility increased participation and were good for their communities... hybrid or virtual meetings offer a critical level of flexibility and greater participation from underrepresented communities...The Legislature must pass legislation that will make remote options permanent. And until we pass this bill, we urge Hochul to extend her order to provide a lifeline to Community Boards, Community Education Councils and other voluntary public bodies.

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## **[Governor Hochul Signs Package of Legislation to Address Workplace Harassment and Discrimination](#)**

March 16, 2022

Legislation (S.812B/A.2035B) Establishes a Confidential Hotline for Complaints of Workplace Sexual Harassment

Legislation (S.3395B/A.2483B) Includes the State and all Public Employers as Subject to the Human Rights Law

Legislation (S.5870/A.7101) Prohibits Release of Personnel Records as a Retaliatory Action Against Employees

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### [City Council takes step to making open restaurants permanent](#)

February 25, 2022, *cityandstateny.com*, by Annie McDonough

New York City is one step closer to making outdoor dining permanent. The City Council on Thursday passed a zoning amendment that will remove geographic restrictions on where sidewalk cafés can be set up in New York City...there's still a long way to go in making the Open Restaurants program permanent...The next step is the City Council will have to consider and enact legislation that creates the regulatory framework for outdoor dining, which could include parts of the application process and the overall framework.

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## Stories we are following

### **Urging Swift Action Against Russian Oligarchs Hiding Wealth Behind Anonymous LLCs**

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney joined Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and State Senator Brad Hoylman at Billionaires Row (West 57th Street) [urging swift action against Russian Oligarchs](#) who use anonymous shell companies and limited liability companies (LLCs) to hide their assets. Among their assets are reportedly luxury apartment buildings along a strip of West 57th Street called Billionaires Row. Recently enacted Federal legislation would also expose other bad actors and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

[Source: Rep. Carolyn Maloney's *Weekly Update* email of March 18, 2022]

### **Related: [Confiscating a Russian oligarch's luxury condo requires much more than political bluster](#)**

March 15, 2022, *politico.com*, by Janaki Chadha

For years, Putin's moneyed associates have parked their wealth in high-end properties in locales from New York to Palm Beach...While freezing an asset is a relatively simple task, seizing and taking over properties is more involved. It requires a lengthy legal process that takes years in many cases, according to several experts on the subject. Seizures can be further complicated by the fact that ownership of most if not all of the Russian oligarchs' properties is shielded by shell companies...To seize a property, though, the government has to show it was linked to a crime...Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, a Democrat, has called for swifter federal action adding Russian oligarchs to the sanctions list, saying, "We want that expanded to include the dozens of men who have profited off this regime and are parking their assets here in the U.S." He and other lawmakers, including Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.) and state Sen. Brad Hoylman, took specific aim Sunday at properties owned by Russian elites along Billionaire's Row on 57th Street in Manhattan, and called for the passage of state legislation that would require more disclosure on the owners of limited liability companies...The sanctions on their own are still meaningful. When

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individuals are placed on the sanctions list, any assets connected to them are frozen automatically...Some Russian billionaires are already trying to offload properties.

**Related: [Russian Doll, LLC: Local, state, and federal authorities can collaborate to seize oligarchs' assets](#)**

March 3, 2022, *nydailynews.com*, by Daily News Editorial Board

If you walk down Park Ave. and keep your gaze skyward, odds are you'll see through the windows of plenty of ultra-luxury apartment buildings sitting empty, their extravagant amenities unused by owners who are thousands of miles away, often in places like Moscow and St. Petersburg. These are the owners in practice, anyway. On paper, the properties might belong to a Delaware LLC, which is controlled by a holding company in Cyprus, whose executive officer might be a business associate of the actual proprietor. It's not just residential property but commercial real estate, art, manufacturing, cars, yachts, jets, and all manner of other assets, all working to keep ill-gotten and often public funds away from prying eyes...Yet it's not impenetrable, particularly under the harsh glare of the combined force of U.S. local, state and federal law enforcement. Property seizures are an extreme and diplomatically sensitive measure that will fall to the federal government, which has already put together a task force specifically to go after these concealed assets...Though the feds must lead, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine is right to suggest that city and state authorities have some role to play in helping disentangle ownership structures and puncture the shroud of legal secrecy that hides these holdings. A collaborative effort will speed things along.

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**['Dark Stores' Shutter Across NYC After US Imposes Sanctions](#)**

March 17, 2022, *patch.com*, by Nick Garber

Fridge No More and Buyk shut down nearly 70 NYC warehouses as the rapid-delivery startups reportedly suffered from U.S. sanctions on Russia...Promising no-fee deliveries within 15 minutes, both companies expanded at a breakneck pace around the city in recent months, along with similar companies riding a wave of venture capital funding...Last week, however, Fridge No More's CEO told employees that it was closing down after a sale to a potential buyer fell through, according to multiple reports. The same day, the company filed a notice with the state, indicating that it would lay off 671 workers across the 31 New York City delivery centers...some officials charge that the warehouses are not even legal, since they operate on blocks zoned for typical local retail. Earlier this month, City Councilmember Gale Brewer released a map <https://beta.nyc/2022/03/01/darkstores-and-zoning> showing 115 such warehouses around the city – nearly all of which appeared to violate the zoning code. Amid the scrutiny, some of the companies began rushing to alter their storefronts to add small areas open to the public, helping to skirt the zoning restrictions.

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**[The psychopath who wrecked New York](#)**

March 19, 2022, *spectator.co.uk*, by Robert Gore-Langton

Robert Moses, responsible for so much of the city's architecture and infrastructure, played the humble public servant, yet he despised the poor. Robert Moses was the man, they say, who built New York. He was never elected to anything, yet he had absolute control of all public works in the

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city for more than 40 years, until 1968...Moses took power by seeing power where others hadn't – in the boring agencies of state government that ran the parks and roads...his reputation in America was demolished way back in 1974 by a mighty 1,300-page book by Robert Caro called *The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York*...Though there is talk of a Netflix series, there is still no film about this extraordinary man. The Bridge Theatre, however, has taken up his story. Nicholas Hytner is directing a new play the theatre has commissioned from David Hare...The play David has written is narratively narrower than the book. It's about who Moses is, what he stands for, and what might resonate for audiences today.'...Of the 255 playgrounds he built in the city in the 1930s, Harlem got just one. He also demolished swathes of perfectly good housing – with no regard for the evicted – for multi-lane expressways that choked up with traffic as soon as they opened. He left the city's subway system to rot...The play, Hytner says, is about 'how an unelected autocrat operates in a democracy, how attractive they may seem, how disastrously they turn out. It's about a splendid vision that curdles.' ...Hare has put into his play a woman who was edited out of the book, for reasons of length. Jane Jacobs...was a ballsy activist and an influential urban theorist who was deeply anti-Moses and very pro-people...When he decided to tarmac over a dappled glade in Central Park much used by toddlers, the well-to-do mothers and mink matrons in the locality got militant. At a hearing Moses slammed his palm down, insisting that there was no opposition: 'There is nobody against this: NOBODY, NOBODY, NOBODY but a bunch of... a bunch of MOTHERS!' He was defeated by a tsunami of mum rage...The Moses urban vision of roads and tower blocks lives on. It breeds banality and inhumanity.

*Straight Line Crazy* is at the Bridge Theatre until 18 June, and will be broadcast in cinemas on Thursday 26 May as part of NT Live [[National Theater Live](#)].

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## **[Microsoft's Small Step to Disable Macros Is a Huge Win for Security](#)**

February 10, 2022, *wired.com*, Lily Hay Newman

Word and Excel files you download from the internet just got a whole lot safer. TRICKING SOMEONE INTO enabling macros on a downloaded Microsoft Excel or Word file is an old hacker chestnut. That one click from a target creates a foothold for attackers to take over their devices. This week, though, Microsoft announced a seemingly minor tweak with massive implications: Beginning in April, macros will be disabled by default in files downloaded from the internet.

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## **Addressing Delays for Handling of Widespread Ransomware Attack**

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, chair of the Oversight Committee, and her colleague James Comer, sent a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Christopher Wray requesting a briefing on the FBI's three-week delay in aiding hundreds of businesses and institutions that were successfully targeted by a major ransomware attack this past summer. Cyber-attacks, including ransomware attacks, have become more severe and the lawmakers are requesting information to understand the rationale behind the FBI's decision to withhold critical assistance as the FBI sought to disrupt the attack. The growing threat of ransomware attacks requires our federal government agencies—especially the FBI—to respond quickly and effectively to prevent or minimize the damage from these attacks. Public reporting raises questions about the FBI's response to this summer's ransomware attack. Ransomware hackers have shown their willingness and ability to inflict damage on various sectors of the U.S. economy, and Congress must

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be fully informed whether the FBI's strategy and actions are adequately and appropriately addressing this damaging trend. Read the letter [oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2021-09-29.CBM%20Comer%20to%20Wray-FBI%20re%20Ransomware.pdf](https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2021-09-29.CBM%20Comer%20to%20Wray-FBI%20re%20Ransomware.pdf).

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NYC Comptroller Brad Lander shares this CUNY report. Two years into a pandemic that has had a profound, and unequal, impact on the health and safety and finances of so many, **New Yorkers are clear that addressing housing affordability, increasing mental health services, and ensuring our streets and subways are safe places to walk, ride and bike will be essential to our recovery and a thriving future.** Comptroller Lander is committed to partnering with each of you to realize a more equal, more prosperous New York.

**2021 Public Service Satisfaction Survey** (Scribd) from the Center for Urban Research at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York [scribd.com/document/551593123/Public-Service-Satisfaction-Survey-Report](https://scribd.com/document/551593123/Public-Service-Satisfaction-Survey-Report).

As New York City faces a leadership transition during a period of profound public health and economic stresses, a new survey by the Center for Urban Research at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York finds that city residents are happier with their neighborhoods than they are with the city as a whole and worry that neighborhood conditions are declining. The 2021 Public Service Satisfaction Survey was in the field between October 19 and November 2, 2021.

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## NYC's reopening

**New York State and NYC** reached the goal of a 70% vaccination rate for adults, and the community rate of infection, hospitalizations and deaths are low. As a result, most of the covid restrictions have been lifted. For information about specific NY agencies, check with the agency's website. Federal guidelines are still in effect. Learn more at the links below.

**Centers for Disease Control (CDC) covid webpage** [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

**Federal laws and regulations regarding covid** [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cdcreponse/laws-regulations.html](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cdcreponse/laws-regulations.html)

**CDC Interim Guidance for Fully Vaccinated People** [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html)

**U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) webpage on covid vaccines** [fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines](https://fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines)

**U.S. Department of State COVID-19 Travel Guidance for U.S. Citizens** [travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information1.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information1.html)

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**Federal resources for small businesses that are impacted by covid** [covid-sb.org](https://covid-sb.org).

**New York State COVID-19 tracker** (by county) [forward.ny.gov/percentage-positive-results-county-dashboard](https://forward.ny.gov/percentage-positive-results-county-dashboard).

**New York State reopening guidance for businesses** [forward.ny.gov](https://forward.ny.gov) and [governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/NYS\\_CDCGuidance\\_Summary.pdf](https://governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/NYS_CDCGuidance_Summary.pdf). **Learn more at** [forward.ny.gov/active-industry-guidance](https://forward.ny.gov/active-industry-guidance).

**New York State information** about reopening, covid rates and zones, vaccination program, covid restrictions and guidance, travel advisory, etc. [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home).

**NYS travel advisory** [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory).

**New York State Business Pandemic Recovery Initiative.** The Empire State Development page with information about grants, tax credits, and technical assistance programs for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Learn more at** [esd.ny.gov/business-pandemic-recovery-initiative](https://esd.ny.gov/business-pandemic-recovery-initiative).

**New York City Department of Health (DOH) covid webpage** [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page) also data page [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data.page).

**New York City covid webpage (for individuals and businesses)** [www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page).

**The NYC Citywide Information Portal with resource guides for businesses and individuals,** including COVID-specific resource guides for New Yorkers [www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page) and **311** [portal.311.nyc.gov](https://portal.311.nyc.gov).

**This page on the NYC Department of Health website shows the NYC alert level as **Low**.** [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page).

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## Vaccinations

Vaccines are now readily available and are free. **The NYC Vaccine Finder** tells you everywhere in NYC that vaccinations are available and the type of vaccination offered [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov).

Walgreens, RiteAid and CVS participate in the Federal vaccination program, as well as some independent pharmacies. They will be listed on the [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov) app. Check with your pharmacy to find out if they are offering vaccinations. You can also check with your primary care physician.

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Vaccination data can be found on [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-vaccines.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-vaccines.page). We have asked NYC DOH to verify that this page is still being updated.

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## **All New Yorkers can get tested for coronavirus.**

Sites run by New York State are free [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you). You can also check with your doctor, pharmacies and walk-in urgent care to find out if they do testing and if there will be charges. NYC free testing locations: [www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page), call 212-COVID19, or text COVID TEST to 855-48.

### **For Murray Hill/Kips Bay**

**Bellevue**, First Avenue at 26th Street, (free) no appointment necessary; wait times are unpredictable. Be sure that they set up your patient portal so that you can get your results quickly. Test results usually come back in 1-2 days.

## **IMPORTANT: There is still no cure for COVID-19. To stop the spread take a layered approach:**

- get vaccinated, get boosted when eligible
- wear face coverings if you are unvaccinated or when you are with unvaccinated people
- practice good hand hygiene
- stay home if sick (seek care if you feel seriously ill)
- (and from the older recommendations) maintain distance, have good air ventilation

When community rates of infection are high, limit non-essential activities, travel and indoor gatherings with people who are not in your household.

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See [murrayhillnyc.org](http://murrayhillnyc.org) for additional COVID-19 information, including

[Reopening](#)

[Testing](#)

[Vaccinations](#)

[Neighborhood houses of worship, museums, educational and cultural institutions](#)

[Neighborhood restaurants, food & spirits that are open for delivery & pickup](#)

[Neighborhood retail, health care \(including pets\) & services that are open](#)

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## The NYC Citywide Information Portal

[www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page) and [311 portal.311.nyc.gov](http://portal.311.nyc.gov) have created COVID-specific resource guides for New Yorkers. These resource guides contain information related to emotional well-being, rent and housing, NYCHA residents, and more. Get information and resources to help protect yourself and others from COVID-19 <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>.

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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 at the links below.

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

### [General Discounts](#)

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## 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 Member Erik Bottcher, Council District 3:** [council.nyc.gov/district-3](http://council.nyc.gov/district-3), 212-564-7757, [District3@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District3@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)

**NYC Council Member Julie Menin, Council District 5:** [council.nyc.gov/julie-menin](http://council.nyc.gov/julie-menin), 212-788-6865, [District5@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District5@council.nyc.gov).

**NYC Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams (speaker)** [SpeakerAdams@council.nyc.gov](mailto:SpeakerAdams@council.nyc.gov), 718-206-2068 [council.nyc.gov/district-28](http://council.nyc.gov/district-28).

**Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine:** [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 Eric Adams:** [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:** [www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page)

**Schedule of hearings, sign-up forms to attend and more.**

**New York Senate** website [nysenate.gov](http://nysenate.gov).

**New York State Assembly** website [nyassembly.gov](http://nyassembly.gov).

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

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

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

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

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

**New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings** [And archived videos can also be accessed on this page.] [nyassembly.gov/av/upcoming](http://nyassembly.gov/av/upcoming)

**New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings calendar**

<https://www.nyassembly.gov/leg/?sh=hear>

**Governor Kathy Hochul, New York State,** [governor.ny.gov](http://governor.ny.gov), contact page on website [governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form](http://governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form)

**U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney, New York's 12th Congressional District:** [maloney.house.gov](http://maloney.house.gov), 212-860-0606, website contact form: [maloney.house.gov/contact-carolyn/email-me](http://maloney.house.gov/contact-carolyn/email-me)

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

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

**U.S. President Joseph Biden:** website contact form: [whitehouse.gov/contact](http://whitehouse.gov/contact)

The White House site [whitehouse.gov](http://whitehouse.gov) is once more a trusted source for news on legislation, press releases, White House press briefings, and more. Presidential actions [whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions](http://whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions).

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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 2022.

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

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with "Remove" in the subject.

