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New York State Senate | 28th District



January 2018

Message from Liz...

On January 3rd, Governor Cuomo delivered his State of the State address, which lays out his agenda for the coming year. Many of the issues, such as transportation, housing and education funding, lacked detail, and I hope to hear more from the Governor on these when he outlines his budget in a few weeks.

I was particularly disappointed at the lack of any significant discussion of how the state is going to address the crisis of deteriorating subway infrastructure and service. In December I joined many of my Senate Democratic colleagues in writing to the Governor urging him to make this a top priority. I remain hopeful that when he releases his budget, he will outline a detailed plan for providing adequate funding to the MTA and linking that funding to necessary reforms. The Governor has also indicated general support for congestion pricing as a way to fund the MTA, and needs to outline a specific proposal in his budget.

I was also disappointed by the lack of a clear housing plan in the Governor's address. While he did offer a strong statement about the need to address the homeless crisis, there was little discussion about the state's role beyond reference to supportive housing spending that has been committed in previous years. Furthermore, the Governor offered no broader plan for building and preserving affordable housing to address our broader housing crisis. We need an agenda that strengthens rent regulation and provides substantial additional funding for building new affordable housing. It is particularly important that the state step up now, when we expect substantial reductions in federal housing programs.

On the positive side, Governor Cuomo offered a number of detailed proposals on a broad range of issues from sexual harassment to environmental policy to election reform. I believe the Governor has a real chance to be a leader if he aggressively pushes for passage of his proposals.

The current climate of increased awareness of sexual assault and harassment should increase the priority of passing legislation to protect and compensate victims and ensure that incidents of harassment and assault are made public. One thing these incidents has revealed is that the costs of disclosure to victims must be addressed so that they are able to come forward and prevent

What's Inside

Message from Liz	1
Policy Spotlight	2
- Sexual Assault and Harassment	
Community Spotlight	4
- "Tree-cycling" Curbside Christmas Tree Pickup through January 13th	
- Radical Age Movement Series on Age Discrimination	
- Deadline for Kindergarten Application is January 12th	
- Town Hall with Mayor Bill de Blasio	
- Apply for Your Local Community Board	
- Tax Assessment and Appeals Information Sessions	
- Tax Credit for Renters & Homeowners	
- New Medicare Cards and Scam Alert	
- School Quality Reports	
- Upcoming Pet Adoption Events	
- Changes to Open Enrollment for Healthcare Marketplace Coverage	
- Legal Advocacy Clinics From Lenox Hill Neighborhood House	
- VOLS Legal Clinics for Low-Income Residents Over Age 60:	
- Affordable Housing Opportunities in Manhattan	
- Metrocard Bus and Van Schedule	
- Heat Season Rules	

perpetrators from continuing to victimize others. In the policy spotlight below I will discuss the package of legislation that the Senate Democratic Conference is offering to address this issue, but there are good proposals from the Governor and Senate Republicans as well. This is not a partisan issue – certainly among my profession there have been far too many harassers in both parties. I am hopeful that we can all work together to pass a substantive package of legislation to address this issue this year.

I was pleased that the Governor's address included a number of environmental proposals dealing with climate change, clean energy, and water quality. Governor Cuomo proposed working with Comptroller DiNapoli to divest the New York State Pension fund from fossil fuels. I carry legislation with similar goals (S4596), and am glad to have the Governor's support. Governor Cuomo also announced that he will seek proposals for developing 800 Megawatts of offshore wind power, which would be an important step in moving our state away from dependence on fossil fuels, though it falls short of the rate of development being pushed by many environmental advocates. In addition, the Governor reiterated the state's commitment to cleaning up PCBs in the Hudson, and announced a number of other clean water initiatives, including addressing algae blooms and runoff from the former Grumman aerospace facility on Long Island. I look forward to working with the Governor to support these environmental priorities, and continuing to push for an even more urgent approach to the climate crisis.

I was also pleased that the Governor laid out an aggressive criminal justice reform agenda, including an end to cash bail, discovery reform, and efforts to meet constitutional guarantees to a speedy trial. There is no question that our current criminal justice system is unjust to many poor people and people of color, and addressing these issues is critical to creating a fairer society. I do hope that the Governor will recognize that some of these reforms will require increased investment in our courts and criminal defense services. Furthermore, I would urge the Governor to recognize that justice also requires reform of our criminal laws, including our drug laws. Supporting my bill to legalize adult use of marijuana is one of many ways the Governor could go a step further toward making sure that neither our laws nor our judicial system are responsible for unjustly incarcerating New Yorkers.

The Governor also outlined an ambitious agenda of election reforms that I have long supported, including same day voter registration, no fault absentee and early voting, public campaign financing, and closing the LLC loophole that allows real estate interest and others to get around existing campaign donation limits. I am gratified that the Governor is supporting these measures, but can't help but remembering that he has proposed similar measures in previous years, only to back off from them in the face of opposition from the Senate Republican/IDC Majority Coalition. Unfortunately this has too often been the case, with the Governor outlining an ambitious progressive agenda at the beginning of the legislative session, but not being willing to push that agenda throughout the legislative session.

In sum, while there are some glaring omissions from the Governor's list of priorities, there was much to like about his agenda as laid out in the State of the State. Now the hard work must happen. He must move from talk to action, and make sure that this ambitious agenda on addressing sexual harassment, protecting our environment, reforming our criminal justice system, and reinvigorating our democratic process is not forgotten in a month or two. I look forward to working with him to accomplish these goals, and to reminding him that achieving them will require real engagement with the legislature and other stakeholders.

POLICY SPOTLIGHT

Sexual Assault and Harassment

Last month the Senate Democrats released a package of legislation to combat workplace sexual harassment. With recent revelations of about systemic sexual harassment in both the public and private sector, the need for strong action from state government is clear. This legislation will address this crisis and help ensure employees in private and public sector offices are treated with respect and equality.

The legislation advanced by the Senate Democratic Conference includes bills that will:

- Make state legislators personally liable for settlements of claims of sexual harassment made against them: S.7196 (Hoylman), would ensure that any settlement amounts provided by a house of the State Legislature to the victims of sexual harassment perpetrated by a member of the State Assembly or State Senate be reimbursed by the offending legislator. This would ensure that taxpayer money is not spent to resolve findings of wrongdoing by public officials.
- Hold public officers to a higher standard: S.6975 (Kennedy), will add provisions to the Public Officers Law explicitly prohibiting acts of sexual harassment. Additionally, this legislation would recognize that sexual harassment would constitute a breach of the ethical Code of Conduct and subject any offending public officer to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000.
- Strengthen anti-retaliation provisions: S.7192 (Persaud) will ensure employees who report incidents of sexual harassment to the State Division of Human Rights are guaranteed job security and shielded from retaliation. This bill will also mandate that employers prove that any adverse employment activity made against claimants have no connection whatsoever with the reporting of allegations of sexual harassment.
- Crack down on sexual harassment in the private sector: S.7193, which I sponsor, will codify sexual harassment as an unlawful discriminatory practice and ensure that employees of small businesses may bring a claim of sexual harassment/gender discrimination against their employer. This bill will also lower the standard for a sexual harassment case to make sure that one incident of harassment is severe enough to sue for damages. By distributing model policies and better information about anti-harassment laws, this legislation will support better practices by small businesses and corporations.
- Provide fairness in arbitrations and limit confidentiality: S.6382-A, (Hoylman), will void most confidentiality agreements for settlements of sexual harassment cases. This legislation will also bar contracts from denying workers' procedural rights in arbitration agreements as a condition for employment.
- Crack down on sexual harassment in the public sector: S.7195 (Stewart-Cousins) will require the adoption of a strong managerial policy against harassment by all Executive agencies and the State Legislature. These policies will outline clear rights for employees facing harassment, including interns and fellows, and will make provisions to hold supervisors accountable for bad conduct they knew of and allowed to continue. This bill will also require that Legislative

investigations be concluded within 60 days, a recommendation of action must be completed within 30 days of the investigation conclusion, and findings will be posted online with personal information redacted. Public sector employees will be required to have 2 hours of annual training on harassment in the workplace and an additional hour of training for supervisors. Similar policies and training procedures will also be applied for large state contractors.

As I mentioned in my message above, there is bipartisan agreement that we need to address issues of sexual assault and harassment and I look forward to working with the Governor and my legislative colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass meaningful legislation this session.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

“Tree-cycling” Curbside Christmas Tree Pickup through January 13:

The Department of Sanitation will be conducting Christmas tree curbside collection through Saturday, January 13, 2018, weather permitting. City residents should remove all stands, tinsel, lights, and ornaments before putting trees out for collection. Clean, non-bagged Christmas trees left on the curb will be chipped, mixed with leaves, and recycled into compost for the city’s parks, institutions and community gardens. Those wishing to dispose of mostly plastic and metal fake Christmas trees should remove all ornaments and put them out next to your recycling on regular recycling days. The Department of Sanitation collected more than 242,000 Christmas trees for “tree-cycling” after Christmas 2016.

Radical Age Movement Series on Age Discrimination:

The Radical Age Movement is hosting a two-part series titled “Age Justice in the Workplace: Addressing Age Discrimination.” The first session will take place Wednesday, January 17th, and will feature Deborah Chalfie, Senior Legislative Representative of AARP Government Affairs, who will frame issues around workforce ageism and will be followed by testimonies from people impacted by workforce ageism. The second session will take place Wednesday, February 21st, and will feature Phyllis Weiss Haserot, President of the Practice Development Counsel and Marci Alboher, V.P. of Marketing and Communications at Encore. Both sessions will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The NY Society for Ethical Culture, West 64th Street at Central Park West. Tell us your story about ageism by emailing confrontingageism@gmail.com or going to the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/ctb3LjmbFRIVzFVF2>. To RSVP for the series, email joseph.radicalagemovement@gmail.com.

Deadline for Kindergarten Application is January 12th:

The deadline to apply to kindergarten is coming up on Friday, January 12! You can apply one of three ways—online at <https://prod.semsnycdoe.com/parentsite/>, by phone at 718-935-2009, or in person at a Family Welcome Center. The Family Welcome Center for District 2 is located at 333 Seventh Avenue (between 28th and 29th Streets), 12th Floor; Room 1211. Family Welcome Centers are open 8am to 5pm, Monday through Thursday, and 8am-3pm on Friday.

Get your application ready by using the resources below:

NYC School Search at <http://schools.nyc.gov/schoolsearch/>: Type in your home address to see if you have a zoned school. If you do, your child has priority to attend this school, and you should list it on your application if you are considering it as one of your options.

NYC Kindergarten Directory at

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary/Resources/default.htm>: Read the directory for your borough to learn more about your school options, the application, and the admissions process.

Kindergarten Open Houses and Tours listed at

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary/events/> Attend events at your local schools to see which programs are a good fit for your child and find out how long the commute is from your home.

Admissions is not first-come first-served, and all applications submitted by January 12 are treated the same. Questions? Email ESEnrollment@schools.nyc.gov or call 718-935-2009.

Town Hall with Mayor Bill de Blasio:

On Wednesday, January 17th at 7pm, Council Member Ben Kallos will be hosting a town hall with Mayor Bill de Blasio. The event will take place at East Side Middle School 114, 331 E 91st Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues. Space is limited, so please RSVP by January 16th at 5pm. To RSVP, visit www.nyc.gov/cd5townhall, email manhattantownhall@cityhall.nyc.gov, or call 212-788-8526.

Apply for Your Local Community Board:

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer is seeking applicants to serve on Community Boards. Applications are being accepted through February 9th. To apply, visit

<http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov/html/community-boards/community-boards.shtml> or call 212-669-8300.

She is also holding a **special information session for energetic and engaged 16 and 17 year olds interested** in learning more about their local Community Board. Teens are invited to attend the session on Friday, January 19, 2018, 4:30 – 6:30 pm, 1 Centre St., 19th Floor South. Come meet with peers from around Manhattan who care about their neighborhoods and want to make a difference. Free refreshments. Learn more at <http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov/html/community-boards/community-boards.shtml> or email questions to: LSonghai@manhattanbp.nyc.gov.

Tax Assessment and Appeals Information Sessions:

Each January, the Department of Finance mails New York City property owners a “Notice of Property Value” (NOPV), with your property’s updated market and assessed values, as required by state law. The City’s property tax rates will be applied to that assessed value to calculate property taxes for the next tax year (owners will receive the first tax bill for that year in June). There are steps you can take if you disagree with that assessment, and the DOF will conduct outreach sessions to explain the process. For Manhattan, two sessions will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2017 at 1 Centre St., Mezzanine Level (use the North Entrance). Choose either the 10 am – 12 noon or the 6 – 8 pm session. Learn more online at this web page, <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/finance/taxes/notice-of-property-value.page>.

Tax Credit for Renters & Homeowners:

The New York City Enhanced Real Property Tax Credit for Homeowners and Renters is available to families earning below \$200,000 and it can be up to \$500 based upon a sliding income scale to all family households, whether they are homeowners, tenants, co-op, or condo owners. You can apply for this credit whether or not you file state income taxes. To qualify you must be New York City residents for all of 2017 and you must have occupied the same residence for six months or more.

You can submit the NYC-208 with your New York State personal income tax return by including FORM NYC-208. If you file only the NYC-210 and don't file a New York return, but still qualify for this credit, you can file Form NYC-208 to claim the credit. The form will be available at https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/ads/efile_addnyc208.htm sometime this month.

New Medicare Cards and Scam Alert:

As you may already know, Medicare will be issuing new Medicare cards for Medicare beneficiaries starting in April 2018. From April 2018-April 2019, Medicare beneficiaries will be mailed new Medicare cards with new Medicare IDs, which are not related to one's social security number. The new Medicare IDs will be a random mix of letters and numbers. Spouses' Medicare numbers will be different, even if one spouse receives Medicare benefits based on their spouse's work record. Since it will take over one year for everyone to receive their new cards, be sure to open your mail and be on the lookout.

Please beware of SCAMS – some have already been reported. Medicare or Social Security will NEVER call you and ask you for your social security number, your credit card number, or your bank routing number.

Once you have received the new Medicare card, you will need to present it to your providers. And, if you have other insurance that works with Medicare, such as retiree or Union coverage, you may need to provide your new Medicare information to them as well. If you have any questions about the new Medicare cards, call 1-800-MEDICARE. For assistance from a trained Medicare counselor, call 311 and ask for HIICAP. The Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP) is a free source for objective Medicare information.

Your new Medicare card will be sent automatically by mail to the address on file with Social Security. If you have moved recently, please make sure your mailing address is up-to-date. If you need to change your address you can:

- Change your address online using your online Social Security account: https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/?URL=/apps6z/ICOA/coa001.jsp?utm_campaign=20171221updateaddress&utm_content=english&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery. You may also follow this link to create an account if you do not already have one.
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.
- Change your address in person at the local Social Security office. Call 1-800-772-1213 to locate the Social Security office closest to you.

School Quality Reports:

The NYC Department of Education (DOE) has released their annual school quality report guides. The School Quality Report is one place that has a wealth of information about New York City schools. The information is a combination of different sources including a formal school visit and evaluation by an experienced educator, feedback from students, parents, and teachers submitted through the annual NYC School Survey, and several student achievement metrics. These reports are aligned to the Framework for Great Schools and continue to be refined as the DOE receives feedback from school leaders and communities as well as internal and external analysis into what makes schools successful.

There are two primary components of these reports. The School Quality Snapshot is a concise summary intended for families and community members who want to learn about a school's

performance and environment. The School Quality Guide is a more detailed report intended to assist schools in planning by investigating and analyzing a school's data more deeply. In addition, the School Performance Dashboard includes multiple years of data with key comparisons and visualizations to allow interested stakeholders to dig deeper and identify trends if present. All three reports for every school can be found on the DOE website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/report/default.htm>.

Upcoming Pet Adoption Events:

Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC) is sponsoring several Pet Adoption events around the district in December. Upcoming dates and locations are:

Saturday, January 27, Noon, Petco, Union Square,
860 Broadway at 17th Street

Sunday, January 28, Noon, Raymour and Flanigan
133 East 14th Street

Upcoming events are also listed at <http://nycacc.org/Events.htm>

Changes to Open Enrollment for Healthcare Marketplace Coverage:

The Open Enrollment Period for the Healthcare Marketplace in New York will run from November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018. Although the Trump administration decided to significantly shorten the Open Enrollment Period, New York has its own marketplace, and therefore, is able to determine the length of its Open Enrollment Period. If you want to enroll for health insurance through the individual marketplace for coverage in 2018, or switch plans, the current Open Enrollment Period will run through January 31, 2018. It is also important for you to know that eligible policy holders will still receive cost-sharing subsidies to help make the cost of health insurance more affordable.

2018 health insurance plan details are now available. If you would like to consult with a trained representative at no charge prior to selecting your health insurance plan, Navigator Sites are an excellent resource. The following is the contact information for a local Navigator Site:

Community Service Society of [New York](#)
[633 Third Avenue, 10th Floor](#)
[New York, NY 10017](#)
[888-614-5400](#)

Please make sure to call and schedule an appointment now through January 31st to ensure health care coverage in 2018.

Before selecting your plan, it is important to check the following:

- Will your primary physician, ob/gyn, and any specialists accept the insurance? This is important to verify, even if you are not changing plans. Health insurance companies are using narrower provider networks than before, which may cause reductions to their list of in-network providers. Please note that a new search tool has been added to the New York State of Health marketplace website: <https://pndslookup.health.ny.gov/>. This tool allows you to search by medical provider to see what health insurance plans s/he accepts. It also allows you to search by health plan to see which medical providers are in-network.

- Will any regularly prescribed medications be covered under the plan? Each health insurance plan has a list of pharmaceuticals that are covered. If you are concerned about prescriptions being covered, this is important to verify before you enroll in the plan. Navigator Site representatives can provide assistance with this.
- Which plan will be the most affordable while providing the amount of coverage you need? Research has shown that many people do not take the time to comparison shop before selecting a health insurance policy. It is worth taking the time to consider your healthcare needs and assess which plan will give you the greatest savings based on premiums charged, co-pays, and deductibles. Navigator Site representatives can also provide assistance with doing a comparison of plan costs.

Legal Advocacy Clinics At Lenox Hill Neighborhood House:

The Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Legal Advocacy Center Offers assistance on a number of different issues. Here is a list of their ongoing programs and clinics:

- SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) Clinics: Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. First come, first served. Bring proof of identity, income information, utility bill, proof of housing costs, information on any dependents and if you are 60 or over or on SSI/SSD, information on medical costs. For more information, call [212-218-0431](tel:212-218-0431).
- SCRIE Clinics: Walk-in Clinic. The next clinic will take place Thursday, February 8 from 9:30 a.m to 1:00 p.m at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. You must arrive before Noon to ensure you can be seen. If you are 62 years or older, live in a rent regulated apartment and have an annual household income of \$50,000 or less you may be eligible for the Rent Freeze Program. Find out if you are eligible and get assistance applying or recertifying for SCRIE.
- Tenants Rights Advice Clinic: Walk-in clinic, first Thursday of every other month. The next Clinic will take place January 16th from 10am to 1pm at 331 East 70th Street, First come-first Served. The next clinic after January will take place March 1st. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.
- End-of-Life Planning/Advance Directives: volunteer attorneys may be able to assist you with one-on-one counseling and individualized drafting of Advance Directives including Health Care Proxies, Living Wills, Powers of Attorney, and simple, low-asset Wills. If you are interested in being screened for a possible appointment, call the intake hotline at [212-218-0503 ext 4](tel:212-218-0503).
- Health Care Access/Medicare/Medicaid: call [212-218-0503 ext 3](tel:212-218-0503). Find out about Medicare Savings Programs, Medicaid home care, Medicare Part D, Medicaid Spend-down, EPIC and if you are eligible for Medicaid.
- Health Insurance Enrollment: call [212-218-0432](tel:212-218-0432). Assistance with finding and enrolling in an affordable health insurance plan.

VOLS Legal Clinics for Low-Income Residents Over Age 60:

The Volunteers of Legal Services (VOLS) Elderly Project provides pro-bono legal services to low-income people over age 60 who live in Manhattan. VOLS conducts legal clinics each month at senior centers where seniors can discuss their legal concerns in confidence, receive legal advice and, where appropriate, obtain referrals to a volunteer lawyer for representation. Areas of legal assistance include wills, medical directives, powers of attorney, housing, consumer matters and Medicaid. Over 150 lawyers serve on their Elderly Project volunteer attorney roster.

Burden Center for the Aging, 1484 First Avenue (between 77th & 78th Streets) — 2 pm, 2nd Friday of the Month (January 12, February 9). Call Margaret Reiff at 212-879-7400, ext. 204 for information.

Stanley Isaacs Senior Center, 415 East 93rd Street (east of 1st Avenue) — 10 am, 3rd Friday of the Month (January 19, February 16). Call Khristel Simmons at 212-360-7620 ext, 158 for information.

Encore Community Services Senior Center, St. Malachy's Church - 239 West 49th Street (between Broadway and 8th Avenue) — 10 am, 4th Monday of the month (January 22, February 26). Call Narobe Arias at 212-581-2910, ext 125 for information.

Affordable Housing Opportunities in Manhattan:

517 WEST 134 STREET is now accepting applications for 5 affordable 1- and 2-bedroom apartments newly constructed at 517 West 134th Street in the West Harlem neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$950 to \$1,050 depending on unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$35,572 and \$57,240 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to Community Board 9 residents for 50% of units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at

<https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/426.pdf>

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: 198818 Inc, 207 West 115th Street, # 32, New York, NY, 10026.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by January 24, 2018. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

ESSEX CROSSING SITE 2 is now accepting applications for 98 affordable studio, 1- 2- and 3-bedroom apartments newly constructed at 115 Delancey Street in the Lower East Side neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$519 to \$3,424 depending on income and unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$19,680 and \$182,655 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to Community Board 3 residents for 50% of units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at

<https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/425.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: Essex Crossing Site 2 / Triborough Finance New Station, PO Box 2003, New York, NY 10035-9997.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by February 13, 2018. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

572 Eleventh Avenue Apartments is now accepting applications for 46 affordable studio, 1- and 2-bedroom apartments newly constructed at 572 Eleventh Avenue in the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$596 to \$2,715 depending on income and unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$22,903 and \$124,020 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to Community Board 4 residents for 50% of units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-

impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at <https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/424.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: Affordable Housing Dept. 1561, 1357 Broadway, Box 309, New York, NY 10018.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by February 16, 2018. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

Metrocard Bus and Van Schedule:

The MTA offers MetroCard-related services throughout New York City through mobile buses and vans. Buses provide a full range of services, including applying for or refilling a Reduced-Fare MetroCard, buying or refilling a regular MetroCard, or getting answers to a MetroCard-related question. Vans sell Unlimited Ride MetroCards and Pay-Per-Ride MetroCards, and they refill MetroCards and Reduced-Fare MetroCards. Buses and vans will be in my district on the following dates and locations:

January 9, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 9, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 9, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 17, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus
January 17, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus
January 17, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 18, 8:30 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
January 18, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
January 18, 9 - 10:30 am, 79 Street & 3 Avenue – Bus
January 23, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 23, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
January 23, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
February 1, 7 – 9 am, 91 Street and York Avenue - Van
February 1, 8:30 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
February 1, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
February 2, 9 - 10 am, 57 Street and 1 Avenue – Van
February 2, 10:30 - 11:30 am, 57 Street and 3 Avenue – Van
February 2, 12:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street and 1 Avenue – Van
February 7, 9 - 10:30 am, 79 Street & 3 Avenue – Bus
February 7, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus
February 7, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus

The full mobile MetroCard schedule is available at <http://mta.info/metrocard/mms.htm>. Please note that MetroCard buses and vans do not take credit cards.

Heat Season Rules:

The City Housing Maintenance Code and State Multiple Dwelling Law require building owners to provide heat and hot water to all tenants. Building owners are required to provide hot water 365 days a year at a constant minimum temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Between October 1st and May 31st, a period designated as “Heat Season,” building owners are also required to provide tenants with heat under the following conditions:

- Between the hours of 6AM and 10PM if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Between the hours of 10PM and 6AM the inside temperature is required to be at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit. Note that there is no longer any outside temperature requirement for night hours

Tenants who are cold in their apartments should first attempt to notify the building owner, managing agent or superintendent. If heat is not restored, the tenant should call the City’s Citizen Service Center at 311. For the hearing-impaired, the TTY number is (212) 504-4115. The Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.