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New York State Senate | 28th District



April 2019

Message from Liz...

In the early hours of April 1st, the Senate passed the final budget bill enacting the 2019-20 state budget. Any budget, by its very nature, is a product of compromises. It is never perfect. However, this budget represents a significant step in the right direction on a wide variety of issues, and demonstrates the new Senate Majority's commitment to the entire state and to investing in New York's most valuable resource - our people.

Among the many priorities addressed in this budget, we have:

- Protected aid to municipalities that provide vital services;
- Delivered increased funding for education;
- Invested in clean water infrastructure;
- Taken steps toward curbing single-use bag waste;
- Begun to fix our broken criminal justice system by ending cash bail for most crimes, ensuring speedy trials, and reforming the discovery process; and
- Committed to a fair and equitable congestion pricing program that will reduce traffic and air pollution in the biggest city in the country and inject desperately needed funds to shore up our indispensable public transit system.

Unfortunately, there were several items I would have liked to have seen addressed in the budget that were not. It is vital that we get to work immediately on these important issues, including:

- Truly delivering quality education for all New York students;
- A full evaluation of economic development projects and policies to ensure maximum job creation and transparency when taxpayer dollars are being used.
- Tackling our growing recycling crisis with a multi-faceted approach that includes expanding the bottle bill; and
- Legalizing adult-use marijuana in a way that restores and empowers the communities most impacted by the drug war.

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And although the groundwork was laid for a publicly funded small donor matching system to rein in the power of big money in our politics, I believe the details should have been worked out in the budget process rather than handed off to a commission.

Now that the budget is complete, the legislature and Governor must turn our attention to the many pressing issues beyond the budget, including strengthening and expanding rent regulations, improving and protecting access to voting, implementing real ethics reforms, and taking the bold action necessary to fight the climate crisis that threatens the future of our entire society.

I look forward to tackling these challenges together with my colleagues, and grasping this historic chance to build a New York where opportunity and prosperity are shared by all New Yorkers.

Here are some details on the various proposals enacted in the budget:

Education Funding:

The enacted budget provides an over \$1 billion increase to public education investment across New York State. Among the provisions are

- A Foundation Aid increase of by \$618 million, or 3.5%, over the 2018-2019 school year. This investment brings the total state education funding to \$27.9 billion, and allocates over 70% of funds to high need school districts.
- Providing \$849 million for expanded pre-kindergarten grants, including a \$15 million increase to provide programs for three- and four-year olds.
- Extends mayoral accountability of New York City schools for three years, and includes reforms to enhance transparency and parental/community input in New York City school governance.
- Providing \$34.4 million for school lunch programs and a \$9 million increase to expand early college high schools.

Environmental Protections:

I was pleased that the budget included a number of important environmental measures, including:

- Banning single-use plastic bags and empowering counties and cities to opt into a 5-cent fee on paper bags, with 40 percent of the generated revenue going to local efforts to provide reusable bags for low and fixed-income consumers, and 60 percent of the generated revenue going to the State's Environmental Protection Fund.
- Allocating an additional \$500 million, for a total of \$3 billion, for clean water infrastructure projects such as improvements to solid waste management facilities, inter-municipal infrastructure projects, projects to address emerging contaminants, water quality improvement projects, concentrated animal feeding operations, and septic system replacement.
- Providing \$300 million for the Environmental Protection Fund.

Criminal Justice Reform:

The enacted budget includes long-called for reforms to make New York State fairer and more just, including:

- Reforming Bail and Pretrial Detention: The enacted budget will eliminate cash bail for misdemeanors and non-violent felonies and ensure that no New Yorker is incarcerated because of their inability to pay. Additionally, law enforcement officials will be required to issue a desk appearance ticket to most people charged with misdemeanors and Class E felonies.
- Ensuring the Right to a Speedy Trial: The enacted budget will ensure that defendants do not sit in jail waiting for a trial while dates keep getting postponed by requiring that misdemeanors are resolved

within 90 days and felonies within 180 days. The enacted budget includes legislation that requires courts to take a proactive role in advising litigants on how time will be charged and inquire into the government's readiness to proceed to trial and require the government to file all suitable paperwork before statement of readiness is accepted.

- Transforming the Discovery Process: The enacted budget includes reforms that will overall New York's discovery process to require that both prosecutors and defendants share all information in their possession well in advance of trial. This legislation will also ensure that both victims and witnesses are protected from intimidation and other forms of coercion by providing prosecutors the ability to petition a court for a protective order.

- Reforming Civil Forfeiture: The enacted budget creates new accountability requirements for asset seizure and requires reporting on demographic data related to seizures.

Addressing Transportation Funding and Congestion:

The budget includes a traffic mobility plan that will reduce peak-hour congestion, incentivize efficient commercial vehicle and business travel, and dedicate revenues to the MTA. The MTA will receive revenues from the traffic mobility plan, the internet sales tax and a new supplemental tax on high-end real estate transactions that will provide up to \$25 billion in support for critical MTA capital projects.

The budget also includes requirements that the MTA reform its internal operations. It requires the MTA to develop an administrative consolidation plan and undertake a forensic audit, reform performance metrics, and implement design-build and other mechanisms to improve timeliness and reduce costs of capital projects.

While congestion pricing has long been a contentious issue, I believe that the structure outlined in the budget can create an equitable system that will both address congestion and provide substantial resources to address the current crisis with both our subways and buses. The policy spotlight below provides additional details on the congestion pricing plan.

POLICY SPOTLIGHT

Congestion Pricing

New York City ranks fourth worst among cities in the U.S. for congestion and traffic according to the 2018 INRIX traffic scorecard. Travel speeds dropped more than 17 percent in 2016, and currently the average speed in Midtown Manhattan is a mere 4.7 miles per hour – almost as slow as walking. There are multiple factors contributing to this, but there is no question that reducing the number of vehicles on the road in the central business district is essential to reversing this trend. Congestion doesn't only impact drivers, it also impacts public transit, and is one of the major reasons bus ridership has dropped precipitously in recent years. This spotlight will offer details on the expected rollout of the new congestion pricing plan.

The budget creates a Traffic Mobility Review Board that will be responsible for establishing the details of the congestion plan. Members will be nominated by the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, the Mayor of NYC, and representatives of the two commuter rail regions. The board will be tasked with establishing the rules for the program, which will begin no earlier than December 31, 2020.

In determining the rules for the program, the Review Board must create a tolling structure that will support bonding of \$15 billion to address capital needs in the 2020-2024 MTA Capital Plan. There will be a public hearing process to inform the review board as they develop the specifics of the program.

The zone will include Manhattan south of 60th Street, with the exception of the FDR Drive and West Side Highway.

There are a number of exemptions and tax credits included in the bill:

- Exemptions for emergency vehicles and vehicles used by people with disabilities;
- The board can establish potential discounts for motorcycles and low-emission vehicles;
- A personal income tax credit equal to actual congestion costs for households living in the congestion zone who make \$60,000 or less;
- The board can establish variable rates for peak and off-peak travel;
- Limitations to one charge per day for passenger vehicles;
- The board can establish discounts or exemptions for for-hire vehicles subject to the congestion charge;
- Potential toll offsets for bridges and crossings that are currently tolled.

The legislation also requires the city to undertake a parking study of the congestion zone and surrounding areas to evaluate impacts on parking. New York City already has the authority to implement a residential parking permit system should this be deemed necessary to address parking impacts.

The deterioration of the subway system is a massive threat to the city and region's economy and livability, and the MTA requires substantial investment to achieve the level of service and capacity that a thriving city needs. I believe with proper implementation, the twin benefits of congestion pricing -- better public transit and less congestion -- will benefit the city and our district. Upgraded subway signals would vastly improve subway capacity and reliability, saving New Yorkers time and aggravation, while elevators at more stations would increase the system's accessibility for seniors and people with disabilities. Fewer vehicles on the street would reduce traffic for drivers, and improve bus service, taxi speeds, delivery operations, air quality, and street safety.

While I do not expect all of my constituents to celebrate congestion pricing, I believe it is reasonable to ask residents who can afford to keep a car in Manhattan to pay this toll, as well as those coming in from outside the Manhattan who want to use our publicly owned streets. The benefits of improved subway service and reduced congestion will benefit everyone, and more than justify the cost.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Older Adult Employment Strategies and Job Fair April 25th and 26th:

On April 25th and 26th I will be holding two events aimed at providing resources for older adults who are seeking employment. Both events will take place at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues.

You must RSVP – no walk-ins. Because of space limitations, these events are limited to constituents of my Senate district.

On Thursday, April 25th from 10am to 1pm we will be offering a session on Job Search Strategies and Support with the assistance of the New York Public Library Science Industry and Business Library. The session will offer job coaching, resume development, a LinkedIn workshop and photo shoot.

On Friday, April 26th, we will hold a job fair with more than 20 employers seeking to hire older adults. Bring your resume.

To register, email liz@lizkrueger.com or call 212-490-9535. You can sign up for either or both sessions.

Roundtable for Boomers and Seniors Thursday May 9th:

The Roundtable for Boomers & Seniors provides an opportunity for constituents to come together to explore life issues that are relevant across the age span. At each session, attendees hear from and engage with professionals who are knowledgeable on topics that are of most concern to the growing population of older adults in New York City. Over the course of five sessions, the Roundtable looks at a specific issue from different perspectives each month. This year's series will focus on myths, facts and possibilities. The fifth and final roundtable session will take place Thursday, May 9th from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street, and the topic will be organizing for change. Speakers include Alice Fisher, Executive Director of the Radical Age Movement and Terry Kaelber, Director, Community Engagement Projects and United Neighborhood Houses. To RSVP visit <http://tinyurl.com/organizing-roundtable> or call (212) 490-9535.

Learn About Land Use Planning with Council Member Keith Powers April 10th:

On Wednesday, April 10th, the Municipal Arts Society and City Council Member Keith Powers are hosting a Livable Neighborhoods Program workshop covering the basics of land use planning in New York City. Participants will learn about the key players, regulations, and processes that influence development, and how the public can engage with them.

The Workshop will take place from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Glass Café, Hunter College West Building at East 68th Street and Lexington Avenue. Food and child care will be provided. To RSVP, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/council-member-keith-powers-land-use-workshop-tickets-58595728401>.

Performing Artists Resource Fair May 17th:

The New York Public Library Science Industry and Business Library is hosting a Performing Artists Resource Fair on Friday May 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Learn about the latest programs and free services from NY metro area organizations to help you start a business, get funding, legal advice, or discover opportunities to showcase your performing arts skills. Consult a career coach about resumes, cover letters, LinkedIn, transferable skills, etc. during a Q&A at a "coaching café."

You can register at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8YXDEoD7YEMNH098yJSWDdH7J9zeJnN88gM4Wxp6K1nQEnQ/viewform>. If you have questions please contact jscnypl@nypl.org or 212-592-7006.

Rally for Age Justice May 23rd:

On Thursday, May 23rd, at 4:30 p.m. the Radical Age Movement is hosting a Rally for Age Justice: Invest in Economic Security for Older Adults at Union Square. The Radical Age Movement has been heavily focused on the issue of age discrimination in the workforce over the past year and a half. Of all the different ways ageism rears its ugly head in our communities, this issue is not only having a

direct impact on its victims, it is destined to have a huge impact on our entire society. For more information, visit <https://radicalagemovement.org/events/rally-for-age-justice-2019/>.

NYC Bar Association Forum on Age Discrimination in Employment April 23rd:

The New York City Bar Association is hosting a forum entitled "Age Discrimination In Employment And How To Fight It." The author Ashton Applewhite will speak about the many insidious forms of Ageism that surround us. Ashton will be joined by Dave Richards, a senior attorney from the Steptoe & Johnson law firm who will share stories about his winning a \$32M age discrimination lawsuit against another top-tier law firm, Sidley & Austin, in connection with the latter's attempt to force senior partners into mandatory retirement. The third speaker is attorney Roz Fink, who has, at various times in her quarter century of law practice, represented both sides in labor law, harassment and discrimination cases. After the speakers conclude their remarks, there will be audience participation in the form of Q&A. Ashton's new book, "This Chair Rocks!" will be available for purchase and Ashton will be happy to personally inscribe every copy sold.

Admission is \$15 per seat for members of the public and free to NYC Bar members but a large number of the seats are "Reserved For Public." This lively and important conversation will take place Tuesday April 23 from 6:30-8 pm, in the New York City Bar Association's building at 42 West 44th Street, NYC, 10036. For more information or to register online, visit <https://services.nycbar.org/EventDetail?EventKey=SEN042319>.

Participatory Budgeting in Council Districts 2, 3, 4 and 5:

All three of Community Board Six's council members (Carlina Rivera, Keith Powers, and Ben Kallos) will hold participatory budget voting in their districts. During this time, eligible voters (anyone ages 11 and older who lives in a participating district) can take part in deciding how at least \$1 million dollars in their district gets spent. People can vote at the links below, or in-person:

Council District 2 (Carlina Rivera): <https://council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera/pb/8/>

Council District 3 (Corey Johnson): <https://council.nyc.gov/corey-johnson/pb/8/>

Council District 4 (Keith Powers): <https://council.nyc.gov/keith-powers/pb/8/>

Council District 5 (Ben Kallos): <https://council.nyc.gov/ben-kallos/pb/8/>

To learn more about participatory budgeting, visit <https://council.nyc.gov/pb/>.

Assemblymember Seawright Hosts Exhibit of Tony Morenzi Photographs:

On Thursday May 2nd, Assemblymember Seawright is hosting an opening reception for an installation of photographs by Tony Morenzi, entitled "Moments in Time." The reception will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at her office at 1485 York Avenue between 78th and 79th Street. To RSVP call 212-288-4807 or visit seawright@nyassembly.gov. The exhibit will remain on view through August 31st. Viewing hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Access HRA Website and Mobile App:

You can now apply for SNAP and re-certify for Cash Assistance, check your benefit balances, take photos and upload documents, and much more, right from your phone with the ACCESS HRA mobile app. Get the ACCESS HRA mobile app and skip the trip to an HRA office. Go to nyc.gov/accesshra or download the app today. Learn more at: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/accesshra.page>.

Attorney General Settlement With Spectrum Requires Restitution to Customers:

Spectrum (formerly Time Warner Cable) is required to issue refunds and offer certain no charge premium services to qualified consumers per Charter Communications, Inc.'s December 17, 2018 settlement agreement with the Office of Attorney General that concerns the advertising of internet speeds.

Approximately 2.2 Million Spectrum Customers in New York should have received one of the following offers:

Current subscribers who subscribe to both internet and cable television from Spectrum will have a choice of either three months of HBO OR six months of Showtime. (Note: This benefit is available to subscribers who do not already subscribe to both of the offered services through Spectrum.)

Internet only subscribers will get one month of Spectrum TV Choice streaming service—in which subscribers can (depending on their location) access broadcast television and a choice of 10 pay TV networks—as well as access to Showtime for one month.

Consumers have until May 30, 2019 to select the no extra charge premium services they want. Consumers should call Spectrum at 1-833-422-8795 for further information.

If you have any issues accessing these services or would like to leave other comments on the process, you can contact the Attorney General's office using the following form:

<https://ag.ny.gov/spectrumconsumerrelief-form>.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance:

IRS-trained volunteers are available to provide free tax preparation assistance throughout New York City. I encourage you to take advantage of these services, which can save you money and ensure you avoid getting caught in "Refund Anticipation Loan" scams that many for-profit tax preparers engage in.

AARP is sponsoring a number of locations on the East Side, and there are no age or income restrictions to receive this assistance. Here are some sites in the 28th Senate District where you can get free assistance with your taxes:

58th Street Library, 127 East 58th Street
Telephone: 212-759-7358
Site Hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 10:00am-2:00pm

67th Street Library, 328 East 67th Street
Telephone: 212-734-1717
Site Hours: Friday, 10:00am-2:00pm

Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th Street
Telephone: 212-683-4988
Site Hours: Thursday, 9:30am-1:30pm except April 4

Epiphany Library, 228 East 23rd Street
Telephone: 212-679-2645
Site Hours: Thursday, 10:00am-2:00pm

Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street
Telephone: 212-744-5022
Site Hours: Wednesday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL), 188 Madison Ave @ 34th Street
Telephone: (212) 592-7077
Site Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center, 415 East 93rd Street
Telephone: 212-360-7620
Site Hours: Friday, 9:30am-2:00pm

New York City also offers free tax preparation either in person or online for individuals making \$66,000 or less.

You can file in-person at an NYC Free Tax Prep site. Filing is completely free and includes e-filing and direct deposit of your refund. Some sites have income limits. For most sites, you must have earned \$54,000 or less in 2016 to use In Person service. Some NYC Free Tax Prep sites have special services if you are self-employed, are applying for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, you are a senior over age 60 with pension or retirement-related question or you need to file or change your return from a previous tax year. At these sites, you will drop off your documents and pick up the completed return later.

You can also complete your tax return online at certain NYC Free Tax Prep sites with help from an IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer. You must have earned \$66,000 or less in 2018 and have a valid email address to use the Assisted Self-Preparation service.

You can access a map of tax preparation sites at each site and find out which required tax documents you need at nyc.gov/taxprep.

Social Security Scam Calls:

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has informed my office that the SSA and its Office of the Inspector General (OIG) have received reports from across the country about fraudulent phone calls from people falsely claiming to be Social Security employees. The caller may say that there is a problem with your social security number or account, and state that you could be subject to arrest or other legal action. Callers may also ask for your personal information or try to get money from you. Calls can even "spoof" the SSA national customer service number as the incoming number on your caller ID.

This is what you need to do to prevent being scammed: Although Social Security employees do sometimes call people who have ongoing business with the SSA, they will never threaten you or promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for your information. In those cases, the call is fraudulent and you should not engage with the caller. Always use caution. You can ask for the caller's information, hang up, and contact the official phone number of the SSA. Do not reveal personal information to the caller. If you receive a voicemail message stating that there is a problem with your social security number or account, and directing you to respond, do not return the call. Please report these scam calls to the OIG Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 or online at <https://oig.ssa.gov/report>. To help address this scam, the SSA and the OIG have launched a Public

Service Announcement (PSA) campaign, which can be viewed here:

www.youtube.com/socialsecurity.

April is National Social Security Month:

The Social Security Administration is using National Social Security Month to highlight some of the time-saving features of the my Social Security account. Once you create an account, you'll see that we already have your work history and secure information to estimate what you could receive once you start collecting benefits. With your personal my Social Security account, you can also:

- Request a replacement Social Security card;
- Set up or change direct deposit;
- Get a proof of income letter;
- Change your address;
- Check the status of your Social Security application; and
- Get a Social Security 1099 form (SSA-1099).

Celebrate National Social Security Month by learning what you can do online anytime, anywhere at

www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

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. Arrive by Noon.

- Mondays from 9am to 3pm at Bellevue Hospital Ambulatory Care Pavilion, First Avenue between 26th and 27th Streets, 3rd Floor. Arrive by 2pm.

First come, first served. Bring proof of identity, income information, utility bill, proof of housing costs, information on any dependents, proof of immigration status for non-citizens, and if you are 60 or over or on SSI/SSD, information on medical costs. For more information, call [212-218-0503](tel:212-218-0503), option 2.

● SCRIE Clinics: Walk-in Clinic. The next clinics will take place April 23 from 10:00 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.

● DRIE Clinics: The next clinic will take place June 12 from 2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. If you are receiving disability benefits, 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 DRIE. For more information, please email DRIE@lenoxhill.org or call 212-218-1503, option 0.

● Tenants Rights Advice Clinic: Walk-in clinic, now at 2 locations.

- April 11 from 10am to 1pm at 331 East 70th Street. First come-first Served, arrive by Noon.

- April 17 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Casa Mutua Clinics at 159 East 102nd Street. First come, first served, arrive by 4 p.m. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.

- May 2 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the East Harlem Health Action Center, 158 East 115th Street. First come, first served, arrive by 4 p.m. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.

● Health Care Access Project: call [212-218-0503](tel:212-218-0503). Assistance with Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program Medicare Part D, Epic and health insurance through the New York State of Health Marketplace.

VOLS Legal Clinics for Seniors:

The VOLS Elderly Project will be at one location in my district this month. The Elderly Project staff and pro bono attorneys provide free legal advice, information, document drafting, and other brief services to low-income Manhattan residents aged 60 and over, and to the social workers and advocates who assist them. Their schedule includes

Friday April 12th - 2:00 pm, Legal Clinic,
Burden Center for the Aging, 415 East 73rd Street (b/t 1st and York)

Friday, April 19th - 10:00 am, Legal Clinic,
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, 415 East 93rd Street

Monday April 22nd - 10:00 am, Legal Clinic,
Encore Community Services Center, 239 West 49th Street (b/t Broadway and 8th Ave.)

And, just across the Park on the Westside: Monthly Housing Clinics and Workshops:

Council Member Helen Rosenthal, Goddard Riverside's SRO Law Project, and the Urban Justice Center co-sponsor monthly housing clinics and workshops at the Goddard Riverside Community Center, 593 Columbus Avenue (between 88th and 89th Streets). On the first Wednesday of each month, from 6pm – 8pm, the clinic offers a presentation on a variety of topics, followed by a question and answer session. Each evening, at least one staff attorney will meet with individuals who are seeking specific legal advice.

For questions, contact the Office of Council Member Rosenthal at (212) 873-0282 ext. 206 or Helen@helenrosenthal.com. Sign-up sheet starting at 6pm each evening.

May 1, 2019: Succession Rights I: Family, Partners and Others

June 5, 2019: Succession Rights II: Apartment Sharing, Roommates, Sublets, Short-term rentals

Affordable Housing Opportunities in Manhattan:

1766-68 Second Avenue Apartments is now accepting applications for 28 affordable studio, 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments newly constructed at 1766-68 Second Avenue in the Yorkville neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments are \$1,018 to \$1,740, depending on income and unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$36,858 and \$96,800 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to residents of Community Board 8 for 50% of units mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and 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/682.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 1766-68 Second Avenue Apartments c/o Breaking Ground, PO Box 3620937, New York, NY, 10036.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by April 16, 2019. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

847 St. Nicholas Avenue Apartments is now accepting applications for 38 affordable studio, 1- and 2- bedroom apartments newly constructed at 847 St. Nicholas Avenue Avenue in the Hamilton Heights neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$475 to \$1,1186 depending on income and unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$18,240 and \$62,580 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to residents of Community Board 8 for 50% of units mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and 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/685.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: 847 St. Nicholas Avenue Apartments, 1357 Broadway, Box 309 New York, NY 10018.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by April 22, 2019. 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:

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

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.