

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

OF THE

COUNTY OF NEW YORK

ONE HOGAN PLACE

New York, N. Y. 10013



CYRUS VANCE, JR.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

[November 2021] Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

Full Newsletter: [<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/?u=73e8e9414b5a25e31f84f3b3f&id=2bc44ccf63>]

Highlights

1. Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance, Jr., today announced the investment of \$966,865 to create the Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin Children’s Center, located on the first floor of 111 Centre Street. The Center will serve as a drop-in childcare provider for children ages six weeks to 12 years whose caregivers have court proceedings in the criminal, civil, and housing courts. The Manhattan D.A.’s Office provided funding to the New York State Office of Court Administration (“OCA”) and the Department of Citywide Administration Services (“DCAS”) for the construction, furnishing, and the first three years of operational costs for the Children’s Center. The Manhattan D.A.’s Office is providing this grant through its Criminal Justice Investment Initiative (“CJII”), which D.A. Vance created using millions seized in investigations against major banks.
2. The state’s highest court unanimously upheld the city’s “Right-of-Way” law, a 2014 provision that made it a misdemeanor for a driver to “fail to exercise due care” and then injure a pedestrian or cyclist who has the right of way. The ruling by the Court of Appeals aside the final plea from drivers in two horrific and high-profile cases who argued that mere negligence and carelessness should not be considered a criminal offense, even if it leads to the maiming or death of a pedestrian or cyclist. District Attorney Cy Vance Jr. was also pleased by the ruling — especially given his office’s prosecution of both Lewis and Torres at trial and at the appeals levels. He credited his office. “I’m grateful to our prosecutors who have fought since day one to defend the constitutionality of this critical vehicular accountability legislation, culminating in this unanimous victory in New York’s highest court,” Vance said in a statement to Streetsblog. “We will continue to aggressively enforce this statute.”