

ASSEMBLY MEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN COMMUNITY BOARD 6 REPORT, DECEMBER 2021

Dear Neighbor,

There's less than a month to go before we return to Albany for the first day of the legislative session on January 5th. We've been working hard in the off-session and we're ready to hit the ground running.

We're fighting for major progressive policies, which include: safely legalizing basement units, increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities, ending private profiteering off of incarcerated New Yorkers, empowering students, protecting home healthcare workers, and expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure for all New Yorkers and more.

There are a lot of challenges ahead, but we have reasons to be excited. For one, we've got new leadership in the Executive Chamber. Governor Hochul has taken a different tone than her predecessor, indicating her willingness to collaborate with legislators rather than treat us like opponents. I'm encouraged by this fresh approach to governing and I'm ready to seize this moment to push our agenda forward.

Harvey



Our 4th Successful Turkey Drive

Every November since I took office it's been our tradition to partner with Loisaida Inc., community based organizations, school, Tenant Associations and elected officials provide hundreds of turkeys and other Thanksgiving sides to our neighbors for their holiday meal. Thank you to Beam Living, GOLES, Representatives Velazquez and Maloney, State Senator Brad Holyman, Councilmember Carlina Rivera, LESPFCU, EVIMA, and more for coming together to put food on East Sider's plates!

Update on Hearings



Last week I was in Albany to take testimony in two important hearings on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Future of Higher Education and on Climate Change Expenditures by State Entities.

I took the opportunity to discuss with CUNY, SUNY, and private college representatives how to increase wraparound services at our public and private colleges, which would include programs to address food and housing insecurity as well as mental health needs. I am also working to <u>end the practice of transcript withholding</u>, where institutions decline to provide a student's transcript unless tuition arrears are settled. This process can needlessly stall students' academic progression as they try re-enroll, or prevent them from getting a job that requires them to provide a college transcript. We can do better for our students.

I was also pleased to discuss with representatives from the Department of Environmental Conservation what we can do as a state to create truly publicly available electric vehicle charging stations that enable a transition to these vehicles. I look forward to more conversations with these stakeholders.

2022 Legislative Session Calendar Released

The <u>New York State Legislative session calendar</u> establishes a schedule for the 2022 legislative session and provides dates important to the legislative process. Unforeseen events may require modification of the session calendar.

Visit: <u>https://nyassembly.gov/leg/calendar/</u> to access the calendar.

Take Our 2022 Constituent Survey

I want to hear from you. Take our 2022 Constituent Survey by clicking <u>here</u>. If you would like to request a hard copy of the survey, call 212-979-9696.

Report Issues With Manhattan Open Restaurants to NYC DOT

In addition to 311, you can report issues directly to Manhattan Borough Commissioner Ed Pincar Jr at:

https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/contact/contact-form.shtml?routing=mn

Apply for the 74th Assembly District Youth Council - Applications Open Now!

We are seeking local middle and high school students to join our district youth council. The deadline to apply is Friday, January 14, 2022. <u>Fill out an application by clicking here</u>.

HELP ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY! Join the AD74 Youth Council! As a member of the youth council, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Help determine legislative priorities in our community
- Organize community events
- Increase civic engagement across the district
- Develop valuable leadership skills...and more!

For more information contact our district office at 212-979-9696.

Upcoming Events

OATH at our office! Come take care of your city summons! - 12/14 @ 10 AM - 4 PM



Assembly Member Harvey Epstein is partnering with the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) to set up one on one sessions with constituents.

Join us on Tuesday December 14th, between 10am until 4pm to get support on the following:

- You've gotten a summons issued by a city enforcement agency for an alleged violation so here's what you should do next
- You want to reschedule your hearing and this is how to do it
- You missed your hearing so here's what should be done
- You want to appeal your decision and this is how

Please register for this event by calling 212-979-9696 or emailing events.district74@gmail.com.

The Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) is the City's central, independent administrative law court. OATH has two divisions that are responsible for adjudicating City matters: the <u>OATH Trials Division</u> and the <u>OATH Hearings Division</u>.

The OATH Trials Division adjudicates a wide range of issues that can be referred by any City agency, board or commission. Its caseload includes employee discipline and disability hearings for civil servants, Conflicts of Interest Board cases, proceedings related to the retention of seized vehicles by the police, City-issued license and regulatory enforcement, real estate, zoning and loft law violations, City contract disputes and human rights violations under the City Human Rights Law. OATH Trials are conducted by Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) who are appointed to five-year terms.

Feel free to contact Assembly Member Harvey Epstein's office with any questions or concerns. Our office is located at 107 Avenue B (store front) You can email us at help.district74@gmail.com or call us at 212-979-9696