



# New York State Senator **BRAD HOYLMAN**



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## **REPORT TO COMMUNITY BOARD 6**



### **Make New York a Safe Haven for Transgender Youth**

A war is being waged against transgender kids in nearly half the states of this country. On October 11, National Coming Out Day, the NEW Pride Agenda and I – along with a coalition of elected officials, medical professionals, legal experts and LGBTQ+ and transgender advocates – rallied to pass our Transgender Safe Haven bill ([S.8842/A.10138](#)) with Assemblymember Bronson. The bill promise transgender youth and their families will always have a home in our state of New York by

1. ensuring that kids will not be separated from their parents for aiding in their access to gender-affirming care;

2. prohibiting law enforcement from cooperating with other states' investigations regarding legal gender-affirming care;
3. protecting the health information of people who come to New York to receive gender-affirming care.
4. protecting physicians who provide gender-affirming care in New York.

With the passage of this bill, New York can remain the bright beacon it is for civil rights and liberties across the nation and the world. Read more [here](#) and see photos [here](#).

### **In the News**

- Mornings on 1 (Spectrum News): [Bill to protect access to gender-affirming care being considered by state Legislature](#)
- CBS News NY: [Tuesday marks National Coming Out Day for LGBTQ+ community](#)
- News12: [Lawmakers announce legislation that will protect transgender youth on National Coming Out Day](#)
- ABC7 New York: [NYPD, New York Legislature Unveils New App to Protect Transgender Youth](#)
- Pix11: [NY legislation would protect health information of transgender people](#)



### **The Opening of David Geffen Hall**

On October 8, I attended the opening of Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall, which stands as a testament to New York's resilience after a global pandemic and economic recession. Completed two years early, the new home to the iconic New York Philharmonic supports \$600 million in ongoing economic development, brings 6,000 new jobs to our city, and serves as a new hotspot for our thriving arts community.

### **Success! Unlocking Millions in Federal Aid for Mental Health**

New York's growing mental health crisis demands support from the federal government. During this year's budget hearings on February 8, [I received a commitment from the NYS Medicaid director](#) that the State would consider applying for a federal waiver under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act to unlock federal dollars for patients in residential facilities and related services. In addition, on May 24,

the State Senate unanimously passed my [bill](#) (S.8422) requiring the NYS Department of Health to apply for the Section 1115 Medicaid waiver.

I'm thrilled that, as [made public](#) on October 5, the State has applied for the Section 1115 Medicaid waiver, which is especially fitting since this is [Mental Illness Awareness Week](#). I joined NYS Assembly Health Chair Dick Gottfried and Council Member Erik Bottcher, both who've worked on this issue, in [congratulating Governor Hochul and Commissioner Bassett](#) for taking this major step toward addressing our mental health crisis by seeking federal support for New Yorkers suffering from mental illness. This waiver will help make our streets and subways safer.

### **Important Ballot Proposals**

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, New Yorkers will have their say on these four separate ballot proposals in addition to the elections for federal and state offices:

1. **NYS Environmental Bond Act of 2022** – Allows New York State to issue \$4.2 billion in bonds for specific environment-related projects and policy efforts, including:
  - Up to \$1.5 billion for climate mitigation such as wetland projects, solar arrays, and retrofitting facilities;
  - At least \$1.1 billion for flood-risk reduction;
  - At least \$650 million for water quality improvement and resilient infrastructure;
  - Up to \$650 million for open space land conservation and recreation.
2. **Statement of Values for New York City Government** – Adds to the City Charter i) an introductory statement of values and vision aspiring toward “a just and equitable city for all” New Yorkers, and ii) a statement that the City must strive to remedy “past and continuing harms and to reconstruct, revise, and reimagine our foundations, structures, institutions, and laws to promote justice and equity for all New Yorkers.”
3. **NYC Racial Equity Plans and Office** – 1) Creates an Office of Racial Equity and Chief Equity Officer to advance racial equity and coordinate the City’s racial equity planning process. 2) Requires city-wide and agency-specific Racial Equity Plans every two years. 3) Establishes a Commission on Racial Equity, appointed by City elected officials, to identify and propose priorities to inform the racial equity planning process and review agency and citywide Racial Equity Plans.

4. **NYC Cost of Living Measure** – Requires the City to create a “true cost of living” measure to track the actual cost of meeting essential needs, including housing, food, childcare, transportation, and other necessary costs, and without considering public, private, or informal assistance. This measure would be used to inform programmatic and policy decisions, and require the City government to report annually on the measure.

Read more about Proposal 1 [here](#) and 2, 3, and 4 [here](#). The nonpartisan League of Women Voters of NYS has a summary of the proposals [here](#).



## The New Laws Trying to Take the Anxiety Out of Shopping



### Fighting for Fashion Workers

Last week, [The New York Times](#) named our Fashion Workers Act one of the nation-leading bills aimed at creating a safer and more sustainable fashion industry. The Fashion Workers Act ([S.638A](#)) aims to regulate management agencies and provide basic labor protection for models, as well as behind-the-scenes creatives like hair and makeup artists and stylists and influencers.

### Federal Court Nullifies NY's Gun Licensing Efforts

On October 6, a U.S. judge ruled multiple parts of New York's new gun licensing and carrying rules violate the Second Amendment, which means you'll be able to carry a concealed weapon on a subway, an MTA bus, or in Times Square. This is absolute madness and, hopefully, yet another wake-up call to voters concerned about public safety and the proliferation of illegal guns. We fought hard to keep New Yorkers safe from gun violence and make Times Square, the most popular tourist spot in the world, an exemption to SCOTUS' damaging *Bruen* ruling earlier this year. I have faith that Attorney General James will be successful in defending our statute in the appellate court.

## Pushing for Tougher Vaccine Requirements

I'm proud to have written the bill to tighten our New York's vaccine requirements for school-age children by ending non-medical exemptions in 2019. Recent news reports, however, suggest that some parents and doctors are now gaming the system by submitting fraudulent medical exemptions to evade the new strict vaccine requirements that I helped pass into law. As polio resurfaces and other vaccine-preventable illnesses rise, we must do more to ensure kids are vaccinated from illnesses that should've been wiped out decades ago. To respond to this phenomenon, I sponsored [legislation \(S.44\)](#) to require public and private schools provide immunization information to the NYS Department of health and make it publicly available to hopefully help identify fraudulent exemptions before they pose a threat to public health. Read more about this issue [here](#).

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### **New York's private schools are gaming vaccine exemptions in 'obvious' fraud**

After rarely crossing the 1 percent mark, some private schools suddenly reported 5, 10 or 20 percent of students claiming medical exceptions.



The revelation of a surge in vaccine exemptions comes as New York deals with a resurgence of polio, the continued spread of Covid-19 and at least one childhood case of monkeypox this year. | John Locher/AP Photo



## Jim Houghton Way

The intersection of West 42nd Street and Dyer Avenue will now be co-named "Jim Houghton Way" after the beloved founder and artistic director of the Signature Theater Company and longtime Hell's Kitchen and Manhattan Plaza resident, thanks to the efforts of Council Member Erik Bottcher, Community Board 4 and the off-Broadway theater community. On October 4, I was honored to join the celebration of the life and contributions of one of the most beloved members of the New York theater community. Read more about Jim's life and work [here](#) and if you're interested, view my speech [here](#).



*Women of*  
**DISTINCTION**  
HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

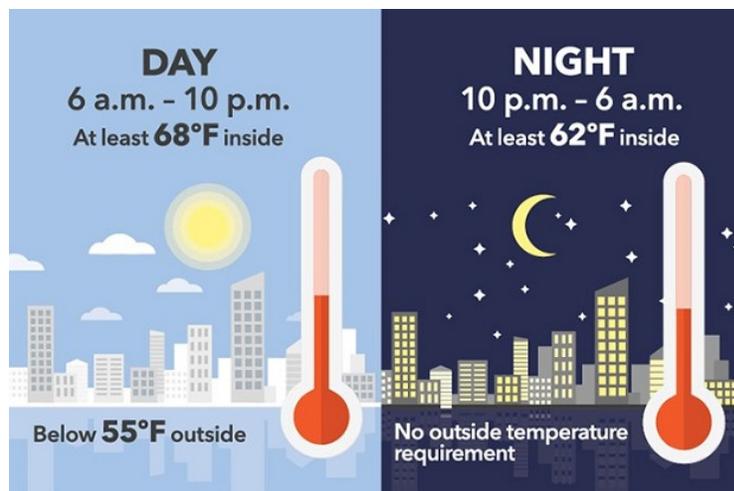
*Christine Berthet*

**Celebrating Constituent Christine Berthet**

I am proud to bestow the iconic Christine Berthet with the New York Senate's Women of Distinction award, which recognizes outstanding women in service. Christine is a former Chair of Manhattan Community Board 4 and has devoted her efforts to improving the city's transportation. She currently serves as Co-chair of CB4's Transportation Committee and co-founded CHEKPEDS, a non-profit organization to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion on the West Side of Manhattan. She also chairs the Planning Committee of the Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance Business Improvement District – and works part time at Sunnyside Records, her family-owned, independent jazz label. Read more about Christine's many accomplishments [here](#).

**Heat Season Begins October 1**

From October through May, all residential building owners are required to maintain indoor temperatures at 68 degrees when outdoor temperatures fall below 55 degrees during the day. Indoor temperatures must also be a minimum of 62 degrees overnight, regardless of outdoor temperatures. Building owners are legally required to provide hot water at 120 degrees year-round. If an apartment lacks appropriate heat and/or hot water, first attempt to notify the building owner, managing agent, or superintendent. If service is not restored, register an official complaint via 311. To file a complaint, you can call 311, visit [311 online](#) or use the app



**311Mobile.** Of course, always contact me if you have any issues you'd like to raise personally at 212-633-8052 or [hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov).



### **Celebrating Jim Houghton**

The intersection of West 42nd St. and Dyer Avenue will now be named “Jim Houghton Way,” after the beloved founder and artistic director of the Signature Theater Company and longtime Hell’s Kitchen and Manhattan Plaza resident. On October 4, I was honored to join the celebration of the life and contributions of one of the most beloved members of the New York theater community. Watch my speech [here](#).

### **Preserving Affordable Housing**

Earlier this month, I introduced a bill to require developers to replace every unit of housing they demolish. We’ve seen a sharp increase of real estate developers tearing down low rise apartment buildings with many affordable units to replace them with large condo towers with fewer apartment units. [News reports](#) have found that developers were squandering high density sites. My bill would make sure developers build back all the units they tear down. This is common sense as we continue to see soaring rent prices in Manhattan and across the city.

### **Chelsea Community Fridge Feeds NYers on Hunger Action Month**

September was Hunger Action Month, so I joined the fight to end hunger last week with neighborhood leaders at the Chelsea Community Fridge along with Councilmember Erik Bottcher to celebrate their work and help stock the fridge with donations from their partners at Doordash and the neighborhood. One in four New York children go to sleep hungry, but we can do something about it. If you would like to donate or volunteer with the community fridge, feel free to connect with me for more information.



### **Expanding Access to PEP and PrEP**

This session, [legislation](#) I sponsored with Assembly Member O'Donnell to codify requirements that insurers cover the cost of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) passed both houses and awaits the governor's signature. In the meantime, I have met with the state Department of Financial Services to address reports of insured patients being asked to pay for PrEP despite federal rules prohibiting cost sharing for this life-saving preventative measure. DFS says that providers are mistakenly submitting the wrong codes to insurance companies.

### **Honoring Bob Trentlyon**

Last week, I celebrated the unveiling of "Bob Trentlyon Way" at 23rd Street and 11th Avenue with Councilmember Bottcher, Assemblymember Gottfried, Community Board 4 and the Trentlyon family. Bob was a community leader, local journalist and visionary, and his dedicated work led to the creation of Chelsea Waterside Park, the Hudson River Park comfort station, among many other local initiatives, including being one of the first local activists to raise the alarm on rising sea level and the need for greater resiliency to protect our waterfront neighborhoods. Generations of New Yorkers will benefit from his remarkable vision as a grassroots activist and neighborhood public intellectual.



### **"Senator Pothole"?**

After hearing from multiple constituents about a growing pothole that was creating a nuisance and unsafe conditions at 9th Avenue and 45th Street, directly across from AMT, a new off-Broadway theater in Hell's Kitchen, I sent a letter to NYC DOT to request urgent attention and maintenance to this situation. The NYC DOT let us know that they have referred the matter to DEP and I will continue to update the community as we await action.



### **\$100 Million to New York State Council on the Arts**

During the last budget cycle, the State Legislature allocated \$800 million in capital funding for economic development. I fought alongside advocates to ensure a historic \$100 million dollars to New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) to support arts projects, which was recently announced by Governor Hochul. The hope and intent is for this funding to be a multiyear allocation. The grant application will open on [NYSCA's website](#) beginning Friday, September 30. Applicants will be able to apply until January 12, 2023. NYSCA will then name the recipients of the awards by the end of the fiscal year.



### **Finally, the Right Use for a Historic Building**

It was a thrill to help cut the ribbon for the new God's Love We Deliver outpost at the historic Northern Dispensary building (built 1831), just across the street from the Stonewall Inn, which had sat vacant for over 30 years. At the event, I paid tribute to local author George Whitmore, who was the last patient at the Northern Dispensary in 1986, but denied treatment because he had AIDS. He successfully sued the Catholic Diocese under the NYC Human Rights Law, prompting the building's sale by the Church and ultimately paving the way for God's Love to assume the lease today. Whitmore died of AIDS at age 43 in 1989, the same year the building sold to the Benders' family.

### **Securing Right to Counsel for People Facing Deportation**

I introduced a bill ([S81B/A1961](#)) to amend our legislation, the Access to Representation Act, to ensure the state provides legal counsel for all New Yorkers facing deportation, whether they recently arrived in the state or have been New Yorkers for decades. This would be the first act in the nation to create a state right to a lawyer for people facing deportation who cannot afford representation. Read more [here](#).

## **Fighting to Eliminate PFAS from Clothing**

PFAS chemicals (the kind used in Teflon) have been widely used in garments since the 1940s because of their liquid-wicking applications, but recent studies have shown these chemicals to be linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer. On September 20, I joined my colleague Assemblymember Gallagher, Toxic Free Future, and Clean Healthy NY to call on REI to eliminate PFAS from their apparel and present petitions signed by 130,000 co-op members. We also urged Governor Hochul to sign my bill ([S.6291A](#)) with Assemblymember Fahy to eliminate them in clothing sold in New York. PFAS has been an ongoing interest area for me, as I've passed legislation banning this dangerous chemical from fast food packaging and firefighting foam, too.



## ***Writer Who Says Trump Raped Her Plans to Use New Law to Prove It***

E. Jean Carroll, a former advice columnist for Elle, had already sued the former president for defamation after he branded her a liar



The writer, E. Jean Carroll, has accused former President Donald J. Trump of raping her in the 1990s. John Minchillo/Associated Press

## **Trump Accuser to Sue Under Our Adult Survivors Act**

The bravery of sexual abuse survivors consistently astounds me. Take, for example, E. Jean Carroll who has announced she is filing a claim against Former President Donald Trump by utilizing our Adult Survivors Act ([S.66A](#)) that I was proud to sponsor in Albany with Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal. The Act gives survivors a year-long opportunity to file civil lawsuits against their abuser even if the statutes of limitations have expired. The window opens November 24, 2022. Read more [here](#).

## **Evictions Are on the Rise**

New York City law mandates every person in need of an attorney can receive one. However, since January, the Office of Court Administration (OCA) and state courts have moved forward with at least 12,000 eviction cases with tenants unrepresented by a lawyer. This week, I toured the Manhattan Housing Court alongside tenant advocates

and elected officials to better understand this messy and unlawful practice, as well as call on OCA to slow down the uptake of cases to ensure the right to counsel.

### **Yeshiva University Must Recognize its LGBTQ+ Students**

Religion is not an excuse for bigotry. What a shame that an institution of higher learning - which receives millions of dollars of public aid - is putting its LGBTQ+ students in this untenable position. Yeshiva University must follow the law and recognize the Pride Alliance. Read more [here](#).

### **Fighting for Equal Pay for Women**

On Black Women Equal Pay Day, I joined colleagues, advocates and the One Fair Wage campaign to highlight the findings of their report showing Black women are subject to a \$5 an hour pay gap in the restaurant industry, which has only worsened during the pandemic during the current restaurant labor shortage. I am a co-sponsor of the One Fair Wage bill (A10203/S808) to guarantee a full minimum wage for these workers. For more information on this issue, click [here](#). I also passed legislation this session ([S.2239](#)) with Assemblymember Deborah Glick to require state contractors to disclose data on employee compensation by gender, race, ethnicity, and other relevant data, which is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

### **Supporting Union Workers Renewed Contracts**

New York is a proud union town, and collective bargaining is the foundation of our workers' rights. I rallied on September 21 to call on ConEd to do the right thing and keep their contract with unionized contractor United States Infrastructure Corporation (USIC). The USIC workers' knowledge of the trade is what keeps our residents safe from electrical outages and gas main explosions, and putting profit over safety is no longer an acceptable option for companies operating in New York.



### **Drumming up Support for Our Grieving Families Act**

New York's wrongful death statute is over 170 years old and prohibits the grief-stricken family from recovering damages for their emotional suffering from the wrongdoer. Our Grieving Families Act ([S74A](#)) brings New York in line with the other 47 states that allow their courts to compensate for the full measure of lost relationships. The week of

September 19, a series of op-eds were published in support of the bill, which passed both the State Senate and Assembly this year.

- Former State Senator John DeFrancisco: [DeFrancisco: Gov. Hochul should sign update to wrongful death law \(Your Letters\)](#)
- Ansumana Susso and Blair Horner: [It's time to reform New York's antiquated wrongful death law | Opinion](#)
- Senate Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes: [Another Voice: The Grieving Families Act rights historic injustice in wrongful death cases](#)
- State Senator Jessica Ramos: [New York's wrongful death law is failing families](#)

### **100% on my Environmental Record**

I am honored to receive a perfect score on the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV)'s 2022 Environmental [Scorecard](#) – which was released fittingly during Climate Week. Three of my bills were featured as part of their priority environmental legislation list: Birds and Bees Protection Act ([S.699D](#)), my tenants flood risk disclosure bill ([S.5472A](#)), and the ban on PFAS chemicals in apparel ([S.6291A](#)).



### **New Monument to Reproductive Freedom**

I was thrilled to join Councilmember Bottcher in helping launch VILLAGE VOICES 2022, a collection of 22 shadow boxes across Greenwich Village celebrating Village luminaries such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Billie Holiday and Martha Graham, organized by Village Preservation. In addition to these exhibits, there is an interactive reproductive rights piece called A MONUMENT TO CHOICE in Gansevoort Plaza (where I'm pictured with my 5-year old daughter Lucy). The exhibit runs through October 30. For more information click [here](#).

 **State Senator Brad Hoylman**  
***Bills Signed Into Law***

- ✓ Adult Survivors Act (S.66A)
- ✓ Microstamping for Handguns (S.4116A)
- ✓ Investigate Fake Pregnancy Clinics (S.470)
- ✓ More Family Court Judges (S.9466)
- ✓ Transgender Wellness & Equity Fund (S.8884A)
- ✓ Safety for Imitation Weapons (S.687)
- ✓ NYCHA Code Violations Transparency (S.72A)
- ✓ Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (S.67A)

 **State Senator Brad Hoylman**  
***Bills Ready for Signature***

- ➔ “Stop the Chop” Act (S.7493A)
- ➔ Grieving Families Act (S.74A)
- ➔ Equal Pay Disclosure (S.2239)
- ➔ Statewide Dyslexia Taskforce (S.441C)
- ➔ PEP & PrEP Insurance Coverage (S.688)
- ➔ Tenant Flood Risk Disclosure (S.5472A)
- ➔ LGBTQIA+ Data Collection (S.774B)

### **18 of My Bills Have Been Signed Into Law**

I wanted to update you on my legislative work. This session, the Senate and Assembly passed 34 of our bills, eighteen of which Governor Hochul has signed. The Governor has until the end of the year to sign my remaining bills. Above, I’ve highlighted the status of some of our major legislation this year.

### **Ensuring Food and Water for NYCHA Residents During Water Disruptions**

Following the water crisis at the Jacob Riis Houses in our district earlier this month, I authored and introduced a bill ([S.9557](#)) with Assemblymember Epstein to guarantee public housing residents access to food and water during such disruptions. 4,000 residents could not cook their own meals for over a week, leaving them to pay more out of pocket or depend on charity to feed themselves and their families. Our bill ensures tenants will not have to bear this extra cost while the public housing authority restores their water.

### **Protecting the Right to Shelter for Asylum Seekers**

On September 15, I toured the NYC Asylum Seeker Resource Navigation Center in our Senate district in Hell’s Kitchen with Mayor Adams. I’m proud to live in New York where the right to shelter is guaranteed under our state constitution. Asylum seekers will receive free and confidential help accessing a variety of important services and resources that will help them integrate and thrive in our city including:

- Health care services directly and through referral
- Health insurance enrollment

- Mental health counseling,
- School enrollment, and
- Immigration legal services, among others.

### **Fighting for New School Adjuncts**

Part-time faculty at The New School, who comprise 87 percent of the teaching staff, deserve a new contract. On September 13, I joined a rally to press for a new agreement for adjunct faculty and for an increase in wages, which have been stagnant for four years, with UAW Local 9, Local 802 AFM, the Teamsters and Councilmembers Bottcher and Hudson.



### **Community Resources**

Join your local representatives for a

## **Free and Safe Community Paper Shred Event**



Join Assembly Member Danny O'Donnell,  
Council Member Gale Brewer & State Senator Brad Hoylman  
to shred your sensitive or unwanted documents

**Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**11:00am – 2:00pm**  
**W98<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway**

Please contact 212-866-3970 or [odonnell@nyassembly.gov](mailto:odonnell@nyassembly.gov)  
with questions or concerns

### **Take the Hudson River Park Survey**

Hudson River Park is conducting a survey to understand what brings people to the Park and the activities that park users enjoy. Your voice is important, please take 5 minutes to complete the survey by **October 15**. Complete the Survey [here](#).

### **Saturday, October 15: SUBMERGE Marine Science Festival**

Hudson River Park's SUBMERGE celebrates NYC's coastal waters and brings marine science to life. Students and members of the public are invited to experience awesome

experiments, science entertainment, local wildlife and more on Saturday, October 15 from 11AM - 3PM at Pier 84 (@ W. 44th St.).

***Halloween: Whitney Museum's Halloween Events***

- HallowTeen Night, Fri, 10/28 at 4 pm: NYC teens are invited to come in costume, enjoy live music, dancing, artist-led workshops, a spooky photo booth and more. The event is free for teens, registration is required. Learn more [here](#).
- Magical Masquerade Family Day, Sat, 10/29, 11 am-3 pm: Families are invited to celebrate Halloween together and make art! Activities include a mysterious scavenger hunt through [Edward Hopper's New York](#) exhibition and hands-on family artmaking activities. Learn more [here](#).
- A full list of Halloween activities at the Whitney is available [here](#).



## PS 33 Clothing Drive

*New migrant families are joining the PS 33 Chelsea Prep school community and they need our help!*

We are looking for new or gently used clothes for new migrant families. A box labeled "Clothing Drive" is set up to the left of the security desk and can be dropped off by 5pm.

**Some ideas of items to donate (all sizes accepted - including adult men and women):**

- Jackets/coats
- Underwear and socks (new)
- Long-sleeved Shirts
- Sweaters
- Long Pants
- Tights/leggings
- Shoes (sneakers and boots)
- Sweatshirts
- Hoodies
- Backpacks
- Lunch boxes
- Hats, gloves, scarves

Please shop our Amazon Wish list:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1WQGV34BVRKH?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1WQGV34BVRKH?ref=wl_share)



**ACCEPTING SHIPMENTS:**

ATTN: Ms Collins  
281 9th Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

**Items are accepted through October 31st**