

SENATOR KRISTEN GONZALEZ 59TH SENATE DISTRICT

February 2023 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

Community Board 6 Liaison: Peyton Schultheis schulthe@nysenate.gov

<u>Highlights</u>

- 1. Last week, Senator Gonzalez voted alongside her colleagues to pass the Equal Rights Amendment to the New York State Constitution. The Amendment will extend current constitutional protections against discrimination to several new protected classes, as well as protecting access to contraception and abortion.
- 2. In other legislative news, Senator Gonzalez moved to support the All-Electric Buildings Act, which represents an important step toward meeting climate goals set by New York State. The act would ban new gas and oil hookups in all new construction by the end of the decade. Additionally, the Senator stood with Transportation Alternatives in Albany last week in support of legislation that will make our streets safer. The SAFE Streets Act comprises of multiple pieces of legislation that will lower speed limits, create a victim bill of rights, require three feet of space for cyclists, and implement other common-sense measures to make our streets safer for everyone.
- 3. Senator Gonzalez also joined One Fair Wage as they continued the fight to bring justice to workers everywhere. Tipped workers, often women and people of color, are underpaid and experience a lack of protection within the current wage system. These workers must be protected by putting an end to the tipped-minimum wage in New York and instead guarantee all workers stable wages.

- 4. We are still in the process of securing a District Office. However, we made great progress in setting up our constituent services operations. Currently, the best way for constituents to reach out to the Senator's office is by emailing gonzalez@nysenate.gov.
- Going forward, Community Liaison Peyton Schultheis, will be the point of contact for Manhattan Community Board 6. You may reach her at <u>schulthe@nysenate.gov</u>. Service to our constituents is a top priority, so please do not hesitate to reach out via email regarding any concerns with which we may assist.