



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

JULIE MENIN



1. **Safer Crosswalks for a Safer New York Act:** Julie is proud to announce that her bill, the [Safer Crosswalks for a Safer New York Act](#), has now reached an overwhelming 30 cosponsors in the City Council. Many colleagues have joined Julie in this effort to make our streets safer for pedestrians, a concern our office has received countless times before. [As the NY Post reported](#), the bill would require the Department of Transportation to install at least 100 illuminated, solar-powered traffic control devices at crosswalks annually over the next 5 years. Studies have shown that illuminated crosswalks help reduce pedestrian fatalities and injuries, and other large cities, such as Orlando and San Francisco, have already adopted these devices to great success. This is why Julie is excited to lead the effort to implement this model in New York City, and will continue work with her partners in government to ensure this legislation has a hearing in the City Council to make our streets safer.
2. **NYPD Enforcement of E-Bikes and Pending Council Legislation:** Over the last few months, our office has heard time and time again about the dangers that irresponsible moped and scooter drivers present to pedestrians across the Upper East Side. The New York Police Department has recently launched a campaign to thoroughly enforce traffic regulations, including against moped and electric scooter drivers driving at excessive speeds, driving against the flow of traffic, driving on sidewalks, and more. Our local Precincts have been great partners in ensuring traffic safety across the Upper East side, greatly increasing the number of vehicles seized. At least 4 truckloads full of 2/4 wheeled devices have been confiscated over the last 4 months. Julie is glad that the Police Department has taken the necessary steps to increase enforcement on this matter after continuous advocacy from local community groups. It is clear that these vehicles, used irresponsibly, present a dangerous hazard to pedestrians and drivers alike. This is why, aside from advocating for increased enforcement, Julie has signed on to Council Member Holden's bill, [Introduction 758](#), that would require every bicycle with electric assist, electric scooter, and other legal motorized vehicles to be registered with the Department of Transportation and receive an identifying number which would be displayed on a visible plate affixed to the vehicle. We look forward to continuing working to address this matter, and thank everyone who has reached out to our office in support of this bill.
3. **Small Business Services Legislation:** As Chair of the Small Business Committee, Julie is always looking at ways to support the essential role that small businesses serve in our communities. This month, two of her bills related to small business are expected to be voted upon by the City Council. One bill, [Introduction 263](#), will require the Department of Small Business Services (SBS)

to report on the services they provide at Workforce1 Career Centers. These centers provide essential services to New Yorkers looking for employment, including job assistance and training opportunities. To better serve the population, it is necessary to have data on the performance of these Workforce1 Career Centers to find ways to increase their effectiveness and expand on the services already provided. Furthermore, [Introduction 1103](#) would require the Department of Small Business Services to post on its website information on selecting a bank for small businesses. Selecting a bank for your business is one of the earliest and most important decisions to make in your business career, therefore it is critical to have the information needed when making that decision. This bill would provide information on specialized services offered by banks for small businesses, typical fees, interest rates, monthly charges, balance requirements, and more. This will help business owners make more informed decisions and prevent them from facing banking obstacles from the get go.

4. **September 11th Day of Remembrance Op-Ed:** The events of September 11 marked a turning point in American history. Ever since that day, we've made a pledge to never forget those who lost their lives in this horrendous and unforgivable attack. However, we're now seeing a new generation of Americans coming into adulthood, all of whom were born after that dark day. It's our responsibility now to ensure the legacy of that day is not forgotten as time goes on, which is why Julie joined Council Member Ariola in support of her Resolution in the City Council calling for September 11th to be designated as a federal holiday, the September 11 Day of Remembrance Act. This will ensure that this tragedy is commemorated for future generations, and that the sacrifice the victims of that day gave is never forgotten. You can read our full Op-Ed [here](#). We will continue to advocate for Congress to make September 11th a national holiday.

5. **Free Swim Lessons for 2nd graders:** Julie is also thrilled about the progress made on her swimming lessons bill, [Introduction 760](#). This bill has a supermajority of Council Member support that would require the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide free swim lessons to New York City public school second grade students. Since 2008, over 58 New Yorkers have died on New York City pools and beaches, something that can be prevented by having adequate and accessible swim lessons for children. Aside from ensuring water safety, swimming lessons to young children can help [build confidence, gain numerous physical health benefits, and reduce the risk of drowning](#). It is our hope that this bill will pass the City Council later this month and be signed into law by the Mayor.