

A Message From ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN



ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN COMMUNITY BOARD 6 REPORT, NOVEMBER 2023

Friends,

Happy Indigenous Peoples Month.

Our district is located on Lenape (Lenapehoking) land. For over 400 years, the Lenape people have been violently displaced as a result of European settler colonialism. The Lenape people are the rightful stewards of our district's land. As we approach Thanksgiving, we must recognize the historical injustices committed against indigenous people, celebrate their rich contributions to our community, and strive to do better.

We are currently seeking ways to honor and celebrate indigenous folks and organizations in the district. If you know of a community leader or organization worthy of recognition, or have an idea of how we can celebrate the indigenous community in our neighborhood, do not hesitate to reach out to my office. You can contact my Communications Coordinator, Jenna Meehan at jenna.district74@gmail.com.

See you around the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Harvey

EVENTS

Team Harvey's Holiday Party: Thursday, December 7th from 6 PM to 8 PM

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER
HARVEY EPSTEIN**



Team Harvey's
Holiday Party!

Join Team Harvey as we celebrate the holidays and the New Year together with food, fun, & community!

Location: Lower East Side Girls Club (402 E 8th St.)

7 | Thursday
December
From 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

RSVP by November 28th by calling our office at 212-979-9696 or by emailing District74@nyassembly.gov.



Join Team Harvey for food, fun, and community as we celebrate the holiday season together. **We will gather on Thursday, December 7th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Lower East Side Girls Club (402 E 8th St.).** Please RSVP by November 28th by calling our office at 212-979-9696, emailing District74@nyassembly.gov, or filling out the form linked [HERE](#).

Save the Date: Assembly Member Epstein's Townhall & Resource Fair on Thursday, January 18th at 6 PM

Join Team Harvey at NYU Dental on Thursday, January 18th at 6:00 PM for a town hall and resource fair. More information to come.

HARVEY'S HEADLINES

Shredding Documents at Bellevue Park



On Sunday, October 22nd, Team Harvey and the office of Senator Kristen Gonzalez teamed up to provide a shredding truck to constituents. Approximately 100 people came out to shred their documents, pick up free PPE, and chat with our offices. We cannot wait to do more in the spring!

Catching up with Stuytown Residents



This month, I have enjoyed connecting with Stuytown residents. On October 11th, we hosted a Hang with Harvey at the nearby Stuyvesant Square Park. I talked to residents about e-bikes, congestion pricing, and street construction. Team Harvey also tabled at the Stuytown flea market on Sunday, October 15th. We discussed our upcoming events and talked with residents about issues in the community.

SPARC Community Engagement

Recently, Team Harvey has been involved in community engagement sessions with the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and their lobbying firm, Geto & de Milly, to learn more about the Science Park and Research Campus (SPARC) project in Kips Bay. It is important to us that the community is involved in shaping the plan for this space. Currently, we are planning a 2024 town hall and we intend to have a SPARC session included in the program to further engage the community in this effort.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

My Bill to Protect Students is Signed into Law

I'm proud to announce [my bill](#) with Senator Liz Krueger to end the practice of suing SUNY students for tuition arrears in Albany, making it impossible for students to defend themselves without traveling

there, was signed into law. Attorney General Tish James rightfully ended this policy and now our laws prevent it.

Discussing Sustainability Solutions



On Monday, October 23, and Tuesday, October 24, I returned to Albany to attend two sustainability hearings. On Monday, I attended a hearing to discuss New York's Bottle Bill, which has remained largely unchanged since its adoption in 1982. We must increase redemption center fees & develop a plan for more reusable bottles to be included instead of single-use plastics.

On Tuesday, I spent time listening to experts about ways to reduce packaging in NY State. We must reduce packaging which saves consumers money and reduces pollutants in our environment. We need to pass an aggressive Extended Producer Responsibility bill in the next session. New York must address the climate crisis and these hearings are a good step towards more sweeping changes to promote environmental sustainability. I also learned about a great company that allows you to order takeout in returnable reusable containers for no additional cost. Learn more about Deliver Zero [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS & RESOURCES

AD 74 Illegal Cannabis Shop Locations

Over the summer I sent a letter to the Office of Cannabis Management urging them to stop the proliferation of illegal cannabis shops in our district and across the city. You can read it [here](#). These

illegal shops threaten the legal market which was designed to ensure the safety of consumers and to enable New Yorkers disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition to participate in the new industry first.

Under regulations promulgated by the Office of Cannabis Management, all regulated, licensed dispensaries must post the [Dispensary Verification Tool](#) near their main entrance. To verify a dispensary is operating legally, you can visit this webpage where all legal dispensaries are listed: <https://cannabis.ny.gov/dispensary-location-verification>.

If you notice what you believe to be an unlicensed dispensary or another type of business that you believe is selling cannabis illegally, you can fill out the form linked [HERE](#). Under new legislation passed as a part of the state budget, OCM can take action to close down illegally operating businesses once they have been identified and investigated.