



# Assemblymember Robert Carroll

## Fall 2021 Community Update



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Fall 2021

I hope that you had a good summer and that your fall is off to a strong start. As the impacts of COVID-19 and the Delta Variant continue to linger, I know that this continues to be a difficult time for many. If you need assistance or if my office can be helpful to you in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov) or call my office at 718-788-7221.

In September, Governor Hochul called an emergency session of the legislature to extend the residential and small business commercial eviction moratorium and the mortgage and tax foreclosure moratorium for people facing financial hardships due to COVID-19. This means no new eviction or foreclosure cases can be commenced until January 15, 2022. The legislature also extended the Tenant Safe Harbor Act, which stays ongoing eviction proceedings until January 15, 2022 if a tenant is facing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

### This year the legislature passed a number of bills that I introduced and sponsored

#### *Expediting the Counting and Canvassing of Absentee Ballots*

The Assembly and Senate passed my bill (A.7931) to expedite the counting of absentee ballots. Currently, the Board of Elections (BOE) is not allowed to count absentee ballots until election day, and in practice they do not start counting ballots until at least a week after election day. During the 2020 election, when an historic amount of absentee ballots were cast by voters because of the COVID-19 pandemic, election results were significantly delayed due to the current absentee ballot counting practices. My bill modernizes how New York State counts absentee ballots by allowing the Board of Elections to process ballots as they are received and begin to scan those ballots the day before early voting begins. All tabulation of scanned ballots will happen one hour before polls close on election day. With the enactment of this bill, New York will be able to certify elections in a timely manner. The bill also removes the rules requiring the Board of Elections to invalidate ballots based on minor technical errors.



Assemblymember Carroll debating A.7931 on the floor of the Assembly.

#### *Same Day Voter Registration*

The Assembly and Senate passed for the second time my constitutional amendment (A.502), to remove the ten-day advance voter registration requirement. The amendment was previously approved in both legislative chambers in 2019, and will now go to the voters of New York State for final ratification in the November general election. If the amendment is ratified, New York will join 21 other states in allowing for same day voter registration.

#### *The Low Embodied Carbon Concrete Leadership Act (LECCLA)*

The Assembly and Senate passed my bill (A.2591-A), the Low-Embodied Carbon Concrete Leadership Act, to require the Office of General Services to create guidelines for a low-embodied carbon standard for concrete procured in state construction projects. Concrete is the most common building material in the world and its main ingredient cement, accounts for eight percent of carbon emissions globally. Low-embodied carbon concrete is concrete that has a lower carbon footprint than traditional concrete due to how it is manufactured. By reducing the embodied carbon in concrete, New York can limit some of the negative impacts of global warming caused by construction.

New York cannot meet its goal of reducing carbon emissions by 85% by 2050, if it does not create a standard to decarbonize concrete. With the passage of this bill, New York creates a framework to reduce the carbon footprint of concrete and positions the state to be a world leader in environmentally friendly concrete production. By requiring state projects to meet certain low-embodied carbon concrete standards, New York's roads and buildings will be greener and influence how other states and private industry build.

#### *Increasing Transparency at the MTA with the 'MTA Open Data Act'*

The Assembly and Senate passed my bill, (A.1442-B), to create the MTA Open Data Act. This bill requires the MTA to compile its internal data and publish it in a format that is manipulable and publicly accessible. Currently, the MTA often releases incomplete data in formats difficult to manipulate and access by the public – such as PDF format. This bill will help address that issue.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at the unveiling of the newly accessible Avenue H train station.



## *Public Library Improvements Across the District*

Both the Windsor Terrace and Cortelyou Road libraries have reopened after being closed for extended periods of time. Both branches received significant and much needed repairs and improvements. I was pleased to attend both grand re-openings and am proud that my predecessor, Jim Brennan and I were able to procure resources from the New York State Assembly for part of the cost of these renovations.



*Assemblymember Carroll with the President of Brooklyn Public Library, Linda Johnson and members of The Friends of Cortelyou Library at the ribbon cutting for the re-opening of the Cortelyou Road branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.*

## *Ranked Choice Voting Hearing*

As a member of the Election Law Committee, I attended an Assembly hearing to discuss the mishaps in the counting of ranked choice ballots for the primary held on June 22nd in New York City. In 2019, New York City voters approved the implementation of ranked choice voting for municipal elections. Ranked choice voting allows voters to rank up to 5 candidates in order of their preference. I believe that ranked choice voting is a valuable tool for expanding voter participation and involvement. However, for voters to have faith in this new voting system, the Board of Elections must better administer our elections and the counting of ballots. That is why I plan to work with my colleagues in government to create a nonpartisan and professionalized Board of Elections that has the proper oversight and accountability.



*Assemblymember Carroll speaking at a rally outside of the Assembly Election Law Committee's hearing on Ranked Choice Voting.*

*Assemblymember Carroll with Attorney General Letitia James and members of the New York State Nurses Association at New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital to celebrate the passage of the Safe Staffing Act, which ensures that New York's hospitals meet minimum patient to nurse ratios.*





# Assemblymember Robert Carroll Around the District



Assemblymember Carroll with Councilmember Brad Lander and tenants from 70 Prospect Park West speaking out against their landlord, Greenbrook, a predatory equity firm that has been harassing, overcharging, neglecting and illegally evicting tenants.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at the opening of the new playground at PS 130 with the students who helped redesign the playground from a concrete slab into a beautiful playspace. The playground was designed by 1st grade students at PS 130 in partnership with The Trust for Public Land and funded in part by Assemblymember Carroll.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at a rally in support of A.1466, the Build Public Renewables Act, one of Assemblymember Carroll's bills designed to address climate change and to allow the New York Power Authority to build, own, and operate new renewable energy generation.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at the street co-naming ceremony in honor of writer and Brooklyn legend Pete Hamill at 12th Street and 7th Avenue in Park Slope.



Assemblymember Carroll at PS 230 distributing free chess sets to students as part of The Gift of Chess Initiative.



Assemblymember Carroll with John Tarzian, his family, and many of his co-workers celebrating 100 years of business at Tarzian Hardware.



## Fall Events at Assemblymember Carroll's District Office (416 7th Avenue)

### *MTA MetroCard Van*

**Friday, October 29, 2021  
9:00am to 2:00pm**

**416 7th Avenue • No appointment needed**

- Take care of all MetroCard business at the MTA MetroCard Van
- Apply for or refill a Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Buy Pay-Per-Ride cards, Regular MetroCard, or Unlimited MetroCard
- Check the balance on expired MetroCards.

**Seniors:** If you are 65 years of age or older, you can apply for your Reduced-Fare MetroCard at the MetroCard Van. You must bring two valid IDs (Driver's License, Medicare Card, or Birth Certificate, including one ID that displays your photograph). Free photography services will be available.

### *Free COVID Testing*

*In partnership with  
Mt. Sinai and NYC Health and Hospitals  
416 7th Avenue*

**No appointment needed • Self-testing  
Results available in 24 hrs • No insurance required**

**Friday, October 29, 2021 • 9:00am to 5:00pm**

**Friday, November 5, 2021 • 9:00am to 5:00pm**

**Friday, November 12, 2021 • 9:00am to 5:00pm**

The primary test will be saliva-based but nasal swabs are available as a back-up. Both tests are PCR and results are available within 24 hours of the sample being collected. Results are sent directly to the individual.

Testing is available to all individuals 4 years and older. No ID required.

### *No Cost Mammograms*

**Friday, November 12, 2021  
9:00am to 4:30pm**

**416 7th Avenue • Appointment strongly recommended**

I am partnering with the American-Italian Cancer Association to provide no-cost mammograms to constituents at my district office. For an appointment, please call 877-628-9090 (English and Spanish). Walk-ins may be available but it is best to schedule an appointment. All women 40-79, currently living in New York City, who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months are eligible. The services are provided at no cost. No co-pays required, deductibles are waived, and uninsured patients are welcomed. Please bring insurance information, if available.

For additional information please call my district office at 718-788-7221 or email [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov).



Assemblymember Carroll with Tell Every Amazing Lady (T.E.A.L.) staff and founder, Pamela Esposito-Emerly, at a previous no-cost mammogram screening event. To make an appointment for a screening on November 12th, please call 877-628-9090.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



Assemblymember  
**Robert  
Carroll**

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### *Free Flu Shots!*

*(Appointment required)*

**Friday, November 5, 2021 • 10:00am to 2:00pm**

**Shepherd's Hall, Holy Name Church  
Windsor Terrace, 245 Prospect Park West**

In partnership with New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, I am hosting my annual free flu shots with Senator Kevin Parker at Shepherd's Hall at Holy Name Church on Friday, November 5th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Supplies are limited and appointments are required. Shots are available for adults 18 years and older. RSVP to my office at [Carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:Carrollr@nyassembly.gov) or by calling my District Office at 718-788-7221.