



November 21, 2025

Greetings –

This morning I joined Comptroller Lander and other elected colleagues at 26 Federal Plaza to again call attention to the illegal and inhumane treatment of asylum seekers by ICE. We were appalled but not shocked to learn this morning that [the FBI has been illegally spying on court watchers in New York](#). New Yorkers will not be intimidated by the lawless tactics of this federal government, and we will continue to fight and protect our immigrant neighbors.



Securing State Funding for Brooklyn Public Library's Decodable Book Collection

Last Friday [I was thrilled to announce that I have secured \\$180,000 in State funding](#) to purchase decodable books for every BPL branch in Brooklyn. It has been my mission since being elected to the State Assembly in 2016 to see that every child gets the instruction and supports they need to become strong readers. Our schools and libraries need to work in tandem when it comes to literacy education, and it is wonderful to see BPL so fully embracing evidence-based practices. My thanks to BPL President Linda Johnson and her team for their ongoing partnership. I can't wait to see libraries throughout Brooklyn stocked with the decodable readers that this funding will provide.



Announcing \$10 million in State Funding for the Brooklyn Museum

Yesterday [I joined my colleagues State Senator Myrie and Assemblymember Zinerman to announce \\$10 million in State Funding for The Brooklyn Museum](#). The Museum is not only a major cultural institution but also an important locus of civic life and education for the entire borough. After meeting with Director Anne Pasternak and her team back in the fall of 2023, it became clear to me that we needed to think big, and I am incredibly proud to have led the push in the Assembly to secure \$10 million in the 2024-2025 State budget for the Museum. With the Trump Administration cutting funding for arts and culture, these dollars are needed more than ever. The improvements funded through the State budget will not only enhance visitor experience but also help the Museum secure loans of artwork and donations of collections. I look forward to the Museum continuing to be a vital and dynamic place for Brooklynites from all walks of life for years to come. The new [Monet and Venice](#) exhibit is really incredible, and I encourage all to visit the museum and check it out!



Donating Turkeys for Thanksgiving celebrations

Thanks to COPO and the new K-Slope Supermarket on 9th Street in Park Slope, I had the pleasure of going around the district today donating turkeys to schools and food pantries ahead of the holiday next week. Happy Thanksgiving everybody!



Upcoming Atlantic Yards Project Public Workshop 12/8

On Tuesday Empire State Development and the new development team for the Atlantic Yards Project held a public workshop focusing on the issues of density, affordability, and open space. Staff from my office were there to observe and listen. My hope is that this marks a new beginning for this project that includes meaningful public input, true accountability to the public and elected representatives, and greater transparency, but it will take a sustained effort by all stakeholders, myself included, to realize this. The new development team presented what they termed a "feasible alternative" to the current plan involving significantly more apartments with a focus on moderate to middle income for the below market-rate apartments, taller buildings, more contiguous open space.

I absolutely think the project should include true public space that is easily accessible and doesn't present as "building courtyards" but my position on the various elements of the project will be informed by what I hear from community members and other stakeholders in the coming months ahead.

The next public workshop is taking place on Monday, December 8th. I encourage all to attend.

[RSVP Here](#). Details below:

Atlantic Yards Redevelopment Project - Public Workshop #2

Date: Monday, December 8

Time: 6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Location: Design High School - 29 6th Avenue

The meeting will include an introductory presentation from ESD and the new development team for Atlantic Yards. A discussion will follow the presentations focusing on:

- Streetscape & Public Realm
- Sustainability & Resiliency
- Community Serving Retail & Facilities

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- ✓ Clothing, sweaters, curtains, bedding, clean rags, and accessories like shoes, handbags and belts

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-Bobby

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