

## Dear Neighbor,

First, please allow me the opportunity to express my profound gratitude for your support in selecting me to fill the unexpired term of my great friend and mentor, the Honorable Herman "Denny" Farrell, Jr. I worked for Assemblyman Farrell for over 20 years and became his Chief of Staff. I am proud to serve as your 71st Assembly District member to help pass laws that improve our quality of life.

I am a longtime resident of Harlem, lived in Dyckman Houses in Inwood and attended George Washington High School in Washington Heights. After a rough childhood, I began to see the value in education and public service. After completing my GED, I served as a military police officer in the United States Army. These personal and professional experiences have informed my commitment to improve public education, which I have always believed to be the greatest equalizer in society.

My desire to serve in public office is connected to my strong belief that our communities deserve to be represented by elected officials who understand the needs of the community. Some of the most pressing issues we face today are exorbitant rents, displacement and gentrification. As your representative, I will be a steadfast advocate on the issues of housing, education and public safety.

In the Assembly, I will speak up for our community's rights to affordable housing and defend our children's right to quality education. As many of you know, through my "ManUp! In Harlem" program, we walk the Polo Grounds every Thursday morning to promote public safety and reduce gang violence. These prayer walks were credited for significantly reducing violence in the Polo Grounds by former NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly.

Starting in January 2018, I will conduct a listening tour throughout the 71st Assembly District to hear from you about your concerns and how, as a legislator, I can help address them. My staff and I will be present to speak with you and make sure that your voices are heard. The listening tour dates, times, and locations throughout the District are listed in this newsletter.

I look forward to continuing to serve you, and to meeting and talking with you about your concerns. Please feel free to call or visit my offices in Manhattan and Albany. As we go forward, my website, http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Al-Taylor/ will be filled with information on events and the work being done in the community and in Albany.

Thank you, Assembly Member Al Taylor

## Taylor and Levine Support Tenants Displaced by Hamilton Heights Fire



On Friday, November 17th, 2017 nearly 150 tenants were displaced by a six-alarm fire at 565 West 144th Street. During the night of the fire, City Council Member Levine, myself and other elected officials came together at P.S. 153 to assist these residents in an effort to help in their time of need.

The six-story building burned for nearly a full day, and about 250 firefighters were needed to put out the blaze. Approximately 56 families in 39 apartments were displaced. The American Red Cross provided temporary housing in hotels and shelters.

Thankfully, there were no fatalities during this awful event, but several firefighters along with one resident and a police officer suffered minor injuries. The building suffered extensive fire and water damage. The victims of this terrible incident will need the community's help to recover.

My staff and I are working with Congressman Adriano Espaillat, Council Member Levine, Community Leader Earnestine Bell-Temple, Yvonne Stennett of Community League of the Heights, HCCI President Malcolm Punter, and others to help our neighbors. Relief efforts are ongoing; contact Community Board 9, the Manhattan Borough President's District Office or Mark Levine's District Office for more information.

## Listening Tour Town Hall Meetings

January 25, 2018 • 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Hebrew Tabernacle 551 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, NY 10033

January 26, 2018 • 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Esplanade Gardens North Community Room 929-133 West 147th Street, New York, NY 10039

January 27, 2018 • 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Polo Grounds 3005 8th Avenue, New York, NY 10039

January 27, 2018 • 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Church of Intercession 550 W 155th Street, New York, NY 10032-7899



Assembly Member Al Taylor attended a recent discussion of exciting public education programs alongside Congressman Adriano Espaillat and City College of New York (CCNY) President, Vincent Boudreau. President Boudreau spoke about his plan to improve CCNY's community involvement by establishing partnerships between CCNY and local public schools and increase student's college aspirations.



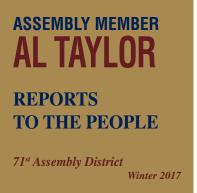
Swearing-in Ceremony for Assembly Member Al Taylor

February 11, 2018 • 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Please RSVP no later than January 22, 2018: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/inaugural-ceremony-for-assembly-member-al-taylor-tickets-41291324463

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248





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Hope to see you

there!

## ASSEMBLY MEMBER TAYLOR'S COMMUNITY OFFICE INFORMATION



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