SEAWRIGHT SPONSORED EVENTS:

- 19th Precinct Crime Prevention Forum
- Roosevelt Island Cornell
 Tech Townhall
- Air Quality and Asthma
 Forum
- Excelsior Scholarship and College Affordability
 Forum
- Shred-a-thon

IN OUR COMMUNITY:

- Attention Rent Controlled Tenants
- **Zoning Challenge at 249 East 62nd Street**
- <u>Central Park Monumental</u> <u>Woman Sculpture</u>

IN ALBANY:

- <u>Seawright Statement on</u> <u>Federal Tax Proposal</u>
- November 2017 Grants
 Action News

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

A Night at the Rat
Academy

ROOSEVELT ISLAND:

RIOC Sportspark Survey

TRANSPORTATION UPDATES:

Roosevelt Island Tram
Renovation

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Search and Care Tea and Creativity
- Ms. Magazine Way Street
 Co-Naming
- Department of Health
 Hiring Event
- Improvements to St.
 Catherines Park

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES:

- **MSK/CUNY**
- 91st Street Waste Transfer Station
- York Avenue Sewer Reconstruction
- <u>East 81st Street Pedestrian</u> <u>Bridge</u>



A MESSAGE FROM

Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright

Dear Neighbor,

Veteran's Day is an important time to reflect and thank the millions of Americans who have risked their lives for our freedom. This day will always be a reminder of the lives that were taken in an effort to achieve world peace. I am grateful for all of those who sacrificed and for all of those who have served and are serving in the United States Armed Forces.

New York State is home to one of the largest veteran populations in the country, with over 900,000 veterans residing in the Empire State. Unfortunately, homelessness is an all-too-common occurrence, as 11 percent of America's adult homeless population is comprised of veterans, with many more considered at risk. Homelessness among the veteran community affects all races, genders and ages. The vast majority of homeless veterans are male, but women veterans are the fastest-growing demographic of homeless veterans in America. Forty-five percent of homeless veterans are African-American or Hispanic and half are under the age of 50.

I understand that this is a serious issue for those who have dedicated their lives for our freedom. Last year, we passed legislation that would direct key state agencies to gather information on the state's homeless veterans and their children in an effort to better support them (A.434-C of 2016). Previously, The Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund was created to help get more of our heroes into quality, stable housing (Ch. 428 of 2014).

Many times, for those returning to the workforce after being out of the country for a substantial period of time, finding a good job can be nearly impossible. That's why I helped pass legislation this year that would waive state application fees for civil service exams taken by honorably discharged veterans (A.1105-B).

We also want our veterans to have ample opportunity to showcase their patriotism and be proud of their service. New York State already offers a number of custom license plates for veterans, and a new law signed this year authorizes the commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue plates specifically for AMVETS members (Ch. 105 of 2017). To learn more, visit www.dmv.ny.gov/custom-plates/military-and-veterans. Previously, the Assembly passed a law allowing eligible New Yorkers to have their status as a veteran designated on their driver's license, making it easier to access the many programs, benefits and discounts available to them (Ch. 487 of 2012).

The freedoms we enjoy should remind us of just how much veterans mean to this country. While we should be thanking them each day, Veterans Day is one reminder to reflect on their sacrifices. It's a day to educate ourselves on everything they've done for this great nation. Have a conversation with a local veteran. Listen to their stories. To find more information on Veterans Services, contact your local AMVETS, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion or Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) organization. To learn more about veterans' benefits, contact the state Division of Veterans' Affairs at 888-838-7697 or visit www.veterans.ny.gov.

This week we heard news of yet another shooting in the United States. My thoughts are with the victims of the Sutherland Springs, Texas church shootings.

On a more positive note, we are working hard to co-host these upcoming resource events for our community:

- Crime Prevention Forum with the 19th Precinct on Monday, November 20
- Roosevelt Island Community Townhall about Cornell Tech on Monday, November 27
- Air Quality and Asthma forum with Community Board 8 featuring my MTS Bill on Tuesday, November 28
- Excelsior Scholarship and College Affordability Forum with CUNY, SUNY, HESC AND CICU on November 30.
- *Shred-a-thon*, last shred of the season at the East 82nd Street Greenmarket from 10am until 2pm on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>December 2</u>.

Stay in touch with my office about any issues that are important to you. As always, we are just a visit, call or email away.

Sincerely,

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

A Message from the Chapin School

District Office:

1485 York Avenue

New York. NY 10075

212-288-4607

Albany Office:

LOB 650

Albany, **NY 12248**

518-455-5676

Email:

SeawrightR@nyassembly.gov

Social Media:







"I am pleased to report that I just received notification from the MTA that additional Q trains are coming to the Second Avenue Subway as a result of continued advocacy by our local groups, such as the East 72nd Street and East 79th Street Neighborhood Association, Community Board 8, and local elected officials. Beginning in June 2018, two additional evening roundtrips will be in operation, one between approximately 8pm and 8:30pm and the other between approximately 10:00 pm and 10:30pm. Reliable and efficient public service transportation remains one of my top priorities as I prepare for the new legislative session in January," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

AS FEATURED IN...



A night at the 'Rat Academy'

By Carson Kessler Published Nov 6, 2017 at 12:53 pm (Updated Nov 6, 2017)

As the rodent problem worsens on the UES, a session hosted by Seawright focuses on prevention methods



As an Upper East Sider for 41 years, Ruth Gutman routinely takes her evening stroll through the neighborhood with her dog. But recently, Gutman has encountered other creatures on her walks down 88th Street between York and East End Avenues — rats.

"Every night, I see them skittle across the road," Gutman said. "Some look even bigger than dogs!"

While most rats in New York City weigh no more than one pound, according to information from the New York City Department of Health, the rodent nevertheless poses a grave threat to many properties. The problem has been getting worse on the Upper East Side, according to Caroline Bragdon, director of neighborhood interventions and pest control services for the Department of Health.



Eleven tenants and one super attended a "Rat Academy" last Thursday hosted by Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright at the Brearley School. The free educational session instructed attendees on how to keep their neighborhood rodent-free and supplied guests with complimentary heavy-duty, lidded trash receptacles

Bragdon led the presentation on rat prevention, continuously referring to garbage — also known as an endless buffet for the city rat — as the main culprit for increasing rodent populations.

"We're trying to make more of an effort to engage property owners, rather than writing them tickets," Bragdon explained about prevention efforts. Refusal to adhere to pest-control standards results in a fine. Fines begin at \$300 and can be as high as \$2,000.

Both rats and the accompanying fines can be avoided through the prevention methods outlined by Bragdon: inspect, clean and pest-proof.

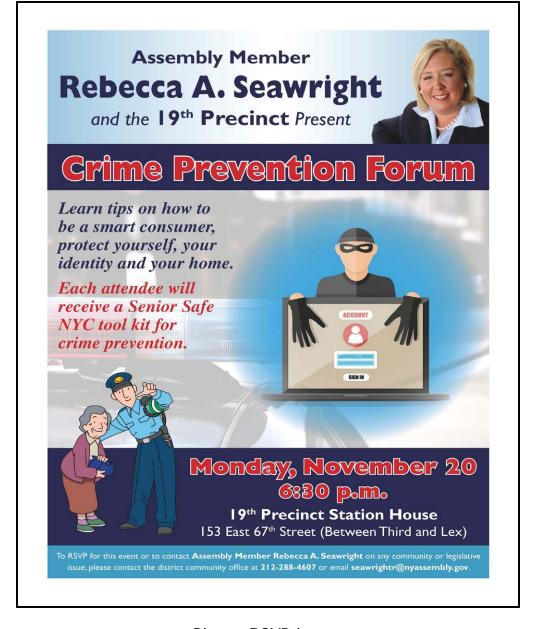
Step one is to look for evidence of rat activity. Droppings, gnaw marks, and runways all indicate rat activity in an area. Next, Bragdon suggests the removal of any clutter, which could give rats a place to hide, sleep, nest and reproduce.

Since rats only require one ounce of food a day, garbage must also be managed to ensure the elimination of rodents. Garbage cans and bags should be brought to the curb as close to pick-up time as possible. Bradgon encourages the use of hard plastic or metal cans with tight-fitting lids.

"With rodents, you really have to be on the defensive," Bragdon said about sealing any cracks and holes. Rats only need a quartersized hole to enter. She suggests metal door sweeps, sheet metal, and stainless-steel mesh to ensure the disappearance of the nosy visitors.

UPCOMING SEAWRIGHT SPONSORED EVENTS

Safety First!



Please RSVP here.

Join the Conversation!

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

CORNELL TECH IMPACT ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND

Presentation on the **Past**, **Presen**t and **Future** of Island life with your local elected officials:



Congresswoman
Carolyn Maloney



New York State Senator **José M. Serrano**



New York State Assembly Member **Rebecca A. Seawright**



New York City Council Member Ben Kallos

Monday, November 27, 2017 6:30 pm- 8:30 pm

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd 543 Main Street

You will hear from your local elected officials, Cornell Tech administrators and there will be a "Q & A" following the presentation.

Invited Guests:

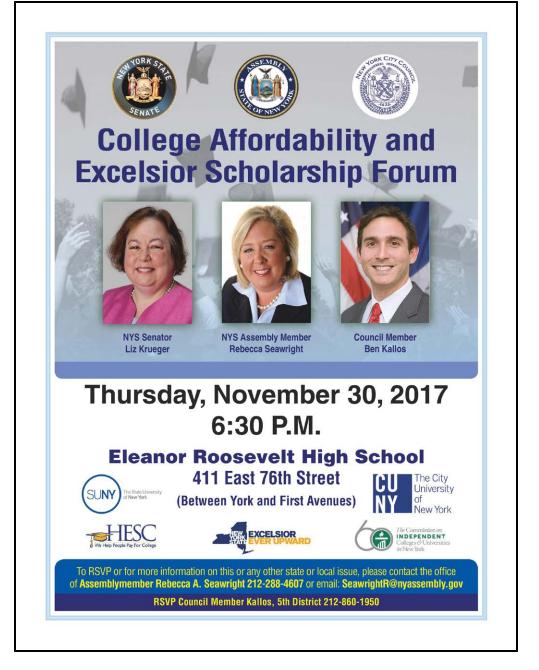
Cornell University President **Martha Pollack** Cornell Tech Dean **Dan Huttenlocher**

Refreshments will be served. Wheelchair accessible.

To RSVP please contact the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright **212.288.4607** or email **SeawrightR@nyassembly.gov**

Please RSVP here.

Excelsior Scholarship and College Affordability Forum



Please RSVP here.

Shred-a-thon



No RSVP Necessary. Rain, snow or shine.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Seawright spoke at the American Public Health Association Conference in Atlanta Featuring 3D Mammogram Legislation



I would especially like to thank Dr. Christy Gamble and the Black Women's Health Imperative for inviting me and for supporting my legislation. In 2016, the New York State Legislature passed groundbreaking legislation related to Breast Cancer and Breast Cancer awareness which

I co-sponsored. The centerpiece of this legislation guaranteed that in any state-sponsored health plan mammography coverage was to be provided without a deductible or co-payment. The effective date of that law was January 2017. What we noticed with the implementation of the law in the fall of 2016 was that some large insurers were denying coverage to 3D mammography or requiring proof that it was medically necessary. That is when I stepped in," said **Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright.**

Attention Rent Controlled Tenants!

This week Assembly Member Seawright signed onto Assembly Member Rosenthal's letter to the Governor in advance of the biennial New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (HCR) Maximum Base Rent (MBR) Hearing to urge him to freeze rents for New York's nearly 50,000 rent-controlled tenants.

Rent controlled tenants are facing a state of emergency in the face of 7.5% increases every year. The vast majority of Seawright's rent controlled constituents are seniors on low, fixed incomes who cannot carry the rent burden. In fact, rent controlled tenants have been facing higher increases than their rent stabilized counterparts.

Seawright is supporting her constituents and thousands of senior citizens across New York City by standing up to provide relief to vulnerable rent controlled tenants. There will be a hearing on the MBR program in New York CIty on Wednesday, November 29. Please see the notice below for more information.

NOTICE OF MAXIMUM BASE RENT PUBLIC HEARING

Public Notice is Hereby Given pursuant to §26-405a(9) of the New York City Rent and Rehabilitation Law that the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) will conduct a public hearing to be held at 250 Broadway, 19th floor, New York State Assembly Hearing Room, New York, NY 10007 on **Wednesday, November 29, 2017** for the purpose of collecting information relating to all factors which the DHCR may consider in establishing a Maximum Base Rent (MBR) for rent controlled housing accommodations located in the City of New York for the 2018-2019 biennial MBR cycle. The morning session of the hearing will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; the afternoon session will run from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pre-registration of speakers is advised. Those who wish to pre-register may contact the office of Michael Berrios, Executive Assistant, at (718) 262-4816 or email michael.berrios@nyshcr.org and state the time they wish to speak at the hearing and whom they represent. Pre-registered speakers who have reserved a time to speak will be heard at approximately that time. Speakers who register the day of the hearing will be heard in the order of registration at those times not already reserved by pre-registered speakers. Speaking time will be limited to five minutes in order to give as many people as possible the opportunity to be heard. Speakers should be prepared to submit copies of their remarks to the DHCR official presiding over the hearing. The hearing will conclude when all registered speakers in attendance at the hearing have been heard. DHCR will also accept written testimony submitted prior to the end of the hearing. Submissions may also be sent in advance to Michael Berrios, Executive Assistant, 6th Floor, Division of Housing and Community Renewal, Gertz Plaza, 92-31 Union Hall Street, Jamaica, NY 11433. To obtain a report on the DHCR recommendation for the 2018-2019 MBR cycle, interested parties should call (718) 262-4816 or email michael.berrios@nyshcr.org.

Zoning Challenge at 249 East 62nd Street

Assembly Member Seawright joined Council Member Dan Garodick and other local elected officials in efforts to support the Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts Zoning Challenge filed last week with the Department of Buildings. If constructed as currently approved, the Rafael Vinoly designed building will contain a 152 foot tall octagonal void in the middle of the building. The plans have been reviewed by a certified member of the American Institute of Certified Planners several errors have been found, including arithmetic errors, a 3 ft. side yard that does not meet the 8 ft. side yard requirements and a void which is larger than necessary for mechanical use and is considered in the overall floor area ratio. The Department of Buildings approval and inaction to correct exemptions made in error undermine the zoning resolutions and protections that are in place to protect the public with precise information on the composition of our neighborhoods.

Support Manhattan Borough President Brewer's Central Park Monumental Woman Sculpture!

To celebrate the centennial of NYS woman suffrage and to launch the sculptor competition for the Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Woman Suffrage Movement Monument, there is an initiative to fund the new monument in Central Park.

New York Life is asking New Yorkers to take the "19 Challenge" – to make a donation in the amount you are able and then ask 19 friends to join you. As an incentive, let them know that New York Life will match another \$250,000 in donations! Then, we'll all celebrate the centennial of the 19th Amendment in August, 2020 by dedicating the first statue of real women in Central Park.

What better way to honor the women who have inspired you?

Donate online at: http://www.monumentalwomen.org/page/donate-5.html

Checks can be sent to: The Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Statue Fund Inc., Post Office Box 150-074, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Promote this on social media using #MonumentalWomen and follow us at:

Twitter: @MonumentalWomen

Facebook/Instagram: monumentalwomennyc

IN ALBANY

Seawright's Statement on Federal Tax Proposal

Assembly Member Seawright's statement in response to the House's tax reform plan:

"In light of the proposals outlined in the 'Unified Framework for Fixing our Broken Tax Code', I am concerned for my constituents. The cumulative impact of the proposal is ill conceived and harmful to hardworking families across the country with the elimination of the State and local tax deduction he proposal includes a plan to eliminate the state and local taxes deduction that benefits many New Yorkers.

As a Member of the State Assembly, I am committed to fighting for policies and tax structures that are beneficial for New York. The plan that has been put forth will have a detrimental effect on middle-income, hardworking families.

According to a recent analysis by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, the elimination of the state and local tax deduction will cost New Yorkers more than \$17.5 billion in additional taxes on an annual basis. As currently proposed, over 1.8 million of New York's middle-income families (those earning \$50,000 to \$150,000) will see an average tax increase between \$1,299 and \$2,688.

New Yorkers already make extraordinary contributions through tax payments to the federal government each year. According to a report issued by the New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, in FFY 2016 New Yorkers sent nearly \$41 billion more in taxes to Washington than they received in federal spending in return. Eliminating critical tax deductions for hardworking families would only further widen this gap," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

November 2017 Grants Action News



Click here for information on available state, federal and private grants.

ROOSEVELT ISLAND

RIOC Needs Roosevelt Island Resident Feeback for the future of Sportspark Facility! Take the Survey!

Please take a few minutes to provide feedback to help guide the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC) meet the needs of current and future users of the Sportspark facility. Your comments will also

identify new ideas and opportunities for programming and amenities. Once the survey is completed, please leave your email address in the space indicated to enter into a drawing for a chance to win a FREE 6-month pool membership at Sportspark!

Click here http://www.bit.do/SurveySportspark to begin the survey.

Transportation Updates

Office of the State Comptroller Thomas P. Dinapoli Issued an Analysis of the MTA Financial Plan

New Funding Needed for MTA Improvements to Prevent Unplanned Fare and Toll Hikes

If new funding sources for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) are not identified, the authority may have to raise fares and tolls faster than planned to improve a system that has deteriorated sharply in recent years, according to an <u>analysis</u> of the MTA's financial plan released today by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

Roosevelt Island Tram Renovation

Due to ongoing construction of the Roosevelt Island Tram Plaza platform, the MTA Metro Card vending machines will not be accessible from Thursday, October 26th, 2017 through Saturday, January 6th, 2018.

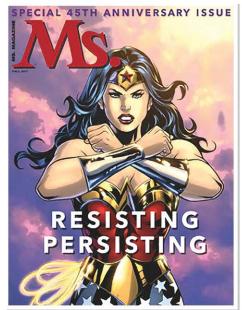
Please use the MTA Metro Card vending machines located on the Manhattan Tram Plaza or at the Roosevelt Island Subway station located at 400 Main St.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



"In honor of Gloria Steinem and her founding of Ms. Magazine in 1972 and on the occasion of this year marking the 45th anniversary of a publication by women for women, I join my colleagues and advocates in co-naming the corner of East 32nd Street and Third Avenue after this revolutionary publication. As Chair of the Feminist Press, I understand the importance of promoting women in literature to ensure that our narratives on critical social issues such as abortion, sexuality and sexual harassment are heard. I look forward to reading Ms. Magazine as we embark on a new fight to ensure that the works of women, especially in media, are equally represented," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.





Please join us for this festive event to commemorate literature that was more than a magazine, but a

STREET CO-NAMING OF

East 32nd Street and 3rd Avenue will be co-named Ms. Magazine Way. Please join us for this memorable event.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017 • 11:00AM — 12:30PM

THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF EAST 32ND STREET AND 3RD AVENUE

For questions regarding this street co-naming event please contact Alaysia Martin at 212-677-1077 or email AMartin@council.nyc.gov

Become a Public Health



Learn More at a Hiring Event on Nov. 17 in Brooklyn

Make a difference in children's lives while building and enjoying your nursing career with the New York City Department of Health. Join the dynamic team of 1,800 public health nurses who serve the country's largest educational system.

Benefits include:

- + All-year medical insurance (dental, vision and prescription drugs through DC 37)
 + Employee Assistance Program
 + Flexible spending plan

 Betienst along

- Retirement plan

Please apply online for further information.

/Isit https://a127-jobs.nyc.gov. Baccalaureate De Nurses, apply to job ID 290338. Associates Degree apply to job ID 290254. It you have questions de application or event, contact Deborah Welch at

EVENT DETAILS

Date/Time: Friday, November 17, 8 a.m.

Location: Brooklyn Marriott Hotel

333 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY 11201



Forum on Access-A-Ride

Thursday, December 14th

6:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Location: Mount Sinai Downtown 10 Union Square East 2nd Floor Conference Room

On Thursday, December 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m, I am hosting a Forum on Access-a-Ride, its challenges, and the MTA's plans for its improvement at Mount Sinai Downtown - 10 Union Square East between 14th and 15th Streets, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. To RSVP call (212) 490-9535 or email lkrueger@nysenate.gov.

Map/Directions to: Mount Sinai Downtown10 Union Square East2nd Floor Conference Room

Community Conversations Cafe Series

Memorial Sloan Kettering is partnering with New York Presbyterian and the New York Public Library to offer a free series, *The Community Conversations Cafe* series that engages neighborhood residents on the topics most important to you in an open discussion with leaders from the local scientific and medical community. You are invited to bring your ideas, experience, and questions on this topic into an open conversation with a few of the scientific minds from New York-Presbyterian-Cornell and The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Postdoctoral Association.

Join us on **Thursday, November 16th** to discuss obesity and nutrition with MSK nutritionists. **Space is limited so please RSVP** <u>Here</u>.

Location: 67th Street Public Library - 328 East 67th Street

A Message from Friends of St. Catherines Park

Hi All,

Just to keep you up to date on St. Catherine's Park happenings:

- 1. This Sunday a group of people will be doing fall planting and cleaning of the gardens, while others will be talking to park users.
- 2. We expect to start the installation of the new interior gate at 67th street on Wednesday, November 15th. That means you will have to enter the park through 68th Street entrance.

When the gate installation at 67th Street is complete, the iron workers will be working the 68th Street interior gate making repairs. At that time, you will have to enter the park at 67th Street.

We are sorry for this inconvenience, but we hope the park will be a friendlier and safer place with these changes.

FRIENDS OF ST. CATHERINE'S PARK

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

91st Street Waste Transfer Station

TWO WEEK LOOK-AHEAD

Monday, November 13 - Sunday, November 26 2017 East 91st Street Marine Transfer Station

Deliveries - including concrete with pump at all Zones

ZONE 1: Ramp Work (Along field) & York Ave/91st Street Install utilities
Install gas meter assembly

Install utilities
Install gas meter assembly
Con Ed work at property line manholes
ZONE 2A: Ramp Work (Along field)

install utilities

ZONE 2B: Ramp Work (Asphalt Green back door) Install utilities

ZONE 2C: Ramp Work (FDR overpass & Esplanade) Install utilities Esplanade sidewalk shed repair/removal

ZONE 3: Marine Work
MTS building interior walls and ceilings
Mechanical, electrical and plumbing installation

Building envelope and roof
Install fender and debris barrier with drill

¹ Utility work schedule to be confirmed by Con Ed.

X Scheduled													
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A Message from the Chapin School

Following the installation of the tower crane on October 21/22, please be advised that the crane has passed all final tests and inspections by the NYC Department of Buildings' Cranes & Derricks division, and is now ready for use.

Our lifting program will begin this Saturday, November 11, 2017, from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Note: The crane operator and mechanic are required to be on the crane between 8:00 am-9:00 am for prework inspection, but no activity will commence until 9:00 am.

This work will not require a street closure. Flagpersons will be onsite to control pedestrian and vehicular traffic while deliveries and lifts are in process, in addition to when trucks are entering or leaving the construction shed.

Please note that information pertaining to crane logistics and operations can be found on Chapin's website - www.chapin.edu/buildingproject - and will be continually updated.

Additionally, please find, below, a reminder of important information pertaining to work dates, hours, and noise.

Upcoming Work dates:

As a reminder, over the course of the next three weeks, the following dates will be used for crane activity: Nov. 11, 18, 22, 24, 25

Please note: in the coming weeks, the school will update neighbors on crane operation dates for December/January.

Work Hours (unchanged)

Mon-Fri: 7am-8pm (for exterior construction activity: hoist operations end at 9pm or earlier)

Saturday: 9am-5pm exterior (for exterior activity; hoist activity to cease at 5pm)

Sunday: No exterior Work

OSHA Required Air Horns

Please be advised that, when the crane is lifting steel or equipment, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires that a sound amplification device (air horn) be used. This is a safety measure to alert the workers that a lift is underway.

Thank you again for your ongoing patience as our construction project enters this next phase.

Respectfully,

