



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As Assembly Lead Sponsor of the Equality Amendment, I was pleased to speak on a panel this week with the New York State Bar Association Women In Law Section to discuss the Equal Rights Amendment to the New York State Constitution, known as the Equality Amendment. It was a pleasure to join the NYS Bar and its members to discuss this important measure that will come before voters in November 2024 as a ballot referendum.

Thursday night in front of the Bohemian National Hall on East 73rd Street we rallied against the extremist hate group called “Moms for Liberty” for their hateful views calling for restricted access to gender-affirming care for transgender youth, to block LGBTQ-focused books and curriculum, and to limit lessons about race.

The investigation of the Roosevelt Island Tram swaying is an open inspection and the operator is currently working to implement necessary changes. The Department continues to actively monitor and inspect the tramway. If any Roosevelt Islanders have additional information to share regarding the tram, please do not hesitate to contact our office to bring to the attention of the Industry Inspection Bureau.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

Assembly Member Seawright Presents at New York State Bar Association Women In Law Conference on the Equality Amendment



As the Assembly Lead Sponsor of the Equality Amendment, Assembly Member Seawright joined a panel to discuss the Equal Rights Amendment, known as the Equality Amendment, to our New York State Constitution

Seawright said, ***“We stand at a critical moment for equal rights. As courts and legislatures across America strip away women’s rights, harm LGBTQ+ individuals, and create challenges for people with disabilities, the time has come for New York to legally recognize the equality of all its residents. Voters will officially get to approve this amendment on their ballots in November 2024. While every vote will make a difference, success will require a coordinated effort from each voter, leader, and organization that cherishes equality.”***



Journalist and ERA Advocate Carol Jenkins, Assembly Member Seawright and former Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney who continues the fight for the ERA on the National level.



Donna Lieberman, Executive Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union and Assembly Member Seawright.

Speaking Out Against a Hate Group on the Upper East Side



Assembly Member Seawright rallied against the extremist hate group called “Moms for Liberty” Thursday evening as they held a meeting at the local Bohemian Hall on East 73rd Street.

Seawright released the following statement in response: *“The group “Moms for Liberty” is a far-right association whose members spout hateful, anti-LGBTQ and racist views that endanger New Yorkers and Americans everywhere. For years, our community has provided a safe, tolerant, and pluralistic home for all people. However, “Moms for Liberty” and its policies threaten those foundational values.*

On the Upper East Side, we don’t ban books about LGBT+ topics or race. We discuss them. Here, we don’t harass teachers for educating our children on diverse and real-world subjects. We respect them.

No prejudice or intimidation will stop New York from being the welcoming and inclusive place we love.

As such, we thank the Czech Foreign Ministry for condemning this event and disavowing any endorsement of its views. We want the historic Bohemian National Hall to remain an inviting jewel in our neighborhood.

While the “Moms for Liberty” events will continue our advocacy for equal rights and fair education will too. I’ll keep pursuing any legislation or funding that supports this effort. That includes calling for New Yorkers to pass an Equal Rights Amendment in November. However, we need your help.

We urge you to stand up for students. Stand up for welcoming classrooms. Stand up for libraries that equip young people rather than limiting them. Stand up for teachers who prepare their students to face a modern world. Stand up for a state that accepts all, regardless of background or identity.”

As Featured In Roosevelt Island Daily: AM Seawright’s Tram Intervention Is Now Paying Off



As we reported back in November, State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright stepped in after RIOC and contractor Leitner-POMA left a yawning gap of information, flavored with misinformation, about the Tram.

[Read More](#)

Seawright Statement on the Release of Governor Hochul's 2025 Executive Budget

Governor Hochul announced a proposed 1.5% Cost-Of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) and no Direct Support Wage Enhancement (DSWE) despite our advocacy for the inclusion of both measures in the Executive Budget for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD).

The proposed budget falls short of what is required to sustain provider agencies who provide critical life-supporting services to New Yorkers with I/DD.

We will continue to press for the inclusion of the 3.2% COLA and Direct Support Wage Enhancement to address years of wage stagnation and help to recruit and retain the workforce in our one-house budgets to ensure the future viability of the field.

Consider Our Office A Resource

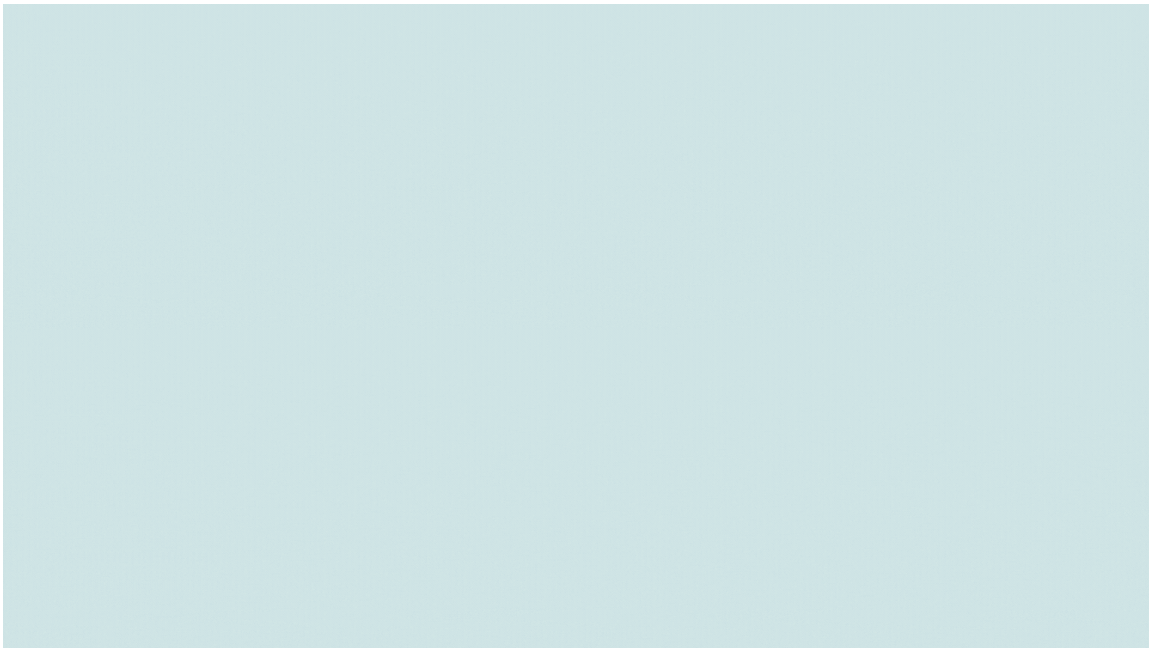
HEAP Application Now Open



The 2023-2024 Emergency HEAP application is open.

If you are eligible, the Emergency HEAP Benefit can help you heat your home if you are in a heat or heat related emergency.

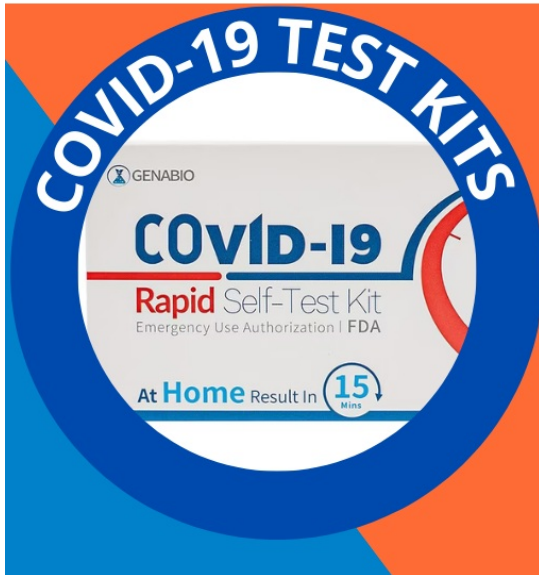
Learn more about the Emergency HEAP benefit: <https://on.nyc.gov/3RLHVpo>



Rebecca Seawright

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

NO-COST
THURSDAY
PPE
GIVEAWAY



12:00PM-2:00PM

COMMUNITY OFFICE
1485 YORK AVENUE
(78/79 STREETS)

212-288-4607

SEAWRIGHTR
@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

Community Board Applications Are Now Open!

Prospective members must submit a biography or resume and complete a comprehensive online application explaining why they want to join the board, what skills they offer, and their relationship to their districts. These applications are reviewed and evaluated by an independent screening panel. Qualified applicants are interviewed on the panel's recommendation by staff members of the Manhattan Borough President's office. [Click here to apply!](#)

News You Can Use



Families of Hamas hostages mark loved ones' 100th day in captivity

Every morning, before she's even out of her pajamas, Rachel Goldberg-Polin tears a piece of masking tape off the roll, grabs a pen and writes the number of days her son has been held hostage in Gaza.

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY BOARD 8 MANHATTAN presents

Winter Crafts Show featuring LOCAL NYC CRAFTERS



Please Join us on:
February 10, 2024

Free Admission!
11am to 4pm



Location: Robert F. Wagner
Middle School; 225 East 75th St.

Crafts • Jewelry • Clothing
Soaps • Pottery • Housewares
Notecards • Gifts • Handmade
Items • And more!



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Manhattan Community Board 8 Calendar

The Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8M) represents the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. CB8M is comprised of 50 volunteer members who serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents, as well as help citizens resolve municipal service delivery complaints.

CB8M reviews and makes recommendations on various issues, including applications for Zoning Text Amendments, building variances and special permits, liquor licenses, sidewalk cafes and street fairs, changes to landmarked buildings or buildings in historic districts, traffic and transportation issues, and more.

Each month, CB8M committees meet to discuss and resolve issues in the community.

Full Board Meeting - 3rd Wednesday
Land Use Committee - 2nd Wednesday
Street Life - 1st Tuesday
Transportation - 1st Wednesday
Housing - 1st Thursday
Parks - 2nd Thursday
Landmarks - 3rd Monday
Social Justice - 4th Monday
Zoning and Development - 4th Tuesday
Youth and Education - 4th Thursday

[Read More](#)

In Case You Missed It: Past Editions Of Our Community Update

[Community Update: January 12, 2024](#)

[Community Update: January 5, 2024](#)

[Happy New Year: A Year in Review](#)

[Community Update: December 22, 2023](#)

[Community Update: December 15, 2023](#)



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