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91st Assembly District  
Larchmont - Mamaroneck - New Rochelle - Port Chester - Rye Brook and Rye

April 20, 2021

Dear Friends,

More than half of New York's adults have received at least one vaccine dose. *All New Yorkers ages 16 and over are now eligible.* Increasing vaccination percentages is key to stemming the spread as more contagious variants emerge.

The good news is that vaccine supply and availability has increased dramatically. In addition to the [NYS "Am I Eligible" appointment website](#), local pharmacies also have appointments available. Try the state website or calling pharmacies in your area to see if they have open slots. (You can also view a list of Westchester vaccination sites [here](#) which is updated periodically by Westchester County). It is now much easier to get an appointment. Please take advantage and gain the protection that vaccination brings

This newsletter also includes the latest from the US Small Business Administration regarding their Restaurant Revitalization Fund. A major priority of mine in the recently passed state budget was state funding for small businesses, restaurants, not-for-profits, arts institutions and performance venues affected by Covid-19. The budget bills were recently signed by the Governor. Details regarding the rollout of those significant state grants and other forms of assistance for those entities will be rolled out shortly. I will share those links when they are announced by the relevant state agencies.

As a result of infection and hospitalization rates trending downwards, New York venues and businesses continue to open.

**On April 26, movie theater capacity will increase to 33 percent.** Low-risk indoor and outdoor arts and entertainment—including museums, aquariums, zoos and botanical gardens—will increase to 50 percent capacity also beginning April 26.

**Capacity at arenas and large events will increase on May 19.** Spectator capacity will increase to 25 percent at large-scale arenas and event venues, including professional and collegiate sports, and major performances. Social distancing, masks, health screenings and all other health and safety protocols remain in effect.

We must continue the practices we know work to stop the spread of COVID — wear a mask, wash hands, social distance but also get vaccinated as soon as you can.

As always, if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 914-939-7028.

Warm regards,



### NY State Covid-19 Vaccine Appointments [Am I Eligible](#)

or by calling NYS Vaccination Hotline:  
1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829).

### Excelsior Pass Program



The reopening of key economic activities in New York State, such as arts and entertainment venues, stadiums and arenas, and weddings and catered events, requires proof of a vaccine or negative test for attendees. Excelsior Pass provides secure, digital proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative test results. You can find the NY Forward Business Re-open Lookup Tool [HERE](#).

There are currently three types of Passes:

- COVID-19 Vaccination Pass (valid for 180 days after the final dose of the vaccine was administered, at which time a new Pass may be retrieved)
- COVID-19 PCR Test Pass (valid until midnight on the third day after a test)
- COVID-19 Antigen Test Pass (valid for 6 hours from the time of a test)

Businesses can immediately begin using Excelsior Pass by downloading the Excelsior Pass Scanner app from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) and completing a short registration form.

Learn more about the program and app [HERE](#).



### SBA Announces Official Restaurant Revitalization Fund Application and Guidelines - Economic Relief Prioritized for Underserved Communities

To help bring jobs back and revive the restaurant industry, one of the hardest hit during the pandemic, the American Rescue Plan established the \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA will administer the funds to the hardest-hit small restaurants.

Details on application requirements, eligibility, and a program guide are now available in English at [www.sba.gov/restaurants](http://www.sba.gov/restaurants) or in Spanish at [www.sba.gov/restaurantes](http://www.sba.gov/restaurantes).

Over the next two weeks, the SBA will establish a seven-day pilot period for the RRF application portal and conduct extensive outreach and training. The pilot period will be used to address technical issues ahead of the public launch. Participants in this pilot will be randomly selected from existing PPP borrowers in priority groups for RRF and will not receive funds until the application portal is open to the public.

Following the pilot, the application portal will be opened to the public. The official application launch date will be announced at a later date. For the first 21 days that the program is open, the SBA will prioritize reviewing applications from small businesses owned by women, veterans, and socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. Following the 21-day period, all eligible applicants are encouraged to submit applications.

As the SBA builds and prepares to roll out the program, this dedicated [SBA website](#) is the best source for up-to-date information for eligible restaurants interested in the RRF.

### FEMA Funeral Assistance

The FEMA application period for Funeral Assistance is now **OPEN** through a dedicated call center.

#### COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number

Applications opened on April 12, 2021  
[844-684-6333](tel:844-684-6333) | TTY: [800-462-7585](tel:800-462-7585)

#### Hours of Operation:

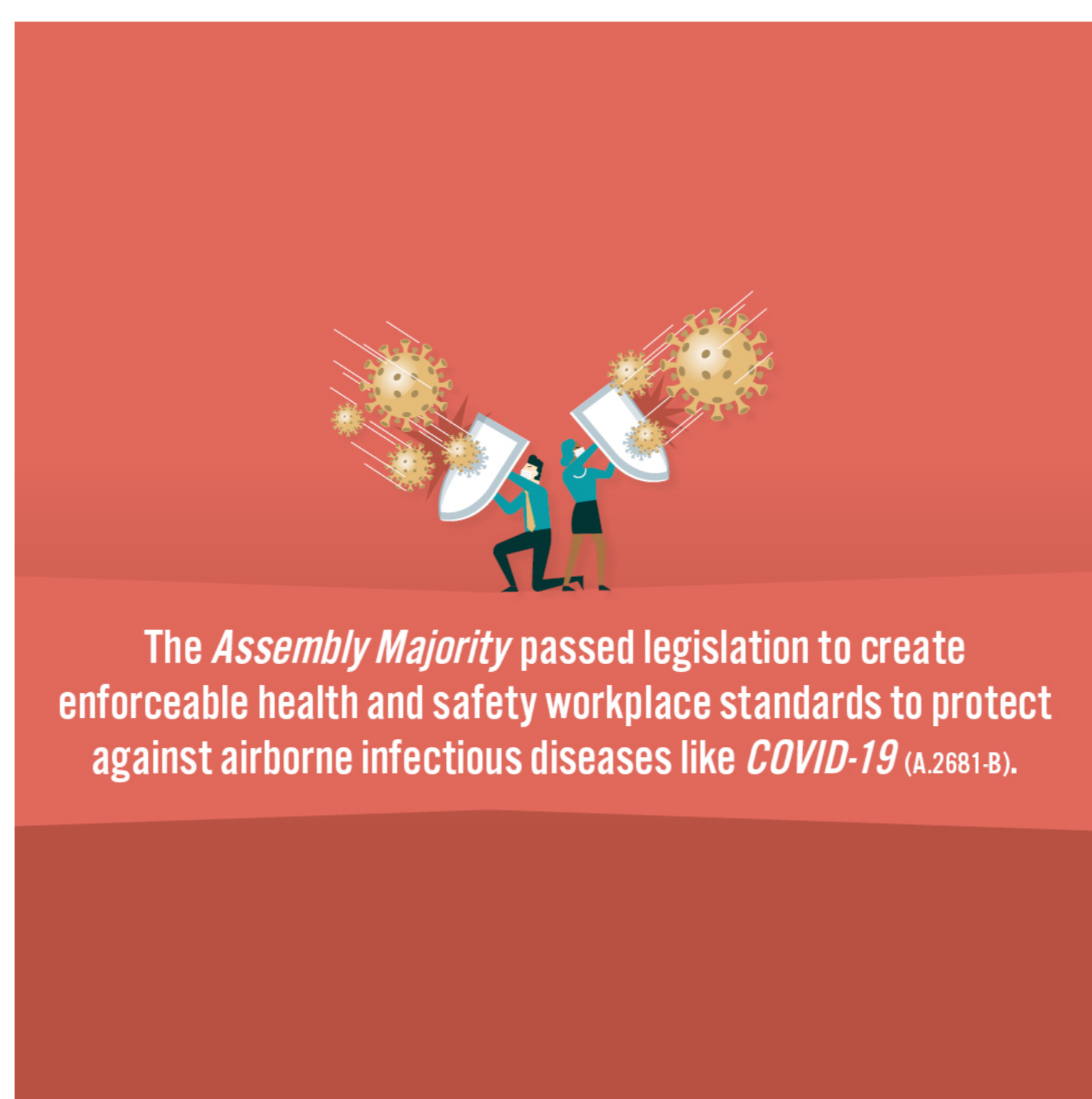
Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

If you/someone had COVID-19 funeral expenses, we encourage you to keep and gather documentation. Types of information should include:

- An official death certificate that attributes the death directly or indirectly to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- Funeral expenses documents (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that includes the applicant's name, the deceased person's name, the amount of funeral expenses, and the dates the funeral expenses happened.
- Proof of funds received from other sources specifically for use toward funeral costs. FEMA is not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from nongovernmental organizations, government agencies, or other sources.

Please visit Funeral Assistance website (<https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>) for updated information.

### NY HERO Act



The Assembly Majority is committed to protecting New Yorkers who perform their jobs in person during the pandemic as well as those who are working remotely and may return soon

The New York Health and Essential Rights (HERO) Act would create enforceable workplace safety standards for businesses to follow in order to protect workers from exposure to airborne infectious diseases, including COVID-19 (A.2681-B).



**NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE**

**NYS Community Budget Forum**

State Senator Shelley Mayer (SD-37) & Assemblyman Steve Otis (AD-91)



Invite you to a Virtual Community Budget Forum

**Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:00pm**

To learn more about the 2021-22 Adopted State Budget

[Please RSVP HERE](#)

Participants will be emailed a zoom link  
Video will be available for public viewing on Facebook



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