



Assemblyman
**Simcha
Eichenstein**



SUMMER
2026

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Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a wonderful and relaxing summer.

As always, I am honored to serve as your representative in the New York State Assembly. I can assure you that my dedicated staff and I come to work every day with one goal in mind: to improve the lives of the people in the 48th Assembly District. It's a huge responsibility and we take it seriously.

Our mission is twofold. In Albany, we deal with the broader issues by advocating for legislation and policies that protect our values and strengthen our neighborhoods. At the same time, we are always ready to assist individual constituents who reach out to our district office for help. Every person who walks through our door deserves to be heard, and every person who needs assistance deserves our full attention. No issue is too big or too small. Whether you have a question, need assistance with a government agency, or simply don't know where to turn, I encourage you to contact my staff for assistance and guidance.

It is a privilege to serve as your Assemblyman and I thank you for placing your trust in me.

My staff and I look forward to serving you.

Best wishes,



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein
48th District

ASSEMBLYMAN EICHENSTEIN'S
TIMELY INTERVENTION ALLOWS
KOHANIM TO TRAVEL ON
MCDONALD AVENUE

When the Vaad Mishmeres Kehuna realized there was a serious issue for Kohanim on a lengthy portion of McDonald Avenue, they reached out to Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein for help. Even though it was Friday afternoon on a holiday weekend, the Assemblyman was able to alert the proper authorities and emergency repairs were done.

Due to ongoing construction at the elevated subway tracks, scaffolding had been erected along the avenue. However, it was determined that a major support beam was placed over a grave in Washington Cemetery-creating an ohel- and as a result, the entire area became prohibited to Kohanim.



Assemblyman Eichenstein coordinating modifications with MTA employees

The Vaad immediately contacted Assemblyman Eichenstein to explain the urgent situation. With Shabbos approaching and many Kohanim expected to traverse through the area, there was little time to spare.

Assemblyman Eichenstein reached out to the MTA and urged the agency to address the issue quickly. MTA contractors responded immediately, removing the portions of the scaffolding beams that were covering the graves. This eliminated the concern before Shabbos began and ensured that Kohanim would once again be able to cross or travel along McDonald Avenue.

"After I explained the significance of this issue, the MTA and its contractors acted within hours to resolve it," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "Thanks to the vigilance of the Vaad Mishmeres Kehuna and the responsiveness of the MTA, Kohanim can once again travel along McDonald Avenue with confidence. This is what public service is all about: working together to solve problems quickly and efficiently."

ASSEMBLYMAN
EICHENSTEIN ATTENDS
GARDEN PARTY WITH
LOCAL HOLOCAUST
SURVIVORS

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein attended a summer garden party at the Dyker Beach Golf Course, with Holocaust survivors as the honored guests. The event, sponsored by COJO Flatbush and the Boro Park Y, featured a lavish full-course luncheon, inspiring speakers, live music, and entertainment.

"Our cherished Holocaust survivors are our greatest heroes," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "It is a privilege to join them at these wonderful gatherings. Their warmth, wisdom, and resilience continue to inspire us all. May they be blessed with good health, and may we continue to enjoy their company for many years to come."



Assemblyman Eichenstein speaking to Holocaust survivors

BIKE REGISTRATION EVENT PROMOTES SAFETY AND SECURITY



Assemblyman Eichenstein helps register a child's scooter

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein joined Boro Park Shomrim, Councilman Simcha Felder, and Nachas Health & Family Network in hosting a Bike Registration Event at the 18th Avenue park in Boro Park.

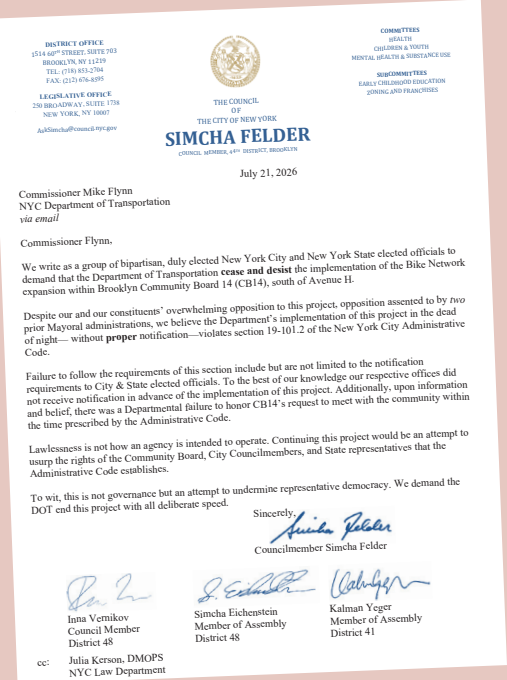
The event featured a variety of attractions and activities designed to promote safety awareness while providing an opportunity for local residents to register their bikes, scooters, and strollers. The registration process helps law enforcement identify and recover lost or stolen property whenever possible.

“Each year, bikes and scooters are stolen from our city streets, and this registration event is designed to help law enforcement recover these items,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “I am delighted to participate in an event that combines wholesome family fun with an effort to strengthen public safety in our community. At the same time, I have also introduced legislation (A2363) pertaining to e-bikes and scooters so pedestrians can walk down the street safely and with peace of mind.”

ASSEMBLYMAN EICHENSTEIN WELCOMES NEW CHIP-BASED BENEFIT CARDS FOR SNAP RECIPIENTS

After his office received numerous calls from constituents regarding theft of SNAP funds, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein reached out to the Commissioner to find a way to address the theft and is happy to report that Governor Hochul is introducing new chip-enabled Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards, which are scheduled to become available in early 2027. Unfortunately, this solution will not reimburse those who have had their SNAP benefits stolen in the past, but the enhanced cards are expected to significantly reduce the theft that has plagued the program for years by replacing old cards with chip-based technology.

"My office has repeatedly urged the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to address the theft that has victimized SNAP recipients for far too long," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "This development is good news, especially for our most vulnerable New Yorkers who already face the challenge of putting food on the table for their families. This is a significant victory for SNAP recipients in our district and throughout New York State."



Newly Installed Midwood Bike Lanes Must Go

When the New York City Department of Transportation announced it would be installing several bicycle lanes in Midwood, many residents expressed their disapproval and disappointment. The bike lanes would be south of Avenue H and would largely be between Coney Island and Nostrand Avenues. Assemblyman Eichenstein, along with Assemblyman Kalman Yeger, Councilman Simcha Felder, and Councilwoman Inna Vernikov vehemently fought back and were outraged that community input was not considered by NYC DOT, as residents whose lives would be affected by the change were not given adequate opportunity to have their concerns addressed.

“The Department of Transportation has provided absolutely no communication regarding this proposal to dramatically change a quiet residential street. As elected representatives of this community, we deserve the opportunity to review the plan and voice our concerns before such changes are considered,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein.

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN PARTICIPATES IN ROUNDTABLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS INDIVIDUALS

Continuing an annual tradition, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein met and engaged with special needs individuals from Harmony Services. During the roundtable discussion, each student had the opportunity to speak directly to the assemblyman and ask him a question. Students were curious about why the assemblyman decided to run for office, what he considers to be his greatest achievement, how he balances work and family, and what his favorite part of the job is. Assemblyman Eichenstein looks forward to continuing this tradition in the future and furthering his strong support of special needs individuals.



Assemblyman Eichenstein with special individuals from Harmony Services

PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION ELIGIBILITY EXPANDED

As part of the New York State budget agreement, eligibility for a tax benefit that benefits senior citizens and individuals with disabilities who own their homes was expanded. The Senior Citizen Homeowners' Exemption (SCHE) and the Disabled Homeowners' Exemption (DHE) programs, which can reduce property taxes by up to 50% for qualifying individuals, had their maximum income thresholds increased from \$58,399 to \$75,000. If New York City opts into the change, many homeowners who were previously ineligible will have an opportunity to benefit from the program.

Assemblyman Eichenstein is encouraging all eligible New Yorkers to consider these valuable programs and suggests that homeowners submit their applications during November or December, well in advance of the annual mid-March deadline.

SCRIE AND DRIE PROGRAMS EXPANDED



After Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein sponsored legislation (A230) to expand eligibility for the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs, a significant expansion of the eligibility criteria for these programs was included in the 2026 New York State budget. With the income threshold being raised from \$50,000 to \$75,000, many more senior citizens and New Yorkers with disabilities who live in rent-stabilized apartments will be able to benefit from these valuable rent relief programs. With the State having passed the authorization, the change will go into effect as soon as New York City opts into the expanded income threshold.

“These programs provide critical support to some of our most vulnerable residents by helping ensure that seniors and individuals with disabilities can remain in their homes without the added burden of unaffordable rent increases,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “By raising the income threshold, we are allowing many more New Yorkers to benefit from these initiatives.”

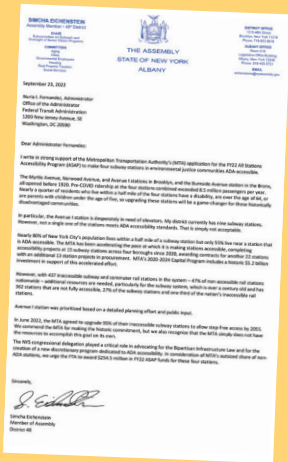
AVENUE I STATION TO BECOME ADA ACCESSIBLE

The Avenue I (F train) subway station will soon become wheelchair accessible through the Federal Transit Administration's All Stations Accessibility Program.

The project will include the installation of street-to-platform elevators, improvements to reduce the gap between trains and platforms, upgraded stairs and handrails, and accessible fare gates. The renovations will make the station accessible and convenient for seniors, people with disabilities, and others with mobility challenges.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, who advocated for the project, welcomes the upgrade. In a 2022 letter to the Federal Transit Administration, Assemblyman Eichenstein wrote: “The Avenue I station is desperately in need of elevators. My district currently has nine subway stations. However, not a single one of the stations meets ADA accessibility standards. This is simply not acceptable.”

Assemblyman Eichenstein is continuing to press the MTA to upgrade additional subway stations in his district to meet ADA standards, with recent discussions centered around the Fort Hamilton Parkway (D train) station.



ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN BRINGS BASEBALL LEGEND AND YANKEES 3X WORLD SERIES CHAMPION JIM LEYRITZ TO VISIT THE CHILDREN OF CAMP SIMCHA

In a visit arranged by New York State Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, New York Yankees legend and 1996 World Series hero Jim Leyritz brought an afternoon of baseball, excitement and inspiration to children battling serious illnesses at Camp Simcha.

During his visit, Leyritz played baseball with the campers, shared tips and expertise, and encouraged them to keep fighting. He shared the story of his legendary home run and the determination it took to come through in a crucial moment. “I was down to my last strike, and I didn’t give up,” Leyritz told the campers. “Remember that! As long as you have one strike or one breath left, you can overcome just about anything.”

Rabbi Nachman Maimon, the camp’s director, said “Camp Simcha is a place where children facing illness get to just be kids, and moments like this visit are exactly why. Watching our campers light up while meeting Jim Leyritz was a reminder of how much joy a single afternoon can bring. We’re grateful to Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein for his ongoing friendship to our campers and families.”

For the campers, it was an afternoon filled with fun, laughter, and inspiration. It was a visit they will remember for a long time to come.



Assemblyman Eichenstein and World Series Hero Jim Leyritz visit children battling serious illness at Camp Simcha

MAJOR WIN FOR NYC PARENTS USING CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

Working parents across New York City who rely on childcare vouchers can breathe a sigh of relief. Thanks to the advocacy of Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, Governor Kathy Hochul has approved a two-year waiver delaying a regulation that would have strictly limited childcare voucher coverage to a parent’s working hours.

Had the regulation taken effect, it would have created significant challenges for parents who work part-time, have irregular schedules, or need flexibility in their childcare arrangements.

Assemblyman Eichenstein remained in close contact with the Governor’s office, explaining the hardship it would impose on thousands of his constituents and other New Yorkers and urging that the policy be reconsidered. In the end, Governor Hochul agreed to implement a two-year waiver of the regulation.

“This regulation would have been financially devastating to hundreds of childcare centers and thousands of working families throughout New York City,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “I’m grateful to Governor Hochul for granting this two-year reprieve which will provide relief for parents and children while we continue working toward a long-term solution.”

ASSEMBLYMAN EICHENSTEIN HELPS SECURE FUNDING FOR NEW ACCESSIBLE VAN

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein helped secure state funding for a new wheelchair-accessible van which will be used by Makor Care and Services Network to provide transportation services for disabled individuals and those with special needs.

The state-of-the-art vehicle will provide safe, reliable transportation for Makor participants traveling to medical appointments, employment opportunities, other essential services, and recreational activities throughout Brooklyn and the surrounding area.



Assemblyman Eichenstein cuts the ribbon on a new accessible van for which he secured funding



Assemblyman Eichenstein is honored by leaders of Makor Care and Services Network

“I’m proud to help make this new accessible van a reality,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “This vehicle will help to expand opportunities and increase mobility for people with specialized needs and disabilities.”

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN JOINS NYPD'S NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AT THE 66th AND 70th PRECINCTS

One of the highlights of the summer season is NYPD’s National Night Out, where law enforcement and community members join together for an evening of solidarity and strengthening relationships.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein appeared at National Night Out events in both the 66th and 70th precincts and thanked local law enforcement members for their dedication and service. “We all appreciate the hard work and devotion of our local police officers,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “I know I speak for everyone when I unequivocally thank you for your commitment in keeping us safe. You have our full support.”



66th Precinct



70th Precinct

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblyman

Simcha Eichenstein

Summer 2026



ARE YOU FRUSTRATED WITH A BUREAUCRATIC AGENCY? OUR DISTRICT OFFICE IS HERE TO HELP YOU

Here are some ways we recently helped constituents overcome the bureaucratic red tape:

Case 1:

Mr. C was looking forward to opening a new restaurant that would primarily be used for sheva brochos celebrations in the local area. He applied for a liquor license but was rejected, due to the “500-foot rule” which limits the opening of an establishment serving liquor within 500 feet of an existing group of restaurants that already serve alcohol.

Undaunted, Mr. C contacted the State Liquor Authority, requesting that they grant a religious exemption because alcoholic beverages are necessary as part of the Sheva Brochos ceremony.

When Mr. C did not receive a timely response from the Liquor Authority, he reached out to Assemblyman Eichenstein’s office for help. The assemblyman’s staff contacted the agency and explained that due to the demographics of the local community, it was necessary for this restaurant to serve wine during Sheva Brochos celebrations. The exemption was granted soon afterwards and the restaurant held a successful opening.

Case 2:

Mr. B. received a notice in the mail informing him that he had not responded to a ticket issued in Manhattan for failing to yield to a pedestrian while driving. According to the notice, if he continued to ignore the summons, he could be convicted, fined, and potentially lose his driving privileges.

However, Mr. B. claimed that he had not driven a car for the past five years, nor was he in Manhattan at the time the ticket was issued. Recognizing that he would need help challenging the Department of Motor Vehicles, he reached out to Assemblyman Eichenstein’s staff for help.

The Assemblyman’s staff discovered that the ticket was issued in error and was actually meant for another individual with the same name who lived in New Jersey. After contacting the DMV to explain the circumstances, Mr. B’s record was cleared.