



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYWOMAN

NIKKI LUCAS

SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

**PROUDLY SERVING THE
60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

EAST NEW YORK ♦ STARRETT CITY ♦ BROWNSVILLE ♦ CANARSIE

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

Serving as your Assemblywoman is one of the greatest honors of my life, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to represent the communities we proudly call home. Every day in Albany, I carry your voices, your concerns, and your hopes with me as I fight for policies that strengthen our neighborhoods and create more opportunities for working families.

This past legislative session, I was proud to help deliver meaningful results on behalf of our district. One of my proudest accomplishments was securing the inclusion of my legislation, A8704, in the FY 2026–2027 New York State Budget, expanding the New York Opportunity Promise Scholarship and helping make higher education more affordable and accessible for students pursuing careers in high-demand fields. Investing in education is one of the strongest investments we can make in our future, and I was proud to help make that investment a reality.

As families continue to feel the strain of rising costs, I remain committed to fighting for affordability. That is why I introduced A11501, legislation that would require retailers to provide a 10% discount to customers who use self-checkout. As more businesses shift work onto consumers, I believe New Yorkers deserve to share in the savings. While there is still work ahead to get this bill across the finish line, I will continue advocating for commonsense solutions that put money back into the pockets of hardworking families.

I am proud to continue fighting for home affordability and stronger protections for our most vulnerable residents. My bill, A10141 of 2024, was a critical extender that preserved the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs, ensuring that seniors and New Yorkers with disabilities can remain safely and affordably in their homes. The 2026–2027 state budget strengthened these protections while expanding income eligibility to \$75,000 help more residents access affordable housing. I also helped secure \$5 million in funding for Mitchell-Lama housing, further investing in affordable housing opportunities and supporting communities across New York.

These accomplishments represent just a portion of the work my office has undertaken this year, but they all reflect the same commitment: fighting for opportunity, affordability, and recognition for the people I am privileged to serve.

As always, my office is here to assist you with navigating state agencies, accessing resources, and addressing concerns affecting you and your family. Your ideas and feedback continue to shape my work, and I encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the year. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership. Together, we will keep building a stronger, more equitable, and more prosperous future for the 60th Assembly District.

With Love and Gratitude,



Assemblywoman for the 60th District

COMMITTEES & TASKFORCES

AGING ♦ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, JOB CREATION, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

ENERGY ♦ HEALTH ♦ HOUSING ♦ LABOR

BLACK LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE (CHAIRWOMAN BLACK LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE)

BLACK, PUERTO RICAN, HISPANIC & ASIAN LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS ♦ TASK FORCE ON FOOD, FARM & NUTRITION POLICY ♦ LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS ♦ PUERTO RICAN/HISPANIC TASK FORCE

FOLLOW ASSEMBLYWOMAN NIKKI LUCAS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 @ASSEMBLYWOMAN NIKKI LUCAS  @NIKKILUCASNYC

UPDATE FROM THE 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



LISTENING TOUR

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas’ Building-to-Building Listening Tour began in Starrett City as a way to bring government directly to residents. By meeting with constituents, listening to their concerns, and working with ownership and management, the initiative has helped resolve issues impacting the community. Building on that success, the tour will continue throughout the 60th Assembly District, with the goal of visiting buildings and homes so every resident has an opportunity to be heard.

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CREATION OF 167 PARKING SPACES FOR STARRETT CITY

Following the success of the Building-to-Building Listening Tour in Starrett City, Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas invited New York City Department of Transportation Commissioner Keith Bray to the development for a walkthrough focused on traffic signage and parking concerns. During the visit, residents highlighted issues with existing traffic signage and the parking challenges caused by ongoing garage closures, which together contributed to unnecessary parking violations. The walkthrough led to corrections in the signage, creating 167 parking spaces and reducing unwarranted parking tickets while the garages remain under repair.



NEW BOILERS & HOT WATER TANKS FOR SPRING CREEK GARDENS

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas continued her Listening Tour this year with a visit to the Spring Creek Gardens development, where residents shared concerns about building and apartment conditions, particularly persistent heating issues. As a result of those discussions, management replaced the building’s 3 boilers and 2 hot water tanks. The Office of Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas continues to work with management to address and resolve additional concerns raised by residents, ensuring their voices remain heard and their needs are prioritized.

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RESTORING POWER TO COUNCIL TOWERS

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas responded to an emergency at Council Towers II, III, and IV, a senior housing development, after learning that a power issue had left the elevators out of service for two days, stranding tenants in their apartments. Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas immediately alerted the Office of Emergency Management and the Department of Buildings, helping to expedite the restoration of elevator service at the development and neighboring properties affected by the outage.



CANARSIE TOWNHALL MEETING

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas joined a community town hall in Canarsie, where residents raised concerns about a proposed development, including potential structural and environmental impacts. The New York City Department of Buildings confirmed that the proposed development consists of two separate building applications, each with 99 residential units, for a total of 198 units. Assemblywoman Lucas provided residents with accurate information about the proposal while emphasizing the need for transparency from agencies, developers, and builders. She also reaffirmed the responsibility of elected officials to provide oversight and ensure that community concerns are heard and addressed throughout the development process.

HOUSING RESOURCES

If you need housing assistance, you can apply for affordable housing through NYC Housing Connect and New York State Homes and Community Renewal. Visit the websites listed below to review eligibility requirements and submit an application. Be sure to check regularly for updates, deadlines, and new housing opportunities.

HOMES & COMMUNITY RENEWAL HOUSING SEARCH
HOUSINGSEARCH.HCR.NY.GOV
NEW YORK CITY HOUSING CONNECT
HOUSINGCONNECT.NYC.GOV

LEADING THE COMMUNITY



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas speaking with a constituent at the Vandelia Senior Center.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas addressing constituent questions and concerns at the Starrett City Listening Tour.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas speaks at the Joint Legislative Hearing on Public Health & Medicaid.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas with students of the Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation's Government Advocacy Fellowship Program.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas participating in a community discussion about education at the Chancellor's Community Conversations event.

10th Annual Easter Hat Pageant & Luncheon

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas and Congressman Hakeem Jeffries hosted the 10th Annual Easter Hat Pageant & Luncheon at the Starrett City Sports Club. Due to the event's growth every year, Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas changed the setting to an outdoor event, which in turn was a huge success. Over 600 seniors from across the 60th Assembly District attended this year's celebration where they got to enjoy food from Fusion East and Allie B's Cozy Kitchen. They also enjoyed an electrifying live performance from Uptown Royal NYC and DJ Bruce.



Lisa Lashley Esq. returned as the emcee and hosted the hat competition, which was judged by local civil court and supreme court justices. Forty-three contestants battled for the top prize. Special guests for the event included former Congressman Ed Towns and Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Kimberly Council. The celebration showcased the district's vibrant spirit and longstanding traditions while recognizing the importance of civic and community engagement. Events like this continue to foster unity and create lasting memories for residents of all ages.



Black Women's History Celebration

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas joined a distinguished panel hosted by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., featuring accomplished Black women from law, academia, education, and entrepreneurship. The discussion focused on navigating careers in an artificial intelligence (AI)-driven world. While recognizing concerns about emerging AI tools, Assemblywoman Lucas emphasized the importance of preparing for and navigating the changes brought about by AI. Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas encouraged attendees to pursue innovation and remain prepared for an evolving workforce.



Honoring Community Leaders

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas honored Simone Dundas, Director of the Vandalia Senior Center, with a New York State Assembly citation in recognition of her 10 years of dedicated service. As one of the community's exceptional leaders, Dundas has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving older adults and strengthening the Vandalia Senior Center through her leadership. Her decade of service reflects a steadfast commitment to enhancing the quality of life for older adults and strengthening the sense of community at the center.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas presenting a proclamation to Willie Vargas at the Starrett City Boxing Club.



Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas with Panama 507 Roundtable Group in Albany to celebrate the "Little Panama" cultural district vote.

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas has prioritized key legislation this past session to ensure marginalized and vulnerable communities are not overlooked in the legislative process.

- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas secured the inclusion of legislation in this year’s New York State Budget expanding the New York Opportunity Promise Scholarship program to eligible associate degree programs at CUNY and SUNY schools, strengthening New York’s workforce (A8704).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas passed legislation through both houses ensuring that medical equipment providers are fairly paid through Medicaid (A10576).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas passed legislation through both houses to direct the department of state and the public service commission to report on the disclosure of late utility payments to credit reporting agencies (A5592A).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas passed legislation through both houses of the Legislature to designate Little Panama in New York City as a New York State cultural district, recognizing the community’s rich cultural heritage. The bill now awaits the Governor’s signature. (A8904).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas is working to close all loopholes that allow discrimination against survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This bill has already passed the Senate. (A5606).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas introduced legislation which will require retail stores to give a 10% discount on self-checkout items. (A11501).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas passed legislation through the Assembly requiring cultural materials and artifacts from the Atlantic Slave Trade era to include signage acknowledging they were stolen. The bill is now before the Senate. (A8192-A).
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas sponsored legislation (A10141, 2024) to extend the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs. The 2026–2027 State Budget, extends both programs through June 2026 and increases the income eligibility threshold from \$50,000 to \$75,000, expanding rent protections for eligible seniors and people with disabilities.
- Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas cosponsored a bill, which protects immigrants’ privacy by limiting the collection and disclosure of immigration status information by government agencies, law enforcement, and schools. (A3506-B)

ASSEMBLYWOMAN NIKKI LUCAS’ FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas worked to secure more than \$121.2 million in state funding investments across New York State, including \$40 million for the Homeowner Protection Program and \$4.5 million for deed theft prevention. It also includes a total of \$14.79 million in direct funding for the 60th Assembly District for community-based organization programming and capital projects – strengthening, housing, education, healthcare, and economic development.

- Spring Creek Senior Partners: \$50,000 - services
- Urban Pathways: \$50,000 - additional support
- Mylah’s Organization: \$300,000 - community programs
- OSHA Training: \$100,000 - workplace safety & training
- Campaign Against Hunger: \$650,000 - additional support
- MUNA Social Services Inc.: \$110,000 - food pantry and community programs
- Be’er Hagolah Institutes Inc.: \$220,000 - library, gym and operations (2025-2026)

- Progressive Soccer Club: \$120,000 – vehicles & tech upgrades
- Penn Wortman & Vandelia Senior Centers: \$250,000 - new kitchens
- Expansion of Opportunity Promise Scholarship: \$21.9 million
- The Young Airman’s Association Inc.: \$500,000 - purchase of a vehicle and one airplane
- BRIC Arts Media: \$60,000 – programming (2025-2026)
- Sickle Cell Disease: \$1 million – research
- Hope Empowerment Development Zone (Hope City Church): \$200,000 - additional

- support
- IACRL: \$300,000 - workforce development and job training, and community programming
- Day of Independence Committee of Panamanians in NY: \$50,000 – operating
- Find Community Connection Project Inc.: \$20,000 - community outreach & youth empowerment programs
- Riverfund: \$100,000 - food truck
- Brooklyn Defenders: \$50,000 - general support
- Starrett City: \$5 million - capital improvements



Assemblywoman
NIKKI LUCAS

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BEING BLACK AND BEING HEALTHY WORKSHOP IN ALBANY



On Saturday, February 14, 2026, Assemblywoman Nikki Lucas hosted constituents from the 60th Assembly District in Albany for the New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislators Saturday Workshop, where she hosted the Being Black & Being Healthy panel, an important health discussion featuring Black healthcare professionals from across New York City.

The panel included Dr. Nanette Thomas, MD, FACP, FACR; Dr. Tolu Olupona, MD, DFAPA; Dr. Teresa Thomas, MD; Crystal Matthews, RN, MPA; Dr. Marcia Edmund-Buckner, MD; Dr. Henry Paul, MD, PLLC; and Elliot Allen, founder of the Mental Conditioning Movement. The discussion focused on empowering patients through self-advocacy, encouraging open communication about health concerns, and strengthening relationships between patients and medical professionals.