



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This week in Albany, I spoke at a press conference with AARP advocates announcing legislation to combat “Grandparent Scams” and to call on leadership to include provisions in the budget to take immediate action against elder financial fraud that is costing some victims their lifetime of savings.

In recognition of Sunshine Week highlighting the importance of public records and good governance, we passed a package of bills to ensure our government is effective and transparent. I am proud to have cosponsored and strongly supported the legislation passed by the Assembly expanding access to public records, strengthening Freedom of Information Laws, and providing greater accountability in state contracts.

In our community at The Brick Church I wished Nancy Houghton a fond congratulations with a proclamation and appreciation for her dedication to senior citizens at the Health Advocates for Older People celebration.

An important deadline is March 28 for Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) clients. I have cosigned a letter requesting the Governor to delay the transition date of the turnover of the CDPAP program to Public Partnerships LLC (PPL) until June 1, 2025, and require full transparency and accountability through strong data reporting to the Legislature. However, the New York State Department of Health advises recipients and caregivers to make the transition. There is more information enclosed in this report.

In this special report, you will find updates on our work in Albany, helpful resources, and upcoming events. Join us for an upcoming event we are sponsoring:

Monday through Friday from 10am-12pm- **No-Cost Notary Public Service** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets).

Tuesday, March 25 at 3:30pm- **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). To make a reservation please call 212-288-4607.

Wednesday, April 2 from 10:00am-12:00pm- **MetroCard Sales/OMNY Bus**- Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). Refill your MetroCard/OMNY card or apply for a reduced fare card.

Wednesday, April 9 from 10:00am-2:00pm- **Freeze Your Rent Enrollment Clinic** - Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). By appointment only. Please call 212-288-4607 or email SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov to sign up.

Thursday, April 10 from 9:00am-4:30 pm- **No-Cost Screening Mammograms**- The Mammogram Bus will be at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). For an appointment, please call 212-288-4607.

Wednesday, April 16- **Save the Date! The “Big Shred NY!”** no-cost community paper shredding with AARP at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70 Street. Time and more details to be announced!

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607
Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,



REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

AARP NY: Scams Cost Older NYers \$23K Per Hour in 2023

Seawright Introduces Legislation to Combat “Grandparent Scams”



Seawright spoke at a press conference with AARP and a coalition of support including a statewide prosecutors' group, and a credit union industry security expert, to call on leadership to include provisions in the budget to take immediate action against elder financial fraud.

More than 4,300 New Yorkers aged 60 and older lost a total of \$203, 437,635 in 2023, the fourth highest of any state, according to an FBI report released last year. That's \$557,000 a day – and \$23,200 an hour – lost to financial exploitation. The average loss per victim in 2023 was \$47,000. In 2022, losses to scams victimizing New Yorkers 60-plus totaled more than \$212 million, up from \$188 million the previous year, the FBI said.

Seawright said, ***“Older New Yorkers already face housing, food, and healthcare insecurity. It is unacceptable that so many are left further devastated by financial fraud. It is unconscionable that a few moments online or on the phone--with a scammer targeting the elderly--results in the loss of retirement savings they have spent a lifetime accumulating.”***

Under Seawright's Assembly Bill 7019 financial institutions would be able to place a hold on suspicious transactions to allow time for law enforcement to investigate.

Honoring the Work of Nancy Houghton as She Retires from Health Advocates for Older People



Nancy Houghton, former Executive Director of HAFOP, Gary Heinze, Health Advocates' Board President, and Betsy Timberman, Chair of the Board of Directors. With her revered leadership, Health Advocates for Older People expanded their membership and partnerships to more than 1,500 older adults. We thank her for her service and dedication to our community!



Laura Colin Klein, Executive Director, Nancy Ploeger, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, and Patricia Baker at The Brick Church for a celebration of Nancy Houghton.

Legislative Women's Caucus Honors Women Across New York State

Seawright Nominated Lindsey Cormack as Woman of Distinction



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Governor Kathy Hochul, and Lindsey Cormack.

Seawright honored Lindsey as secretary of Manhattan Community Board 8 and the co-chair of the Street Life Committee. Lindsey is a distinguished author of *How to Raise a Citizen (And Why It's Up to You to Do It)* and *Congress and U.S. Veterans: From the GI Bill to the VA Crisis*. She collaborates with schools, communities, and parent groups to enhance civic participation and understanding.

Assembly Passes Legislative Package During Sunshine Week to Improve Government Transparency

Our communities deserve a transparent, open, and responsible government that works for them. During Sunshine Week, Seawright voted for the passage of legislation she cosponsors and strongly supports expanding access to public records, strengthening Freedom of Information Laws, and providing greater accountability when it comes to state contracts.

A.1410- to alter the trade secret exemption under the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL). Current law allows for records exempt from disclosure under FOIL due to the trade secret exemption to retain that exemption effectively indefinitely, even if the justification has faded. This legislation requires the party requesting the exemption to note which parts of the record are exempt and provides a maximum three-year time limit for the exemption.

A.2321- requires state agencies to report detailed information on FOIL requests received or pending to the Committee on Open Government on an annual basis. This information includes the requestor's name, the subject, response times, decisions, appeals, fees collected, and the legal challenges the FOIL faced. The Committee on Open Government would then compile and publish the logs in its annual report.

A.2573- to require all state agencies to make public documents available in a digital format. This would expand accessibility to nonconfidential documents and provide the ability to print the documents if needed.



A.6707- requires state agencies to publicly post information about contracts that were not reviewed by the Office of the New York State Comptroller (OSC) because they were either emergency contracts or exempted from review by law. Within 30 days of signing the contract, state agencies must list the legal basis for the exemption, the details of the contract, and whether it was competitively bid.

A Tribute to Eastsider Peter Farley



Peter Farley died peacefully at home on March 5, 2025. He is survived by his sisters Roseanne Farley and Ruth Staben and his brother Walter Farley, his nieces and nephew, grandnieces and grandnephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, Ruth and Walter Farley Sr.

Born in New York City on March 3, 1953, Peter was a proud resident of first Greenwich Village and then the Upper East Side. In 1973, he joined the NYPD as a civilian member and was employed there until his death. He recently celebrated 51 years of service with the NYPD. Peter was affectionately called the "Mayor of One Police Plaza".

Peter was an avid Mets fan and was invited to throw out the first pitch at Citifield in 2018. He enjoyed traveling, especially cruises. He was a big Disney fan and visited Disney World many times.

**Deadline to transition to CDPAP's new fiscal intermediary is
March 28**

Attention NY CDPAP Participants:

All recipients and caregivers

MUST transition to PPL

as their fiscal intermediary by



New York State is alerting recipients and caregivers who rely on Medicaid's Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) that they have until March 28 to transition to the state's new Statewide Fiscal Intermediary, Public Partnership, LLC (PPL). Individuals and personal assistants who are currently participating in CDPAP should call 1-833-247-5346 to be walked through the process, and further information can be found at www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/longterm/cdpap/. Caregivers who register by the deadline will receive a \$100 bonus.

Please don't hesitate to reach our office at 212-288-4607 if you need support getting in contact with PPL.

A list of community-based organizations that are approved to help consumers transition to PPL, along with the languages they speak and medical focus, can be found at pplfirst.com/cdpap-facilitators/.

Consider Our Office Your Resource!

Aging Spotlight On: New York City's Rent Freeze Program

FREEZE YOUR RENT ENROLLMENT CLINIC

**WED. APRIL 9
WED. APRIL 23**

10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

**1485 YORK AVENUE
(78/79 ST.)
TO RSVP**

**CALL 212-288-4607
OR EMAIL**

SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV



Who is eligible:

- Are 62 years old +
- Live in a rent regulated apartment
- Have a household income of \$50,000 or less
- Spend more than 1/3 of your income on rent

Document checklist:

- Government issued ID
- Federal or state income tax returns with all schedules and 1099s.
- Current and prior leases, signed by you and your landlord.

[Sign up here](#)

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**
is seeking nominations for the

**2025
WOMEN OF
DISTINCTION
AWARDS**



***TOGETHER, LET'S RECOGNIZE THE
EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN WHO ARE
MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES STRONGER.***

For a nomination form or more information about this or any community issue,
contact Assembly Member Seawright at seawright@nyassembly.gov

NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY:

3/31/25

via email to seawright@nyassembly.gov.

Keep an eye on my website for details about the
2025 Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony.



ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

1485 York Avenue, New York, NY 10075
212-288-4607 • seawright@nyassembly.gov

Nominate a Woman of Distinction

Rebecca
Seawright
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

NO-COST NOTARY

Monday - Friday

10am-12pm

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-
COST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!



**SCAN ME TO
RSVP!**

**RSVP REQUIRED:
CALL: 212-288-4607**

EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

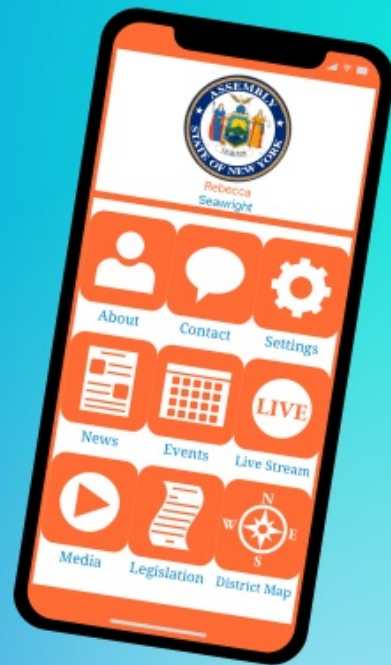
*The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord- tenant law.
The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney- client relationship.
Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.*

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
- Events
- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



Curbside Composting is Mandatory

Enforcement Begins April 1, 2025

Avoid a Fine!

Buildings with 1 to 8 Units

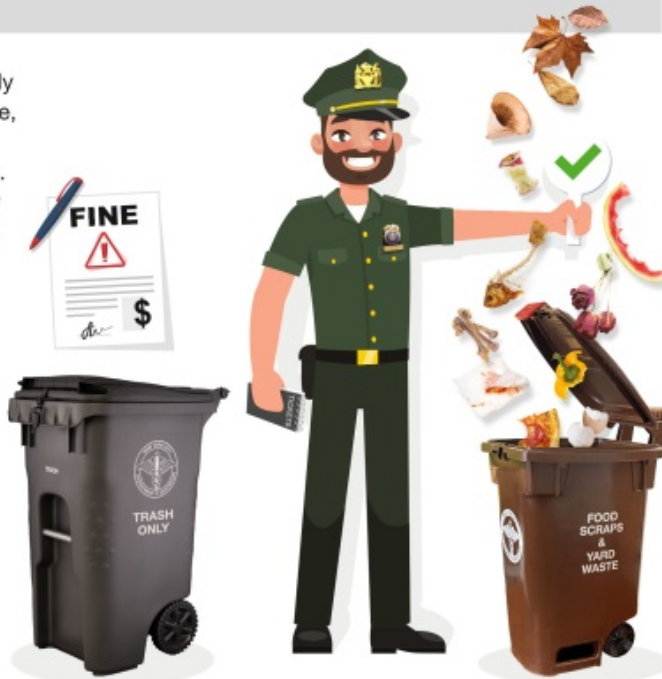
\$25 for the first offense
\$50 for the second offense
\$100 for the third and subsequent offenses

Buildings with 9 or More Units

\$100 for the first offense
\$200 for the second offense
\$300 for the third and subsequent offenses

ALL NYC residents are currently required to separate yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper from trash and recycling. Starting April 1, 2025, property owners will be subject to fines.

Curbside Composting is free and collected weekly in every borough on the same day as your recycling.



nyc.gov/CurbsideComposting | call 311
Follow us @NYCSanitation



NYC
Delivering for you.
Every day. Everywhere.

CCEF-25: CURBSIDE ENFORCEMENT FLYER EN F25

Resources

Cash Assistance Benefits Skimming Alert

Beware of attempts to steal your EBT benefits electronically through skimming or phishing. To learn more and file an online claim for stolen Cash Assistance benefits, go to <https://on.nyc.gov/on.nyc.gov/benefitreplacement>

New York's Paid Family Leave Program

Since first launching in 2018, New York State Paid Family Leave has provided critical benefits to improve the lives of tens of thousands of working New Yorkers and their families. In addition to ongoing enhancements, the wage replacement benefits continue to increase in line with the New York State Average Weekly Wage. Click here to learn how Paid Family Leave may be able to help you and your family in 2025. Visit: paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025

Empire State Child Credit

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is issuing supplemental Empire State Child Credit payments to over 1.5 million low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. The

2024–2025 New York State budget provides for an additional payment to eligible taxpayers based on the Empire State child credit. If you qualify for a payment, you don't need to do anything; we will automatically calculate and send you a check for the amount you're entitled to. For more details, visit [the Additional Empire State Child Credit Payments](#).

Energy Affordability Programs

The NYS Energy Affordability Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. You may be enrolled automatically if you receive benefits from a government assistance program. For more information visit [this ConEd webpage](#) and click the "download form" button in the Energy Affordability Program box (or click [this link directly to download the pdf](#)). Or call 800-752-6633; the seniors-only direct line is 800-404-9097, M-F, 8:30 am – 5 pm.

Regular HEAP Benefit

The 2024-25 Regular HEAP benefit reopened January 25, 2025. Find out if you may be eligible to apply for programs and services. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home. Visit: otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/

Health Insurance

New Yorkers can enroll in a Qualified Health Plan by the 15th of the month for coverage starting the 1st of the following month and benefit from new cost-sharing reductions for additional savings. Visit nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage or call 347-665-0214 to connect with an enrollment counselor and get more information.

HIICAP

Approximately 500 trained HIICAP counselors located in local offices for the aging across the state are available to answer New Yorkers' questions about Medicare, Medicare Advantage programs (managed care), Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medigap, and other health and long-term care insurance. Counseling is also available through a toll-free HIICAP helpline at 1-800-701-0501. Visit: <https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap>

Renters rights

In New York City, tenants have many rights relating to the safety and quality of their housing. Tenants should expect to live in safe, well-maintained buildings that are free from vermin, leaks, and hazardous conditions. [Laws protect tenants from harassment and discrimination](#). For more information on tenants' rights, please see the [Tenant Bill of Rights](#).

Homeowner Handbook

Homeowner Help NY offers a comprehensive guide to help New York homeowners navigate the responsibilities of homeownership and access available resources in their time of need. To view the handbook, visit <https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook>.

Property Tax Exemptions

It's time to renew property tax exemptions, including SCHE, DHE, and the Clergy Exemption, for the 2025-26 tax year. The deadline to renew is March 15, 2025. Visit nyc.gov/contactdof or call 311 for details.

Mental Health Hotline

There's a three digit phone hotline, 988, for mental health. Call 911 for mental health emergencies.

Mobile ID

Ever forget your wallet and wish you had your ID on you? Now you can with New York Mobile ID! Just download the app, and a highly secure digital version of a state-issued driver license, learner permit or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. [More info here](#).

NYCDOT Street Work Permit Maps

The NYC DOT provides a street work permit map for our district so New Yorkers can have access to any active street work information in real time. You can view the map here: <https://dmv.ny.gov/id-card/mobile-id-mid>

Attention MTA Reduced-Fare customers

Your half-fare benefit is moving to OMNY! Look for your new Reduced-Fare OMNY card in the mail soon and [check this page for updates](#). Continue to use your Reduced-Fare MetroCard in the meantime.

MTA Mobile Sales

Services offered at mobile sales vehicles

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Get more information about OMNY and sign up
- Transfer MetroCard balances (full-fare and Reduced-Fare to OMNY account)
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any OMNY-related issues

Note: Mobile sales buses and vans are making credit card transactions for OMNY only. You can still buy a MetroCard using cash. Check this site for the sales bus schedule:

www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits

New changes include providing a simplified one-page application form, allowing older New Yorkers to re-certify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months and eliminating the interview requirement for re-certification. To learn more about SNAP and apply for benefits, [click here](#).

Unclaimed Funds

Check to see if you or someone you know may have unclaimed funds via this tracker by NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli: <https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JR5SjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqIoud2O141dOUbqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw>

COVID-19 resources

You can order four COVID tests (for free, including shipping!) at [this website](#)! To see the latest data and key metrics on COVID-19 in New York City, check out the [NYC Department of Health's website](#). Vaccine shots are also available in pharmacies, clinics, hospitals and doctors' offices.

Community Service Society of New York

Need healthcare assistance or an advocate on your side when dealing with a medical bill, insurance denial, or a confusing notice? Call the Community Health Advocates hotline at 1-888-614-5400 and receive help today!

Congestion Pricing discounts and exemptions

Vehicles entering Manhattan streets at or below 60th St will be tolled. Most E-ZPass users will pay \$9 during peak hours or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts and exemptions, such as the Low-Income Discount or Disability Exemption plans, are available—learn more at mta.info/discounts. Update your E-ZPass account to ensure accurate toll rates and credits. For details, visit congestionreliefzone.mta.info.

Animal Care Centers of NYC need your help!

Due to a temporary suspension of dog intake, they're calling on the community to step up and adopt. If you're ready to welcome a furry friend into your home visit a local ACC Center or [check out their website for more details](#).

Emergency Preparedness

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will keep you informed and prepared during emergencies through the Notify NYC alert system. Sign up at nyc.gov/notify or by calling 311.

Upcoming Events

MANHATTAN STATE OF THE BOROUGH 2025



SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025
2 PM (DOORS 1:30 PM)
LAGUARDIA HIGH SCHOOL
100 AMSTERDAM AVE.

For special accommodations, email:
events@manhattanbp.nyc.gov

KINDLY RSVP



MNN
MANHATTAN NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK



**Rebecca
Seawright**
 ASSEMBLY MEMBER

NO-COST SCREENING MAMMOGRAMS

The Mammogram Bus



American-Italian
CANCER FOUNDATION

**will be at our Community Office
1485 York Avenue**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025
9:00am to 4:30pm**

For an appointment please call
212-288-4607

Eligibility:

Women age 40 to 75
Currently living in New York City
No Mammogram in the past 12 months

- No co-pays required and deductibles are waived
- Uninsured patients also welcomed
- Medical Services provided by Multi-Diagnostic Services

**Funded by a grant from the NYS DOH Cancer Services Program
Additional funding provided by the generous support of the JALBCA, NBCF,
NYC Council, NYC DOHMH, NYS Senate, MCHF,
RAR Foundation, and individual patrons.**



Health Advocates for Older People

invites you to our upcoming

Equipment Fair

Monday, March 24, 2025

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Church of the Holy Trinity

316 East 88 St. (bet 1st & 2nd Ave.), Lower Level

Increase your mobility and comfort!

Stop by for a selection of useful items, all free of charge such as:

Canes

Crutches

Shower chairs

Raised toilet seats & commodes

Post surgical boots

Rollators

Wheelchairs

Chucks disposable bed covers, and more!

All items are subject to availability and are in as is condition.

For more information, or to inquire about a specific item, contact info@hafop.org or 212-980-1700, ext. 201 or 212-831-1700.

*Health Advocates for Older People promotes safe and healthy aging for New Yorkers.
Health Advocates Equipment Donation is supported through public and private grants and donations.
Visit www.hafop.org to learn more and get involved.*

Health Advocates for Older People

420 Lexington Ave., suite 300 | New York, NY 10170 | 212-980-1700 | www.hafop.org

A TD Bank SAFE Event

Fraud Risk Prevention 101

Protect Yourself, Prevent Fraud

IN THE AGE OF AI, DIGITAL AND ONLINE FRAUD HAS BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE AND SOPHISTICATED

LEARN WHEN TO SPOT IT AND HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF!



[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



SCAN TO RSVP

Wednesday, March 26th | 2:00-4:00pm
Edie Windsor SAGE Center

Presented By



In Collaboration with



OFFICE OF
MARK LEVINE
MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT



Hosted By



COMMUNITY BOARD 8 MANHATTAN presents



Open Call for



Spring Art Show on the Upper East Side



Show Date:

May 31, 2025

Rain date: June 1, 2025

Location:

James Cagney Place

E. 91st Street

between 2nd and 3rd. Ave

Submit a photo sample of your paintings, sculpture, photography, or crafts by **April 21st** to **info@cb8m.com** using "Art Show Submission"

FREE to apply and participate
No drop-ins at the show!



www.cb8m.com



[@CB8M](https://twitter.com/CB8M)



[@CB8Manhattan](https://www.facebook.com/CB8Manhattan)

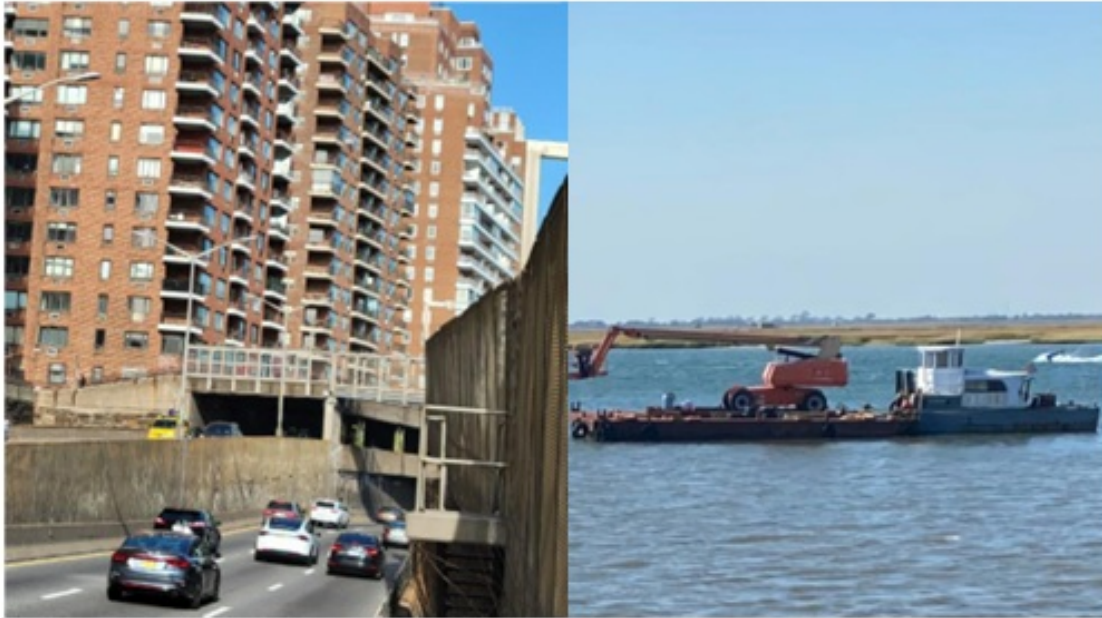
Construction Advisory

FDR Promenade Inspection

Important Notice

On or about **Monday, March 24th through Friday, April 4th**, the NYCDOT Division of Bridges will conduct an inspection of the FDR Promenade structure using a barge with a manlift from 81st to 90th Street between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Travel lanes will not be impacted during this time.



FDR Drive 81st to 90th Streets

Monday, March 24th to Friday, April 4th

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Daytime

For questions or concerns please reach out to our Community Liaison,
Moises Reyes at (917) 942-6430 or FDRPromenade@gmail.com.

For all NYC non-emergency services, including inquiries regarding NYCDOT construction projects, dial 311.

[Community Update: March 14, 2025](#)

[Community Update: March 7, 2025](#)

[Community Update: February 28, 2025](#)

[Community Update: February 21, 2025](#)

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