



ASSEMBLYMEMBER Khaleel M. Anderson



Reports to You

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The spring season is underway! I hope that you are finding some time to enjoy the warmer weather and the beauty of nature around us. Many of us see and feel a sense of hope with COVID-19 vaccination rates increasing; at the same time, we continue to feel the devastating weight of the pandemic's impact on us all and know that the harms of the pandemic, both seen and unseen, will last far longer than when it is deemed over. I urge you to continue following CDC safety protocols every day and remain informed about ways you can help neighbors here at home and abroad as we fight to defeat COVID-19 in the United States and around the world.

Last month the 2021-2022 New York State Budget was finalized, and within it are historic investments for our communities amid a devastating health and economic crisis. The first section of our e-newsletter highlights a few items notable for our communities in the final budget.

Our office has been hard at work hosting informative virtual and in-person programming and community clean-ups throughout Assembly District 31. There is information in the sections below about past events and how to join upcoming ones. We have also taken the lead on COVID-19 vaccination outreach, prioritizing support for seniors that would like to schedule appointments as more people have become eligible for the vaccine in our city and state.

Finally, my office has scheduled a summer open house on **Thursday, August 5th from 12 - 2 PM**. The open house will be socially distanced and in adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols. I encourage you to join us at either our District Office or our Satellite Office to learn about the resources provided by my offices and hear from my current office staff. Please feel free to reach out with questions about the upcoming open house, any neighborhood concerns or feedback you have about our work. Thank you for your continued support. Take care and be well.

Sincerely,

Khaleel M. Anderson
Assemblymember
31st District

New York State 2021-2022 Budget Highlights and Concerns

Highlights

Homeowner, Tenants, and Rent Relief

- \$600 million in federal funding appropriated for homeowner relief, including \$60 million to fund three years of the Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP)
- \$100 million in allocated funding for distressed landlords
- \$25 million for the vacant property program to renovate vacant and blighted homes to create affordable housing for first-time homebuyers
- 2.3 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance to aid eligible renters with rental arrears (money that is owed or should have been paid earlier), utility and home energy costs or arrears, future rent and other housing expenses



Health Care

- Restored cuts to hospitals (\$204.4 million)
- \$11.9 million for Early Intervention (EI) service providers throughout the state
- \$21.96 million in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Environmental Justice

- Environmental investments including \$500,000 for an environmental health study on the impact of NYC airports on surrounding communities

Combating Gun Violence

- \$10 million in funding allocated to combat gun violence, ensuring grants for organizations that provide cure violence programming and community-based interventions

Education

- Agreement to phase in Foundation Aid education funding within the next three years – approximately \$1.4 billion per year for New York schools. This historic investment will ensure that students in our communities will have equitable educational opportunities with more access to critical academic and socioemotional resources
- Restoration of \$46.4 million in operating aid to SUNY and \$26.2 million to CUNY
- Increase of the maximum TAP award by \$500, bringing it from \$5,165 to \$5,665
- \$2.5 million in funding for CUNY's Accelerated Study and Associates Program (ASAP)
- \$1.1 million to SUNY and \$902,000 to CUNY community college child care centers
- \$42.6 million for the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)
- \$38.6 million for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
- 33.7 million for Search for Education, Elevation and Knowledge (SEEK)
- \$7.2 million for the Foster Youth College Success Initiative

Concerns

- The repeal stock transfer tax was not passed – this would have resulted in at least \$13 billion in more funding annually for our communities. Overall, we did not tax the ultra-wealthy in our state enough to raise critical revenue to support working class people struggling during the pandemic
- Not funded: support for the homeless in our communities (HAVP, HONDA)
- Only \$200 million was allocated for NYCA Capital Repairs (NOT enough)

Join our community outreach team!

As the summer months approach, our office is looking forward to attending community events held in adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols, including beach opening days, street fairs, organization meetings and more. We invite you to join us in community outreach if you are interested in getting involved and learning more about our work. Please review our social media pages in the days ahead to be notified of upcoming opportunities.

Committee Assignments

New York State Assembly Member
Khaleel M. Anderson



2021-22 Committee Assignments

- Standing Committee on Banks
- Standing Committee on Energy
- Standing Committee on Insurance
- Standing Committee on Children and Families
- Standing Committee on People with Disabilities



As you may have seen and heard, I have been appointed to serve on five committees and lead one subcommittee as Chair. It is a tremendous honor to serve on each committee. There are direct connections between the work of these committees and the issues impacting all of us in Assembly District 31. Read on to learn more about each committee.

Standing Committee on Banks

In this committee, my colleagues and I have been leading critical discussions and decision-making related to consumer protection mechanisms, standard practices of financial institutions and more.

Standing Committee on Energy

As part of this committee, I help to lead state discussions on the future of the energy industry along with consumer experiences of the electric and gas industry, new opportunities for renewable energy, response times from power companies during outages and additional issues. Communities in Assembly District 31 have had troubling experiences with response times from power companies particularly during inclement weather events; this is something that I have been focused on particularly as part of this committee. My recent introduction of bill **A07378**, which will establish a community wind energy pilot program, directly connects to discussions within the committee and ongoing conversations with leaders in our district about renewable energy opportunities.

Standing Committee on Insurance

In this committee, I collaborate with fellow legislators in the regulation of flood insurance, commercial insurance, health insurance property insurance and more.

New York State Assembly Member
Khaleel M. Anderson



Assembly Member Anderson appointed
**Chair of the Subcommittee on Banking
in Underserved Communities**



Standing Committee on Children and Families

As the youngest Black Assembly Member in this history of New York State, I am proud to be part of this committee because of its oversight of legislation and resources related to youth development that can address the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) young people in our district may confront each day.

Standing Committee on People with Disabilities

The Standing Committee on People with Disabilities is a new committee in the New York State Assembly. My own experience as a student with a labeled behavioral disorder in school, in addition to the critical discussions I've had with neighbors in my community on this issue, particularly propel me to focus on resources available for people of color with disabilities in this committee.

Chair, Subcommittee on Banking in Underserved Communities

I lead in the oversight of state-chartered financial institutions to ensure access, equity and transparency as the appointed Chair of this subcommittee. Many communities in our district do not have equitable access to banking services, which can perpetuate financial inequities – I am proud to work to disrupt this injustice through legislative action. I am the prime sponsor of bill **A07324**, sponsored by Senator James Sanders Jr. in the Senate (S06070), which will study the impacts of COVID-19 on financial services for low-income communities. Federally, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez have called on Congress to initiate a postal banking pilot program that would help people in communities that are underserved and underbanked. Our office will host a Public Banking Town Hall this summer to share updates about this work at the federal, state and local level.

The best ways to contact us

To contact our office, please call our Far Rockaway District Office telephone number, **718-327-1845**, or our South Ozone Park Satellite Office number, **718-322-4958**. You can also email my office directly at this address: andersonk@nyassembly.gov.

Community Events

32BJSEIU Rally

Last month my colleagues and I stood in solidarity with the over 10,000 airport workers and 32BJSEIU members demanding access to health care, a fair contract, and the proper implementation of the



Healthy Terminals Act. We must ensure the safety and well-being of the essential and frontline workers at airports throughout New York State through activism and legislative action.

Women of Distinction Awards

For Women's History Month, our office hosted programming about women's health, violence prevention, wellness, leadership and advocacy. At the beginning of the month we announced a call for nominations to celebrate women making a difference in our communities through leadership, entrepreneurship, mentorship and public service. Our final awardees were: Dr. Deborah Hoyle (Leadership), Marcia O'Brien (Entrepreneurship), Principal Simone Nicholas (Mentorship), and Shivana Jorawar (Public Service). Our office delivered Women of Distinction citations and certifications of acknowledgment personally to awardees when it was possible to do so.

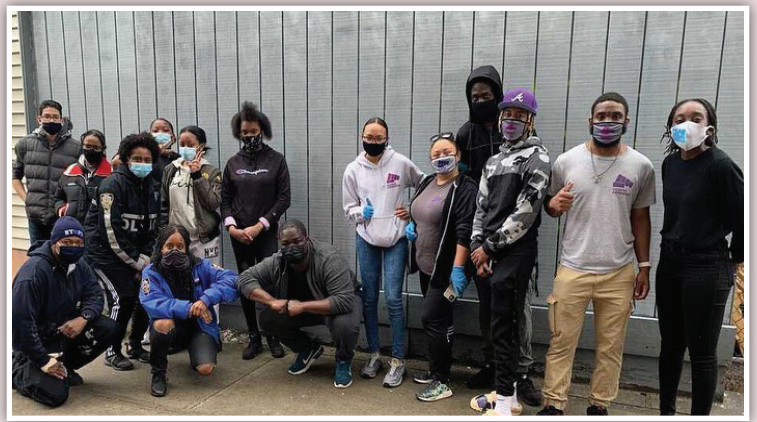


Assembly Member
Anderson and Shivana
Jorawar, Co-Director,
Jahajee Sisters

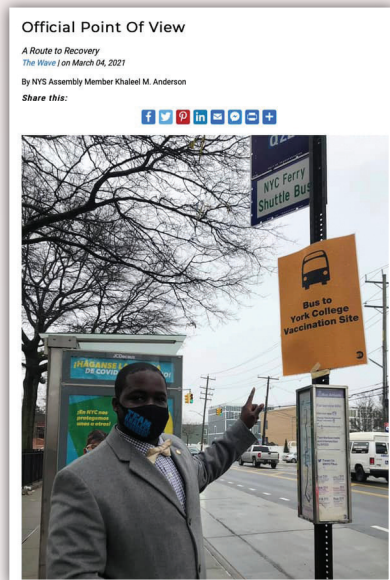
Community Events

Community Clean-Ups

In the past few weeks, I've had the privilege of attending a graffiti clean-up with the 101st Precinct Explorers and Queens Defenders, a Spring Clean-Up and Seed Distribution at the Garden Of Resilience in Springfield Gardens, one of many tree planting events led by Eastern Queens Alliance and the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, and a community clean-up in Edgemere with the Edgemere Community Civic Association. Our office also led a community clean-up of Brookville Boulevard on May 15th, starting at Brookville Boulevard and 149th Avenue.



COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts



COVID-19 vaccine eligibility has expanded greatly in New York City these past few weeks; at the same time, complex appointment systems, disproportionate access to technology to sign up for appointments, and transportation concerns have made it more difficult for some members of our community to get vaccinated, particularly the elderly and those further away from public transportation.

In response to this, our office has led a continuous COVID-19 vaccination effort – we assist residents of Assembly District 31 in scheduling vaccination

appointments and share up-to-date vaccination site information on my page of the Assembly website and on social media. Additionally, I collaborated with the MTA to provide a new free bus service, the Q98V, to and from the Rockaway peninsula and the York College vaccination site. This service was in direct response to both current concerns about access to vaccination sites and long-standing concerns about transit equity in our communities.

Visit from Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Vincent Sapienza

I recently welcomed the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, Vincent Sapienza, for a neighborhood visit in Southeast Queens. Commissioner Sapienza's visit was in response to urgent public health and quality of life



concerns in our communities. Our visit included time spent at 79th Street and Beach Channel Drive, 80th Street and Beach Channel Drive, 81st-83rd Street and Beach Channel Drive, and Rockaway Freeway and Beach 85th Street.

We spoke with the Commissioner about chronic flooding, air pollution, and mosquito infestation in our communities with his Green Infrastructure and Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations teams. The Commissioner provided us with an update on critical projects and shared that there are 500 new bioswales that are being developed in the South Ozone Park and South Richmond Hill communities, in addition to 500 that have already been built; because of this, we are hopeful to see similar increases to help with storm mitigation in Far Rockaway, Springfield Gardens and Rosedale.

Press Conference to Demand NYCHA Funding in Federal Infrastructure Plan

I was proud to speak at a press conference in East Harlem alongside Senator Charles Schumer, fellow federal, state and city elected officials, and tenant leaders to demand funding in the federal infrastructure plan for NYCHA redevelopment in New York City. During the press conference, I shared the urgent need for \$80 billion invested in NYCHA infrastructure at a minimum and my continued rejection of the privatization of NYCHA developments. As the Biden administration leads critical conversations about infrastructure federally, we must always advocate for some of our most essential and historic infrastructure – public housing in East Harlem, Far Rockaway and throughout New York City.



Inauguration Ceremony

On March 20th, the start of my service as an Assembly Member was marked by an inauguration ceremony held at Macedonia Baptist Church of Arverne. The ceremony was a collaborative event celebrating the diversity of community leaders throughout Assembly District 31, connected to my vision for a unified fight for justice, equity and opportunity in our district.



Legislation

In all of our mailings, we will provide a list of some of the most recent legislation that I have sponsored or co-sponsored. We will establish this as a transparent practice to ensure that our communities are aware of my legislative work. I encourage you to reach out to our office if you have questions about any of the following bills or if you have any legislative ideas.

Prime-Sponsored Legislation, Introduced by Rules on Behalf of the Member

A06036: Requires individuals and corporations to obtain a sound permit from a municipality in certain situations.

A06180: Requires the commissioner of health to ensure all home health aides and certified nurse aides employed by home care services agencies receive COVID-19 testing not less than every ten days and that such agencies report the COVID-19 infection rates among employees and clients to the commissioner of health.

A06759: Relates to establishing the municipal severe storm relief fund for Rockaway, Queens to be administered by the division of homeland security and emergency services for damages that occurred as a result of Hurricane Sandy which caused damage from October twenty-ninth through November third, two thousand twelve.

A07084: Authorizes the city of New York to alienate and discontinue the use of certain portions of parkland, known as Idlewild Park, to enable the use of such lands for the construction of a storm sewer.

A07323: Increases the maximum time limits for tuition assistance program awards.

A07324: Directs the department of financial services to conduct a study on the impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on underbanked and underserved areas and small businesses and minority- and women-owned business enterprises getting loans.

A07378: Establishes a community wind energy pilot program; creates an investor owned wind energy electric generating system.

Co-Sponsored Legislation

A00098: Relates to motions to vacate judgment; authorizes filing motions to vacate judgment due to a change in law; authorizes motions to vacate judgment to be filed at any time after entry of a judgment obtained at trial or by plea and relates to the requirements of discovery; and repeals certain provisions of law relating thereto.

A00232: Increases monetary penalties for public health law violations and provides support for the nursing home quality improvement demonstration program.

A00244: Relates to creating the health emergency response data system, which collects information and statistical data relating to public health emergencies in order to assist the department of health, other government entities, health care providers, and the public in understanding and responding to public health emergencies.

A00354: Enacts the “tenant dignity and safe housing act”; authorizes special proceedings by tenants for judgment directing repairs of conditions and other relief in residential real property constituting a violation of local or state housing standards and codes; creates a process by which a tenant may start such proceedings in the court clerk’s office; grants jurisdiction to city, district and justice courts; provides remedies; makes related provisions.

A05843: Enacts The New Deal for CUNY; increases the ratio of faculty and mental health counselors to full-time students; requires that certain amounts of tuition be replaced by federal, state, and city funds.

A00774: Relates to a half fare rate program in the MTA for veterans.

A00809: Relates to the public release of grand jury documents; releases the district attorney’s grand jury charges to the public upon request once the grand jury has reached a final decision.

A00817: Requires LGBT awareness curriculum or instruction.

A00820: Creates the New York state civilian complaint review board to investigate alleged misconduct by police and peace officers.

A01010: Directs the department of health to make publicly available the results of all inspections conducted by the department in nursing homes and other residential health care facilities in the state during the COVID-19 state disaster emergency.

A01201: Requires school districts to provide educational and support services to students with disabilities until such students turn twenty-three years of age.

A02140: Directs the department of environmental conservation, with the assistance of other state departments and agencies, to conduct a study on the quality of life and human health impacts at John F. Kennedy international airport and LaGuardia airport.

Invitation to Legislative Advisory Committee

In our last mailed letter, we mentioned that we would be starting a Legislative Advisory Committee. We are excited to share that this committee will begin to meet in September! The Legislative Advisory Committee will be a space where members of our community will have time to talk to our legislative team about current issues in Assembly District 31 that could be addressed legislatively. We believe that this is an important effort that will bring diverse voices and ideas to my daily legislative work. The application to join will be available online this summer.

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Spring 2021

Assemblymember
**Khaleel M.
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REPORTS TO YOU

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

**Khaleel M.
Anderson**



Follow your Assemblymember on social media:

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Email: Andersonk@nyassembly.gov

Website: <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Khaleel-M-Anderson>

District Office

19-31 Mott Avenue Suite 301, Far Rockaway, New York 11691

Satellite Office:

131-17 Rockaway Boulevard, South Ozone Park, New York 11420

This summer our office will be hosting mobile office hours – we will be bringing our office to you!
Please review our e-newsletter as well as our social media platforms in the days ahead to learn more.