

January 31, 2020

Greetings -

Public Power for New York

On Monday, I wrote an Op-Ed with climate activist, Aaron Eisenberg, calling for New York to make our utilities and electric generation publicly owned, 100% renewable, and democratically controlled: **Read it here.**

To achieve public power for New York, I introduced three pieces of legislation:

- <u>A8938</u>, will invest in the necessary energy generation to make all state-owned properties 100% renewable by 2025.
- <u>A8937</u> will turbocharge renewable energy production by allowing the New York Power Authority to own renewable energy production. With our current for-profit model, New York generates only 5% of our energy from wind and solar.
- Finally, <u>A8887</u> will consolidate privately-owned downstate utilities into the Downstate Power Authority, a democratically-controlled and publicly-owned utility. This publicly-owned distribution utility will provide rates cheaper than what we pay now, while having democratic oversight. With this, we will finally have a distribution utility run for and by the rate-payers.

I announced these three pieces of legislation at a rally in Albany this week:

Robert Carroll Retweeted



NYC-DSA Ecosocialist Working G... · 2d ✓

→ © @Bobby4Brooklyn announcing that today he introduced our 3 bills to finally make our energy public!

→

"When we make #PublicPower a priority, we'll make the environment a priority, and we'll make sure we meet the climate goals of the CLCPA that @NYRenews won!"



1,301 views









Legislative Budget Hearings on Environmental Conservation and Transportation

The annual legislative budget hearings began this week.

On Monday at the Environmental Conservation hearing <u>I asked Basil Seggos</u>, the <u>Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation about why the DEC</u> <u>continues to permit new fossil fuel infrastructure in light</u> of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act's requirement that the State get 70% of its energy from renewable sources by 2040. <u>Watch it here</u>.

Later that day I questioned John Rhodes, the Chair of the Public Service Commission and Alicia Barton, the CEO of NYSERDA about New York's dismal current renewable energy production. If we are going to meet the goals of the CLCPA, we must vastly increase the siting and construction of wind and solar farms across the State. Watch the full exchange here.

With the recent resignation of Andy Byford, the President of MTA New York City Transit it is vital that the MTA maintain a continuity of vision to ensure that all the great things that were promised in Byford's Fast Forward plan get accomplished. We cannot allow for the progress that was made under Byford to slip away. <u>I asked MTA leadership about this</u> and pushed them to promise that the Brooklyn bus redesign plan remain bold and transformative so that our buses are no longer some of the slowest in the world.



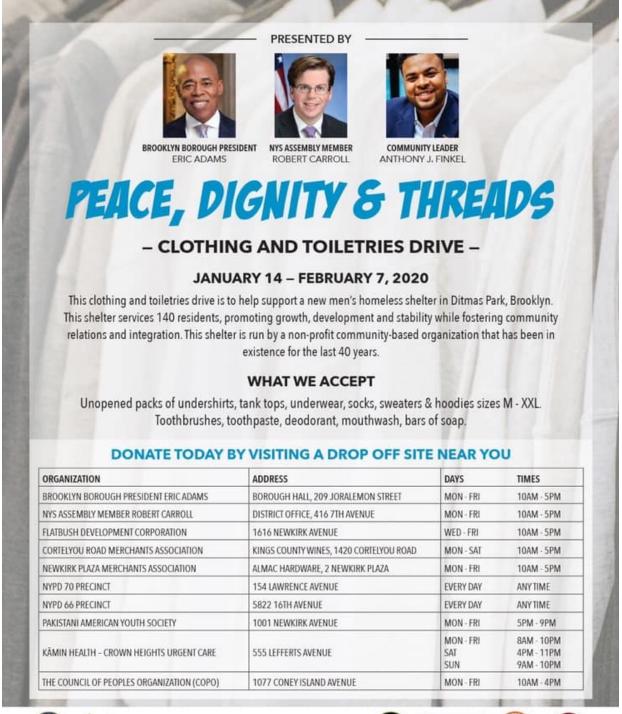
Fighting against cuts to Access-A-Ride On Demand Service

Last Friday <u>I joined the Access-A-Ride Reform Group</u>, <u>Assemblymember Jeff Dinowitz and Senator Leroy Comrie to advocate</u> for legislation to expand access-a-ride on demand service without fare caps.



This is an MTA program that has worked. Thousands of disabled New Yorkers depend on the access-a-ride on-demand program to go about their daily lives and cutting it will devastate them and their families who depend on it. The legislature must stand against the proposed cuts to this program and pass the legislation proposed by Assemblymember Dinowitz and Senator Comrie.

Clothes and Toiletries Drive:





















FOR MORE INFORMATION: ANTHONYJFINKEL@GMAIL.COM

Upcoming Community Meetings:

Community Education Council 22 - Town Hall with Chancellor Carranza

James Madison High School

3787 Bedford Avenue

Tuesday, February 4

6:30pm to 7:30pm

Note: Change of Location. Issues and concerns for District 22 will be addressed. All families are invited to attend. On site interpretation services will be available.

Park Slope Civic Council Monthly General Meeting

Old First Reformed Church

729 Carroll Street (at corner of 7th Avenue)

Thursday, February 6

7:00PM to 8:30PM

Note: Change of Location. The Park Slope Civic Council promotes the health, vitality and character of the Park Slope neighborhood and advocates for the interests of residents, businesses and others with a stake in the community. The Trustees' meeting, which is open to the public, usually takes place on the first Thursday of the month.

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