



NEWS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Alex Bores

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

This year, I began my second term as your Assemblymember, and I'm grateful for the chance to continue serving our East Side community. **With your help, I have passed 27 bills through the State Assembly**, 19 of which have been signed into law by Governor Hochul. Those ideas come from you. As a fifth-generation New Yorker, my priorities are shaped by growing up here in Manhattan and by our conversations, all with the goal of making **your family safer, your life simpler, and your government more effective**.

Since I took office, crime has decreased every year: so far this year, our neighborhood has seen 15% fewer major crimes than it did before—which is, in turn, 13% fewer major crimes than 2023, the year I took office.¹ Felonies overall are also at their lowest since I took office, and I am working hard to ensure this trend continues.

As rising costs put pressure on family budgets, New York State is **taking action to ease that burden: delivering tax relief, expanding family support, and more**. This year, we passed middle-class tax cuts, expanded the child tax credit, introduced additional benefits for eligible new parents, and secured universal free school meals. My wife and I welcomed our first child in August, and since then, this work has felt even more personal and purposeful.

I passed bills protecting both consumers and small businesses from bad actors. **I also passed the nation-leading RAISE Act (A6453) to hold major AI companies accountable** for preventing catastrophic harm.

And while I always work for all New Yorkers, I never forget our community. This year, **I brought \$50,194,246 in state funding back to our district to strengthen transit, improve public spaces, and expand educational opportunities**.

I want to continue to hear from you. **Please join me for a Town Hall at The Assembly Hall at Hunter College on November 16, 11 AM to 1 PM**. I will take live questions. Space is limited, so please RSVP by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/borestownhall2025.

Sincerely,

Alex Bores



RESULTS FROM MY OFFICE	
(by the numbers)	
24,838+	516+
contacts with neighbors	constituent cases resolved
356	27
bills cosponsored	bills passed through the legislature
687+	996+
community events attended	legislative meetings held

¹ Major crimes include murder & nonnegligent manslaughter, robbery, felony assault, burglary, grand larceny, and grand larceny of a motor vehicle. Rape is excluded from this count because NYPD does not release the data in a way that enables mapping to political districts. Crime numbers calculated by comparing the NYPD reports from previous years with this year. (<https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Complaint-Data-Historic/qgea-i56i/> and <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Complaint-Data-Current-Year-To-Date/5uac-w243/>). You can review the code we used for analysis at <https://github.com/henryjosephson/73rd-AD-crime-calculations>.

Contact Us!

My office is here year-round to serve you. Whether you would like to raise a community concern, need assistance navigating state agencies, or would like to share a policy suggestion: please do not hesitate to reach out!
Email: BoresA@contactme.nyassembly.gov • Phone: 212.605.0937

SAFETY

Since I have come into office, felonies have fallen each quarter, as have assaults, and larcenies. **Overall crime in our neighborhood has decreased each year, including a 15% decline so far in 2025, building on a 13% decrease in 2024**. However, high-level numbers do not always reflect what you feel when you walk down the street, with some more non-instrumental crimes rising in recent months. For example harassment is up 7%.² My job is not over until you feel just as safe on the subway as you do on your sofa.

That is why I support a multi-pronged approach, which includes strict, nation-leading gun safety laws and increased funding to fight hate crimes. I have strengthened efforts to address root causes of crime in our community, by investing in more psychiatric beds and mental health support, to ensure that we can comprehensively and compassionately break the cycle of violence.

Combating Hate and Discrimination

Unfortunately, hate crimes have increased dramatically in New York: up 70% statewide from 2019 to 2023 and up 13% in NYC since October 2023. **While the NYPD does its due diligence to report hate crimes to the national database in New York State only 31% of police agencies do**, which lands New York State at a dismal 48th place, depriving our communities of national grants. This is why I introduced legislation (A5386) requiring every police department to report on hate crimes so that every community can access the support we need to protect New Yorkers.³

² Calculated from NYPD reports, available at https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Complaint-Data-Historic/qgea-i56i/about_data and https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Complaint-Data-Current-Year-To-Date/5uac-w243/about_data.
³ State Comptroller's 2024 report, The Concerning Growth of Hate Crime in New York State, available at <https://www.osc.ny.gov/reports/concerning-growth-hate-crime-new-york-state>.

I partnered with the Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes to fund a new training program that equips educators, frontline MTA workers, and law enforcement to recognize hate-motivated incidents and respond with effectiveness and compassion.

Community Safety Initiatives

Safety requires more than just enforcement—it requires prevention, mental health support, and social services. That’s why I secured state funding for three programs that meet those needs: the Midtown Community Justice Center’s Community First, mental health and social services through the Jewish Board, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness-NYC (NAMI-NYC).

Thanks to this funding, these programs reached more than 1,500 neighbors through outreach and education, connected 865 neighbors to mental health and housing resources, and expanded access to psychiatric care across the city.⁴

⁴ Sources: NAMI, Community First, and the Jewish Board.

Uncap Justice

New York’s courts are backlogged. **With nearly 300,000 cases pending in the Supreme Court, litigants often wait years to be heard and motions pile up faster than judges can address them.** Electing more judges could help with this backlog, but an outdated clause in the state constitution currently caps the number of judges. My bill, the **Uncap Justice Act** (A1100), would remove this limit. We passed the bill in 2024, but it needs to pass again next year before it can be put up for a vote as a ballot measure. To add your organization’s name to the growing list of supporters, please email BoresA@nyassembly.gov.



EDUCATION

Bell-to-Bell

In the U.S., 72% of teachers say cell phone use is a major classroom problem.⁵ Adolescents who spend more than three hours a day on social media face twice the risk of anxiety and depression. **This year, New York became the largest state in the nation to adopt statewide, “bell-to-bell” smartphone restrictions in K–12 schools.** The State is also directly providing funding for phone storage so that school districts can continue to focus their existing funding directly on student education.

Geographic Preference

Last year, I worked alongside a group of committed parents from District 73 to engage the NYC Department of Education and local stakeholders and advocate for the reinstatement of geographic preference in Manhattan high school admissions. **Thanks to our collective efforts, six Manhattan high schools now reserve 75% of their seats strictly for students who reside in the borough.**

The results? In the most recent admissions cycle, **74.9% of Manhattan students matched with one of their top three high schools: a 20% increase from 2024.**⁶

Funding Education Resources

As a graduate of a CEC D2 school and a former PS6 chess club member, I personally know the value of extracurriculars. That is why I allocated state funding to provide free admission to the Guggenheim Museum for 500 students in District 73. I also used this funding to support educational programming at the LGBTQ+ Museum and funded scholarships for three students completing fieldwork at the Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy.

⁵ Jen Hatfield, 2024. “72% of U.S. high school teachers say cellphone distraction is a major problem in the classroom.” Pew Research, <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/06/12/72-percent-of-us-high-school-teachers-say-cellphone-distraction-is-a-major-problem-in-the-classroom/>.
⁶ The NYC Department of Education: <https://infohub.nyced.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/ose/fall-2025-high-school-offer-results-website.xlsx>.

CLEANING THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Closing Illegal Cannabis Stores

Illegal cannabis shops sell unregulated products, avoid state taxes, and, unlike licensed dispensaries, often lack basic safety measures making them targets for theft and violence. **I cosponsored a bill (A5341) that passed the Assembly to close the zoning loophole that allows shops near schools in mixed-use buildings.**

Beautifying Parks and Streets

I believe that clean and well-maintained parks and streets are essential to the quality of life we all enjoy. That’s why **I’ve partnered with community groups across the East Side to help care for our shared spaces—** cleaning the East River Esplanade with the Alliance for Kips Bay, planting and tidying at Ruppert Park with Muslim Volunteers for New York, and picking up trash with the 86th Street Alliance. I’m proud to roll up my sleeves with neighbors to help keep our community beautiful.



COMMUNITY

Meeting with Neighbors

Over the past few months, I have attended Over 122 events throughout the district, with a focus on listening to neighbors and responding to community needs. At subway stops, street fairs, and mobile office hours, residents shared concerns and connected with services. **We also brought resources directly to the East Side — from free mammogram screenings and legal assistance to shredding services for secure document disposal.** These initiatives ensure help is not only available, but accessible.

Funding Neighborhood Resources

To help keep our neighborhood public spaces clean, safe, and welcoming, I allocated \$663,246 in capital funding to support numerous community groups (the Turtle Bay Association, Friends of Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, and the East 86th Street Merchants Association). I also partnered with Senator Krueger to secure the full renovation and modernization of four restrooms at the 92nd Street Y, including ADA compliance to better serve thousands of neighbors.

COST OF LIVING AFFORDABILITY

Constituent Spotlight: Jane Rice

At my first town hall in 2023, I met Jane Rice and her daughter Amanda, a three-time cancer survivor and founder of the nonprofit The Chick Mission. Jane asked me about expanding fertility preservation access for young women with cancer.

With the Federal government slashing hundreds of billions of dollars from key services, we fought back and passed a law through part Q of the Health and Mental Hygiene Budget (A3007) that **expands Medicaid to cover fertility preservation services for cancer patients**. While New York already required this coverage for private insurance, the poorest New Yorkers were denied this coverage before the bill. The whole program is cost-effective, amounting to only .005% of the state's annual Medicaid expenditures. Thanks to Jane on October 1st New York finally rolled out universal coverage.



Easing Child Care

To make it easier to raise children in the City, **we tripled the size of the Child Tax Credit in this year's budget to \$1,000 annually for families with a child under four**. On top of this, eligible New York families who welcome a newborn will now get \$1,800 in direct aid as part of the new BABY Benefit initiative. We also secured funding in the 2025 state budget to **guarantee free school meals for every public school student in New York State in perpetuity**.

Cutting Fees

Hidden fees are driving up medical costs in New York State. For example, insurers often reimburse doctors through virtual credit cards that carry fees of up to 5% — costs that get passed on to patients. **This year, I passed a bill (A3986) allowing physicians to choose lower-cost reimbursement methods, saving costs for both doctors and patients.**

Rethink Food Funding

The cost of living in New York City is too high, and food insecurity remains a challenge for many families. That's why I directed \$20,000 in state funding to Rethink Food, which turns excess food into nourishing meals. With this support, **Rethink Food will provide 4,000 more meals to New Yorkers in need.**

Middle Class Tax Cuts

To help relieve your tax burden, New York State passed tax cuts for the middle class. **Over 75% of New York filers will see their taxes reduced in the coming year, bringing middle class taxes to their lowest level in 70 years**, all while the state continues to invest in crucial services.

NOTARY Need something notarized? Our office offers free notary services **Monday through Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

HOUSING

Housing Development

In this year's budget, **we invested \$1 billion in New York City housing, expanding rent-stabilized housing, funding lead abatement, increasing supportive housing stock, and more**. We also allocated an additional \$250 million to spur housing construction on state land. These initiatives are expected to **build thousands of new homes, helping existing residents stay** by decreasing pressure on renters.



Housing Access Voucher Program

Homelessness in New York has more than doubled since 2022,⁷ and in this year's budget, **I helped secure \$50 million to launch the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP), a four-year pilot beginning in March 2026**. This program will provide rental subsidies for homeless families and those at risk of eviction, with tenants contributing no more than 30% of their income toward rent. It's also cost-effective, projected to save \$95 million in emergency shelter costs in its first year. If you think you may qualify, contact my office for support.

Office to Residential Conversions

Office-to-housing conversions address three challenges at once: adding new homes without new construction, boosting local business districts, and minimizing environmental harms by reusing existing buildings. The biggest conversion in New York is right here in our neighborhood: the former Pfizer headquarters at 42nd and Lexington is being transformed into 1,600 apartments — 400 of them affordable for middle-class families. Also, 750 Third Avenue, an office tower that's 80% vacant, will soon be converted into 639 apartments. And 135 East 57th Street, a building left largely empty since the pandemic, will provide new homes for 350 New Yorkers. **These three projects alone will turn more than two million square feet of underused office space into 2,589 new apartments.**

INNOVATION

RAISE Act

Artificial intelligence holds enormous potential for both innovation and harm. Even leaders of the largest AI companies warn that today's most advanced models could enable massive cyberattacks, assist terrorists in building bioweapons, or act autonomously beyond human control. While these companies have pledged to take precautions, competitive pressures and profit motives have already led some to cut corners. We cannot put safety at risk.

The RAISE Act (A6453) is supported by 84% of New Yorkers, including a majority of both parties in the state legislature. Furthermore, two of the "Godfathers of AI" have written in to support the bill, as have unions, start-ups, and advocacy groups. However, big tech is spending tens of millions of dollars to stop it. If you support light-touch regulation that ensures AI companies follow their own safety plans, you can email the Governor to urge her to sign it into law at: <https://www.passRAISEact.com>

Uniform Commercial Code

For the last decade, New York businesses have faced a competitive disadvantage resulting from outdated laws governing digital transactions. **With help from the NYC Bar, I passed a bill (A3307) to update the New York business law to match the Uniform Commercial Code, an interstate compact that eases trade across states.** Updating our laws to reflect the digital economy will help businesses stay in New York and attract new investment from outside the State.

Tech Items in the State Budget

Technology is changing fast, and our laws must protect people while fostering innovation. In this year's budget, we required so-called "AI companions" to include safeguards for users detected to have suicidal ideation, strengthened bans on AI-generated sexual abuse material, and required disclosure of algorithm-set pricing. We also expanded opportunities for innovation in the sector: **investing \$20 million in AI startups, training public employees in AI, and helping small businesses integrate new technologies.**

MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK

Protect Passover

New York's petition filing deadline sometimes falls during religious holidays harming observant candidates, staff, and volunteers. **I passed legislation (A1223) moving the deadline in 2026 when it conflicts with Passover.** When I fixed this same conflict in 2023, hundreds of campaigns statewide used the extended deadline. I've mapped every future conflict through 2057 and the legislature will introduce similar bills as needed; the next conflict is Eid al-Adha in 2031.

MTA Funding

East Side transit riders deserve better service — **this year's budget included \$1.7 billion for East-Side-specific MTA projects.** Over the next five years, the funding will modernize the Grand Central Artery, rebuild the Park Avenue Viaduct, and deliver long-promised accessibility upgrades at the 86th Street 4-5-6 station.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS AND LAW ABIDING BUSINESSES

Protecting Restaurant Reservations

By 2024, a cottage industry of profiteers were booking up restaurant reservations and reselling them for hundreds of dollars or canceling if no one would buy. Restaurants lost money, and workers lost tips. Enough is enough — **I passed a bipartisan law (2024 A10215) banning third-party reservation resales, and since February 2025, no-shows at NYC restaurants are down 68%.** This means more tables for diners, stronger business for neighborhood restaurants, and steadier paychecks for their staff.

Penalties for Unlicensed Entities

Weak rules punishing illegal financial entities in New York have given the most disreputable financial firms an advantage. Unscrupulous businesses don't just exploit consumers, they undercut the honest entrepreneurs who play by the rules. Check cashing stores, crypto exchanges, and others that do not obtain licenses often face little consequence. **This year I passed a bill (A8804) to crack down on bad actors, increasing the penalty for unlicensed activities,** and new data shows that past reforms are already making a difference: protecting consumers and supporting businesses that follow the law.

Click to Cancel

Some companies trap consumers in subscriptions that are deliberately difficult to cancel. A federal rule briefly required companies to let people cancel the same way they signed up, but a judge struck it down. **Thanks to my unanimously supported Click to Cancel law,** enacted through Part W of the Economic Development budget (A3008), **New Yorkers remain protected.** Subscription services must now allow cancellations to be as simple as enrollment.



Increasing Telemarketing Fines

Illegal robocalls interrupt your dinners and waste your time. That's why in 2023 **I passed bipartisan legislation (2023 A4456) that nearly doubled the maximum fine for Do Not Call list violations.** In the decade before the law, only two fines exceeded \$100,000. Since it took effect, 10 have already crossed that line.

⁷ Office of the New York State Comptroller, DiNapoli: Numbers of Homeless Population Doubled in New York (January 22, 2025)
⁸ Calculated from the Secretary of State's list of judgments against companies that violate the Do Not Call registry: <https://dos.ny.gov/do-not-call>.



NEWS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Alex Bores

District Office
353 Lexington Avenue
Suite 704
New York, NY 10016
212-605-0937
BoresA@contactme.nyasembly.gov

PRSRT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Albany, New York
Permit No. 75

CONSTITUENTS

Work in District

At our weekly subway stop outreach, a commuter reported a broken walk signal on the corner of E 63 St and Third Ave. Our office immediately contacted the Department of Transportation, and by mid-morning, it was fixed. Thanks to community input, we can quickly address safety concerns like this — keep sharing with us! We love to hear from you.

