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## LD 16's Ongoing Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Legislator Drucker's office has taken a hands-on approach to addressing the challenges created by the crisis.

As part of ongoing efforts to address food insecurity stemming from economic disruption caused by widespread business shutdowns, Legislator Drucker hosted food and toiletry drives



throughout the pandemic and recently supported Island Harvest's inaugural Spring Harvest regional drive at the Mid-Island Y JCC.

Vaccines have been key to restoring the level of normalcy that we are currently enjoying throughout Nassau County. However, their initial scarcity made securing appointments extremely challenging. Through grassroots initiatives like "Mitzvah Monday,"

LD 16's interns worked alongside community volunteers to schedule COVID-19 vaccination appointments for eligible residents.

Successful efforts like these helped Nassau County to achieve one of the highest vaccination rates in the nation.



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## Save The Date: Property Tax Exemption Workshops

Legislator Drucker's office and the Department of Assessment are bringing a series of **appointment-only** property tax exemption workshops to LD 16. Save these dates and stay tuned for more details from my office!

- Syosset Public Library - Monday, 9/13
- Jericho Public Library - Friday, 10/1
- Plainview Jewish Center. - Monday, 10/4

## COMING SOON! RALLY FOR REBECCA 5K

At age 21, due to a tragic accident, Rebecca is paralyzed from the neck down.

Use The QR Code to learn how our community can come together to support Rebecca's recovery!



# Nassau County Legislative District 16

Summer 2021

## A Message from Legislator Drucker

Dear Neighbor,

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and that you and your families are safe and healthy. After experiencing tremendous momentum toward putting COVID-19 behind us, we are now unfortunately faced with a resurgence caused by the Delta variant. The significant increase in the infection rate makes it more imperative than ever to encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

Since doses became available in December, my office has worked tirelessly to provide information to thousands of residents and helped to schedule hundreds of vaccine appointments. I hosted virtual Town Halls and webinars featuring prominent members of our medical community who shared invaluable information. We were all awe-struck by my office's interns, who helped so many people while working remotely. My office will continue to be a resource for residents seeking assistance as we continue to navigate this difficult time.

One of the most heartbreak impacts of the pandemic has been the increase in food insecurity on Long Island. My office has participated in and initiated a number of food drives throughout the district, including an ongoing pet food drive for Baxter's Pet Pantry that we are conducting in partnership with Always Orthodontics in Syosset and Coastal Cabinet Works in Plainview.

Amidst these challenges, we have remained active in the Legislature. In response to a horrible increase in anti-Asian and Pacific Islander discrimination amidst the pandemic, I recently introduced legislation that would give victims of such bias a civil remedy. Furthermore, to combat the alarming rise in anti-Semitism we are currently witnessing, I introduced and passed legislation to establish a bipartisan task force tasked with compiling data that will help us craft effective legislation and a roadmap for eradicating anti-Semitism at its root. We are also continuing to make great strides toward improving public safety, which is evident by the enhanced HAWK signal that was recently installed adjacent to the nature walking/jogging/bike path on Old Bethpage Road to help pedestrians safely cross the road. I am also seeking similar traffic safety enhancements at other locations throughout the district where needed.

In parting, I remain optimistic that we will conquer this surge in COVID-19 cases and resume our journey toward Nassau County's complete reopening and recovery. Please enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

*Arnold W. Drucker*

Arnold W. Drucker  
Nassau County Legislator (LD 16)

Nassau County Legislator  
Arnold W. Drucker

The 16th Legislative District is comprised of Plainview, Old Bethpage, Syosset, Woodbury, Jericho, Old Westbury, Hicksville and Roslyn Heights.

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## Spotlighting Efforts to Fight Anti-Semitism and Discrimination in Our Community



In response to the shocking increase in incidents of anti-Semitic violence, hatred and harassment in New York and around the world, Legislator Drucker secured the creation of a new Special Legislative Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism.

Working under the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Anti-Semitism, the task force will host one or more public hearings to engage government, community, law enforcement, clergy and academic stakeholders to trace the origins and extent of anti-Semitism in Nassau County.

Legislator Drucker is continuing to advocate for a second measure that would update the County's Human Rights Law to specifically outlaw discrimination based on an actual or perceived relationship to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fueled in part by the irrational, false, and unfounded association of specific ethnic groups with the spread of COVID-19, violent attacks and bias incidents against members of the Asian-American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community have spiked since March 2020. Legislator Drucker's proposal would equip the courts to levy steep fines against offenders and empower victims and the County Attorney to sue for tens of thousands of dollars in compensatory and punitive damages, attorney's fees and other relief.

"I urge my colleagues in the Majority to bring this measure to the floor of the Legislature so that it can be debated and adopted unanimously," Legislator Drucker said. "By doing so, we would send a clear message that we will aggressively defend the rights of all Nassau County residents to live lives free of fear, hatred, and bigotry."



## County Launches One-Stop Shop for COVID-19 Relief Aid

Nassau County has launched a new hub for information about federal, state, county and local COVID-19 relief resources.

Through its brick-and-mortar location at Eisenhower Park and website, the Boost Nassau Resource Center is designed to serve as a one-stop shop for residents and business owners seeking to determine their eligibility and apply for an array of COVID-19 relief resources such as small business grants, low-interest loans, rental assistance, and more.

Visit <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/boostnassau> to learn more.



## 'Don't Pass The Flash!' School Bus Stop-Arm Cameras Coming to Nassau County

The Legislature has signed off on launching a school bus stop-arm camera enforcement program - a cornerstone of ongoing efforts to better protect school children and families from reckless drivers who illegally pass stopped school buses.

"Nassau County has declared in one clear and unified voice that it has zero tolerance for motorists who make the dangerously selfish decision to pass a stopped school bus," Legislator Drucker said. "Through an approach that emphasizes education, deterrence and enforcement as part of a comprehensive plan, the Legislature has taken an important step toward protecting families and children in Nassau County."



The program will begin with a 60-day grace period, during which warnings, not fines, will be issued. However, once that ends, "passing the flash" will cost you \$250 for a first violation and \$275 and \$300, respectively, for second and third/subsequent violations within 18 months of the first offense. Consistent with the Minority Caucus' strong belief that traffic enforcement should never be exploited for revenue-generation purposes, Legislator Drucker and his colleagues strongly supported a ban on tacking the County's dubious public safety and driver responsibility fees onto bus camera tickets.

## Building a Stronger Future by Investing in our Infrastructure

Investments in Nassau County's roads are not only important to our quality of life - they stimulate economic activity in downtown business districts and promote public safety. Legislator Drucker has secured commitments to pave more than 16 lane miles of County roads in LD 16 as part of County Executive Curran's aggressive road repaving portfolio for 2021. This includes portions of Roslyn Road from Hillside Avenue to I.U. Willets Road (3.12 lane miles), Washington Avenue in Plainview from the north side of the Long Island Expressway overpass to the Northern State overpass (3.37 miles), Plainview Road in Woodbury from the Northern State overpass to Jericho Turnpike (2.25 miles) and Old Country Road in Plainview/Old Bethpage from Plainview Road/Manetto Hill Road to the Expressway's South Service Road at the County line (7.52 miles).

The County has also completed pedestrian crossings at Roslyn Road; installed sidewalks along Round Swamp Road; and is embarking upon a study to explore adding speed awareness devices along Plainview Road. Traffic safety improvements are pending in Roslyn Heights for portions of Roslyn Road, and a study has also been completed related to adding sidewalks along portions of Syosset-Woodbury Road.



Consistent with his emphasis on ensuring our roads are safe for all who use them, Legislator Drucker secured \$500,000 in funding as part of Nassau County's capital plan to replace curbs and sidewalks that have fallen into disrepair - improvements that will make County roadways safer and more accessible for pedestrians.