

RETIREMENT SECURITY FOR ALL



New York City Council Passes Bill Mandating IRAs For Small Business Workers

4/29/2021

About 1.5 million private sector workers in New York City don't have access to retirement plans through their employers, and nearly half of New Yorkers who are retirement age have less than \$10,000 saved for retirement. That why I worked with the Obama administration and fought the Trump administration to author a new law to automatically enroll employees in an IRA at no cost to their employers. The Governor just expanded my law statewide. This will help countless New Yorkers save for retirement.



AUTOMATIC BENEFITS

The New York Times

Navigating a Bureaucratic Maze to Renew Food Stamp Benefits

7/23/15

We need to cut red-tape and make it easier for residents to get the government benefits they need. I built a national coalition with academics, non-profits, the private sector, and the Federal government that helped pass a law in 2017 to research removing any bureaucratic obstacles to giving New Yorkers the benefits they qualify for automatically. In 2019, the City released the report along with the first-ever Benefits Screening software, making it easier to access more than 30 government benefits. Once we implement automatic benefits, I believe we can lift every New Yorker out of poverty.

HEALTHY "HAPPY MEALS"

Forbes Will Mandating "Healthy Happy Meals" Solve Childhood Obesity?

"The Healthy Happy Meals bill may prove to be a good first step." 8/21/2019

New York City is facing an obesity epidemic with 1 in 5 kindergarteners starting school already obese. The "healthy happy meals" law I authored in 2019 requires all restaurants in New York City with kids' meals on their menu to only offer healthy beverages: water, low-fat milk, and 100% fruit juice.



OFFICE OF FOOD POLICY



Food Czars and Food Policy Councils

8/14/2014

In 2019, we finally passed my law to create an Office of Food Policy for the city of New York to coordinate how we get and distribute food to millions of New Yorkers every day.

LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE



Investigating Cluster of Legionnaires' Disease in Section of Lenox Hill Manhattan

6/16/2017



As Cooling Towers Flout Legionnaires' Law, City Council Looks to Crack Down

10/17/2018



City Council Considering Bill Updating Flawed Legionnaires' Law

3/25/2019

Thanks to a law I co-sponsored in 2015, when a Legionnaires' cluster broke out in my district, we were able to stop it before it killed again. In 2018, WNYC found over 1,000 cooling towers had not been inspected, so I wrote a law in 2019 to help buildings comply with the new rules.



CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE



As we faced the pandemic, my office helped secure 550 beds in the district for surge capacity and treatment. We were recognized by EDC for helping get PPE, and we worked with neighborhood associations to distribute thousands of masks, gloves, sanitizer, and meals. We also brought testing and vaccines to the neighborhood.

ETHICS REFORM

DAILY NEWS

Lulu heroes and zeroes

"10 members flat-out refused the money...Ben Kallos" 7/19/2014

The New York Times

"Bills to ban most forms of outside income ... and end paid allowances for committee work — passed by wide margins. Councilman Ben Kallos ... who sponsored ... the reform bills [said they were] 'long sought after.' Government watchdog groups agreed ..." 2/5/2016

The New York Times

No Albany Pay Raise Without Limits on Outside Income

11/25/2018

"If lawmakers want to be paid as much as New York City Council members, they should be willing to act as responsibly. In 2016, city lawmakers took an open vote ... banning most forms of outside income and lulus."

When I got elected, being a Council Member wasn't a full-time job and the Speaker had a slush fund that could be used to buy off Council Members who sold their independence. I refused \$64,000 and then wrote the laws that made the slush fund and income from outside jobs illegal.

MONEY IN POLITICS



Opinion: New campaign finance reform would return power to the people

by Ben Kallos & Morris Pearl 10/30/2018

The New York Times

"Lowering campaign contribution limits could blunt the impact of large donations"

11/4/2018

When I couldn't pass campaign finance reform through the City Council, we took it to the voters, and won lower contribution limits and an 8 to 1 match on more small dollars. Then I wrote the law to go further by matching every small dollar to finally get big money out of politics. With the 2021 election complete, the new system I authored helped change representation for the better with a new City Council that went from few at all to a majority women.

MAKING VOTING EASIER



Mayor de Blasio Signs Bill Expanding Online Voter Registration

12/16/2017

GOTHAM GAZETTE

7/21/2020

New York City Mandated an Absentee Ballot Tracking System; the Board of Elections Never Implemented It

"The biggest impediment to free and fair elections and democracy in the City of New York is the Board of Elections, and it really shouldn't be that way," said Kallos

I wrote the laws to make it easier to vote by allowing online registration and creating a portal to request and track absentee ballots online. It took the pandemic for a corrupt Board of Elections to implement my absentee ballot law, but they are still refusing to let people register to vote online.

COMMUNITY BOARD REFORM



Citywide Community Board Reform on Table at City Council Hearing

3/3/2014

The New York Times

Age 16, and Not Too Young to Join the Community Board

"This sets them up for a life of civic participation," said City Councilman Ben Kallos, an Upper East Side Democrat who sponsored a resolution. 6/16/2015



Ballot Question's Approval to Force Out Longtime Community Board Members

11/8/2018

Community Boards are our city's local town halls where all too often appointees serving for decades have lost touch. That's why I passed legislation to allow 16 year-olds to serve and won a referendum by voters to professionalize boards with urban planners and to add term limits.

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

GOTHAM GAZETTE

10/31/2017

City Council Passes "Open Budget" ...

DAILY NEWS

With NYC in budget crisis, [Kallos] wants to cut pork, free up nearly \$1B for vital services

6/16/2020


I wrote the "Open Budget" law to put the budget fully online, then used that law to find \$15 billion in pork to cut from our city's budget.



**568 New
Trash Cans**
on Every Corner

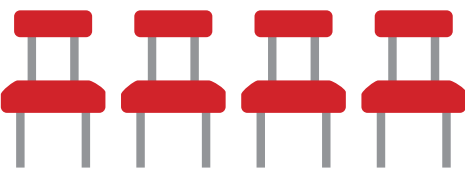


**46
Ferries**
a Day and
2 Ferry Stops



98.25%
Attendance at
City Council

**1,932
School Seats**
Secured or Funded for the
Neighborhood





**79 New
Buses**



**Ranked
Best Law
Makers**
1st and 2nd Term by
City & State



**47 Laws
Passed**

\$940 Million
for Resilient Waterfront Parks





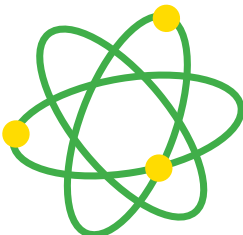
98 Years
of Waiting Ended
by Opening
the Q Train



30,000
Masks Distributed

8,734
Petition
Signatures





\$17.5 Million
Invested in STEM
Education



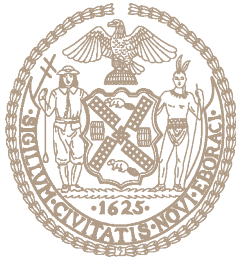
13,970
Constituent
Service
Cases Closed



273 Public Meetings
Serving with 8,546 Residents in Attendance




NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
BEN KALLOS
5TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN: FINAL NEWSLETTER 2014-2021



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PAID
New York City
Council
10007

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BKallos@BenKallos.com



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

December 2021

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for the opportunity of a lifetime to serve you over the past eight years. Together we've accomplished more than I ever thought possible.


We took on corruption. I wrote the laws to eliminate outside income making the job full and banning the Speaker's "lulus" to pay Council Members for their obedience. The new "full" public matching campaign finance system that I authored helped candidates of all backgrounds run for office and win, many like me, refusing big money from real estate developers.


When real estate developers got billions in tax breaks without giving the affordable housing they promised, I wrote the law to force hundreds of thousands of affordable homes back on the market. We won the first of its kind community-led rezoning to stop Billionaires' Row and made buildings with unlimited empty spaces illegal in the district.

Here in the neighborhood, we won pre-kindergarten for 4 and now 3-years-olds, funding for hundreds of school seats, more than half a billion dollars for our parks, improved commutes with a new subway, select bus service, bike share, and even ferries. Not to mention cleaning up our streets with a new trash can on every corner.

Our work has left an indelible mark on our city, on politics, on affordable housing, on our children, and on our skyline.

Sincerely,


Ben Kallos





NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

BEN KALLOS

5TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN: FINAL NEWSLETTER 2014 - 2021



| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|
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| Environment | Retirement | 5 |
| Good Government | Transportation | 4 |
| Life Sciences | Quality of Life | 4 |

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS WITH MORE THAN 1,000 IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AFFORDABLE HOMES COMING BACK ON THE MARKET

The New York Times

25 Million Applications:
The Scramble for N.Y.C.
Affordable Housing 6/15/2020

"Before this, you had waiting lists and you had folks who might be politically connected with an official who knew buildings that had affordable housing," said Council Member Kallos.

Hundreds of thousands of affordable homes are coming back on the market thanks to a law I authored. In 2016, we worked with a whistleblower and ProPublica to bring attention to 15,000 buildings in New York City where owners received billions in tax breaks but failed to register 50,000 affordable homes, which meant they were probably rented at market rate. With the passage of my law, developers receiving city subsidies must offer new and existing affordable housing at [HousingConnect.nyc.gov](https://www.housingconnect.nyc.gov).

1,000 AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



HELPING THE HOMELESS



8/21/2019

Supportive Housing Facility Opens on Upper East Side



12/10/2020

Supermarket-style food pantry opens in Upper East Side



1/22/2021

Upper East Siders Embrace a Homeless Shelter, Unlike their Crosstown Neighbors

"No fanfare, no problem. The men can stay," said City Councilmember Ben Kallos, who actually advocated for the shelter (imagine that!).



I co-founded the Eastside Taskforce for Homeless Outreach and Services (ETHOS) and have helped the homeless off our streets with new supportive housing, a food pantry, and plans for a new "safe haven" shelter.

STOPPING BILLIONAIRES' ROW

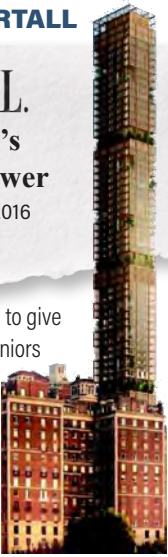
FIGHTING THE SUTTON SUPERTALL

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Community Groups on Manhattan's East Side Fight Proposed 950-foot Tower

"I want to stop the march of 1,000-foot towers into residential neighborhoods," said Councilman Ben Kallos. 11/28/2016

The last thing New York City needs is more supertall towers to give billionaires better views. When a developer tried to force seniors and local heroes Herndon Werth and Charles Fernandez out of their affordable housing in Sutton, I helped found the East River Fifties Alliance. In 2017 we won the first of its kind grass-roots community rezoning to stop Billionaires' row. In the end, Mayor de Blasio grandfathered the building, though the building's height was capped.



BANNING MECHANICAL VOIDS

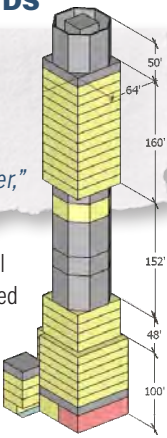


5/29/2019

Mechanical void loophole closed by City Council

"This is only a start and we need to go much further," said Council Member Ben Kallos.

We won a rezoning in 2019 that banned empty mechanical voids in residential districts in Manhattan. We even defeated 249 East 62nd Street, an egregious example of this abuse. Now the fight must continue to extend those same protections to "Billionaires' Row" in the Central Business District, Hudson Yards, and the Financial District.

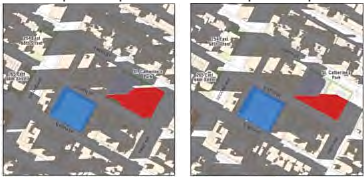


FIGHTING COMMERCIAL TOWERS IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS TO PROTECT OUR PARKS



May 6 / Aug 6
1:30pm - 5:15pm

June 21
1:15pm - 5:00pm



Proposed Project Publicly Accessible Open Space Incremental Shadow
Shadow Study of Blood Center on St. Catherine's Park

I first voted against the Blood Center's expansion in 2006, then killed two proposals as Council Member. But the Blood Center won't stop pushing a 334-foot commercial tower, with the same foot print as the Empire State building, across the street from JREC and St. Catherine's Park. The tower would leave both in permanent shadow. CB8, Congresswoman Maloney, Senator Krueger, and I all oppose the project. This newsletter is going to print before the final vote in the Council where I hope to protect our neighborhood park.

OPENING 2 NEW UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES + INCUBATOR

ROCKEFELLER RIVER CAMPUS



On my first day on the job, we began negotiating the new 160,000 square foot, \$500 million Stavros Niarchos Foundation-Rockefeller River Campus. In 2019, we cut the ribbon on the new building, featuring brand new biotech labs. As part of a public-private partnership we formed, Rockefeller invested \$15 million to rebuild the East River Esplanade from 63rd Street to 68th Street, with maintenance in perpetuity.

CORNELL TECH ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND



After fighting for Roosevelt Island in the land use process, I was proud to break ground and cut the ribbon soon after on Cornell Tech, the Tata Innovation Center, and a new hotel. I've even enjoyed stopping to guest lecture or drop-in on Cornell programs at the senior center and P.S./I.S. 217.

\$9 MILLION BIOTECH INCUBATOR AT ROCKEFELLER

While negotiating the new campus, I asked Rockefeller University to open up old space as a bio-tech incubator to keep jobs here in New York City. In 2021, we secured \$9 million from the city to convert academic research labs to the Tri-Institutional Translational Center for Therapeutics to incubate discoveries from Rockefeller, MSK, and Weil Cornell into local high growth companies.

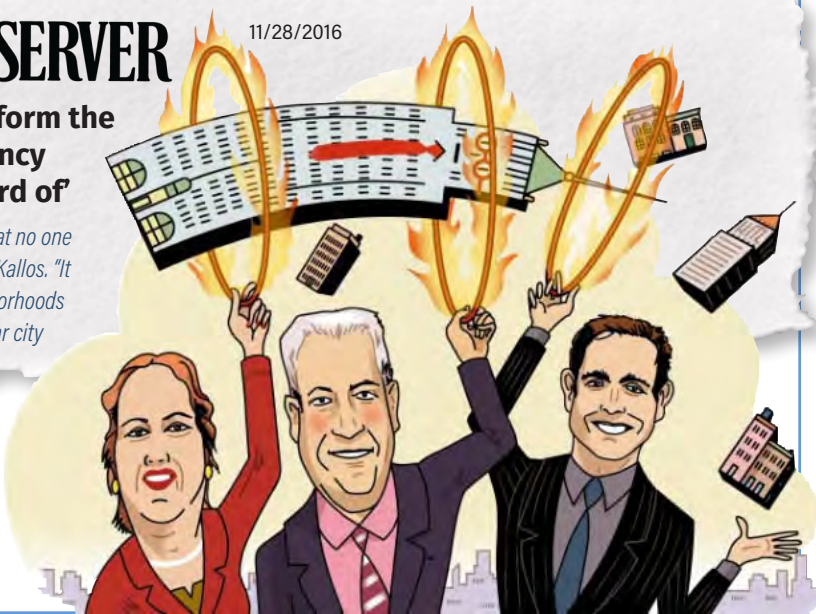
COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

11/28/2016

City Council Seeks to Reform the 'Most Powerful Agency That No One Has Heard of'

"The BSA is the most powerful city agency that no one has ever heard of," said Council Member Ben Kallos. "It literally has the power to change how neighborhoods are planned without going through the regular city planning process."

The Board of Standards and Appeals has let developers ignore zoning for far too long. That's why I authored five laws to force the BSA to consider arguments from the community and even fine developers \$25,000 for lying.



✂ In Construction for 2023 Esplanade, 53rd – 60th St., \$154 Million

We broke ground in 2019 on a \$100 million extension of the East River Esplanade from 60th Street down to 53rd Street.



✓ Completed 2019 Sutton Place Park, 56th – 62nd St., \$2.8 Million

We connected Sutton Place Park with the pocket park at 56th Street. We also invested \$171,000 from our office for new security cameras to keep parks safe.



Andrew Haswell Green Park, 60th – 61st St.

✓ Completed in 2017 Phase 2A, \$4.7 Million

✂ In Construction for 2022 Phase 2B, \$33.6 Million

\$ Funded, Structural Rehab, \$18 Million

In November 2017, we celebrated the completion of Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 2A, a \$7 million project that sits underneath the famous Alice Aycock “East River Round About.” Phase 2B will continue the Esplanade for 2 blocks, adding a hill with a green space to enjoy waterfront views.



✓ Completed 2019 Rockefeller Univ., 64th – 68th St., \$15 Million

Our first public/private partnership with Rockefeller University stemming from their new river campus resulted in \$15 million for a new resilient Esplanade, repaired seawalls, and a \$1 million trust for maintenance in perpetuity.



✂ In Construction for 2022 Esplanade, 68th – 70th St., \$2 Million

After public-private partnerships funded renovations for much of the Esplanade, we invested capital dollars from our office to fill this gap.



Hospital for Special Surgery

✓ Completed in 2019 70th – 72nd St., \$1.8 Million

\$ Funded 72nd to 78th St., \$6.6 Million

We formed a public/private partnership with the Hospital for Special Surgery to renovate 2 blocks of the Esplanade and develop a Master Plan to continue north to 78th Street. The plan includes noise barriers, water fountains, and irrigation, along with maintenance in perpetuity.



✓ Completed in 2017 81st St. Pedestrian Bridge, \$16 Million

We replaced the 50-year-old crumbling stairwell connecting the upper and lower Esplanades with a new accessible ramp including glass viewing portals, rest points and a garden below.



\$ Funded in 2021 John Finley Walk, 81st – 90th St., \$80 Million

This project will renovate the esplanade between East 81st and 90th streets, which runs past Carl Schurz Park. Visible changes will include smoothing over uneven walking surfaces, replacing streetlights, benches and pedestrian railings, and improving drainage systems.



\$ Funded Brearley Overhang, 82nd – 83rd St., \$1.5 Million

After years of neglect by the city, Brearley negotiated a public-private partnership with our office to take over the overhang, fund renovations, and maintain the overhang in perpetuity.



✓ Opened 2016 90th St. Pier

The 3,000 square foot 90th Street Pier was closed to the public, only visible through the bars of a gate. It is now a public park thanks to our advocacy alongside Friends of the East River Esplanade.



✓ Completed in 2020 Esplanade, 90th – 92nd St., \$14 Million

I secured \$35 million in 2014, long before this section of the Esplanade fell into the river and emergency work began in 2017 and was completed in 2020.



\$ Funded Esplanade, 92nd – 94th St., \$28.5 Million

\$ Funded Esplanade, 94th – 107th St., \$187 Million

\$ Funded 107th St. Pier, \$28 Million

\$ Funded Esplanade, 114th – 117th St., \$38 Million

\$ Funded Esplanade, 118th – 124th St., \$69 Million

\$ Funded Harlem River Drive, \$227 Million



✓ Completed in 2020 ▶

Carl Schurz Playground

\$3.4 Million

from Kallos & Brewer

◀ \$ Funded in 2021

Ruppert Playground

\$9 Million

from Kallos, Powers, Brewer, Quart & Council



FREE TENNIS AT THE QUEENSBORO BUBBLE

After years of advocacy alongside CB8, we've opened the tennis bubble for 22 weeks of FREE tennis in the Spring and Summer. During the Fall and Winter there are now \$10 drop-in programs for Seniors and free programs and scholarships for Youth.

CLIMATE CHANGE & PROTECTING OUR PLANET

BANNING PESTICIDES

The New York Times

N.Y.C. Bans Pesticides in Parks With Push From Unlikely Force: Children 4/25/2021

Ben Kallos, the district's council member, said 'a bunch of kindergartners' persuaded him to propose a city ban on pesticides in 2014.... He recalled holding 'the best, cutest hearing ever' in 2017. Children mobbed the floor of the council chambers singing 'This Land Is Your Land.'

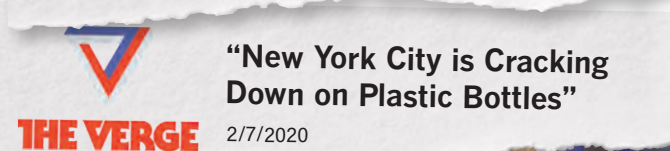


PLASTIC BOTTLE BAN

The New York Times

Could New York City Parks Be Going Plastic Bottle-Free?

"You see plastic bottles everywhere," [Councilman Kallos] said. "It makes New York look like a dump and we can do better." 4/20/2018



In 2018, I authored legislation to ban plastic bottles from being sold in city parks or bought by the city. In 2020, Mayor de Blasio adopted my proposal by Executive Order.



DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY



6/27/2019

New York City declares a climate emergency, the first US city with more than a million residents to do so



Climate change is real. Between wildfires in California, superstorms, floods and sea levels rising, it is clear we have a climate emergency. I am proud to have authored and passed a resolution declaring one in New York City, making international news as the largest city to do so.

OFFSHORE WIND FOR NEW YORK CITY



We won a \$191 million commitment to build offshore wind and other renewable energy to power New York City with 100% clean electricity by 2040.

WINNING 1,243 PRE-KINDERGARTEN SEATS FOR 4 AND 3-YEAR-OLDS ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE

SECURING FUNDING FOR FREE PRE-K FOR FOUR-YEAR-OLDS

The New York Times
... Political Might in Pre-K Push

2/7/2014

I ran for City Council on the promise of making pre-kindergarten free for four-year-olds and joined the Mayor in winning funding from Albany in 2014, but was disappointed to only get 154 seats to serve over a thousand kids.



RALLYING FOR FREE PRE-K SEATS ON UPPER EAST SIDE



Upper East Side Parents Need More Pre-K Spots; Council Member Kallos calls for more seats

6/6/2016



I led a rally calling attention to the fact that the Upper East Side still didn't have enough free pre-k seats. Hundreds of parents and children, and every elected official joined our action.

WINNING 800 ADDITIONAL PRE-K SEATS

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
More Pre-K Seats Planned for Upper East Side

12/28/2018



After years of fighting, we finally won the funding to build three new pre-kindergarten centers, adding over 800 seats, all of which opened by 2020.

WINNING FREE 3-K ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE

Bloomberg

3/24/2021

NYC Plans Citywide Expansion of Free Preschool for 3-Year-Olds

While we were fighting for seats for 4-year-olds, Mayor de Blasio had already rolled out free pre-k for 3-year-olds with the promise of going citywide by 2021. However, I knew the program was stalled without enough funding. Mayor de Blasio tied citywide expansion to Federal pandemic relief dollars. When Congresswoman Maloney delivered billions, I collected on the promise and we won 3K for all of Manhattan, including the Upper East Side.

INVESTING \$24.75 MILLION IN SCHOOLS: STEM, GREEN ROOFS, PLAYGROUND, & LAPTOPS



\$6.5 million - Eleanor Roosevelt High School - New Gym Opening in 2022



\$1 million* - P.S./I.S 217 - Green Roof



\$600,000* - P.S. 183 - Science Lab



\$212,000 - Eleanor Roosevelt - Library



\$600,000* - P.S. 77/198 - Playground

As a graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, I have invested over \$24 million in discretionary funding from my office to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education.

P.S. 6 - \$100,000

Security cameras + technology

P.S. 59 - \$100,000

Auditorium upgrades

P.S. 77 - \$1,520,000

Playground*, A/C*, & laptops*

P.S. 151 - \$2,463,000

Rooftop play space* & laptops

P.S. 158 - \$564,000

Security cameras, technology & laptops

P.S. 183 - \$1,654,000

Hydroponics lab*, A/C* & laptops*

P.S. 198 - \$1,520,000

Playground*, A/C*, & laptops*

P.S./I.S. 217 - \$1,590,000

Green roof*, new gym & technology*

P.S. 225 - \$275,000

Technology & laptops*

P.S. 267 - \$135,000

Technology & laptops*

P.S. 290 - \$2,430,000

Green Roof*, restrooms*, smartboards, & laptops*

P.S. 527 - \$1,300,000

Auditorium, cafeteria lighting, security cameras* & technology*

Hunter Elementary & H.S. - \$200,000

Glass box campus addition

M.S. 114 ESMS - \$1,108,000

Tech lab, whiteboards, & laptops*

M.S. 177 Yorkville East - \$415,000

Security cameras, technology & laptops*

Bronx Science H.S. - \$70,000

Technology

Brooklyn Tech H.S. - \$35,000

Technology

Eleanor Roosevelt H.S. - \$1,286,000

New library, new music room, water fountains, whiteboards, and technology*

Life Sciences H.S. - \$275,000

Bathroom renovations, new lighting, technology & laptops*

Manhattan International H.S. - \$275,000

Technology and laptops*

Talent Unlimited H.S. - \$330,000

Auditorium improvements, technology & laptops

Urban Academy H.S. - \$383,000

Technology & laptops

Vanguard H.S. - \$275,000

Technology & laptops*

**Funded by Participatory Budgeting*

The New York Times

9/6/2017

New York City Offers Free Lunch for All Public School Students

City Councilman Ben Kallos, ... recounted his own experience with the stigma of subsidized school meals. "I had to choose between friends and food," Mr. Kallos said. "I hope no child makes the same poor choices I did."

WINNING 864 SCHOOL SEATS FOR THE UPPER EAST SIDE

The New York Times

THE NEW YORK TIMES NEW YORK TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2017

Bill Seeks the Disclosure of How Many Applications Each City School Is Receiving

By ELIZABETH A. HARRIS
In many places, choosing a public school is straightforward. Students go to school based on where they live. In New York City, with its myriad options and variety of admission methods, the process is more complicated, and many students attend school far from home.
In an effort to make the admissions process more transparent, a city councilman is expected to introduce a bill on Wednesday that would require the Education Department to release additional data, such as the number of applications each school receives, how many offers it extends and where students live.
The department already releases information on school capacity, with yearly updates on whether schools have too many students or too few. But the bill goes further, requiring residency information and public reporting on the application process for every school, from kindergarten through high school. It will be introduced by Ben Kallos, a Democrat who represents the Upper East Side, East Midtown and Roosevelt Island. Mr. Kallos said the bill might also include prekindergarten.
"It's important that the public school system serve every single child, and when you only rank enrollment, you are missing all the children who are being turned away," he said. "If we have programs that are incredibly popular, the city should be making more seats available to those programs."
Mr. Kallos said that his constituents routinely complain of being turned away from nearby prekindergarten, classrooms or gifted and talented programs, but which they have qualified, because there is not enough room.
"This legislation would allow where students end up when they leave their neighborhoods to attend school, as many do," Mr. Kallos said that most elementary schools in his district were popular with students from the area, but at Ella Baker School, at 307 East 67th Street, which serves children from prekindergarten through eighth grade, most of the students are from elsewhere.
David Drumm, a Democrat who represents the East Bronx and Jackson Heights sections of Queens, is the chairman of the council's education committee. Mr. Drumm said residential data could help inform policies to increase diversity in the city school system. Many neighborhoods are segregated by race and by economic class, and that segregation affects the schools.
"This is particularly important in the era of choice, that we have this type of transparency, as we have a better feel of how many students are applying to which schools," he said.
The bill will be discussed Tuesday at an education committee hearing on school construction and how the city decides where to open schools and add more.
A spokeswoman said the Education Department was reviewing the legislation.
Ben Kallos is expected to introduce his bill on Wednesday.

When I was elected, the city had no plans for more school seats on the Upper East Side, despite all the new construction. So, I authored laws forcing the city to share information on the students they turned away and how they planned for new seats. In the fight, we won \$92.85 million for 640 new K-8 school seats. Then, when the law went into effect, we won an additional 184 school seats for a total of 864 new seats for our district by 2024.

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



NYC Seniors, Low-Income Families to Receive Affordable High-Speed Internet

6/9/2016



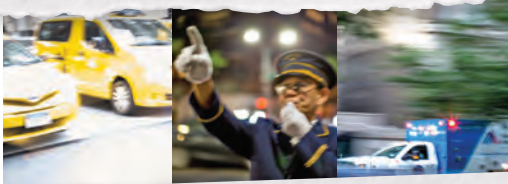
I campaigned on making broadband affordable for low-income New Yorkers. In 2015, I joined now-Attorney General Tish James in testifying at hearings and advocating for New York City and State to use our franchise powers to require any new Internet provider to help bridge the digital divide by providing low-income residents with low-cost broadband Internet. In 2017, I fulfilled my promise as we announced Spectrum "Internet Assist," a new low-cost broadband program for students on free and reduced lunch and seniors on supplemental security income.

LOWERING NOISE

The New York Times

New York Becomes the City That Never Shuts Up

"Noise is the No. 1 complaint," said City Councilman Ben Kallos 7/19/2017



DAILY NEWS

Construction sites must lower noise during city's quiet time under new law 12/19/2017

"New York City may be the city that never sleeps, but that shouldn't be because of after-hours construction that wakes you up," said Kallos

When after-hours construction noise complaints skyrocketed, I wrote a law to turn down the volume by half and make it easier to crack down.

A TRASH CAN ON EVERY CORNER



New Trash Cans Spread Across Upper East Side 6/9/2016



We've put more than 500 covered trash cans on every corner to reduce litter and clean up the neighborhood with \$446,856 in funding. We've also partnered with FedCap's Wildcat to sweep every street and even power-washed dirty sidewalks.

SCAFFOLDING & SIDEWALK SHEDS

The New York Times

Sidewalk Scaffolding, the Unwanted Neighbor, Is Under Scrutiny 12/5/2016

The New York Times

New York, a City Encased in Scaffolding 5/10/2017

The New York Times

Facades on 1,400 Buildings in New York Are a Threat to Pedestrians

"Regardless of who owns the building, they have to keep it safe — and the city should be helping out," said Kallos. 1/30/20

Scaffolding is every New Yorker's pet-peeve. There are over 300 miles of scaffolding with some old enough to vote. It's bad for business and bad for quality of life. That's why I authored legislation to make sure when scaffolding goes up, work gets done, and it comes down immediately. In 2019, the Department of Buildings adopted many of the reforms I proposed, but enforcement has fallen by the wayside. The real estate industry has thwarted this law for far too long.



BETTER COMMUTES

OPENING THE SECOND AVE SUBWAY

After a Century of Fits & Starts



After a century of waiting, not to mention living through years of construction, we finally opened the Second Avenue Subway just in time for the 2017 New Year.

BETTER BUS SERVICE

The New York Times

Express Bus Service Shows Promise in New York 7/19/2015

"Ben Kallos, a city councilman, added that time saved translates into revenue for businesses whose taxes help pay for further transit improvements: a virtuous circle."



Over the years we've made buses faster with off-board fare payments and bus lanes for the M79 and M86, and even sped up the M15 with automated enforcement too.

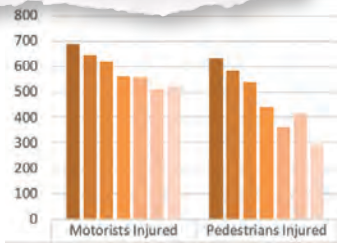
BIKE SAFETY

Patch

Bike Safety Improves on UES ...

8/21/2019

In 2015, we launched a bike safety program combining education, equipment, and enforcement. Delivery cyclists get trained on rules of the road and get a free safety vest, all cyclists get free helmets and bells, and the NYPD got bikes from my office to patrol bike lanes. Eight years later it is safer to be a pedestrian or a cyclist than it was before.



New York City opens bike lane on dangerous section of 2nd Avenue 8/16/2019

Intersections around the 59th Street Bridge are the deadliest in the neighborhood, which is why we added a safe way for riders going down 2nd Avenue to get across the mouth of the bridge. This added to a new protected bike lane on 2nd Avenue and crosstown bike lanes at 60th, 61st, 70th, 71st, 77th, and 78th streets.

LAUNCHING FERRY SERVICE

amNY

8/28/2020

A 'ferry' big deal: Mayor, local officials laud NYC Ferry extension...



After years of advocacy, we won two ferry stops serving Roosevelt Island and the Upper East Side. In 2020 we connected them on a single route.

TRAM EXTENDED FOR NEXT 50 YEARS



After more than 20 years of operating on interim agreements, the City Council approved a 50-year franchise agreement for the Roosevelt Island Tram.

GOTHAM GAZETTE

More Bus Data, Better Bus Service: Kallos, Hackers Nudge MTA 1/13/2015

Patch

5/12/2017

New Buses Coming to Upper East Side...



When seniors complained about bus delays, the MTA denied it. So I worked with "civic hackers" to capture Bus Time data so I could prove that our bus service was bad. Turns out, our buses were unreliable because they were the oldest in the fleet. That's why the MTA gave us a new fleet of buses with USB chargers and free Wi-Fi.

WIRELESS COMMUTES

amNY

Free Wi-Fi Comes to MTA's Lexington Avenue Stations

"Subway delays, making you late to a meeting with no way to tell anyone was a part of being a subway rider. But now you'll be able to get in touch and get work done," said Kallos 1/13/2015



The New York Times

Car Lanes to Become Bike Lanes on 2 Major New York City Bridges 1/28/2021

[Council member] Ben Kallos ... fought for years for a separate bike lane. "This news couldn't have come sooner as more people rely on bikes during the pandemic. The single shared lane on the Queensboro Bridge has gotten more crowded and dangerous."



CITIBIKE FOR THE UPPER EAST SIDE AND ROOSEVELT ISLAND



One of my first campaign promises was to bring CitiBike to the UES and Roosevelt Island. We kept our promise in 2020 when we added the last 3 docks to Roosevelt Island.