

Assemblymember

# DAVID I. WEPRIN



## Reports to the Community

Fall 2017

Serving the partial or entire communities of:

Briarwood, Bellerose, Bellerose Manor, Fresh Meadows, Glen Oaks, Hillcrest, Hollis Hills, Holliswood, Jamaica Estates, Jamaica Hills, Oakland Gardens, Queens Village, Richmond Hill, South Richmond Hill, and Utopia

### A Message From DAVID I. WEPRIN



Dear Friends and  
Neighbors,

It is a pleasure to  
write to you once  
again as we begin  
our autumn season  
here in the world's  
borough. I enjoyed

spending the summer meeting with many  
of you at events across our district and  
am proud to be the representative of our  
vibrant and diverse district in Albany.

In the past few weeks and months, our  
country has seen a number of natural di-  
sasters affect individuals in different parts  
of the United States, as well as in Puerto  
Rico, Mexico, and across the Caribbean.  
As such, my office has partnered with our  
local precincts and other elected officials  
to organize a disaster relief drive to sup-  
port those who have been adversely af-  
fected by these events. Please do consider  
stopping by either of my district offices in  
Fresh Meadows (185-06 Union Turnpike)  
or Richmond Hill (111-12 Atlantic Avenue,  
#5) or at any of our local police precincts;  
with batteries, flashlights, portable lan-  
terns, diapers, babywipes, cases of water,



Phil Konigsberg of Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Corey Bearak of KeepNYCFree.com, Rich Hellenbrecht of the Queens Civic Congress, Assemblyman David Weprin, Bob Friedrich, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Bobby Sher, and Thomas Grech of the Queens Chamber of Commerce.

### Assemblyman Weprin: No Tolls on the Free East River Bridges

Assemblyman David I. Weprin, Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, and Councilman Barry Grodenchik gathered with representatives of the Queens Chamber of Commerce, Queens Civic Congress, and a host of other civic groups by the foot of the Queensboro bridge. The advocates assembled to express their opposition to any proposed funding plan that includes the tolling of the free East River Bridges, which have been free since 1911.

Weprin and his colleagues shared a variety of reasons as to why tolling would be unacceptable for Queens' residents and businesses. In addition to imposing a new financial burden on the working- and middle-class residents of the outer boroughs for the benefit of those who choose to reside in the center of the city, new tolls would also be a major financial burden on New York's small businesses that rely on the free bridges to keep costs down. Added tolling will not only reduce the competitive ability of these businesses, but will also lead to added costs for New York's consumers.

"Tolling the East River bridges would be devastating for Queens, Brooklyn, and Long Island residents," said Assemblyman David Weprin. "The people who rely on these bridges are a diverse group of New Yorkers who are trying to make affordable choices in this city and any future transportation plan for New York must take into account the needs of outer borough residents."

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