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Helen Rosenthal

Council Member, 6th District



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Dear neighbors,

October is here with two new beginnings: neighborhood assemblies for participatory budgeting and a new season of free monthly housing clinics!

New Season of Housing Clinics

Our new season of FREE monthly housing clinics starts Wednesday, October 1st! This month's topic is an Introduction to Rent Control and Rent Stabilization and an Update on Rent Laws. Learn more about the issue, and have a chance to get legal advice from a staff attorney at no cost. These clinics are possible thanks to funding from the City Council and the work of our partners, Goddard Riverside's SRO Law Project and the Urban Justice Center. [See the flyer](#) for the full season of housing clinics here (in English & Spanish).



7 Neighborhood Assemblies for Participatory Budgeting

If you have an idea for how to spend money to improve public spaces on the Upper West Side, come to one of my neighborhood assemblies! This is your chance to suggest projects to improve our streets, schools, libraries, parks, bus stops, and public housing. I'm hosting [seven assemblies all around the neighborhood in the next month](#) (you only need to attend one). See you there!

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSEMBLIES FOR THE UPPER WEST SIDE

Monday, September 29th

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Bilingual: Spanish

Amsterdam Houses Community Room
218 West 64th Street
(between Amsterdam and West End)

Thursday, October 16th

4pm to 6pm

Youth Neighborhood Assembly

NYPL St. Agnes Branch
444 Amsterdam Avenue
(On 81st Street)

Tuesday, September 30th

6:30pm to 8:30pm

General Neighborhood Assembly
West Side YMCA Parkside Lounge
5 West 63rd Street
(off Central Park West)

Sunday, October 19th

2pm to 4pm

General Neighborhood Assembly
Goddard Riverside
593 Columbus Avenue
(on 88th Street)

Monday, October 6th

3:30pm to 5:30pm

Senior Citizen Assembly

Project FIND Community Room
111 W 71st St
(between Columbus and Amsterdam)

Wednesday, October 22nd

6:30pm to 8:30pm

General Neighborhood Assembly
Marseilles Senior Center
230 W 103rd Street
(between Broadway and West End Ave)

Tuesday, October 28th

6:30pm to 8:30pm

General Neighborhood Assembly
John Jay College
524 W 59th Street
First floor new building

The DOE Fund is Coming Back to the UWS

I'm thrilled to announce the DOE Fund is coming back to the UWS! On October 1st the DOE Fund will start the first of their roving routes around the district and pick up trash and clean the streets on West End Avenue between 86th and 96th streets and Broadway between 76th and 86th. I'll adjust their route throughout the year, so please let me know if you see an area that needs particular attention. The DOE Fund's work will be in addition to regular sanitation pickups by the City, and it will continue through June 30, 2015. You can learn more about the initiative from a [recent article in DNA Info](#).



Council Member on the Corner

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Council Member on the Corner last week! I enjoyed meeting you all and talking about issues face to face. My next Council Member on the Corner will be on Wednesday, October 29th from 5pm-7pm at 94th & Columbus. Stop by and say hello!

New Middle School Option for District 3

Parents: if your child is applying to middle school this fall, be sure to look into the new UWS middle school: the West End Secondary School for Urban Studies. Learn more about it on the [school's new website](#). It's another great choice for the district. The principal, Jessica Jenkins, is making presentations around the district -- ask your school if she can come speak with parents, or you can meet her and other principals at the October 17 District 3 Fair.

Freedom House

As Freedom House reduces its shelter population from 200 units to 100 units as of November 1, I am reaching out to Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Lilliam Barrios-Paoli and Commissioner Been of HPD to enlist their help in calling for these units to be rented again as permanent affordable housing and made available to the public as quickly as possible.

E-Waste Recycling Event

If you have old electronics laying around, now's the time to get rid of them! I'm hosting an e-waste recycling event with the Lower East Side Ecology Center on Sunday, October 12 from 11am - 4pm on Amsterdam Avenue between 74th & 75th streets. We'll accept computers, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs, VCRs, CD & DVD players, phones, audio/visual equipment, video games, cell phones and PDAs. Please note that starting January 1, 2015 it will be illegal for NYC residents to dispose of their electronics in the regular trash.

****Please note the location of the October 11th e-waste recycling event listed in our Events Calendar has moved to Third Avenue between 105th & 106th Streets on the East Side****

Separate Entrances

A recent op-ed by the New York Times Editorial Board suggested that separate entrances, or "poor doors," are a small price to pay for affordable housing. I believe that's a false choice. Segregation of any kind has no place in New York City, and we can build affordable housing without it. Read more in my [Letter to the Editor](#).



Climate Change & NYC

Last weekend was an incredible call to action on climate change, and I was proud to be a part of it. On Saturday about 800 people gathered at 350.org's Global Climate Treaty forum, and I [announced my call to divest from fossil fuels in the City's five pension plans](#) and [read my proclamation designating September 21st as Climate Change Awareness Day in New York City](#). On Sunday I joined the hundreds of thousands of people who marched for environmental justice in the People's Climate March.



Airbnb and Illegal Hotels

We all know that New York City is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis. What you may not know is that Airbnb is making it worse. Airbnb gives an incentive (and a veneer of legitimacy) to landlords of SRO and rent-regulated apartments to empty out their units and rent them at much higher rates. I have joined the Share Better coalition against Airbnb, and I encourage you to learn more about this issue at the [Share Better website](#).

Helen



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