

[View this email in your browser](#)



# Helen Rosenthal

Council Member, 6th District



563 Columbus Avenue @ 87th St. (212) 873-0282 [Helen@HelenRosenthal.com](mailto:Helen@HelenRosenthal.com)

Dear Neighbors,

## DISTRICT

### EXPENSE (PROGRAM) FUNDING DEADLINE – FEBRUARY 22 MONDAY

Non-Profit organizations serving District 6 residents: if you would like to request **funding from the City**, the deadline is this Monday. There will be no exceptions or extensions for this application. No supplemental materials are needed by my office but you must get the application filed by this Monday by 5pm. The link to the form – which can ONLY be submitted online – is [here](#). You may call (212) 873-0282 x.200 with any questions.

If you have questions or issues with **Medicare** – whether you are signing up for the first time, changing plans or have an issue with your current plan, we now have an expert on Medicare benefits in the District Office on Thursday from 12:30pm-2:30 pm. Ruth is also available by phone or email at other hours, just contact our office at (212) 873-0282 x.206 to get that information.

BEWARE: There is another **phone scam** making the rounds: the caller claims to be calling from the U.S. Department of the Treasury and references criminal charges that have been filed. The caller is threatening, and it is a frightening and intimidating script. Please know that a federal, state, or city government agency would never contact anyone in this manner. One would always receive a notice in writing by a legitimate government agency. Please exercise caution whenever you receive a call from someone claiming to be from a government agency and requesting money or personal information. Do not give out any information to these callers. If you have received this phone scam or others, you can report it [here](#).

**Job opportunity for young adult NYCHA residents** (aged 18-24): apply to the Green City Force Urban Farm Corps! Benefits include paid job training through hands-on experience, a free monthly metro-card, money to help pay for college, support for job/college placement, training and certifications towards careers, and an active alumni network. The deadline to apply is February 22nd, 2016. To apply, contact Renee

Whittick at [renee@greencityforce.org](mailto:renee@greencityforce.org).

The Mayor recently announced a new program to bring **additional street cleaning to the Upper West Side**. The initiative, CleaNYC, would bring graffiti removal and sidewalk power washing to commercial corridors citywide, including Broadway in our neighborhood, and it would expand Sunday and holiday litter basket collection. [Learn more](#).

You may qualify for **free tax prep** from the City. If you earned \$62,000 or less in 2015, you can file online at [nyc.gov/taxprep](http://nyc.gov/taxprep); if you earned \$54,000 or less (with children) or \$30,000 or less (no children), you can file in person with a certified tax preparer at [several locations in the neighborhood](#).

If you are a woman over forty and have not had a mammogram in the past year, you can get a **free mammogram** in a program sponsored by my office. A mobile care clinic will come to the neighborhood on April 1st, but be sure to RSVP soon to get a spot by calling (212) 873-0282 x.200 or emailing [Helen@HelenRosenthal.com](mailto:Helen@HelenRosenthal.com). [See the flyer](#).

After months of negotiations with the landlord, the City renewed the lease for the West End Secondary School, which means **the school building can now receive much needed repairs**. Read more in [DNA Info](#).

If you park your car in the neighborhood, you may want to download this year's **Alternate Side Parking calendar**. You can also pick up a copy at my district office. [See the calendar](#).

**Plastic bags** clog up our streets, trees, and waterways, and it is our responsibility to reduce their impact on the environment. You can learn more about the issue at State Senator Brad Hoylman's next conservation forum on Thursday, February 25, from 6:30pm-8pm. [See the flyer](#).

The Center for Disease Control issued a health advisory for travelers returning from regions affected by the **Zika virus**: Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico. You cannot get the virus from casual contact with an infected person; you can only contract the disease from infected mosquitoes, and in some cases, from blood or sexual contact with an infected person. You can learn more about the Zika virus [here](#).



Helen and former Upper West Side Council Member Ronnie Eldridge speak on Ronnie's TV show, Eldridge & Co. (February 2, 2016)

**Former Upper West Side Council Member Ronnie Eldridge** interviewed me on her show, Eldridge & Co, and our conversation covered affordable housing, good government reforms, and how the Council has changed over the years. I had a lot of fun, and I think you will, too. [Watch the video.](#)

## CITY HALL

The New York League of Conservation Voters publishes a scorecard each year of Council Members' support for key **environmental legislation**, and I'm honored to have received a score of 100% for the second straight year! You can read the scorecard [here](#).

Last month's blizzard brought record snowfall, and while the City did a great job clearing the streets of snow, the curb cuts were another matter. Current law requires the property owner on the corner of each street to clear that corner's curb cuts, but the law is rarely enforced, which means **many corners are impassable for people in wheelchairs**. New York Magazine explored the issue ("[Whose Fault is the Slushy Pile at the Curb?](#)"), and I believe our City's car-centric approach to snow removal needs reevaluation.

The Mayor's **two zoning proposals**, [Mandatory Inclusionary Housing \(MIH\) \(+ link\)](#) and [Zoning for Quality and Affordability \(ZQA\)](#), had hearings last week and are being considered by the Council. As we amend the legislation, I am particularly hopeful we can change the bills to keep mid-block buildings lower than buildings on the corners, so residents facing the inside of the block can still have light and air. The

Council must come to a decision within 50 days of the hearings, and I'll keep you posted once that is scheduled.

Two independent data analysts, Murray Cox and Tom Slee, found that **Airbnb purged nearly 1,500 illegal New York City listings** last November, weeks before their widely publicized data release in December showing few illegal listings. It is clear the company misled the press and the public. You can read the report for yourself (and download the two data sets used) [here](#).

Stay warm!

*Helen.*



*Copyright © 2016 Office of Council Member Helen Rosenthal, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website, [helenrosenthal.com](http://helenrosenthal.com); you attended a meeting hosted by Council Member Rosenthal or someone on her staff; or you used the services offered by the Council Member's district office. If you would rather not receive this newsletter, let us know by clicking the "Unsubscribe" link below.

**Our mailing address is:**

563 Columbus Avenue  
New York, NY 10024  
(212) 873-0282

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)