



"Obstacles don't define us. Rather, it is the unparalleled courage and character of us that defines us as a people. So my confidence in the future is steeped in our glorious past - in the face of adversity, we always persist. We persevere, we prevail." Governor Kathy Hochul

NYS Primary Election – June 24th – Make Your Plan



Early Voting Started on Saturday, June 14th, 2025

Early voting for the 2025 New York State Primary Elections begins Saturday, June 14th and runs every day until Sunday, June 22nd. Election Day is Tuesday, June 24th.

New Yorkers will vote for their chosen party's candidates for local elections coming up on November 4th, 2025.

Voting deadlines

- ✓ [Early voting](#): June 14th – June 22nd
- ✓ [In-person](#): June 24th

Early Voting polls

Early voting polling places may differ from Election Day voting sites and times vary by county.

- ✓ [NYS Voters \(outside NYC\):](#)
- ✓ [NYC Voters:](#)
- ✓ **NYC Turnout as of June 19, 2025 – (Day 6)**
- ✓ Manhattan - 69,473
- ✓ Bronx - 16,418
- ✓ Brooklyn - 78,311
- ✓ Queens - 41,177
- ✓ Staten Island - 7,065
- ✓ *As of Close of Polls – Unofficial and Cumulative 212,444

In The News-New York State



Session is Recessed Pending Leaders Call



The 2025 New York State Schedule Session has come to a close. State Senators left Albany in the early morning hours last Friday, gaveling out at 4:20 a.m. The Senate stands adjourned at the call of the Temporary President. The Assembly worked through early Wednesday, June 18th to finish the business of the people's house. As with the Senate, the Assembly is adjourned subject to the call of the Speaker.

As of session's end 856 bills passed both houses of the Legislature. As of this morning, 701 bills awaited delivery to the Governor for Executive action

Bills recently signed by the Governor include:

| CHAPTER | Bill No. | Title |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| 155 | S8396 | GIANARIS -- Extends certain provisions relating to allowing artists to set certain rules about the resale of tickets to certain events |
| 154 | S8346 | CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK -- Extends the provisions of accepting payment in lieu of taxes for property acquired for parks or recreational purposes |
| 153 | S7806 | CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK -- Extends a payment in lieu of taxes for Lido Beach in the town of Hempstead |
| 152 | S7049A | FERNANDEZ -- Authorizes the city of New York to discontinue the use as parkland and alienate certain land within Ferry Point Park in the borough of the Bronx |
| 151 | S6641A | GOUNARDES -- Relates to increasing certain special accidental death benefits |
| 150 | S5686 | LANZA -- Extends the time period for the conveyance of lands for the establishment of the Gateway National Recreation Area |
| 149 | S5403 | RYAN S -- Facilitates the marketing of any issue of serial bonds or notes of the city of Buffalo issued on or before a certain date |
| 142 | A8153 | Carroll P -- Extends certain provision of law relating to value limitations for certain emergency contracts for public works or the purchase of supplies |
| 141 | A8069A | Braunstein -- Extends provisions of law relating to the acquisition and disposition of real property by the metropolitan transportation authority |
| 140 | A8045 | Bronson -- Extends certain provisions authorizing certain mental health practitioners to engage in diagnosis and the development of assessment-based treatment plans |
| 139 | A7428 | Pheffer Amato -- Extends for four fiscal years the current 7% per annum statutory rate of interest used in valuing retirement system liabilities for the purpose of computing the amount of employer contributions |

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|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| 138 | A6781B | Hooks -- Authorizes the city of New York to discontinue the use as parkland and alienate certain land within Flushing Meadows Corona Park |
| 136 | A5298 | Pretlow -- Relates to bonds and notes of the city of Yonkers |
| 135 | A1177 | Peoples-Stokes -- Provides for the sale of municipal obligations by the county of Erie |



DiNapoli Releases Annual IDA Report

New York's 106 local Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs) reported 4,282 active projects with a record high total value of nearly \$136 billion in fiscal year end (FYE) 2023, an increase of 3.1% or over \$4 billion, from the prior year, according to an [annual report](#) released today by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

“Recent increases in property values and construction costs have contributed to rising IDA project values, which reached new highs in 2023 despite a modest decrease in the number of active projects,” DiNapoli said. “IDAs can provide benefits to the communities they serve through support to local businesses and job growth, but local officials and other stakeholders should closely monitor the costs and benefits associated with these projects to ensure they are yielding the expected positive results.”

DiNapoli’s report summarizes the most recent annual project and financial data reported by IDAs through the Public Authorities Reporting Information System. The data is not independently verified by the State Comptroller’s Office.

DiNapoli’s report also highlights other notable IDA activity in FYE 2023, including:

- Of the 4,282 active IDA projects, 2,670 (62.4%) were county IDA projects, followed by towns (17.7%), cities excluding New York City (12.4%), New York City (7%), villages (0.5%) and city-town IDAs (0.1%).
- The number of IDA projects has declined by 9.3% from FYEs 2013 to 2023, while the total project value of all IDA projects has increased by over 76%.
- Project operators estimated that 202,706 jobs would be created by all IDA projects in FYE 2023, a decline of 5.2% from the prior year. While this reflects 11,181 fewer jobs, the median salary for these jobs increased slightly – from \$42,000 in FYE 2022 to \$43,000 in FYE 2023.
- The number of net jobs gained (reflecting current jobs reported by project operators minus initial jobs reported before becoming IDA projects) was 226,827, the highest number since FYE 2014 and an increase of 11.1% compared to FYE 2022.
- Total tax exemptions for IDA projects were just under \$2 billion, up 0.3%, or \$5.3 million, over FYE 2022. Property tax exemptions represented \$1.7 billion or over 87% of all tax exemptions granted.
- A total of \$883 million in payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) partially offset nearly \$2 billion in tax exemptions, resulting in total net tax exemptions of \$1.1 billion, down 2.2% from FYE 2022.
- Aggregate IDA revenues totaled \$99.8 million, while expenditures totaled \$88.5 million. The New York City IDA reported \$6.6 million in expenditures, the highest total of any IDA in FYE 2023.
- IDAs reported 215 new projects, of which the Finger Lakes had the most of any region at 44 projects, followed by Long Island (37), Mid-Hudson (35), and Western New York (27).
- New IDA projects in FYE 2023 had a combined value of \$7.4 billion. The Mid-Hudson region had the highest aggregate value of new projects of any region with \$2.4 billion, followed by the Finger Lakes (\$1.8 billion), Long Island (\$1.4 billion), and Western New York (\$832 million). Conversely, New York City and the North Country each had under \$100 million in total new project value.

- The New York City IDA granted over \$576 million in total tax exemptions in FYE 2023, representing 29.5 percent of all exemptions granted by IDAs statewide.

IDA reform legislation enacted in 2015 requires IDAs to assess the progress of each project annually and develop policies for the discontinuance or return of some or all of the financial assistance provided for a project (known as a claw back) under specified circumstances, such as material shortfalls in job creation or violations of a project agreement. In FYE 2015, 17 out of 109 active IDAs (15.5%) reported having no claw back agreements. In FYE 2023, that share had fallen to 7 out of 106 IDAs (6.6%).

DiNapoli's office examines IDA costs and outcomes in several ways, including performing audits of the operations of individual IDAs, providing training to IDA officials on various topics, and encouraging improvements in IDA procedures and reporting. (<https://www.osc.ny.gov/press/releases/2025/06/dinapoli-releases-annual-ida-report>)

In The News-New York City

Mayor Adams Posthumously Awards Key to the City of New York to Former Congressman Charles B. Rangel

Born on June 11, 1930, in New York City, Congressman Rangel rose from humble beginnings to become a decorated war hero, accomplished lawyer, and a legendary statesman. His voice helped shape the national conversation on civil rights, economic justice, and urban revitalization.

A proud son of Harlem, Congressman Rangel served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, earning a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his bravery. After returning home, he earned degrees from New York University and St. John's University School of Law, which paved the way for a lifetime of public service.

In 1970, Congressman Rangel won a seat in the U.S. Congress, unseating Adam Clayton Powell Jr. His win launched a historic 46-year tenure in Congress. He was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and served as chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, the first African American to do so.

In Harlem, Congressman Rangel was the community's steadfast and dedicated caretaker, bringing the necessary funding and pride to the place he called home. Rangel's legacy includes not only landmark legislation but generations of those he mentored and inspired. He leaves behind a grateful community and a nation that has been enriched by his service.



City Council Members Celebrate NYC Council's Funding Support for Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens

New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams joined Variety Boys and Girls Club of Queens CEO Costa Constantinides, Queens Council Members, and community and civic leaders to celebrate the Council's

longstanding support and capital funding investments to help build a new, state-of-the-art facility that will serve as the largest Boys and Girls Club of its kind in the nation.

The Variety Boys and Girls Club of Queens, which has served Western Queens since 1955, currently supports 4,000 local youth annually through a diverse array of youth development programs. Over the last eight years, the Council has allocated \$7.5 million in capital funds towards the construction of the new clubhouse, of which \$2.5 million came directly from Speaker Adams.

This financial support will help the Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens build a \$305 million club with the capacity to serve 16,000 young people, effectively quadrupling the reach of its after-school, athletic, and swimming programs. When completed, one in four children in New York City will be able to benefit from the club's expanded services. The project is slated to break ground at the end of the year.



NYC Office of the Mayor

Mayor Adams Celebrates City Planning Commission's Approval of Midtown South Mixed-Use Plan to Create Nearly 10,000 New Homes

New York City Mayor Eric Adams and New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) Director and City Planning Commission (CPC) Chair Dan Garodnick today celebrated the CPC's vote in favor of the Midtown South Mixed-Use (MSMX) Plan, an ambitious proposal to bring approximately 9,700 new homes across 42 blocks of Midtown South where housing is largely not allowed today.

By mapping Mandatory Inclusionary Housing onto the neighborhood for the first time, and requiring new developments to include affordable housing, MSMX ensures that up to 2,900 of those units will be permanently affordable as well. New housing in the neighborhood will be paired with public realm improvements and additional investments to create a more vibrant, 24/7 neighborhood with affordable housing, good jobs, and accessible open space. MSMX is a key component of Mayor Adams' "Manhattan Plan" to create over 100,000 new homes across the borough over the coming decade to bring the total number of homes in Manhattan to 1 million.

First unveiled in his State of the City address earlier this year, the Manhattan Plan utilizes neighborhood rezonings like MSMX, the redevelopment of city-owned sites like 100 Gold Street in Lower Manhattan, and individual applications for zoning changes like the creation of nearly 700 homes above a future Second Avenue Subway station in East Harlem.

"Midtown South is home to some of our city's most iconic parks, buildings, and businesses, yet for too long, outdated zoning has stopped it from actually being a home for many New Yorkers. With today's vote, we are one step closer to finally building new housing in Midtown and making it a vibrant neighborhood to live, work, and play in," said Mayor Adams. "Our Midtown South Mixed-Use plan will not only bring nearly 10,000 new homes to the neighborhood, but it will bring us closer to our vision of 100,000 new homes across all of Manhattan over the next decade and help make sure that New York City is the best place to raise a family." The MSMX plan covers four distinct areas centered around Herald and Greeley Squares located roughly between West 23rd and West 40th Streets as well as 5th and 8th Avenues.

Briefs

Attorney General James Freezes \$300,000 in Cryptocurrency Linked to Scammers Targeting New Yorkers

New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced that her office took action to stop a fraudulent cryptocurrency investment scam that targeted hundreds of Russian-speaking New Yorkers in Brooklyn and across the country. A joint investigation by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, and the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS), found that Vietnam-based scammers defrauded victims by luring them with deceptive social media ads in Russian that claimed big returns on cryptocurrency and other investments. The scammers convinced more than a hundred victims to purchase cryptocurrency and invest it into fake trading platforms, then stole the victims' assets and disappeared. After learning of the investigation, Meta shut down more than 700 accounts associated with an advertiser promoting the scam. The OAG secured a court order freezing \$300,000 worth of cryptocurrency linked to the scammers, and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office seized an additional \$140,000 worth of cryptocurrency.

The scammers involved in this scheme lured victims with deceptive social media ads, many in Russian, featuring popular names and personalities. Once victims showed interest in investing, scammers responded to them and moved the conversation to encrypted private messaging apps like Telegram. After the victims made an initial investment on the fraudulent platforms, scammers then falsely showed the victims that their investment accounts were increasing in value and encouraged victims to send more money. After making more investments, sometimes totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars, victims were unable to withdraw their funds and told they needed to pay more in false withdrawal fees or "taxes." Eventually, the scammers cut off contact with the victim and pocketed their money.

Gothamist: NYC cab drivers fear death of industry as Waymo aims to launch driverless taxis

A decade after Uber upended New York's yellow taxi industry, another Silicon Valley giant is threatening to push the city's cabbies to the brink of extinction.

Waymo, a robot-driven car service owned by Google's parent company Alphabet, applied for a permit Wednesday with the city transportation department to test out a small fleet of autonomous vehicles in an outlined Manhattan zone between Central Park and the Battery, and some parts of Downtown Brooklyn.

If approved, the cars wouldn't pick up passengers, but would guide themselves while a company employee monitors from the passenger's seat. The pilot aims to prove they're safe for New York City's chaotic streets.

The company already operates in several major cities across the country, particularly on the West Coast.

State law mandates that any car in New York must be operated by a human. Waymo officials said they're lobbying lawmakers to remove the ban.

But the prospect of driverless taxis faces strong political headwinds because Waymo threatens the livelihood of the city's roughly 100,000 taxi and for-hire vehicle drivers, New York Taxi Workers Alliance Bhairavi Desai said.

“This is just big money from tech finance trying to get around the rules and regulations to essentially destroy a workforce,” Desai said. “We’ve been down this path before when Uber and Lyft came into the industry. They destroyed the income levels and the job security that drivers had. Ten years later, the entire workforce is still reeling from it.”

City transportation officials and the mayor’s office did not respond to requests for comment about Waymo’s application.

Desai pointed out that the arrival of app-based car services like Uber and Lyft in New York City back in 2015 undermined the core business model for yellow taxis, which had a set number of medallions that gave them the exclusive right to street hails that were valued at more than \$1 million. Within three years, the app-based companies deployed more than 70,000 for-hire vehicles on the street, far outnumbering the 13,500 yellow taxi medallions registered in the city.

By 2020, the selling price of taxi medallions fell below \$200,000, pushing many medallion owners into financial ruin. In 2018, at least eight taxi drivers died by suicide.

Desai now fears that Waymo represents an even greater threat to taxi drivers.

Waymo representatives argued human cabbies can co-exist with robot drivers shortly, but made no promise the company wouldn’t try to one day replace New York’s taxi drivers.

“We believe human drivers and autonomous vehicles will exist side-by-side for many years, just as they do today in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix and Austin, where we operate,” Waymo spokesperson Ethan Teicher wrote in a statement. “We also know that a new workforce will be needed to support fleets of autonomous vehicles, and are working hard to make those opportunities available to more people.”

Teicher said that the company’s “footprint” helps create jobs, including mechanics for the autonomous vehicles and managers who help run the fleets.

The benefits of introducing a new autonomous taxi service to New Yorkers are unclear. Waymo representatives argued that robot drivers are safer than humans behind the wheel. But in May, the company recalled more than 1,200 of its driverless cars after a software bug caused them to crash into gates, chains and general roadway barriers.

A June report from the ride-share pricing company Obi found that Waymo’s driverless taxi trips were hardly cheaper than the human-operated rides offered by Uber and Lyft.

Desai warned the tech executives from Waymo would be able to buy their way into New York City, noting Uber launched a major advertising blitz in 2017 as the City Council considered limiting the number of cars the company was allowed to put on city streets. The Council later dropped the legislation.

“We often think that consumers shape the economy through demand,” Desai said. “What I’ve lived through is the ability of businesses to inform consumer appetite and demand. I think the economy is far more politically driven than it is consumer-driven.”

https://gothamist.com/news/nyc-cab-drivers-fear-death-of-industry-as-waymo-aims-to-launch-for-driverless-taxis?utm_source=sfmc&utm_medium=nypr-email&utm_campaign=Newsletter+-+Early+Addition+-+20250620&utm_term=test+out+a+small+fleet+of+autonomous+vehicles&utm_id=460388&sfmc_id=88825470&utm_content=2025620&nypr_member=Unknown



Coming Up

New York State

There are no meetings at the time of this publication

New York City

Monday, June 23rd

Committee on Public Safety, Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

Committee On Contracts, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25th

Committee on Fire and Emergency Management, Committee Room – City Hall, 100 a.m.

Committee on Criminal Justice, Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

Committee on Small Business, Council Chambers - City Hall, 1 p.m.

Thursday, June 26th

Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions,
250 Broadway – Committee Room, 16th Floor, 10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises,
250 Broadway – Committee Room, 16th Floor, 11 a.m.

Committee on Land Use, 250 Broadway - Committee Room, 16th Floor, 11:30 a.m.

Committee on Technology, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1 p.m.

Committee on Civil Service and Labor, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1 p.m.

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**120 Broadway, 28th Floor
New York, New York 10271**
Telephone (212) 652-3890

**111 Washington Avenue, St. 401
Albany, New York 12210**
Telephone (518) 449-3320

**1220 19th Street NW, St. 600
Washington, D.C. 20036**
Telephone (202) 964-4753