



Senator Adriano Espaillat: May 7, 2014 Update

Contact Info: David Baily, Regional Director

(212) 544-0173 / dbaily@adrianoespaillat.org

5030 Broadway, Room 701, New York, NY 10034



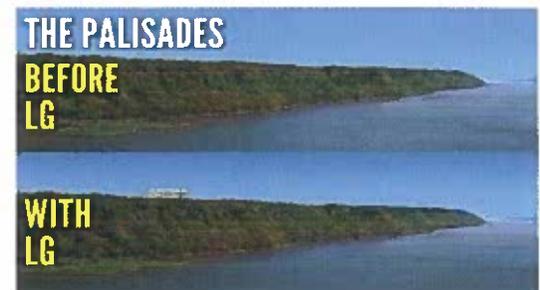
In the ongoing effort to limit traffic fatalities, Senator Espaillat co-sponsored legislation in the New York State Senate to allow the New York City Council to reduce the speed limit to 20 miles per hour in appropriate areas. By reducing a car's speed from 30mph to 20mph, a pedestrian's likelihood of surviving a collision goes from 50% to 95%.

Additionally, the NYC Department of Transportation announced an arterial slow zone along Broadway from Columbus Circle to 220th

street, where 22 pedestrian have died since 2008. The speed limit will be reduced to 25mph.

NYS Senate Democrats Introduce Ethics Reform Package: Yesterday the New York State Senate Democrats introduced a nine-piece ethics reform package to help eliminate corruption in Albany. The bills will establish a public financing system, lower contribution limits, strip pension benefits for legislators convicted of crimes that breach the public trust, limit the uses of campaign funds, increase transparency, and close the LLC loophole that has allowed real estate interests to obtain undue influence Albany.

Protect the Palisades Update: Earlier this month Sen. Espaillat was joined by Gov. Cuomo, US Sens. Gillibrand & Schumer, AG Schneiderman and many others in taking a stance against LG's proposed Palisades tower. The electeds and eleven respected parks and preservation organizations filed multiple "friend of the Court" (*amicus curiae*) briefs in New Jersey Appellate Court against LG's plans to erect a 143-foot tower that would soar above the treeline. Senator Espaillat's office also submitted testimony at the Englewood Cliffs Planning Board meeting on April 30.



A recent New York Times editorial stated, "[Samsung's] project in San Jose is thoughtful. LG's is a public shame." We will continue to advocate for our park goers and surrounding neighborhoods by urging LG electronics to revise the project design, lowering the height to just below the tree line on the Palisades by making more use of their 27-acre campus. There is an Englewood Cliffs Planning Board Hearing on the matter next Wednesday, April 30th at 7:30pm at 143 Charlotte Place (Upper School) in Englewood Cliffs. All interested parties are welcome to attend and show their support for the Palisades..

New Grade 6-12 School on the Upper West Side: With Beacon High School moving downtown, after strong community support for a new school at the 227 West 61st Street campus, the Department of Education announced a new Middle and High School at the site starting in September 2015. This will increase the number of middle school seats in District 3 (which goes from 59th street to 124th street), accommodating the growing population.

Adriano Espaillat represents New York State's 31st Senatorial District, stretching from Chelsea & Hell's Kitchen through the Upper West Side, Manhattanville, West Harlem, Hamilton Heights, Washington Heights, Inwood and Marble Hill.

DAILY NEWS

Harvesting Hope Farmworkers Deserve Equal Labor Rights



Adriano Espaillat is leading the charge for the people who feed all of us.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, Tuesday, April 29, 2014

The state Senate Labor Committee Monday voted by a margin of more than two to one to grant New York's 100,000 farm workers full and equal labor rights. The entire exercise — introduction, discussion and passage — took 100 seconds. That's to undo 80 years of injustice that have excluded field hands from otherwise universal protections such as overtime pay, an unpaid day off per week and the right to organize and bargain collectively.

Steered by Chairwoman Diane Savino, the panel voted 11 to 5 to approve the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act. Support was tri-partisan: Savino is a member of the Independent Democratic Conference. She was joined by six Democrats and four Republicans.

The GOP side was led by Joe Robach of Rochester. At his side were Long Islanders Carl Marcellino, Jack Martins and Kemp Hannon. As a famous New York Republican often said: "Bully." The bill has 26 Democratic sponsors. Add in the four stalwart Republicans and the number is getting very close to the magic 32 needed for floor passage. The legislation has cleared the Assembly and Gov. Cuomo says he will sign it.

The next step is the Finance Committee. Prime sponsor Adriano Espaillat has already filed the papers to force action there. He's right to say that "all workers, regardless of where they work, should have the same rights and privileges." Finally, the bitter harvest of shame must end.