

NPC Outreach

Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS

Volume 2, No. 3, March 2023

Message from NPC Executive Director

Mark Streb



Click on the link to view my testimony at the Joint Legislative Hearing on the 2023-24 Executive Budget Proposal. (Start point begins at 4:22:00.)

Having seen and talked with many of you at our Advocacy Day Rally on February 13, I know you've been as busy as we have in our Albany office. Sincere appreciation goes out to everyone who attended, as well as those who supported our efforts from a distance.

As with you, we've been busy with HCR mid-year reports, as well as writing and reading too many emails to count. Advocacy materials, meetings, and appointments are the staple of each day during the legislative session in Albany.

I've had the honor of testifying at hearings regarding the proposed 2023-24 NYS Budget.

Last Wednesday, I testified on behalf of our NPCs at the Joint Legislative Public Hearing on the 2023-24 Executive Budget Proposal. The

previous week I testified virtually on behalf of our NPCs in Westchester County.

Virtual or in-person, my message is consistent and concise.

Very simply, the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) requires additional support through increased funding to our NPCs, as well as the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition:

It's time to increase NPP funding to \$17.75M. Additionally, the Coalition should be funded at \$250,000.

■ Review our [2023 NPC Budget Advocacy Agenda](#).

continued on next page



Message from Board President Cassandra Perry

This year's Albany Advocacy Day took on a unique perspective for me. Though always proud of The 163rd Street Improvement Council, as well as all of our fellow NPCs, as the newly elected Board Chair I felt honored to stand before you and speak. You spent your time to travel to Albany and deliver our message, to make our collective voice louder.

I was honored to meet the elected representatives who support us, Senator Kavanagh and Assemblywoman Rosenthal. THEY also took time to listen to our message, rallied behind us, and voiced their support during the Joint Legislative Hearing this past week.

I am both proud and honored to be part of an organization that has had support of a legislative body for so many years. The Neighborhood Preservation Program was a forward-thinking Program when

continued on the next page

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Mark Streb Message *continued*

We're thankful for the support of the Westchester State Senate Delegation who hosted two Budget Forums, allowing constituents two opportunities to attend. The first hearing was February 16 at the Town Hall in White Plains, NY, and the second on February 21 was live-streamed on Facebook. Within five Senate districts, the delegation supports seven of the Coalition's NPCs.

Some messages bear repeating: We're thankful to all elected representatives who continue to support the NPP. If you have a spare moment, use the links on the next page to reach out to the NYS Legislative Committee Chairs who always have time for us.

Cassandra Perry Message *continued*

Denny Farrell and the legislature created it nearly half a century ago, in 1977. It's demonstrated its worth to communities in New York State ever since, serving in ways never imagined, for the better part of the last 50 years. It's established and it works.

Just as there is no single cause of the housing affordability crisis, there is no SINGLE solution.

Newly created solutions and programs are desperately needed, but not at the expense of decreasing funds for existing programs.

Even though Lobby Day has ended and we have returned to our familiar places of business, we must continue to drive home this message in our local Districts and at the State level.

The NPP was a forward-thinking Program when Denny Farrell and the legislature created it nearly half a century ago, in 1977. It's demonstrated its worth to communities in New York State ever since, serving in ways never imagined, for the better part of the last 50 years. It's established and it works.

I encourage you to read the written testimony, as well as review resources listed on page 3.

Further, I ask you to continue to reach out to your elected officials until our agenda is approved.

I am excited at our collective potential to effect significant and lasting change to the housing affordability crisis.

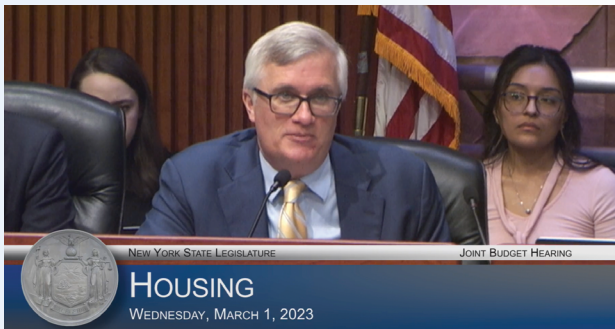
Click on topics in the pulldown menu.

Each is a link and will take you to the individual NPC web page.

Legislative Representatives Support the Coalition NPCs at Joint Budget Hearing

Once again, our strongest and unwavering support comes from the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Housing Committees. Both Senator Kavanagh and Assemblywoman Rosenthal spoke out in support of our agenda during the hearing.

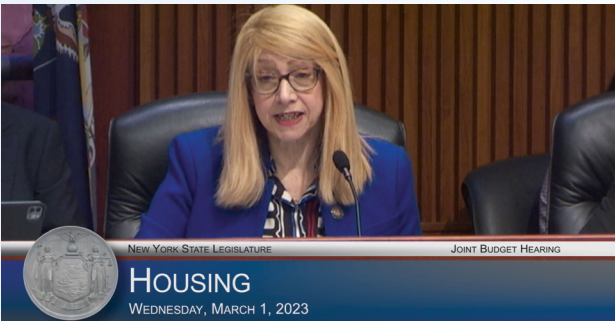
Links to their websites are below if you'd like to send them a message of thanks or check out the work they do.



Senator Brian Kavanagh

Chair, Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development

visit Website > click nysenate.gov...



Assemblywoman Linda B. Rosenthal

Chair, Committee on Housing

visit Website > click nyassembly.gov...

ADVOCACY 2023

2023 Lobbying Guide

Budget Advocacy Agenda

Community & Economic Health Data

Strengthening & Unifying NPCs

Impact of NPCs

2023-24 Joint Legislative Budget Hearing — Written Testimony **NEW**

Assembly & Senate Districts by NPC

NPCs by Assembly & Senate Districts

An infographic titled "Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS 2023-24 Budget Advocacy Agenda" dated February 13th. It features a table of NPP funding for eight years (2015-16 to 2022-23) and a cumulative rate of inflation of 25.7%. It also includes an inflation calculator and a list of key messages for the 2023-24 NYS Budget. The key messages include: "For the 2023-24 NYS Budget we request the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) be funded at \$17.75M", "NPP funding for eight years", "Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP)", "Community-based not-for-profit corporations known as Neighborhood Preservation Companies (NPCs) obtain critical funding through the NPP program.", "NPCs are local assistance providers, providing a broad range of preservation and revitalization activities.", "Funding is crucial for these companies' survival and in turn, survival of many neighborhoods and people.", "Families continue to be housing cost burdened with a housing affordability crisis.", "NPCs are often the last line of support before living in a shelter or on the street.", "Funding for NPCs drives economic growth. NPP funds leveraged other funding sources at rate of \$10 for every NPP dollar appropriated.", and "Flat funding is a cut in funding!". At the bottom, it states: "We respectfully request \$250,000 to enable us to maintain and expand services provided to NPCs." and "Mission: The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition will unify, educate, empower, and strengthen community organizations in their provision of affordable housing and community revitalization activities." and "Essential services include direct technical service to member NPCs, as well as training, geographic service area certification, data-gathering and analysis. Advocacy day and a 3-day annual conference are planned and organized by the Coalition. Weekly email and a monthly newsletter, in addition to other digital- and print-communications are provided to support essential services and events."

The Budget Advocacy Agenda is our "ASK."

A concise, simple message for support through funding.



Message from New York State Homes and Community Renewal Commissioner RuthAnne Visnauskas



2023 is off to an exciting start for HCR and our housing partners! In January we took a giant leap forward toward addressing a housing supply crisis that affects nearly everyone, regardless of age, income, or phase of life when [Governor Hochul announced the New York Housing Compact](#) — a bold statewide proposal that engages communities in removing barriers to create 800,000 homes over the next decade in a way that benefits our climate, accommodates our growing workforce, and expands fair access to housing for all New Yorkers.

The Housing Compact will be another important tool in our housing toolbox.

I recently had the honor of testifying at the Joint Legislative Budget Hearing on the Governor’s 2024 Executive Budget proposal for housing

to discuss the Housing Compact and its role in restoring the *cycle of housing* in New York State — building starter homes, larger houses or apartments for growing families, and homes where our parents and grandparents can live safely and independently in their communities.

Highlights of the Housing Compact include:

- **Setting statewide growth targets** for municipalities to achieve on a three-year cycle: three percent for downstate communities served by the MTA, and one percent for upstate communities. Municipalities will decide how to meet their targets and will choose solutions that are best for their communities, with funding and guidance from the State.
- **Focusing on transit-oriented development** in localities with rail stations run by the MTA. Transit-oriented communities creates strong local economies, reduces commute times, and improves public health by encouraging walking, biking, and cutting greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Removing barriers and creating incentives to spur housing investment** through regulatory changes and property tax exemptions that encourage mixed income development, including

allowing more commercial buildings in New York City to be converted for residential use.

The State will provide an initial \$250 million fund to help localities meet the demands of new housing construction on local water supplies, sewers, roads, and bridges as well as a separate \$20 million planning fund to help local governments map out their plans to increase housing capacity.



More information on the Housing Compact can be found [HERE](#).

This will be another important tool in our toolbox, and will complement HCR’s new [\\$25 billion Housing Plan](#) which has already financed nearly 15,000 homes toward the goal of creating 100,000 affordable and supportive homes across New York.

The beginning of 2023 has been full of promise and we at HCR could not be more gratified for your continued partnership and support.

visit [Websites](#) >

[NEW YORK HOUSING COMPACT](#)

[HOMES & COMMUNITY RENEWAL](#)

New York State's Master Plan for Aging (MPA)

NPC Executive Director Mark Streb Selected for Committee

First announced in Governor Hochul's 2023 State of the State Address, the Master Plan for Aging sets the framework for a better future for New York State's older adults.

Ensuring older adults and individuals of all ages can live healthy, fulfilling lives while aging with dignity and independence.

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and New York State Office of the Aging (NYSOFA) are jointly leading the development of the MPA.

Representatives from state agencies, local governments, as well as public and private stakeholders will participate within one of seven subcommittees. Representatives from DOH and OFA will chair/cochair each of the subcommittees, facilitating and addressing issues, and reporting back to their respective Offices.

Key considerations related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be integrated into the work of all these subcommittees.

Subcommittees will begin meeting in March, developing age-friendly initiatives, considering the best of past and present, as well as identifying new initiatives.

MPA Timeline	
Late 2022/Early 2023	Establish State Agency Council and Stakeholder Advisory Committee
Spring/Summer 2023	Preliminary Advisory Report
Throughout 2023	Continued Public Engagement
Early 2024	Draft Final Report
Late 2024	Adopt Final Master Plan

After review by the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and MPA Council, NYSDOH and NYSOFS will work in implementing the plan.

Development is expected to take a couple of years with a completed plan expected in early 2025.

The subcommittees:

- Long Term Services and Supports
- Home and Community Based Services
- Caregivers (Formal and Informal)
- Health and Well Being
- **Housing, Community Planning and Development**
- Economic Security
- Safety and Security

New York State

> [Structure of the MPA](#)

New York State Office for the Aging

> [Combating Ageism and Stereotypes with Data](#)

[visit Website >](#)

NYS MASTER PLAN IN AGING

The Subcommittee on Housing, Community Planning and Development:

Older New Yorkers need access to proper housing, transportation, and related community supports so they can age in a livable community with independence and dignity.

This subcommittee will focus on how housing and the built environment impact health and well-being and contribute to challenges across the age and disability spectrum.

Mark Streb, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State will be participating on the Housing, Community Planning and Development Committee.

New York State Tenants Need a Right to Counsel

Contributed by Executive Director Canyon Ryan, [United Tenants of Albany](#) (NPC member) and Katy Lasell, [Right to Counsel](#) Campaign Organizer

Imagine you've just received an eviction notice.

Perhaps you are one of the 270,000 tenants in New York who does not have to imagine this horror, because you are living it.

Perhaps at your community-based organization, you work with new people day in and day out, who are experiencing eviction and the corresponding fear and trauma.

If you are familiar with this experience, you'll know the panic of *what next?*

You'll know the news of bidding wars over rentals and terrible living conditions plaguing New York's housing stock. You'll know the fear of being thrust from your kid's school district, from your community of neighbors – the fear of living in a shelter, of losing your job, of having to leave the place you call home.

Once you've received the notice, you might scramble to take off work and arrange child care so you can go to court. You might call around to legal providers, trying to get a lawyer, with no luck. As you near your court date, you might be facing the prospect of going up against your powerful landlord's lawyer with no one by your side.

Tenants in these circumstances are statistically less likely to show up for their cases at all, let alone win. They are less likely to get connected with vital social services and resources. They are less likely to identify when their rights are being violated and challenge the landlord lawyers,



Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA) Tenant Leader Randy Dillard speaks at Right to Counsel's Tenant Love + Power Platform Launch in Albany on February 14, 2023.

court staff and judges who are responsible. They are less likely to raise defenses and counterclaims that can help them fight their evictions, and win rent reductions and repairs. And they are most tenants: in Albany, for example, in 2022's third quarter, only 1.3% of tenants were represented in Albany civil court while 91.8% of landlords had attorneys.

There can be no peace in the face of this injustice. We must act to stop the systemic injustices perpetrated in courts against tenants. In the Right to Counsel Coalition, which includes NPC partners around the state, we are doing just that: fighting for the right to a free attorney for ALL New Yorkers in ALL kinds of cases that can result in displacement ([A1493-Joyner/S2721-May](#)).

A Right to Counsel is proven to reduce evictions, keep tenants in their homes, and empower tenants to show up to fight their court cases AND organize their buildings. Without it, our courts will continue to be mere eviction machines. With it, New York State tenants will be better equipped to fight for ALL their rights, in their homes and in the court system.

To join the movement to transform housing courts, win Statewide Right to Counsel, and end evictions across New York State, get in touch with Katy Lasell katy@righttocounselnyc.org and Canyon Ryan canyon@unitedtenantsalbany.org.

visit [Website](#) >

RIGHT TO COUNSEL NYC

LINKS2Partners

National partners:

NACEDA WEBSITE

National Alliance of Community Economic Development Association.
NACEDA's mission is to lead the community development field and its partners in shaping and influencing strategies that advance community prosperity.

NLIHC WEBSITE

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) is dedicated to achieving racially and socially equitable public policy that ensures people with the lowest incomes have quality homes that are accessible and affordable in communities of their choice.

visit Website >

HCR WEBSITE

NPP PROGRAMS

- Funding Round Materials
- Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Manual
- Forms and Documents
- Annual Reports
- Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning
- Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Company Directory

Need help with Technical Assistance?

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition can help you.

Our technical assistance exists to help you complete your reports and receive your funding!

Contact Eileen McCashion at emccashion@nypnys.org if you have questions or need assistance.

Post your NPC Job Announcement in the NPCe-News

If you have a job opportunity and would like it posted in the NPCe-News, create a document with details and contact information. Then, create a PDF file.

Email jbeckmann@npcnys.org with "Job Announcement for e-News" in the subject line. Include the PDF as an attachment.

The job title with your NPC name will be posted in the eNews with a link to the PDF file. Viewers will be able to download the details they require and respond accordingly.

The NPCe-News is published on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

NPC Membership Dues

Thank you to members who have paid their invoices for NPCNYS membership dues.

We understand the beginning of the year is often busy with reports and advocacy work. However, if you haven't yet paid your dues, please pay at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for being a part of our coalition and supporting our collective efforts. Dues support critical functions of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, especially the Advocacy and Legislative work we do!