

# NYS ASSEMBLYMAN BILL MAGNARELLI

# 2020 Progress Report

Dear Neighbor:

2020 has been anything but a typical year. It's been a turbulent time, which left us all dealing with uncertainty and unprecedented situations.

As New York State continued to flatten the curve of the Coronavirus outbreak, my office stepped forward to help the many residents who have been furloughed or laid-off and forced to navigate an overwhelmed unemployment system. Since March 16, we fielded thousands of calls and emails from constituents seeking assistance with their unemployment claims. This is just one of the ways that my office continues to serve the community.

In my annual Progress Report, I want to highlight this year's New York State Budget, important legislation impacting our area which passed this Session, the 2020 Constituent Survey and its results, as well as other important matters affecting the 129th Assembly District.

I am honored to serve as your Assemblyman, representing the 129th District which includes the Northside, Westside, Eastwood, Valley, Outer Comstock and Downtown areas of the City of Syracuse, as well as the Town of Geddes, including the Village of Solvay, and the Town of Van Buren, including the Van Buren portion of the Village of Baldwinsville. I am committed to serving my constituents and encourage you to call my office if you have any questions about State Government Agencies, or concerns about community matters. My office is ready and available to assist you.

I hope that you will take the time to read the 2020 Progress Report. It is filled with important information concerning our community.

Bill Magnarelle





# 2020 Progress Re

## March 2020 Constituent Survey Results

1. New York State currently faces about a \$6.1 billion Medicaid shortfall in the 2020 budget; would you support raising taxes on millionaires to help close this gap?

Yes 73% No 25%

2. Do you support a proposal to legalize marijuana for recreational use?

Yes 47% No 51%

3. Do you support the proposal to create a single payer health care system?

Yes 41% No 47%

4. Do you support mobile/online gambling that would allow consumers to place wagers using their smartphones or tablets?

Yes 21% No 77%

5. Do you agree that except for medical reasons, children should be vaccinated against such diseases as measles, mumps and polio before attending school?

Yes 91% No 7%

- 6. Criminal Justice Reform 2-part question:
  - (A) Bail Reform legislation was recently signed by the Governor to create an equal process for pre-trial detention not based on one's ability to pay/income.

Do you believe this reform creates a fairer system of determining bail?

Yes 48% No 45%

(B) The controversy surrounding this Bail Reform Law are the crimes considered violent and eligible for bail.

Would you support amending the law to add additional crimes to the list eligible for bail?

Yes 50% No 40%

- 7. Do you support a ban on single use Styrofoam containers? Yes 74% No 22%
- 8. Do you support the governor's proposal to prohibit genderbased pricing discrimination for substantially similar or like kind goods and services (the so-called pink-tax)?

Yes 72% No 20%



 No new taxes on millionaires were passed to close the Medicaid shortfall in the State Budget. However, the legislature did adopt many of the recommendations of the Governor's Medicaid Redesign Team II to find savings for NY's Medicaid program in the Budget.





- Marijuana was not legalized for recreational use. However, it was decriminalized through legislation in 2019.
- 3. The NY Health Act was not voted on this year by either house of the legislature.
- Online/mobile sports gambling was not legalized this year. It continues to be discussed. However, there is debate as to whether a State Constitutional Amendment is needed.
- 5. The legislation to require vaccinations for all children was passed in the law in 2019.





- A/B-Changes to the Bail Reform Law were made in the 2020 State Budget. Additional crimes were added to the bail eligible list and changes were made to the Discovery laws to give prosecutors additional time to respond to requests.
- 7. Single use Styrofoam containers were banned in the 2020 State Budget. It takes effect on January 1, 2022.



- The "Pink-Tax" was repealed in the 2020 State Budget. Gender-based pricing on similar goods/services will be illegal in NY going forward.



# CNY Veterans Parade and Expo CANCELLED DUE TO PANDEMIC

Due to the Coronavirus, the 2020 CNY Veterans Parade and Expo on Nov. 7, 2020 will be a virtual Event. While continuing to protect our community from the spread of COVID-19, the Central New York Parade and Expo will endeavor to honor and thank our troops with online features. Keep watch for updates. Save the Date for next year's event November 6, 2021.



**ETERANS** 

www.cnyveteransparade.org Together we can Thank Our Troops!



### Economic Development Putting Funds to Work in CNY

As your state representative, I advocate to bring state funds to local level organizations to help support infrastructure and community organizations. Some years, New York State is able to allocate funds for state representatives to disperse within their district to support community projects and municipalities. My tenure and leadership within the Assembly majority helps me in these endeavors.

I am proud to say that over the past ten years, I have been able to secure approximately:

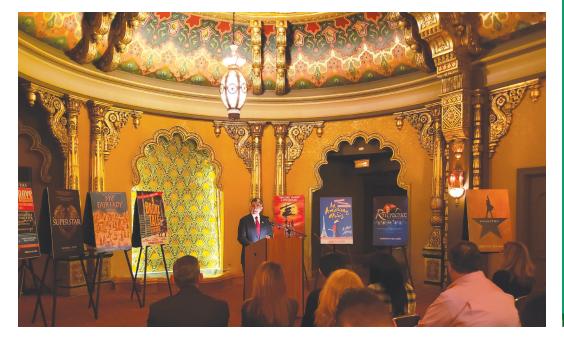
- **\$13 million** for municipalities in the 129th Assembly District to renovate streets, update buildings and infrastructure, and meet American Disabilities Act Compliance
- **\$2 million** to support Police Agencies in acquiring surveillance cameras, body cameras, supporting their community police centers, and buying defibrillators
- **\$100,000** for libraries to renovate and update technology
- More than \$2 million for schools to update technology and musical instruments
- Close to \$200,000 for programs supporting veterans



#### Supporting the Central New York Community

Some of the grants that Assemblyman Magnarelli was able to secure benefited the Central New York Community as a whole.

- **\$500,000** for the MOST (Museum of Science and Technology) in Armory Circle. The MOST is an exceptional resource of entertainment and learning for the children and schools in our community.
- \$1.5 million for the Amphitheater and the West Lake Trail in Onondaga County
- More than \$2.7 million to renovate the Landmark Theater, including an elevator, new seats, and new marquis. The Landmark Theater, built in the 1920s, provides the Central New York Community with cultural performances, Broadway shows and other community activities.
- **\$250,000** for Green Lakes New York State Park. The state park on the east side of Central New York was able to build an educational center, update existing buildings and maintain trails.
- **\$400,000** to Crouse Hospital to add an opioid addiction program to combat the devastating addiction causing overdoses in CNY



## Grants for the Geddes Community completed in the last 10 years

#### Municipal Infrastructure

Municipal Infrastructure		
\$250,000 -	Aquatic Spray Park at Gertrude Park	
\$416,530 -	Town of Geddes road reconstruction	
\$250,000 -	Town of Geddes road reconstruction and highway department roof	
\$125,000 -	Village of Solvay sidewalks	
\$78,000 -	Town of Geddes generators and highway department	
\$107,000 -	Village of Solvay Caroline Ave. Retaining Wall	
\$380,000 -	Village of Solvay public works facility	
Schools		
\$150,000 -	West Genesee School District audio upgrades to the high school auditorium	
\$10,000 -	Westhill Central Schools battery backup for the phone system	
\$150,000 -	West Genesee School District musical instruments	
\$10,000 -	West Genesee School District technology	
\$10,000 -	Westhill Central Schools technology	
\$5,000 -	Westhill Central Schools technology	
\$10,000 -	Solvay Union Free School District security cameras	
\$8,000 -	Westhill Central Schools technology	
\$8,000 -	Solvay Union Free School District band equipment	
\$10,000 -	West Genesee School District band equipment	
Police and Fire		
\$15,000 -	Geddes Police body cameras	
\$10,000 -	Solvay Fire Department	
\$10,000 -	Lakeside Fire Department	
\$20,000 -	Town of Geddes AEDS	
Community Organizations		
\$28,000 -	Solvay Public Library	

28,000 -	Solvay Public Library
5,000 -	Solvay Tigers Athletic Club
25,000 -	Solvay Stanley Pennock Post 2893
80,000 -	Tyrol Club roof replacement and security system

## **STEAM School Moves Ahead**



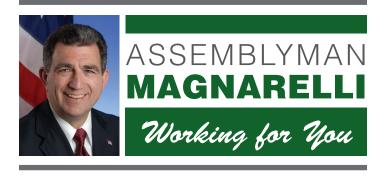
The Syracuse City School District's Regional STEAM School will give new life to the renovated Central High School building. I was honored to sponsor the legislation that would help establish a regional high school and worker training center focusing on science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics - or STEAM.

In Governor Cuomo's State of the State speech, he announced \$71.4 million to be dedicated to the creation of the state's first regional STEAM high school and new state-funded worker training center administered by SUNY Empire State College. The creation of a new regional high school will provide students in Central NY with a first-class education in STEAM as well as the core academic areas required for the issuance of a high school diploma.

This project is vital to Downtown. It is proposed that the new regional STEAM High School will bring students together from across Central NY in a state-of-the-art learning environment focused on science. math and the arts. The centerpiece of this effort will be revitalization of Central Tech and its beautiful auditorium. I want to thank all of our partners in government and the private sector that helped get this legislation passed. I look forward to seeing Central Tech brought back to life as an anchor of our expanding Downtown.

The new regional high school will be run as part of the Syracuse City School District. The goal is to have 60% of the students come from the City of Syracuse and 40% from surrounding districts. It will be the first true regional high school in Central NY and offers students a unique and cutting-edge curriculum, while partnering with the business community and taking advantage of the vast higher education resources in the area. Governor Cuomo expanded the proposed project to include a new workforce training center that will offer high school equivalency degrees, advanced technical certification and college degrees. Syracuse University, LeMoyne College, Onondaga Community College and other local colleges and universities will partner to develop the STEAM school curriculum.

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# Sponsored Legislation Passed

#### The following legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Magnarelli, passed both the Assembly and Senate and is now awaiting the Governor's signature.

#### Limousine Safety Legislation:

In response to the tragic limousine crash in Schoharie County, the Assembly Transportation Committee, Chaired by Assemblyman Magnarelli acted on a package of legislation to improve safety in stretch limousines. Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored two of those bills that were passed and signed into law. A.8990 (Chapter 8 of 2020) requires that all passengers in taxis and livery vehicles, including limousines wear seatbelts. A.9056 (Chapter 38 of 2020) authorizes the State Department of Transportation to impound or immobilize stretch limousines that fail safety inspections until the owner arranges for appropriate repairs. These two new laws will help keep passengers in stretch limousines safe and keep bad actors off the road.

#### **Improving Organ Donation:**

Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored legislation that passed the Assembly and the Senate to further encourage people to become organ and tissue donors. A.7915-A allows people to register as donors when applying for a hunting, fishing or trapping license. New York is ranked 49th of the 50 states in organ donor registration. This bill will help improve that number. It is awaiting action by the Governor.

#### Helping Onondaga County with Criminal Discovery Disclosure:

At the request of the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office, Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored and passed a bill that will allow the District Attorney to appoint five stenographers to transcribe grand jury testimony, up from the current three. This will allow the District Attorney to provide timely grand jury materials to criminal defendants in the approximately 1,200 to 1,500 cases they handle each year. It is awaiting action by the Governor.