



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

January 30, 2007

Contact: 212-788-7116
Release # 008-2007

SPEAKER QUINN, COUNCIL HOLD SECOND “COMMUNITY CONVERSATION” IN QUEENS TO DISCUSS BUDGET PRIORITIES

Conversations give public an opportunity to share concerns, greater input into budget decisions

City Hall, Jan. 30th – City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn and Council Members made their second stop in Queens on her five-borough “Community Conversations” tour, that seeks to allow communities greater input into the City’s \$52 billion budget.

The event was held at the York College Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, January 30th at 7:00 PM. Speaker Quinn was joined by Council Members Thomas White, Leroy Comrie, Helen Sears, James Gennaro, Hiram Monserrate, Joseph Addabbo Jr., and David Weprin at the event, which was open to the public.

Speaker Quinn said, “City programs and services need to address the needs of our communities. These conversations give New Yorkers the opportunity to work together with the City Council to give greater input into the budget process, and to ensure that our priorities and programs reflect their priorities.”

“The Community Conversations on the budget is an opportunity provided for the first time under the leadership of Speaker Quinn to open up the NYC budget process to community residents. They are being given the opportunity to speak directly to the Speaker, their local Council Member and inform us of ongoing issues that affect their daily lives. The issues that they bring forth will then be discussed, deliberated and negotiated by the Council as we develop New York City’s budget for the upcoming year.” Said Council Member White.

Council Member Comrie expressed his appreciation of this project by saying, “I want to applaud Speaker Quinn for her leadership on this issue. By staging these community conversations on budget priorities, it is affording local civic, cultural, business and educational institutions an opportunity to become more informed about our city’s fiscal structure. Speaker Quinn has led the movement to make our budget process more open and balanced, and in the long run, our city will be better for it.”

A first round of Community Conversations were held in each of the five boroughs throughout December, with a second round of conversations in January.

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