



Westchester County Legislator
JAMES NOLAN
Proudly Serving the 15th District



800 Michaelian Office Building
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, New York 10601
(T) 914-995-2830; (F) 914-995-3884
Nolan@westchesterlegislators.com

Follow us online:
    
www.westchesterlegislators.com
Watch meetings live or on-demand



Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

2025 Year in Review

James Nolan

District 15 ~ Yonkers and Bronxville
Chair, Veterans, Seniors & Youth Committee



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

As I look back on 2025, what stands out the most are the people—the volunteers, first responders, students, and families I have had the chance to meet and help this year. From supporting local services to helping neighborhoods navigate challenges, it has been a year of listening, learning, and trying to make a positive impact where it was needed most. I am grateful for the trust my community continues to place in me, and I remain committed to serving them with honesty and compassion. I’m proud of the work we did to stand up for public safety, fiscal responsibility, and the voices of working-class families in Westchester. This year was about showing that common-sense leadership still matters—and I’ll keep fighting for the people who feel forgotten by the system.

Sincerely,


2025 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

PROTECTING OUR SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

PREVENTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATHS

In June, the Board approved a game-changing county-wide program aimed at preventing domestic violence deaths. The new Domestic Violence High Risk Team, a collaborative group of County agencies, Westchester Medical Center, and non-profit organizations, will identify victims in extreme danger and coordinate emergency services to protect them and their families before tragedy strikes.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM SCAMS AND PREDATORS

Westchester County residents and small businesses now have stronger protection from dishonest and unethical business practices thanks to landmark consumer protection legislation passed by the Board in June. This updated code shields residents from deed theft, AI-powered fraud, subscription traps, hidden fees, and data breaches. The bipartisan legislation, co-sponsored by 14 legislators, improves the County Consumer Protection Depart-

ment’s ability to investigate shady business practices and enforce violations, safeguarding consumers from exploitation and financial harm.

LAUNCHING BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM ACROSS THE COUNTY



To promote safer interactions between law enforcement and drivers with autism and other disabilities during traffic stops, the Board launched the Blue Envelope Program with County Executive Ken Jenkins in April. Participants are given a distinctive blue envelope to store their driver’s license, registration, and insurance information.

COMBATING AI-GENERATED DEEPFAKES

Imagine an elderly neighbor answers a frantic call from their “grandchild” begging for emergency money. The neighbor sends funds immediately, only to discover

later that they’ve been targeted by scammers using Artificial Intelligence to mimic their grandchild’s voice.

To better protect residents against this and other types of fraud, the Board passed an innovative local law in February prohibiting the distribution of digitally deceptive material with the intent to harm. The measure strengthens the County’s ability to keep residents free from harassment, extortion, identity theft, and sexual exploitation using content created with AI.

FIGHTING FOR A MORE AFFORDABLE WESTCHESTER

PROVIDING LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO PEOPLE FIGHTING EVICTION

The Westchester County Office of Housing Counsel (OHC) officially launched in July 2025, fulfilling the landmark Access to Counsel legislation passed by the Board in 2023. This first-of-its-kind county program provides free legal representation and support services to financially eligible tenants facing eviction and related housing proceedings. The OHC serves as a

continued inside...

This year’s success builds on accomplishments from 2024. *Find out more inside.*

2024 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- **GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TASK FORCE:** Launched a countywide task force to address the surge in gun violence and protect youth.
- **SAFETY MEASURES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS:** Passed legislation providing free locks and security cameras for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence.
- **EXPANDED SENIOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS:** Excluded Social Security income from property tax calculations to ease costs for seniors.
- **FLOOD MITIGATION BOND ACT:** Provided \$2 million to enhance flood planning and grant applications, complementing the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s Resilient NY program for broader flood mitigation.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS SYSTEM (PSAP) BOND ACT:** A \$1.3 million investment to modernize 911 Call Centers that handle emergency calls and coordinate responses.

DISTRICT 15: Stay Informed. Stay Connected.

Stay connected to what’s happening in our district by signing up for my eNewsletter. My updates offer an inside look at local legislation, community programs, budget discussions, and the County initiatives that directly affect our neighborhoods. You’ll also receive information about:

- upcoming events;
- resources for families and seniors;
- opportunities to get involved; and
- issues that matter to you

It’s a convenient way to stay connected and make sure you have the latest information at your fingertips. Sign up today and be part of the conversation about our community’s future.



Subscribe to the District 15 eNewsletter at
westchesterlegislators.com/district-15-enews-subscribe
or scan the QR code above.

2025 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS, *continued*

central hub, connecting residents to legal services, pre-eviction counseling, and financial assistance through contracted providers. Services can be accessed 24–7 by calling 211 or completing an online intake form.

TAKING A STAND AGAINST CON EDISON RATE HIKES

In March, the Westchester County Board of Legislators mobilized to oppose Con Edison's proposed double-digit rate hikes, partnering with County Executive Ken Jenkins to become a party in the rate case before the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC). The proposed increases—11.4% for electricity and 13.3% for gas by 2026—would place a heavy burden on working families, seniors, and small businesses already struggling with exorbitant utility bills. Legislators vowed they will not allow Con Ed to pass excessive costs onto residents without a fight. By gaining a voice in the proceedings, the County is demanding greater accountability.

SPEAKING OUT AGAINST CON EDISON'S PROPOSED RATE HIKES

In July, I spoke at the State Public Service Commission Public Input Session at the Westchester County Center to let them know I am against Con Ed's proposed rate increase. I made it clear that working families in Westchester are already struggling with the rising costs of food, housing, and transportation—the last thing they need is to be hit with a nearly 12% increase in their electric bills.

PAVING THE WAY TO FIRST-TIME HOMEOWNERSHIP

The Board passed the Land Acquisition Act in January, investing \$10 million to transform unoccupied buildings in downtown White Plains into affordable condominiums for first-time homebuyers. This creative collaboration with the County Executive will convert a dormitory and office building into 108 affordable housing units with 89 parking spaces.

PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING WESTCHESTER'S HEROES

BOLSTERING EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR LOCAL POLICE

In August, the Board agreed to allow the County of Westchester to enter into a five-year intermunicipal agreement (IMA) with local police departments to provide mutual aid and emergency response assistance. This plan enables 29 participating municipalities to share police resources during emergencies that exceed their individual capabilities—events that include terrorism, natural disasters, and public health emergencies. The cooperative agreements come at no cost to municipalities and take effect immediately through July 30, 2030.

LEGISLATOR NOLAN DELIVERS FUNDING FOR EASTCHESTER VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS TRAINING PROGRAMS



In April, I presented a \$17,000 check to the Eastchester Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC). The funds will support critical advanced training programs for EVAC members who provide essential emergency medical services to residents of the Town of Eastchester and the Villages of Bronxville and Tuckahoe. This investment in professional development underscores the Board's commitment to ensuring the highest quality emergency medical care for all Westchester residents.

UPGRADING SECURITY SYSTEMS TO PROTECT CORRECTIONS OFFICERS AND DETAINEES

The Board voted in August to invest \$6.6 million to replace outdated security systems at the Westchester County Department

of Correction in Valhalla, significantly improving safety for correctional staff and detainees. The state-of-the-art emergency alert systems will provide real-time monitoring capabilities, faster emergency response times, more reliable communication, and immediate alerting to the control center. The upgrades will replace 25-year-old systems that have become difficult to maintain. Full implementation is expected by the end of 2027.

HONORING VETERANS WITH FREE COUNTY PARK PASSES

To honor the service and sacrifice of our U.S. military, the Board of Legislators approved in January an Act providing free County park passes to all veterans living in Westchester. This Board-led initiative extends an existing benefit that covered only active duty military and disabled veterans. Now, more than 100,000 local veterans can enjoy the beauty of Westchester County Parks free of charge.

HOMES4VETERANS HOME TOUR

In this year's budget, I was proud to procure funding for Homes4Veterans, which helps provide barrier-free renovations to disabled veteran homeowners at no cost to the Veterans or their families. In July, I had the privilege of joining Homes4Veterans to tour a newly rebuilt porch they installed for one of Westchester's local veterans.

TRAINING AND EDUCATING OUR WORKFORCE

EXTENDING JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP THROUGH 2030

Residents' access to vital federal job training programs was preserved when the Board voted in July to extend the Westchester–Putnam Local Workforce Development Area partnership through June 2030. The collaboration provides unemployed adults with job training and placement services to develop in-demand skills and secure employment opportunities. The program also offers career counseling and paid internships to out-of-school youth ages 16–24. ■

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES IN YONKERS AND EASTCHESTER

Marching in the Eastchester and Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parades this year was a true honor. It's a special time to celebrate our Irish heritage, connect with neighbors, and reflect on the values of community, family, and resilience that run deep in our shared history. These parades bring people together in joy and pride.



BEAUTIFUL NEW LEEWOOD PARK IN EASTCHESTER



In March, I attended a ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Leewood Park in Eastchester! The park has undergone an amazing transformation, and the community is buzzing with excitement about all the new features.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



This year, I've had the pleasure of spotlighting many businesses in District 15. In April, I visited a new addition to our community: Italian Oven, located in the Boyce Thompson Center on North Broadway. Founded by sisters and first cousins

IN THE DISTRICT

Amanda and Angelina Oppedisano and Cristina and Nicoletta Sakellaridis, Italian Oven brings a wonderful taste of tradition to our neighborhood.

YONKERS HISPANIC DAY PARADE



It was an honor to march in this year's Hispanic Day Parade and celebrate the rich culture, history, and contributions of the Hispanic community here in Westchester. The energy, pride, and unity on display were truly inspiring.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



I was happy to attend National Night Out in Eastchester, Yonkers, and Bronxville. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign held on the first Tuesday of August; communities across the nation host events to promote police–community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. I have always been a strong supporter of National Night Out, and I was proud to secure \$4,000 in funding for both Bronxville and Eastchester's events, as well as \$10,000 for Yonkers's National Night Out.

LEGISLATOR NOLAN DELIVERS FUNDING FOR WSSC



This September, my colleagues and I delivered \$15,000 in County funding to the Yonkers-based Westchester School for Special Children to support in-school therapeutic art and dance classes. I am honored to have delivered this funding to this wonderful institution. WSSC has been a pillar of our community for decades, providing vital education, therapy, and support to the children and families who need it most.

CORRECTION OFFICERS' STRIKE PROTEST AT SING SING



I was proud to stand with state correction officers in support of their strike at Sing Sing Correctional Facility. State policies have weakened corrections safety and we need revision of these policies. As a defender of law enforcement and correctional staff, I will continue to be vocal about state policies. I hope that we will be successful in future in making our correction officers safer on the job. ■