

INSIDE

Legislative News

Public Hearing Calendar

From the Governor

COVID Capital Costs Tax Credit

Executive Orders

Agency News

AG: Issues Voter Protection Guidance

Comptroller: Local Sales Tax Collections up 10.2%

All Eyes Move to the Polls

The 2022 election campaign season has reached the final stretch as candidates push to next Tuesday's general election. Early voting began on Friday, October 29th and will continue through November 6th. Individuals can check their registration status [here](#), to find a list of available early voting polling places as well as their election day poll site. As key New York races tighten in the polls, President Bill Clinton appeared in the Hudson Valley stumping for Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Sean Patrick Maloney; President Barack Obama [appeared](#) in a commercial for Governor Kathy Hochul; and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis appeared at a rally in Long Island in support of Rep. Lee Zeldin in his bid for Governor.

Polling Shows Gubernatorial Race Tightening: As political season approaches the backstretch; a slew of political polling has shown the race to seat the next Governor between incumbent Gov. Kathy Hochul and challenger Lee Zeldin tightening. An October 18th [Siena College Poll](#) had Hochul ahead of Zeldin 52%-41%. A Quinnipiac University Poll issued the same day had Hochul ahead 50%-46%. The ten-point lead for Hochul in the October Siena Poll was 7% closer than the 54%-37% lead she had in a poll they released on September 28th.

President Biden Visits Syracuse: President Biden [spoke](#) at Onondaga Community College on October 27th, touting Micron Technology's recent commitment to invest up to \$100 billion in a computer chip fabrication complex in Clay, New York. The semiconductor company announced the initiative could create as many as 9,000 new jobs at the chip fab plant.

OCM Releases Adult-use Dispensary Guidance: The Office of Cannabis Management has [released comprehensive guidance](#) for adult-use retail dispensaries including key recordkeeping requirements, rules on branding of product, hours of operations, customer age, purchase of products, inventory, tracking, consumer education, delivery and means of transport, product storage, cleaning and sanitizing, security measures, site plans, location of licensed premises, notification to municipalities, etc. According to the OCM, the guidance is intended to offer a framework for approved conditional dispensaries to plan operations prior to the formal adoption of regulations. Draft regulations are anticipated by the year's end.



PSLLC Cannabis Team members Tom Buchan and Tom Wickham traveled to the Syracuse area last week, visiting the firm's Syracuse office and touring both the Flynnstoned dispensary location in the city and Tap Root Fields, a conditional cultivator in nearby Skaneateles.

Legislative News

Legislative Activity

The Legislature is not scheduled to return to session this year, however, session is adjourned at the call of the Majority Leader and the Speaker leaving the door open for a return to session should the respective leaders deem it necessary.

Public Hearings

~ November 1, 2022 the Assembly Standing Committees on Governmental Operations; Local Governments; and Cities will host a public hearing on building code enforcement practices.

State Agencies

From the New York Office of the Attorney General

AG Issues Voter Protection Guidance

Attorney General Letitia James issued guidance to local Boards of Election (BOEs) and law enforcement agencies on [how to combat voter intimidation and ensure voters' rights are protected](#) leading up to Tuesday's general election. James also sent guidance to local BOEs on [managing long lines and supporting voters with disabilities](#) at high traffic poll sites, noting more than 20 percent of New Yorkers have a disability.

From the Governor

Application Open for COVID-19 Capital Costs Tax Credit

Governor Hochul [announced](#) application are being accepted from small businesses that have successfully completed the [pre-screening process](#) to become certified for the COVID-19 Capital Costs Tax Credit Program. Announced as part of Governor Hochul's Executive Budget, this program supports companies that made investments to comply with COVID-19 emergency orders and regulations.

Executive Orders:

Governor Hochul extended the "Statewide Disaster Emergency Due to Healthcare Staffing Shortages" Executive Order 4 via Executive Order 4.14 on October 27, 2022. Governor Hochul also allowed EO 20.2 which declared a Disaster Emergency in NYS due to Monkeypox to expire.

From the New York Office of the NYS Comptroller

Comptroller: Local Sales Tax Collections up 10.2% in Third Quarter of 2022

According to a [report released](#) from the NYS Comptroller: "Local government sales tax collections grew by 10.2% in the third quarter of 2022 compared to the same period last year, mostly driven by double digit growth in New York City. Total sales tax collections reached nearly \$5.7 billion, an increase of \$529 million. This is the second straight quarter that year-over-year growth did not keep pace with inflation for counties and cities outside of New York City."

PSLLC notes:

Our Client, the ***NYS Association of Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors (NYSPHCC)*** received the 2022 Legislative Award from the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors National Association for their efforts regarding the proposed legislation that would ban the use of natural gas and proposed legislation that would amend the State Energy Construction Code to require zero onsite greenhouse gas emissions at new construction by 2027 and to implement an all-electric building code in new construction. Park Strategies worked closely with NYSPHCC and its chapters by having its members directly engage with key legislators in their respective regions; holding rallies and meetings; testifying before a NY State Assembly panel; sending letters of opposition to targeted legislators in Western NY and Long Island. It was a coordinated, highly effective legislative grassroots effort.



Last week, **PSLLC's Insurance Practice Group** held roundtables with Senator Neil Breslin and leadership from the New York State Department of Financial Services on behalf of our client, **Finseca**. From the recent Court of Appeals Decision upholding Insurance Regulation 187, to the need to improve the recruitment and retention of early career life insurance agents, to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion within the financial services industry. Our team brought together Finseca and representatives from throughout the state along with key policymakers to discuss the major issues currently facing life insurance agents and financial services professionals in New York.

Our **PSLLC Association Management Team** traveled to Niagara Falls providing support and assistance to our client the ***Bus Association of New York*** for their annual membership conference.

PARK STRATEGIES, LLC

101 Park Avenue · Suite 2506 · New York NY 10178 · (212) 883-5608
111 Washington Avenue · Suite 600 · Albany NY 12210 · (518) 426-3800
50 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard · Suite 601 · Uniondale, NY 11553 (516) 794-9730
327 W. Fayette Street · Suite 415 · Syracuse NY 13202 · (315) 396-7535
www.parkstrategies.com

To stay up to date on the latest information, please follow us on [Park Strategies LinkedIn](#)