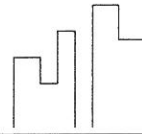


Mt. Vernon United Tenants, Inc.



Mail: P. O. Box 2107, Mt. Vernon, N. Y. 10551
Office: 2 Gramatan Avenue, Suite 304 ~ Mt. Vernon, N. Y. 10550
Phone (914) 699-1114 ~ Fax (914) 699-7449
Email: mvut@erols.com - Website: www.mvut.org

**NEXT *MVUT* GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MONDAY* – FEBRUARY 4, 2019 - 7:00 PM
MVUT OFFICE - 2 GRAMATAN AVE. - SUITE 304**

*Meetings are usually on the first Tuesday of each month, but the evening of Tuesday Feb. 5 is when the *Westchester County Housing Needs Assessment* will be released and presented in Mount Vernon (see below).

Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP)

In the last mailing we notified our members and friends about our lobbying trip to Albany on Wednesday March 6 and encouraged people to both join us on the bus and/or financially support the effort. In this mailing we're enclosing a list of all of the State Legislators who represent areas of Westchester and Legislative leaders, who should be contacted.

A suggested letter/email follows:

"The Honorable.....

I'm writing to you as a member/friend of *Mount Vernon United Tenants* and urge you to do all that you can to ensure that the *NPP* is funded at \$ 14.5 Million. *NPP* dollars are some of the most cost effective uses of state funding. The provision of affordable housing is perhaps the most intractable problem residents in our state face. The *NPP* works on many levels to address this growing need. **Please** support full funding for the *NPP*. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Your Name"

New York State Rent Law Renewal Campaign

Just as in the *NPP* Campaign, please utilize the list of State Legislators to demand that the Legislature renew and strengthen the State Rent and Eviction Laws which "sunset" in June. As we informed you in Dennis' *Op Ed* in *The Journal News*, the three (3) main improvements we're calling for are:

- Eliminate Vacancy Decontrol
- Close the "Preferential Rent" loophole
- Repeal the Statutory "Vacancy Bonus" of 20%

Ossining ETPA

A *Public Hearing* is scheduled for Wednesday February 6 at 6:30 pm re: Mayor Victoria Gearity's attempt to rescind the recently passed (Sept. 5., 2018) *ETPA*. This outrageous "slap in the face" of all tenants is being challenged on many levels. We're hopeful that the Mayor and her two (2) trustees

(See Reverse)

who have spoken in favor of the rescission will change their minds and will withdraw their attempt to rescind the *ETPA*, or at a minimum, delay any vote until more information is made available, especially pursuant to the soon to be released Westchester “Needs Assessment” (see below). If the *Hearing* is not withdrawn or delayed, *MVUT* will be assisting in bringing people to Ossining for the *Hearing*. Call the office for updates – (914) 699-1114, ext. 303.

Westchester Disabled on the Move (W-DOM) “Disability Advisory Board”

W-DOM and *MVUT* are scheduled to meet with Mt. Vernon City Council Member Delia Farquharson on January 31 regarding this and then are planning to testify at the next Mt. Vernon City Council Meeting on Wednesday February 13 at 7:00 pm in City Hall. If you want to testify at this *Hearing*, please call *MVUT* and call up the City Clerk at (914) 665-2352 by 2:30 pm the day of the meeting.

Westchester County Housing Needs Assessment

For the last couple of years, *MVUT*, The *Westchester Non-Profit Housing Coalition* and *Community Voices Heard* (CVH) were pushing for a “Needs Assessment” for the County’s housing. The prior administration paid lip service to our request and failed to offer the requisite funding for such a “Needs Assessment”. Candidate George Latimer promised that he would support such an “Assessment” if elected. He has lived up to that commitment and the County has hired “Patterns for Progress” to do the “Assessment”. They’ve been working for months on their analysis (*MVUT* and others from the *Westchester Non-Profit Housing Coalition* were interviewed two (2) months ago.) On Tuesday February 5 Westchester County is sponsoring a *Public Forum: Westchester County Housing Needs Assessment* at the Mt. Vernon extension of Westchester Community College, 17 South 5th Avenue at 6:00 pm. Please come out for this.

\$ For MVUT

In the last mailing, we made a request for funds and enclosed a self-addressed envelope. The return of funds has been sorely lacking. Please make a contribution today. As you can see from the above, *MVUT* is doing some incredible work. And we’re not even talking about our main program effort. – *Homelessness Prevention*. We’ll have more on this in an upcoming mailing.

Hope to see you on February 4!

Support Tenants’ Rights!

Support Affordable Housing!!

Support *MVUT*!!!