

New York State Community Commission on Reparations Remedies Kicks Off New Year With Business Meetings and Public Hearing

Commission to convene in Yonkers, Rochester, and Binghamton

ALBANY, NY, UNITED STATES, January 6, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The New York State Community Commission on Reparations Remedies (NYSCCRR) will hold business meetings and continue its statewide series of public hearings in January 2026, with sessions planned in Yonkers, Rochester, and Binghamton.

The Commission will first convene for business meetings on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at two locations:

- Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Ave, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Urban League of Rochester, 265 N Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY 14605

Following the business meetings, the NYSCCRR will host a public hearing on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 80, 76 Main Street, Binghamton, NY 13904. Community members are invited to share experiences, insights, and testimony to help shape the Commission's recommendations on reparations remedies in New York State.



The graphic features the NYSCCRR logo, which consists of the letters 'CC' stacked above 'RR' in a blue, stylized font, enclosed in a blue square border. To the right of the logo, the text 'NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS REMEDIES' is written in blue, all-caps font.

Below the logo, a blue banner contains the text 'NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS REMEDIES' and 'INVITES COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO ATTEND'.

The main title 'PUBLIC HEARING' is displayed in large, bold, black, all-caps font. Below it, the theme 'Theme: Truth and Transformation' is written in a smaller, black, all-caps font.

The date and time are listed as 'January 17, 2026' and '12:00 - 3:00 PM'. The location is 'American Legion Post 80, 76 Main Street, Binghamton, NY 13904'.

A QR code is provided for more information. Below the QR code, a small text block states: 'The New York State Community Commission on Reparations Remedies examines how slavery, its lasting effects, and later racial discrimination have harmed people in New York with the goal to recommend steps the state can take to repair these harms. Community members are encouraged to share testimony about how these issues have affected their lives or the lives of people around them.' Below this text is the URL 'LEARN MORE AT NY.GOV/REPARATIONS'.

On the right side of the graphic, there is a photograph of three people: a woman with glasses and long hair, a man with glasses and a beard, and a woman with long dark hair, all appearing to be at a public hearing.

At the bottom right, there is a blue banner with social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, and the text 'FOLLOW US AT @NYSCCRR'.

"We're starting the New Year with many opportunities for New Yorkers to learn more about the

Commission and to get involved,” said Dr. Seanelle Hawkins, Chair of the NYSCCRR. “The Commission has listened to what the people want. We’re holding business meetings at two different locations to maximize participation, and for the first time, our public hearing will take place on a Saturday. These changes reflect our commitment to making it easier for community members to attend and have their voices heard.”

The public hearing will begin with brief updates from the Commission, followed by public testimony. Community members, advocates, researchers, faith leaders, and families affected by the lasting impacts of slavery, discrimination, and systemic inequities are encouraged to attend and share personal experiences, documentation, or reparatory proposals.

EVENT DETAILS

Business Meetings:

Date: Thursday, Jan. 9, 2026

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Locations:

- Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Ave, Yonkers, [NY 10701 \[Click to get directions\]](#)
- Urban League of Rochester, 265 N Clinton Ave, Rochester, [NY 14605 \[Click to get directions\]](#)

Public Hearing:

Date: Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: American Legion Post 80, 76 Main Street, Binghamton, [NY 13904 \[Click to get directions\]](#)

Watch Online: Streaming link will be available at www.ny.gov/reparations

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Those unable to attend may submit written or audio testimony via email to ReparationsCommission@reparations.ny.gov or leave a voicemail by calling 518-473-3997.

Stay up to date and view past hearings:

Visit <https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-community-commission-reparations-remedies>

About the NYS Community Commission on Reparations Remedies (NYSCCRR): The NYSCCRR is dedicated to engaging New Yorkers statewide in addressing the legacies of slavery and systemic discrimination. Through community engagement and rigorous research, the Commission strives to develop meaningful, actionable recommendations for reparative policies that foster justice and equity across New York State.

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