



## Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats: 2022 Federal Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Dan Goldman

Office Sought: Congress, NY-10

Email Address: dan@dangoldmanforny.com

Phone Number: 917-617-4188

Please answer each of the following questions to the best of your ability:

**1) Why do you seek an endorsement from CBID?**

*I haven't ever been a politician. But I've always been on the front lines fighting for the American people. I believe in governing in partnership with those who we serve to tackle the big fights of our day. Democracy works best when citizens are engaged and involved, like the members of CBID. If I were to be elected, I would be representing the interests and concerns of clubs like CBID, which has been on the frontlines in the trenches fighting for progressive causes. I'd be honored to have your support in this fight to save our democracy so that I can effectively represent your interests in Congress.*

**2) If elected, what would be your top legislative priority?**

*I am running to lead the fights for our democracy, our fundamental rights, our safety, and our planet itself. If we want to defend the right to choose, the right to organize, the rights to affordable living, we must first defend our democracy and the right to vote. Without that, we can have no other rights. But as January 6 showed us, authoritarianism is the new Republican playbook. And I am uniquely qualified and experienced to lead that fight for democracy.*

**3) Do you support the right of a pregnant person to choose to terminate their pregnancy? Have you always? If not, please explain why your position has changed.**

*Yes, and yes. I believe that abortion rights are fundamental human rights, and I will do everything I can do to protect them.*

**4) With Roe v. Wade at risk, do you plan to ensure adequate funding and legal protection to guarantee the right to accessible abortion and health services? If so, what actions will you take?**

*We must repeal the Hyde Amendment, pass the Women's Health Protection Act, and ensure that Medicare for All legislation includes coverage for the full range of reproductive services. But we also need to be creative, like offering abortions out of Veterans Hospitals in all 50 states. We must fight for reproductive rights and we must be creative doing it. I will bring a creative and fresh approach to tackle problems such as this.*

**5) What is your position on the building of new oil or gas projects? What is your vision for expanding the nation's supply and transmission of renewable energy? Do you support the vision of a Green New Deal?**

*I support the vision of a Green New Deal. We need to transition to clean energy as quickly as possible, which can create millions of good jobs in the process. In Congress, I will work to incentivize private companies to invest in renewable energy and encourage community and public power production. We must have a public-private partnership to address climate change at the necessary pace to save our earth.*

**6) What health care reforms or plans do you support?**

*I believe that healthcare is a fundamental right in the United States. I believe that every American who wants*



*it should have access to consistent, high quality healthcare, regardless of their income, so I support Medicare for All. I also believe that Americans should be able to purchase private health insurance if they choose.*

**7) Do you support repealing the Senate filibuster? If so, how will you use your platform to push for this reform?**

*While I would have little power over this as a House member, I support abolishing the filibuster on a limited basis for issues of constitutional rights, not policy proposals. I've seen what happened when we did this for appellate judges, and we will pay a price if we give this power to the Republicans. So I believe we should do it only on a limited basis.*

**8) Voter ID laws, poll taxes, and limitations on polling sites and early voting are all examples of voter suppression tactics. What will you do to protect voting rights and elections, including but not limited to cosponsoring legislation?**

*Our democracy is facing an existential crisis in the wake of GOP realization that its policies won't win elections so suppressing (or overturning) the vote is the only way to do so. I have long focused on voting rights, dating back to law school when I wrote a law review article on how felon disenfranchisement laws were the modern-day literacy test. In fact, I would champion the Democracy Restoration Act, which, among other things, restores the right to vote for previously incarcerated citizens. I also support legislation to make Election Day a federal holiday. While I would have signed on as a co-sponsor of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, I think the For the People Act is even more important because it makes access to the ballot so much easier. Finally, I would call for an immediate congressional investigation into allegations of voter fraud to expose Republicans for using misleading and false claims about concerns about voter fraud, which simply does not exist.*

**9) What steps do you support to reduce gun violence in the United States?**

*I support common sense gun safety legislation including: ban on assault weapons, universal background checks and waiting periods to purchase guns, red flag laws, and the prohibition of ghost guns and high capacity ammunition. But we must do more.*

*We must repeal the 2005 Protection of Commerce in Lawful Arms Act that provides immunity for gun manufacturers and dealers and we need to put a spotlight on the NRA and gun manufacturers to determine whether and to what extent their marketing, advertising, and money influences the scourge of mass shootings around our country. We know that overwhelming majorities of voters – including Republicans and gun owners – believe in universal background checks and other gun legislation opposed by the gun lobby, yet the Republican Party shows more loyalty to the gun lobby than its own constituents. If Republicans prevent common sense gun legislation from becoming law over the wishes of their constituents, then Congress must better understand the internal deliberations of the NRA and gun manufacturers, which hold such control over Republicans.*

**10) What actions do you support to protect our immigrant neighbors?**

*We must remember that we are a country of immigrants – my grandmother escaped anti-Semitism in Russia to come to the United States through Ellis Island. Diversity and opportunity is what makes this city and country great. I will fight to give immigrants an opportunity to succeed in this country, and to make sure that we stop those who engage in racial, religious or other forms of discrimination. Part of the reason why Donald Trump is so scary – why we need to fight for democracy and prevent Trump from stealing the 2024 election – is that his draconian, racist immigration policy must never return to our government.*



*In Congress, my first order of business will be to double the number of immigration judges in our system and streamline the asylum process so that we don't have the backlog of asylum-seekers in inhumane conditions. Second, we must press for undocumented people, including Dreamers, to have a pathway to citizenship. Finally, we must ensure that our immigrant neighbors are treated with dignity and respect by increasing penalty enhancements for racial and ethnic discrimination.*

**11) What steps do you support to reform our criminal justice system?**

*We must make our communities safe. To do that, we don't need to choose between reform and public safety — those two objectives are inherently linked. I bring a unique experience and understanding of this challenge to this race. Underlying my career of public service – including 10 years as a federal prosecutor – has been a lifelong commitment to civil rights, social justice and progressive values. My research on racial disparities in the criminal justice system went into Michelle Alexander's landmark work – the New Jim Crow – that has fueled the drive to end mass incarceration in America. We must divert more non-violent offenders and get them the services and education they need, particularly youth and those dealing with mental health and addiction issues. I support Clean Slate and investing in re-entry so we can end the cycle of recidivism. I've also worked ten years as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York working with Preet Bharara, serving as a supervisor in the Organized Crime Unit and as Senior Trial Counsel, prosecuting violent criminals, and know we must reduce the violence and prosecute those that are driving the harm. We need to address the abundance of guns through banning assault weapons, imposing waiting periods, and limiting access to guns for young people and individuals at significant risk of harming themselves or engaging in violence. And we must both invest in our police and hold police accountable, including limiting qualified immunity.*

**12) What policies do you support to ensure fairness in employment and workplace conditions, as well as strengthening and increasing access to unions?**

*Strengthening unions helps decrease income inequality and produces a stronger economy for all. The passage of the National Labor Relations Act in 1935 led to faster and fairer economic growth that persisted until the late 1970s. But since the 1970s, declining unionization has fueled rising inequality and stalled economic progress for the broad American middle class. I support the PRO Act that makes it easier for employees to form a union to negotiate for better pay, benefits and working conditions. It also increases penalties for corporations that engage in union busting or retaliate against workers who are organizing and speaking out to improve their workplace. I also support increasing the minimum wage, universal child care and paid family leave, and the Social Security 2100 Act, which will expand and protect Social Security into the next century.*

**13) What would you do to ensure access to affordable and quality housing for everyone in Brooklyn and nationwide?**

*The solution to affordable housing requires two things: more housing and better housing. In order to do that, I believe we need to incentivize public-private partnerships – we allow the private companies do what they do better than the government (i.e. building) but require them to give back much more to the community, in the way of affordable housing, community and public space, and services such as daycares and schools. We also must ensure rigorous environmental controls are followed to ensure that affordable housing is not relegated to areas with environmental concerns, such as in the Gowanus Green proposal. We need to fully fund public housing and pass eviction protections.*



**14) What, if any, groups or types of people will you not accept campaign contributions from? If so, please note whose money you will not accept.**

*We don't take from Corporate PACs, gun manufacturers or the NRA, fossil fuel companies, and vet all our contributions for conflicts and bad actors.*