



Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats: 2022 Federal Candidate Questionnaire

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

1) Why do you seek an endorsement from CBID?

I am humbly seeking an endorsement from CBID because I believe that community groups such as CBID are both integral to participation in our democracy and a key avenue to hear directly from voters about the issues that are most important to them. I would be honored to receive your endorsement, and to partner with you in building a safer, cleaner, fairer, more livable city together.

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

As I speak with residents throughout the district, public safety is the number one concern that I hear. My top legislative priority would be to restore safety to the streets of NY-10. We can do this by passing smart, tough measures to get illegal guns off of our streets. We must also ensure that violent criminals are taken off of our streets, and provided with adequate services when appropriate. Finally, we must invest in quality programs that provide the youth in our city with opportunities to challenge themselves to grow, learn, and invest in their communities. We can do this by passing legislation to fund programs that offer after school activities such as sports programs, as well as artistic endeavors. It is proven that when young people have opportunities to engage in meaningful programs such as these, they are more likely to thrive.

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, I support the right of women to obtain abortions. My position on this issue has not changed. In fact, while I was in college, I volunteered as an escort for women seeking the services of Planned Parenthood.

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?

Yes, if elected I will ensure action is taken to enshrine these rights into federal law. I believe that this is the best step that can be taken in the immediate aftermath of a potential reversal of Roe.

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 remain skeptical that building new oil or gas projects is the right thing that our country can do at this time. We should do everything possible to support a transition to renewable sources of energy. We can do that by incentivizing the purchase of electric vehicles and building energy efficient structures. There are aspects of the Green New Deal that I am supportive of, but I would work to ensure that the hardworking residents of NY-10 are not over-burdened by taxes and that small businesses within our district would be able to comply with any regulatory reforms proposed.



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

Guaranteeing health care to all Americans is one of the most critical issues facing our country. That's why I support a universal healthcare system within which every American would be covered and fully insured for general health care expenses, as well as dental and vision expenses.

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

In my view, repealing the Senate filibuster is short sighted, and a short term fix that could have disastrous consequences for Democrats in the long term. When our party is in the majority, abolishing the 60-vote threshold might seem like a good way to pursue a legislative agenda. However, we must remember that Democrats will someday be in the minority, and might need to rely on the filibuster to block Republican priorities. For this reason, I do not support repealing the Senate filibuster. We should instead focus on building coalitions that can generate healthy majorities in the House, where I hope to serve, as well as the Senate.

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?.

We must make it easier to vote in our country. One simple piece of legislation I would introduce would be a bill to make Election Day a guaranteed paid day off for all Americans. Since not everyone can be off from work at the same time, however, we should also consider extending in-person voting days at the federal level, similar to how early voting takes place in New York. We must also aggressively combat any efforts to suppress people from voting by using all available legal avenues to protect the precious right to vote.

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

With gun violence at staggeringly high rates in our country, the time to act is now. There are many smart measures being considered right now. The expansion of so-called 'red flag laws' is something that can be done, and is popular amongst Americans. There is no reason that a known domestic abuser should have access to a deadly weapon. However, we can, and should, do more. Another measure that should be quickly adopted is raising the age to purchase certain firearms, and the implementation of a 'waiting period' for background checks when guns are purchased.

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

The most immediate action we should take is to protect the dreamers, or DACA recipients, by providing them with a permanent and simple path to citizenship. Many of these individuals came into our country at such a young age that they no longer identify with their country of origin. Moreover, they are part of our communities, and part of the fabric of our country. Additionally, we must continue to welcome immigrants from all over the world, and ensure that their contributions to our district are always recognized and



encouraged. As the wife of an immigrant to this country, I know first hand how important this is.

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

As a former public defender, I have personally witnessed how difficult it is for members of our community to fairly navigate the criminal justice system. We must first do the work to prevent the need for individuals to interact with the criminal justice system in the first place. That includes investing in community programs and mental health services, to ensure that crime levels, which are in a dangerous position right now, come down. When individuals do interact with the system, New Yorkers should expect a professional police department that understands and can implement deescalation techniques, aggressively weeds out corruption and provides neighborhood and transit patrolling. Mental Health services for the mentally ill and street homeless have to be coordinated with the NYPD and must have community buy-in.

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

Workplaces must be free of harassment and intimidation. One area that would help ensure fairness in these situations is to have stronger laws to protect whistleblowers and others who bravely come forward to speak out about workplace conditions. We must also support the right of workers to assemble and unionize when desired, and ensure that workplaces preventing these legal practices from taking place are held accountable.

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

I know the importance of affordable housing first hand. As a young girl, I spent the early years of my life in Mitchell-Lama housing. We must realize that building more affordable housing is a necessity. At the same time, the neighborhoods encompassing the Brooklyn side of NY-10 are some of the most desirable and architecturally beautiful neighborhoods in our city. We must work with members of our community to ensure that any new housing projects do not decrease the livability of these neighborhoods for current residents.

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.

My goal is to accept campaign contributions from engaged voters in NY-10 that resonate with my message of smart, sensible policies to improve the lives of everyday New Yorkers. While I am always willing to engage in good faith debates with people who disagree with me on a range of issues, I would never willingly accept donations from people who are bigoted and hateful.