



Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats: 2023 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: _____ **Office Sought:** _____
Candidate Email Address: _____ **Candidate Phone Number:** _____
Campaign Contact Name: _____ **Campaign Contact Phone:** _____
Campaign Contact Email: _____
Name of person filling out this questionnaire: _____

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

1) If (re-)elected, what would be your top priority or priorities in your term?

To implement our climate action roadmap and to make District 33 a model in combating the climate and affordability crises.

2) What personal and/or professional experiences do you believe make you uniquely qualified to run for City Council?

I am born and raised in this district and have lived almost my whole life in the 33rd. I have spent a decade working in City Government and have had the privilege of working with countless community groups across the district.

3) List all of your endorsements, including but not limited to elected officials, unions, political clubs and community-based organizations.

Have not received or asked for any endorsements as of yet this cycle!



4) What, if any, groups or industries will you not accept campaign contributions from? If any, please note specifically whose money you will not accept.

Special interests have held too much power in our City, including real estate developers, fossil fuel companies, registered NYC lobbyists, corporate PACs, and law enforcement unions -- and, accordingly, we have not accepted donations from these entities in 2021 or 2023.

5) What do you think of the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2024 preliminary budget? What actions do you plan with respect to this budget? How do you propose helping NYC recover from the COVID pandemic and resulting economic downturn, particularly given the projected shortfall in city revenue?

It is wholly unacceptable. I will do everything I can to prevent cuts to social services, housing investments, early childhood education, higher education and more. The Mayor's unwavering commitment to austerity is severely undering the ability of our city agencies to meet the needs of the most vulnerable New Yorkers. We must fight back.

6) What measures would you take to improve educational opportunities for all students in NYC? How do you plan to ensure that all NYC children are able to attend high-quality, integrated schools?

I am laser focused on achieving universal 3K. Early childhood education is integral to the educational development of our children and it is also imperative for working families to have a place to send their kids. The lack of affordable childcare has been forcing too many



families out of New York City and the Mayor's irrational insistence on gutting 3K must be stopped.

7) Do you support any campaign finance reforms for NYC? If so, please describe.

Yes - I would like to greater restrictions on outside spending in municipal elections. I would also like to require that candidates for City Council secure more in district contributions to secure matching funds and would be open to restrictions on large donations as part of a reform package.

8) The MTA is facing a significant revenue shortfall and many parts of the city lack access to reliable public transportation. What measures would you implement and/or enforce, to promote safe, efficient, and accessible transportation options for mass transit users, pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers in Brooklyn?

Championing mass transit and safe and affordably cycling are major priorities of mine. I have sponsored multiple pieces of legislation to expedite construction of protection bike lanes and increase enforcement against dangerous, illegally parked vehicles to make cycling safer across the City. I support every effort to raise revenue for the MTA from congestion pricing to deeper city and state investments. Our climate future depends on the stability and efficiency of our mass transit system and implementation of a network of citywide protected bike lanes.



9) How would you ensure that underserved communities receive fair and equitable treatment from city government? What policies do you support that would level the playing field for historically marginalized groups?

I support effort across our district and in the Council to support our most vulnerable and marginalized communities. I do believe it is my responsibility as Council Member to center the highest needs communities in our district and prioritize their needs accordingly. If you review at the bills I have sponsored and cosponsored and the organizing work we have been doing around district, I hope you would find that we are prioritizing the needs of New Yorkers who depend on government the most.

10) How would you ensure fairness in employment, salary, workplace conditions, and promotion? What is your position on strengthening and increasing access to union membership?

I have joined every picket line during my first year in office - from the New School to Starbucks. I have sponsored legislation on behalf of New Yorkers whose employers are undermining their rights to strengthen protections against harassment.

11) What policy and administrative changes are needed for NYC government to ensure sufficient quality housing that is actually affordable for existing residents in Brooklyn neighborhoods? Do you have a plan to reduce and prevent homelessness in Brooklyn and NYC? Explain your plan.



I am proud of the rezonings we have passed in District 33 in my first year in office that have maximized affordable housing and of the affordable housing developments we have opened, including the largest supportive housing development in Brooklyn's history. I am committed to generating and preserving deeply affordable housing that will ultimately end homelessness in New York City.

12) What policies would you pass or enforce to ensure public housing/NYCHA repair, upkeep and security, and access to alternate housing and services when lacking essentials such as heat, gas, electricity, etc.

I have done my best to serve the seven NYCHA developments in our community during our first year. From food distributions to holding NYCHA to account on their myriad failures, we have been focused on improving conditions in NYCHA developments. Ultimately, we need to dramatically increase city, state and federal investments in public housing to deliver the conditions that our neighbors deserve.

13) Describe your vision for public safety in New York City? What, if any, functions would you like to see removed from the police department? What agencies would assume the functions removed from the NYPD?

I want to see us invest in alternatives to addressing public safety that connect New Yorkers to the services and treatments and opportunities they need. From DCWP to DOHMH, we can put more resources into agencies that provide long term solutions for New Yorkers instead of just cycling through our criminal justice system.



14) Do you support changes to the ULURP process and to other NYC zoning mechanisms? If so, what specific changes do you support?

I do believe we should implement a binding comprehensive planning framework that generates the housing and social services that a growing City requires.

15) Following the Dobbs decision, what steps do you think the City Council should take to increase reproductive healthcare access and to do so equitably?

New York City must be a destination for all who need access to reproductive healthcare. I support New York City government subsidizing reproductive healthcare for all who are in need of such services. From access to pills to medical services, we must be a beacon for folks all across the country.

16) What is your position on the Mayor's plan to restructure medical benefits to a Medicare Advantage Plan for all past and present NYC teachers and other municipal workers? What actions do you propose to take with respect to this plan?

I believe we should maintain current retiree benefits at this time. My greatest concern is that the Mayor will shift all retirees onto Medicare Advantage and I am trying to push the administration and organize colleagues to minimize this outcome.

