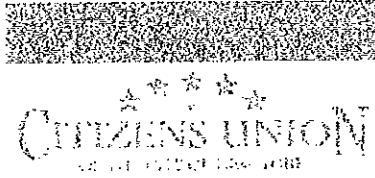


Andrea Serteno  
212.227.1345



CITIZENS UNION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE  
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL ELECTION 2009

Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questions related to Council and election reform policy issues facing the City of New York. We plan to make public your responses to this questionnaire on our website and in other appropriate venues.

Citizens Union will also be using your answers to guide the process of evaluating candidates for this office and to assist us in determining whether to issue a candidate "endorsement."

We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: John Tabacco Age: 41

Office to Which You Seek (Re) Election: Council District #: 49

Campaign Address: 14 St. Pauls Ave.

Campaign Telephone Number: (347) 286.9918 Fax: (201) 332.6880

Party Affiliation(s): I Campaign Manager Name: Todd Tabacco

Website & Email: www.JohnTabacco.com.

Education: B.S. Finance ST. JOHNS UNIV. 90'

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): CEO -

Locatestock.com - Financial Software Technology.

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:  
BIO ->

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES  NO   
*(Please note: Citizens Union can grant its "Preferred Candidates" and "Endorsed Candidates" status only to candidates we have interviewed.)*

Signature of Candidate: John Tabacco Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Peter J.W. Slavovick, Chair • Paul Mackey, Executive Director

### I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please state your position on the following reform measures. Specify whether you support or oppose each. You may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

#### VOTING AND ELECTIONS REFORM

- 1. What is your position on allowing independents to vote in party primaries?  Support  Oppose

Comments: I support Open Non-Partisan elections + primaries

- 2. What is your position on passage of state legislation that would allow referenda initiated by the City Council and/or the public to appear on the ballot at the same time as a referendum initiated by a charter commission appointed by the Mayor?  Support  Oppose

Comments: I think Referendum is a critical reform necessary to better the representative democratic process.

- 3. What is your position on increasing the pay of election day poll workers above the current \$200 they are allotted per election event?  Support  Oppose

Comments: I think ~~the~~ proper compensation for poll workers will insure quality + performance enhancements to the election day process.

- 4. What is your position on requiring that the Board of Elections in the City of New York be included in the preliminary and final mayor's management report?  Support  Oppose

Comments: I think the B.O.E. needs critical reform and any mgmt - and or oversight should be comprehensive.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

- 5. What is your position on establishing stricter requirement for the disbursement of campaign finance matching funds to candidates that face non-competitive challengers?  Support  Oppose

Comments: non-comp? I'm opposed, to unopposed and participants creating matching fund opt'ies for incumbents.

6. What is your position on banning the transfer of funds that were raised in a previous election cycle into a current account?

Support  Oppose

Comments: You should spend the money you raise on the race you raised it for.

7. What is your position on allowing campaign financing for ballot proposals?

Support  Oppose

Comments: Ballot initiatives & referendums should have the necessary funding needed to create viable and dynamic proposals.

8. What is your position on lowering the campaign contribution limit for City Council candidates from the current \$2,750 for those who participate in the city's campaign finance program?

Support  Oppose

Comments: I support lowering the minimum.

9. What is your position on lowering the expenditure limit for City Council candidates who participate in the city's campaign finance program?

Support  Oppose

Comments: I think campaign finance should be eliminated for candidates not seeking matching.

**CITY COUNCIL REFORM**

10. What is your position on allowing Council committees to function more independently of the speaker than is presently the case?

Support  Oppose

• Should committee staff be hired by and report to committee chairs?

Support  Oppose

• Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?

Support  Oppose

• Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?

Support  Oppose

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. What is your position on eliminating or limiting stipends for committee chairs and leadership positions?

Support/Oppose

Comments: ~~Limiting~~ limiting the stipends would open the process as legacy leaders would be more inclined to pass on the

chairman ship.

12. What is your position on consolidating the current City Council committee structure and reducing the number of overall committees?

Support/Oppose

Comments: I think the current construction has some distinct benefits, but more intracouncil communication would help.

13. What is your position on the recent extension of term limits for the city's elected officials to three consecutive four-year terms? Please explain your answer.

Support/Oppose

Comments: The will of the people was usurped by the term limits extension.

14. What is your position on modifying the City Charter to require that changes to term limits may only be approved by the voters?

Support/Oppose

Comments: Great idea.

POLICY ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

15. What is your position on transferring prosecutorial power over substantiated claims of police misconduct to the Civilian Complaint Review Board? If oppose, what would you propose to ensure sufficient public oversight and effective adjudication in handling claims of alleged police misconduct?

Support/Oppose

Comments: I think the P.D. is faced w/ many challenges and creating more oversight and multiple adjudicatory procedures will add to an efficient process.

16. Do you believe that the State Legislature should renew mayoral control of the city's public schools in its present form? If oppose, what specific changes to the current system would you recommend?

Support/Oppose

Comments: I think the Mayor has made some great advances, w/ control concentrated @ the mayoral level.

17. What is your position on establishing mandatory inclusionary zoning standards and requirements for all new residential development projects? If so, what should be the minimum percentage set aside for low income households?

Support/Oppose

Comments: ~~All new~~ All residential development

should have a diversified blend of ~~economic~~ economic housing opportunities. All socio-economic conditions should be provided for.

18. What is your position on changing the current land use process under ULURP to limit the role of community based planning?

Support/Oppose

Comments: I am opposed to limiting community based planning.

19. What is your position on the Ravitch Commission's recommendations for new revenue sources for funding the MTA and altering its governance? Please explain your answer, as well as your thoughts on how the experiences of the debate surrounding the city's efforts to implement congestion pricing can inform the current discussion.

Support/Oppose

Comments: I have not reviewed the Ravitch Comm. report, but I ~~will~~ should and I will. I think any move in the direction of positive + transparent governance reform is good.

I think congestion Pricing ~~was~~ was not the right solution for NYC. But I think some sort of pass thru tax on vehicles which pass thru our boro should be considered to offset as alternative funding for MTA shortfalls.

### CAMPAIGN PROMISES BEING MADE TO VOTERS IN 2009

Citizens Union is adding a new element to its evaluation of incumbents running for re-election. In addition to evaluating their stances on the issues above, Citizens Union will assess incumbents on how well they kept the promises they made to voters during the previous election.

As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, CU is interested in knowing what are the top five promises you are making to the voters during this campaign?

We thank you very much for your response. Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient.

#### TOP FIVE CAMPAIGN PROMISES BEING MADE IN 2009

1. To Vote against New Taxes.
2. To fight against Property Tax Increases.
3. To establish - Senior Administrative Mobile Units to assist Sr's w/critical Medicare + Medicaid Filings.
4. To advocate of behalf of Public Private Education Initiatives
5. Seek thoughtful out of the Box solutions To begin Homeport Redevelopment

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee  
299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007  
or via fax to 212.227.0345