

**CITIZENS UNION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE  
MAYORAL  
ELECTION 2009**

Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questions related to policy issues facing the City of New York that are of concern to Citizens Union and the citizens of the city. I plan to make public your responses to this questionnaire in our Voters Directory, on our website, and in other appropriate venues. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union will use to evaluate candidates who are running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the primary election and "Endorsed Candidates" for the general election. In order to receive Citizens Union's "preferred" or "endorsed" status, in addition to completing the questionnaire, candidates must participate in an interview with Citizens Union's Local Candidates Committee.

I thank you very much for your response.

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Candidate Name: Michael R. Bloomberg

Age: 67

Campaign Address: 111 W. 40<sup>th</sup> St., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl.; New York, NY 10018

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Party Affiliation(s): Independent

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Education: MBA, Harvard Business School; B.S. Johns Hopkins University

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Mayor/People of New York. 7 ½ years.

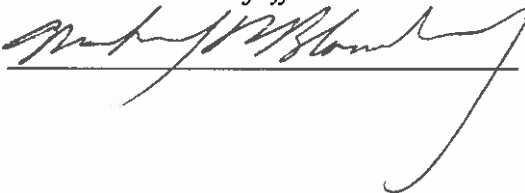
Previous Offices and Campaigns: None

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES  NO

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES  NO

*(Please note: Citizens Union can grant its "Preferred Candidate" or "Endorsed Candidate" rating only to candidates I have interviewed. I will make every effort to interview candidates in this race.)*

Signature of Candidate:



Date:

9/4/09

Please state your position on the following issues by indicating whether you support or oppose each, where applicable. Please also use the space provided below each question or on a separate sheet of paper to elaborate on your positions on the questions which require a detailed answer. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

1. What is your position with respect to allowing voters who are registered as an independent to vote in party primaries?

I am a strong believer in open elections in which all voters can participate equally. For this reason, I strongly supported the 2003 Charter Revision Commission proposal to create non-partisan elections for local municipal offices, which would have allowed all voters to participate in the primary election.

2. What is your position on the passage of state legislation that would allow referenda initiated by the City Council and/or by citizens to appear on the ballot at the same time as when there is a charter reform proposal initiated by a charter commission appointed by the Mayor?

Oppose

3. What is your position on implementing "war chest" restrictions that would prohibit a candidate from transferring funds raised in a previous election cycle into a current campaign committee for a different office?

Support

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

Oppose

5. What is your position with respect to increasing the limit on the number of charter schools permissible under state law?

Support. I have been a staunch advocate of eliminating the arbitrary cap on the number of charter schools.

Over the past seven years, our Administration has been an adamant supporter of charter schools, opening over 60 new charter schools throughout New York City. That's because I believe all New York City children - not just those whose parents can afford private schools - deserve the high-quality choices we've been working to create. Both test scores and lengthy waiting lists have proven that charter schools perform at high levels, and that we owe it to students and parents to create more of them. I would fully support additional State efforts to lift the cap on charter schools in New York.

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

Oppose. While there may be room for greater procedural efficiencies in the City's land use review process, I believe that ULURP strikes the appropriate balance between encouraging development and increasing New Yorkers' ability to offer input into the issues that impact their neighborhoods.

7. Knowing that the police department and commissioner retain ultimate authority for determining whether an officer is guilty and penalty, what is your position on transferring power to the Civilian Complaint Review Board to prosecute cases of police misconduct, such as force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and offensive language?

Oppose. CCRB and NYPD launched a pilot program that expands the role of CCRB attorneys in the NYPD's internal disciplinary trials. A CCRB attorney now acts as supporting counsel to the assigned Department prosecutor. They will evaluate the success of the pilot program and determine what further steps can be taken to ensure effective prosecution of CCRB-substantiated cases.

8. What is your position on restructuring New York's election administration structure to eliminate most aspects of the two-party system, including the appointment of local and State boards of elections, which currently controls the existing operational structure?

Support. I believe there should be a full and frank discussion of the various possible approaches—whether they are legal, operational, or administrative—to achieve our shared goal of improving the way elections are administered in New York City.

In 2005, our Administration created the Election Modernization Task Force ("Task Force") to assist the Board with its implementation of the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"), and to begin addressing the Board's managerial and operational limitations. Since its creation, the Task Force has helped the Board secure the services of an expert consultant to assist the Board in complying with new federal requirements, and it has engaged the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications to improve the Board's Website and telecommunication network.

Despite these positive steps, many New Yorkers called 311, good government groups, and nonpartisan election monitoring organizations to complain about their Election Day experience. Some of these complaints raise new issues regarding the Board; others represent chronic problems that have hindered the Board's performance for years. Either way, it is clear that the present system is in need of significant and immediate improvement, and we look forward to working with good government groups and nonpartisan advocates to improve our election system.

9. What is your position on having an election administration system where there is a local elections executive director appointed by the mayor upon recommendation by a new board that is chosen by the mayor and the city council?

I support this type of reform. I believe that such a structure could help improve Board operations, provided that such appointments are not made co-terminus with the terms of the

appointing elected official, i.e., five years. As mentioned above, our goal is to improve the way elections are administered in New York City and to provide voters with a system in which they can have the utmost confidence.

10. What is your position regarding the creation of a Charter Revision Commission to review the roles of the various offices of government to evaluate how best to effectively deliver government services?

Support. I believe it is time for another Charter Revision Commission to review how the reforms of the 1980s have worked and make recommendations for change, where appropriate. I will appoint such a commission if reelected and will consult with Citizens Union and other good government groups regarding what issues should be considered.

11. What is your position on term limits for elected officials?

Support. I have always supported term limits; I believe reasonable people can debate how many terms is an appropriate limit, two or three. I also believe that term limits are especially important for offices where the public is relatively unexposed to the officeholder, often making it difficult for voters to make an informed decision at the ballot box about the candidate's job performance.

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

Oppose

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. The City Charter gives the City Council the authority to amend the term limits law, and so the question for Council members - and for me - was this: Is it in the best interests of the City to extend term limits from two terms to three, giving voters more choices next November, a time when we could be (and now are) in a full-fledged recession?

I believed then and still believe the answer is yes. And after considerable debate and lengthy public hearings, the majority of the City Council agreed - choosing substance over process and pragmatism over ideology. Ultimately, the voters will have the chance to decide whether they agree. And that's important to remember: the people will render the final verdict on this bill, because it empowers them to decide who they want in office.

14. What is your position with respect to the State Legislature establishing a constitutional convention in advance of the next regularly scheduled state constitutional convention? If support, what are the three most important areas that need improvement?

The State Legislature currently has a full agenda before it—including the critical reauthorization of mayoral control of schools. Once this bill becomes law, leaders should turn their attention to grappling with the significant impediments that have too frequently prevented State

government from functioning effectively. If fixing these problems requires amending the State constitution, then a constitutional convention should be considered, but we must be careful to protect against the unintended consequences that could result from a constitutional convention.

15. How do taxes paid by New Yorkers compare to the value that is received in services? Do you believe that taxes should be raised or lowered? To the extent you believe taxes should be changed, please provide specific proposals about what taxes you would raise and what services you would cut, listed in order of greatest magnitude.

The Fiscal Year 2010 Budget displays our Administration's priorities regarding taxation and services. The national recession has not made balancing budgets easy for anyone - City government included - and we have had to take prudent and responsible steps to ensure enough revenue will be brought in to provide core services to New Yorkers.

First, it should be noted that economically sensitive tax revenue, which includes personal income, sales, business, and real estate transfer taxes, are projected to fall by 30 percent, or nearly \$7.4 billion, in FY 2010 when compared to FY 2008 levels. In response to that, our Administration proposed - and Albany recently passed - a sales tax increase that would generate nearly \$1 billion in new revenue by increasing the City portion of the sales tax by 0.5 percent and repealing the sales tax clothing exemption for items over \$110. In addition, the budget contains a tax conformity package, including loophole closures, that brings the City tax policy more in line with State policy. While the conformity package will bring in some immediate new revenue, it is also lowering taxes on the backbone of New York's economy: small businesses. The package reduces or eliminates the Unincorporated Business Tax for 17,000 small businesses, and moves the City to a Single Sales Factor that will reduce taxes for 27,000 businesses.

By saving billions during the good times, and cutting expenses when the first storm clouds gathered, we were as prepared as possible for the serious impacts of the national economic downturn on our budget and services. Starting 18 months ago, we began a targeted and pragmatic reduction of agency costs, eventually reaching a cumulative total of \$3 billion in agency gap closing measures that focused on administrative costs, not core services. Some examples include saving \$6.5 million in reducing waste export contract costs for the Sanitation department and saving \$2 million through the renegotiation of City leases.

16. Many policy advocates champion the creation of a more diversified economy, and one that is less reliant on Wall Street. Do you support such a plan? If so, how would you adjust spending in New York City to accommodate the reduction in tax revenue as the tax base shifts to lower paying jobs?

On July 20, we unveiled "DiverseCity", a comprehensive, long-term strategy to strengthen the local economy, spur entrepreneurship and target industries in which New York has a competitive advantage. Our Administration's goal is to create a wide array of job opportunities for New Yorkers with varied skills and backgrounds, while simultaneously lessening dependence on the performance of any one sector. New York City's economy is already relatively diverse: more than 3.1 million New Yorkers are employed in more than a dozen industries and sub-sectors, and no one sector accounts for more than 18 percent of total employment. Our Administration, as part of

our *Five Borough Economic Opportunity Plan*, is working to make New York City's economy more diverse by promoting entrepreneurship across all industries, making targeted investments and adopting long-term policies that will keep the City competitive. The City is focusing on supporting industries where we have particular competitive advantages, including bioscience, fashion, financial services, green, media/technology, non-profit, industrial/manufacturing and tourism. And, in addition to focusing on growing new industries, our Administration is focusing on making sure that New Yorkers have job and business opportunities in these emerging industries. That's why we are opening new industry-targeted Workforce 1 Training Centers dedicated to training working New Yorkers for the new industries we hope to grow.

While I have always believed in responsible budgeting, I do not believe that creating a more diverse New York City economy necessarily means that tax revenues will fall. Though Wall Street has certainly been disproportionately affected by this recession, I believe it will bounce back, and our Administration has laid out a set of proposals to help accelerate that process in order to maintain the City's preeminence in this sector. However, as we have during this difficult fiscal year, we will always ensure that our City has a responsibly balanced budget, no matter what the future economy brings.

17. What is your position on reforming the current pension funding structure to create multiple tiers for future city government employees?

I have been an outspoken proponent of the creation of a fifth pension tier for new City government employees, and applauded Governor Paterson's efforts to work with municipal governments and labor unions to forge a deal. The creation of a new pension tier, which our Administration has long been urging, is the only responsible way to address the long-term fiscal health of our City and State. It will save City taxpayers billions of dollars. Regrettably, the Legislature has not yet passed the necessary legislation to create this tier, but we will continue to fight for the new tier because it is essential to our fiscal future.

18. In FY 2008-09, New York City spent \$12 billion on pensions and fringe benefits for City employees out of a total budget of \$62 billion, of which \$39 billion was derived from New York City tax revenues. Are the pension obligations of the City of New York appropriately balanced with what is owed to retired workers, and to New York City tax payers?

Without a doubt, New York City's public servants and retired municipal workers deserve pension benefits and the safety net that comes with them. We want our public employees to be the best and the brightest, and their dedication to public service and maintaining our quality of life deserves to be protected and rewarded.

That said, the truth of the matter is that current pension costs are on an unsustainable path, and reform in the system is the only feasible way to keep providing for our public servants while being fiscally responsible. That's why, as I wrote above, I am strongly in favor of creating a new pension tier for future municipal employees. This proposal would save the City \$200 million for this fiscal year. More importantly, the long-term savings of the new pension tier are significant, saving the City \$7 billion in funds by 2030. We have also used our time in office to fight against the pension "sweeteners" that legislators in Albany routinely pass in order to curry favor with unions. Continuously adding to the City's pension obligations - without any serious efforts

towards reform – is simply no way to ensure New York’s long term fiscal health. As long as I am mayor, it will be a priority of our Administration to reign in out-of-control pension costs, and to make sure that City government is living within its means.

19. Given the current fiscal climate and its effect on economic development in the City, what measures would you propose to restore to New York’s vitality as an economic engine for New York and the country?

After taking office during an economic downturn and only months after the attacks of September 11, I used my private sector experience to help create new good-paying jobs and a better business climate in New York City, and lay the foundation for our city’s future growth and prosperity. Today, with the City dealing with the effects of a global recession, we are moving forward with our *Five Borough Economic Opportunity Plan*, which will create or save 400,000 jobs. The plan erects an economic development strategy built on four strong pillars: diversifying the economy, supporting workers and small business, investing in infrastructure, and creating a framework for future growth.

First, as I mentioned, we are diversifying New York City’s economy with our “DiverseCity” initiative, launching innovative programs to spur sectors in which New York City has a competitive advantage. For instance, we created a new office of biotechnology, which has supported bioscience initiatives, including the new East River Science Park and Brooklyn Army Terminal, where an AIDS vaccine is being developed. A new package of incentives, studios and services has lured the film industry back to the city, supporting thousands of middle class jobs in an exciting creative industry. We have brought awards shows and large public art exhibitions to New York so that visitors stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants, shop at local businesses and, most importantly, make plans to return with their friends and families. As a result, in 2008, 47 million tourists spent approximately \$30 billion in the City. Going forward, we will continue to outline a vision for the future of our competitive industries – including the green and clean tech sector– and implement a set of actionable initiatives aimed at strengthening those sectors.

The backbone of the city’s economy is undoubtedly workers and small businesses. That’s why we created new NYC Business Solution Centers, which provide essential services to small businesses, including help with finding workers. In 2008 alone, NYC Business Solutions served over 12,000 businesses and entrepreneurs. We have also opened new Workforce 1 Career Centers, which provide job training and placement services for unemployed New Yorkers, and expanded their hours so they can place New Yorkers in over 20,000 jobs this year alone. By helping small businesses and workers make it through these tough times, we are ensuring that the city’s strongest asset – its people – will continue to drive our economy forward.

I have been both a local and national leader on infrastructure issues, and firmly believe investment in our infrastructure is crucial to our future prosperity. Here in New York, we created the largest affordable housing, school construction and public hospital capital plans in City history. Work is underway on other critical infrastructure projects, such as the Third Water Tunnel and the extension of the #7 subway line. We are creating jobs by investing \$9.6 billion this fiscal year alone in critical infrastructure projects, and using additional federal stimulus money on other transportation projects like the rehabilitations of the St. George Ferry Terminal

and the Brooklyn Bridge. I will also continue to lobby federal elected officials, including President Obama, to invest more in the nation's infrastructure.

Finally, to ensure that New York City's economic recovery is permanent, our Five Borough Economic Opportunity Plan is creating a framework for future growth. By revising outdated zoning rules, we are advancing economic development in all five boroughs that will provide for the city's growth and prosperity throughout the 21st century. While in office, we have led the rezoning of 89 communities covering more than 7,000 blocks. In some neighborhoods, we focused on creating new jobs and housing; in others, the goal was to preserve the scale and quality of life in lower-density neighborhoods. For instance, because of our flexible strategy, over-development has been brought under control on Staten Island and in other parts of the city while new vibrant neighborhoods with quality jobs are being created in West Chelsea, Downtown Jamaica, Greenpoint and Williamsburg.

20. How would you implement budget cuts that are spread as equally as possible across all agencies while balancing that with the need to ensure city agencies can still deliver services to New Yorkers?

To balance last year's budget, which had a large deficit, we did exactly that - we instituted an equal 3% budget cut across all mayoral agencies. We have built on these gains by cutting planned spending by more than \$2 billion, reducing debt by \$3.2 billion, and using \$2.5 billion we responsibly set aside during boom times to conserve for the economic downturn. Importantly, we made sure that agency cuts were most focused on administrative costs and non-vital resources, in order to keep core services intact despite the national recession. The end result was a total of \$3 billion in agency gap closing actions for FY2010 - and a budget that balances one of the largest budget deficits in the City's history without laying off teachers, police officers, and firefighters.

Indeed, just because government is tightening its belt does not mean we cannot continue to produce results for New Yorkers. A major focus of our Administration has been to constantly stretch each dollar even further. Over the past seven years, we've enhanced the productivity of government and written innovation and accountability into the DNA of City agencies. We've completely transformed the way we collect and use data to manage agency performance - from 311, to SCOUT vehicles that scour the city looking for problems to fix, to the Mayor's Management Report, to our new Citywide Performance Reporting system, to the largest customer service survey any city has ever conducted.

21. What would you propose the Department of Education do to increase the ability for parents and teachers to become involved in meaningful ways in the education system? What other positive changes can be made to the New York City public school system?

Seven years ago, when Albany turned control of the school system over to the mayor, I knew I couldn't shake the system up alone. I needed parents to help us affect the change the system desperately needed. That's why we conducted the largest survey of parents any city has ever undertaken and hired parent coordinators so parents could get the information they need about their child's education. But we also knew that parents deserved to know more about neighborhood schools, and that's why we began our annual school Report Card. Never before



have parents had so many different ways of communicating with teachers, learning what is going on in the classroom, and working with their child's school to help their kids succeed.

But even with those resources, I know we can do better. That's why this year we are introducing two significant new tools that will empower parents even more in the education of our children. In May, we launched the ARIS Parent Link, a new online tool to help families follow their children's academic progress and collaborate with teachers to address their children's academic strengths and weaknesses. Families will be able to use Parent Link at home and in conferences with teachers to view detailed information about their children - including information about attendance, course grades, and scores on State tests and diagnostic assessments. Parent Link will also allow parents to find out how their children's school compares to other schools serving similar groups of students.

The second new tool for parents is coming this school year, when we will harness the power of 311 to better serve parents through a new initiative we're calling 'P311' - 311 for Parents. Parents will be able to call 311, identify themselves as a parent or guardian, and get answers without getting the run-around. It will make communication between schools and parents clearer and more consistent and it will help parents more easily find information on anything and everything to do with their children's schools.

For teachers, we are determined to ensure that not just any teacher becomes more involved in our children's learning - we want good teachers. Towards that goal, we have shifted emphasis from seniority or academic credential to what should really matter: effectiveness. We showed our teachers just how much we value the important work they do by raising salaries across the board by 43%. Those higher salaries will help us attract a new crop of bright graduates, who might otherwise have opted for jobs in other fields or teaching jobs in other cities. We have created financial incentives to encourage the most effective teachers and principals to work in the schools that need them most. Finally, we reached breakthrough agreements with the teachers' union to establish pay-for-performance bonuses - an idea they have traditionally opposed. The reason the UFT accepted this deal is because it structures the pay-for-performance program in a way that puts the decisions in the hands of teachers and principals, and ensures that teachers themselves will become more involved in tying their performance to student learning.

22. How would you propose the city deal with affordable housing?

Affordable housing is a top priority for our Administration, which is why we launched the largest municipal affordable housing plan in the nation. Our New Housing Marketplace Plan is a comprehensive vision for affordable housing throughout all five boroughs, setting an ambitious goal of building or preserving 165,000 affordable units for half a million New Yorkers. We are on our way to meeting that goal already, with over 111,000 units funded and over 90,000 units complete. 75 percent are affordable to low-income households, surpassing the Housing Plan's initial goal of 68 percent.

The New Housing Marketplace Plan contains four key elements that make up our affordable housing strategy: finding new land for affordable housing, creating incentives to develop

housing for new populations, harnessing the private market to create affordable housing, and preserving government-assisted affordable housing.

In order to find new land for affordable housing, we are partnering with City and State agencies to find land they own but may not need or use, and implementing rezonings of neighborhoods around the city in order to increase the potential for affordable housing built by private entities. Creating incentives to develop affordable housing for hard-to-reach populations is another crucial plank of the strategy, involving targeted subsidies and incentives through the Mixed Income Rental Program to develop affordable units for moderate- and middle-income New Yorkers, as well as homeless New Yorkers through our Supportive Housing Loan Program. Harnessing the private market is one of our most potent tools in building more affordable housing. Our award-winning New York City Acquisition Fund is a \$240 million partnership that uses cutting-edge private finance tools to allow developers committed to affordable housing to compete for project sites in a tough real estate market. Finally, our Administration has been enormously successful in preserving government-assisted affordable housing, implementing innovative programs like the Mitchell-Lama Loan Restructuring Program and the Mitchell-Lama Repair Program. All told, we have kept more than 21,000 apartments from exiting the Mitchell-Lama program, one of the most effective middle-class housing programs in the city's history.

If reelected, I am committed to following through with these strategies in our New Housing Marketplace Plan - and will ensure that 165,000 units of affordable housing for nearly half a million New Yorkers are funded and complete, as promised.

23. What would you propose to increase the transparency of the Board of Elections in the City of New York's operations and accountability to the city?

We have advised the Board of Elections that we intend to include them in the Mayor's Management Report (MMR), which provides objective performance data for all City agencies. I believe that by collecting and tracking this data, it would be a great step in bringing greater transparency and accountability to the Board. We have also offered the Board the opportunity to work with our Customer Service Group to streamline Board operations and improve the way the Board interacts and communicates with the public.

To date, the Board has failed to provide us with the data necessary to gauge their performance, resulting in a blank entry in the Preliminary MMR. Moreover, the Board has declined to accept the services of our Customer Service Group, services which I believe would help the Board provide voters with critical information such as, for example, a preview of a sample ballot before Election Day.

24. What would you propose to further enhance transparency regarding the relationships between elected officials, their families, and nonprofits that receive funding from New York City?

Our Administration recently crafted a new policy to improve safeguards against conflicts of interest in the discretionary funding process. Under the new policy, all discretionary award recipients must sign certifications disclosing any potential conflicts of interest. These

disclosures are then vetted by the Mayor's Office of Contract Services and, if an issue arises, forwarded to the Conflicts of Interest Board. False or fraudulent disclosure on this matter could subject the potential recipient to criminal liability. We will continue to monitor and evaluate the progress of this new policy, and look to develop other policies along these lines to ensure that City funds are spent appropriately.

25. Taking into consideration the lessons learned from the debates surrounding congestion pricing and the Ravitch Commission's recommendations to provide the MTA with long-term funding, what do you think should be done to address the MTA's fiscal solvency issues and ensure that the burden for funding the MTA are equitably distributed amongst all stakeholders?

As you know, I was a vigorous proponent of congestion pricing. Congestion pricing would have reduced traffic, improved public health and generated billions of dollars for mass transit improvements. But, though we tried valiantly, the State Legislature refused to bring the proposal to a vote.

During the debate that followed the Ravitch Commission's recommendations, I repeatedly stated that I believed that Albany had to agree to a long-term solution that averts the MTA's draconian fare hikes and puts the agency on sound financial footing. The MTA bailout should have distributed the benefits and the burdens equitably both geographically across the state and among straphangers, drivers, businesses and residents. Albany failed in that regard, and now the MTA's capital plan contains only two years worth of funding. I continue to believe that such a solution will be necessary if the MTA is to regain its financial footing, and we look forward to working with new leadership on this and a range of other mass transit issues over the next four years, should I earn the support of New Yorkers to serve as mayor.

26. Do you believe that greater home rule should be granted to the City of New York? If so, in what areas should further sovereignty be given?

As the State's and nation's largest municipality, it is critical that local decision makers have the authority to address matters of local concern efficiently and effectively, without interference from Albany. Albany should not determine, for example, how many red light cameras we can have on our streets, how many charter schools we can create, and how we compensate our employees during their retirements. These issues—big and small—effectively tie the hands of the local elected officials for no beneficial public policy reason.

## CANDIDATE ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

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 an elected official who is seeking re-election,

- a. What are the top five promises you made to your constituents when you ran for your current position and what progress have you made to keep those promises, and why and why not have you met them?
- b. What are your top five campaign promises you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position?

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

Thank you for asking this question. Since my election in 2001, we have been tracking, implementing and publicly reporting the status of every campaign promise made. That practice is a symbol of our commitment to transparency, accountability, best practices, and to getting results. It also made it much easier to complete this part of the questionnaire. I encourage you to read the full report, which is available at [www.nyc.gov/campaignpromises](http://www.nyc.gov/campaignpromises).

### TOP FIVE CAMPAIGN PROMISES FROM 2005 AND ACTION ON THEM

1. **Promise:** Expedite development of Willets Point

**Status:** Done. In November 2008, the City Council approved the Willets Point Development Plan. In tandem with the planning effort, EDC kicked off and is now leading the Willets Point Business Assistance Program to provide services to owner-occupant businesses, property owners, tenant businesses and workforce. The City has hired LaGuardia Community College to implement a comprehensive Workforce Assistance Program open to all Willets Point workers. Finally, to provide opportunities to local and M/WBE firms, EDC worked with the Borough President to establish a task force that will work with the developer selected to implement the plan to establish local and M/WBE goals.

2. **Promise:** Improve prevention and treatment through the Take Care New York, our comprehensive public health initiative

**Status:** Done. Since 2002 the Department has made significant progress in seven of the ten priority areas outlined in Take Care New York (TCNY). By 2007, the Department had reached or surpassed 2008 goals within four of the TCNY priority areas. According to the most recent TCNY progress report, in 2007: 364,000 more New Yorkers had a regular doctor; 300,000 fewer New Yorkers smoked; there was a 48% increase in colonoscopy screening rates; 598 fewer New Yorkers died from HIV/AIDS-related illness; 143 fewer New Yorkers died from alcohol-attributable causes and 73 fewer died from drug-related causes; there was a 20% reduction in women who died from intimate partner homicide; 319 fewer children were newly identified with lead poisoning; and there was a 10% decrease in infant mortality. The Health Department continues to create TCNY Community Partners and progress has come in large part due to a network of over 400 TCNY partners.

3. **Promise:** Expand small school initiative and open more than 100 small schools.  
**Status:** Done. As of fall 2009, the DOE will have opened 233 High Schools and schools that serve grades 6-12, and 66 Middle Schools, surpassing the expanded goal of 250 secondary schools. In addition, DOE has opened 36 elementary schools. The DOE intends to continue to open new small schools to expand the portfolio of quality options for families.
4. **Promise:** Work with the United Way to add a new, comprehensive information and referral system for not-for-profit human services agencies through the 311 system.  
**Status:** Done. In April of 2008 Mayor Bloomberg announced that social service information and referral service is now available through the 311 call center. 311 will work with over 50 Not-For-Profits, as well as the United Way of New York City and the Human Services Council. Call takers are available 24/7, in over 170 languages. They have specialized training and are certified by the Alliance of Information and Referral Specialists (AIRS). Over 1000 Not-For-Profits are already in the system, and more are being added on a rolling basis.
5. **Promise:** Develop a new middle class housing program which will begin construction of 22,000 new units of housing for middle income individuals by 2013. To ensure the development of these new units, the City will create a program to lower the cost of housing construction by 25%.  
**Status:** Launched. Under the Mayor's New Housing Marketplace Plan, HPD has developed and begun implementation of the middle-income housing initiative. One key component of this plan is the development of the Hunters Point South site. The plan, which was approved by the City Council in November 2008, will accommodate 5,000 new units of housing, 60 percent of which will be affordable primarily to moderate- and middle-income families. Design work on infrastructure improvements is underway. HPD continues to look at ways to decrease construction costs for affordable housing developments.

#### **TOP FIVE 2009 CAMPAIGN PROMISES**

Over the next four years, New Yorkers can expect of me much of what they have come to expect: honest, open, non-partisan government with a particular focus on keeping crime down, improving our public schools, and building affordable housing. I will be laying out my campaign platform to New Yorkers on these topics and many more over the course of the next four months.