

***CITIZENS UNION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL ELECTION 2009***

Candidate Name: Francisco Moya

Age: 35

Office to Which You Seek Election: City Council, 21st District

Campaign Address: PO Box 680305, Corona, NY 11368

Campaign Telephone: 718-606-8202

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Party Affiliation: non-partisan race; registered Democrat

Campaign Manager Name: Wendy Howell

Website & Email: www.moyaforcitycouncil.com / wjhowell1220@gmail.com

Education: St. John's Preparatory High School, 1992
St. John's University, BA, Asian Studies, 1996

Occupation/Employer: Public Affairs, Cablevision (on leave)

Previous Offices, Campaigns, and Community/Civic Involvement:
Please see attached biography.

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES

Signature of Candidate:

Date: 02/02/2009

Francisco's Story

Francisco Moya is a lifelong resident of Corona, Queens. At the age of 15, Francisco started the Corona Gardens Neighborhood Association with a group of concerned neighbors, which focused on civic activity in the community. Those activities ranged from starting a block watch program to setting up beautification drives that helped plant trees in the community, as well as working with the 110 Pct. Council to remove graffiti from the neighborhood.

After graduating from St. John's University, Francisco went to work in Washington D.C. for two members of Congress; Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez and Congressman Brad Sherman. Francisco gained experience from working in Congress and came back to the neighborhood to put that experience to work for us.

Francisco was selected to the National Urban Fellows Program to get his masters in Public Administration. Out of 3,000 applicants from across the country, only 29 were selected. Francisco became the youngest person selected to the program and the first to ever be selected from Queens, NY.

After graduating from the National Urban Fellows Program, Francisco was hired as the Special Assistant to the Senior Vice President for the Queens Health Network at Elmhurst Hospital. Francisco was instrumental in securing \$250,000 from a federal grant with the help of Congressman Joe Crowley for a new mammogram machine. Francisco was promoted to Associate Director of Business Development at Elmhurst Hospital where he helped in the expansion of the Hospital.

In 2003, Francisco became the Secretary to the Senate for Senate Democratic Leader David A. Paterson. Francisco was then the highest-ranking Latino in State Government. Francisco was instrumental in helping craft significant legislation in the state Senate that helped all New Yorkers. Francisco was also one of the architects that helped the Senate democrats bring sweeping victories to the party during the 2004 and 2006 elections.

Francisco is currently working for one of the largest multi-media companies in the country where he handles all the Government Relations work for the company.

Francisco was appointed as Democrat District Leader at Large by the Democratic Organization of Queens in 2000. He is a member of the Corona Lions Club and a volunteer at the St. Leo's Golden Age Club. He is the founder of the Corona Gardens Neighborhood Association and helped start the after school sports program at St. Leo's school. Francisco chairs Congressman Crowley's Latino Advisory Committee, and has been honored by numerous public officials for his tireless work on behalf of his community.

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**

Comments: _____

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**

Comments: _____

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**

Comments: _____

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**

Comments: I believe that any effort to make the Board more accountable and transparent is a good thing.

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**

Comments: _____

6. What is your position on banning the transfer of funds that were **Support**

raised in a previous election cycle into a current account?

Comments: _____

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

Comments: _____

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**

Comments: My campaign already has a lower contribution limit because this is a special election, and I find it to be perfectly reasonable. The vast majority of my funding has come from small donors.

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

Comments: _____

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**

- Should committee staff be hired by and report to committee chairs? **Support**
- Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs? **Support**
- Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members? **Support**

Comments: I support all four of these positions, but feel it also bears mentioning that this is the way things are supposed to be functioning currently.

11. What is your position on eliminating or limiting stipends for **Support**

committee chairs and leadership positions?

Comments: _____

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

Comments: I think that we need to be careful to not do this in a way that creates true legislative logjam, but there are clearly committees that can be consolidated.

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. **Oppose**

Comments: I am strongly opposed to the extension of term limits, as I believe the voters made their voices heard loud and clear on this issue in the past.

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**

Comments: _____

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**

Comments: I believe very strongly that we need an independent entity to do so; no entity should police itself.

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? **Oppose**

Comments: I believe that we need to bring more and binding parent input into the decision making of our public schools. While I don't think that we should return to the old days of the Board of Education, we must find a way for parents to have a bigger say in the running of their

children's schools.

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

Comments: I am a strong advocate of increasing the stock of our affordable housing, and I believe inclusionary zoning is a critical piece of doing so. At a minimum, I believe 30% of all new units should be affordable housing, and we should of course push for more, if possible.

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

Oppose

Comments: We need more community involvement in planning, not less!

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.

MIXED

Comments: I believe the Ravitch Commission report is, in general, a serious and balanced way to approach preserving a vital NYC institution and resource. Public transit truly makes this city run, and we must take serious steps to preserve it. The 7 train is a lifeline in the 21st District, and, as Councilmember, I would be a strong advocate for mass transit. However, I believe that the proposal to add tolls to the East River and Harlem bridges is unfair to the residents of the outer boroughs. Too much of the burden of funding is placed on the residents of the 21st District and other working families outside of Manhattan. I do think congestion pricing on those bridges and tunnels that already have tolls is an excellent way to go. Finally, I think we need to explore additional options to generate revenue, including the possibility of bringing back the commuter tax and selling under-utilized MTA properties.

Top 5 promises you are making to the voters during this campaign:

1. City government needs to play a role in fixing our economy at a local level. The right policies drive job growth. We need to provide incentives to companies that make a commitment to our neighborhood and provide stable jobs. I am committed to working with the business community to develop create new jobs and to make sure that government policy promotes the creation of new jobs and the retention of jobs for our community. Decent jobs and living wages are the key to success for our families and our community. I am also committed to making sure that government plays its role in helping all New Yorkers through these tough economic times.

2. Even as housing values are falling elsewhere, too many people in our community struggle to afford a place to live. With real leadership in the City Council we can fix this problem and make sure that hardworking people never lack for housing. I am committed to using the power of my office to create new units of affordable housing right here in our community. I will work with developers to make sure that new construction in our community result in new units of housing that are truly affordable for the families of this district.

3. Every family has a right to quality, affordable, and accessible healthcare. We need to provide coverage for the uninsured, and I will make sure that the City Council plays its part in conjunction with the Federal and State government to do just that. In approaching the reform of our healthcare system, the needs of patients must be put first, not the needs of insurance companies. We must also make sure that prescription drugs are available at affordable prices. For our seniors and for all of us, no one should have to choose between prescription drugs and food for their family.

4. Making sure our children receive a world-class education isn't a matter of choice, it is a necessity. By supporting our teachers and fully funding our schools we will strengthen our community both now and for the future. I am committed to policies that result in lower class sizes, and make sure that our children and our schools have the resources they need. I will fight to make sure that the money that our schools are entitled to from the Campaign for Fiscal Equity ends up in our neighborhood classrooms. I also recognize that extra-curricular activities, such as music, art education, and athletic programs are a critical part of every child's development. Our children deserve nothing less.

5. Every member of our community has the right to be safe and free from discrimination of any kind. I will work with the police to improve the safety of our neighborhood, and use the power of my office to ensure that everyone's human and civil rights are protected.