LOCAL CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

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Scott Avidon
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Sally Barhydt
Joel Berger
David Brauner
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William Cantwell
Stephan Cotton
Christina R. Davis
Richard J. Davis
Diana de Fillipi
Patricia Dolan
Nicole Dooskin
Kevin Duffy
Aine Duggan
Gail Erickson
Lyle Frank
Martin Gallent
Arthur Galub
Joseph Gapper
Luis Garden Acosta
Elaine Gerstein
Sally Goodgold
Craig Gurian
James J. Harrington
Gail Hilson
Susan Hinko
Seth Hufford
Yvette Jackson
Rita Kardeman
Patricia Killen
Peter Killen
David Charles Klein
Raymond Knowles
Adam Kurtz
Eric Lee
Sandra Lespinasse
Mark Lieberman
Perry Luntz
Theodore Lynn
Grace Lyu-Voldkhausen
Michael Mariglano
Kerry McCarthy
Bill Meehan
Andra Miller
John Moran
Marc Norman
Tom Osterman
Anne Perkins
J. Robert Pigott
John G. Proudfit
Anusha Rasalingam
Luis O. Reyes
Richard Ropiak
Kenneth Seplow
Marjorie Shea
Peter J.W. Sherwin
Robert Snyder
Edward C. Swenson
Karen Washington
Kenneth Wasserman
William Weisberg
Craig Wilson

STAFF

Dick Dadey - Executive Director
Doug Israel - Local Candidates Staff Director
Amy Ngai - Program Associate
Sydney Beveridge - Operations & Policy Associate

Sara Stuart - Director of Development & Communications
Vera Willensky - Volunteer Coordinator
Chaleampon Ritthichai - Art Director

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

Matthew Gertz
Mollie Gurian
Alex Henry
Jess Krasner
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Voters Directory Primary Election 2005

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Dear Fellow New York Voter,

Four years ago, New York City prepared for its municipal elections unaware of the turn of events that would transpire on the morning of the scheduled primary. Originally set for September 11th, 2001, the City’s Primary Election was postponed due to the tragic events that unfolded in our City that morning.

Leading up to that fateful day, candidates for Mayor, Borough President and City Council, among other municipal offices, campaigned unaware of the unique challenges that the city would face in the coming years. Providing citizens with a sense of security and safety, reviving the City’s spirits, and restarting the City’s economic engines would be the call to duty of our newly elected officials.

While the events of September 11th overshadowed much of anything else that went on that Autumn, many believe those events, and the postponement of the election, changed the political landscape in that year’s election and led the City to put its faith in a self-made corporate executive who self-financed his first run for elected office and pledged to provide a steady hand as CEO of the City of New York.

The City Council elections of 2001 were also marked by a slate of hopefuls running to be the inaugural class of beneficiaries who would owe their political futures to voter approved term limits for City Council. A 51 seat legislature would welcome 38 new faces who immediately needed to begin work as a cohesive body amidst the challenges of September 11th.

This Primary Election is the first of two that will take place this fall that will be in large part a referendum on how well those who we first elected in 2001 have performed and how convinced we are of their visions for the future. This voters directory and the preferred candidates Citizens Union has chosen takes into account both the promises made in 2001 and the plans put forward in 2005.

We have tried to engage as many candidates in sharing their platforms with us, but were not able to get such information from all. As always, we hope that the information contained herein will be helpful to you as you determine who to vote for in the Primary Election on Tuesday, September 13, 2005.

Sincerely,

Rich Davis
Chair, Board of Directors

John Horan
Chair, Local Candidates Committee

Dick Dadey
Executive Director

Doug Israel
Local Candidates Staff Director
This directory lists every contest for public office that will be on the ballot in New York City on September 13, 2005. Voters should be aware that New York’s tangled election laws often result in the last minute elimination (or reinstatement) of candidates.

Key contests for City Council, Manhattan Borough President, Manhattan and Brooklyn District Attorney and Surrogate’s Court Judge, Public Advocate and Mayor have been evaluated by nonpartisan interview teams from Citizens Union’s Local Candidates Committee. Citizens Union did not evaluate candidates for Civil Court. This directory limits itself to listing Civil Court candidates with biographical information they have submitted.

Our candidate interview teams are charged with soliciting candidates’ views on current good-government and general interest issues, and assessing the candidates’ general experience, and their knowledge of the jurisdiction which they wish to serve and the office for which they are running. No single answer or position by a candidate ensures – or rules out – a preference.

Recommendations for a "Preferred Candidate" rating are made taking into account the following factors: 1) the performance of the candidates at their interviews, 2) the answers they have provided to our candidate questionnaire, 3) the accomplishments and experience of the candidates, and 4) the ability of the candidates to govern or lead.

These recommendations are reviewed by the Citizens Union Board which makes the final decision. The “Preferred Candidate” rating reflects a candidate that Citizens Union deems not only qualified for the office being sought, but committed to honest and responsive government. Candidates not preferred may nevertheless be highly regarded by Citizens Union. These distinctions are generally reflected in the commentaries.

A "No Preference" rating may result when there is insufficient information available, when one or more of the candidates has not been interviewed, or when a determination has been made that the candidates are of equal merit.

Candidates that receive a “Preferred Candidate” rating for the primary election do not automatically receive our preference for the General Election. We will re-evaluate the candidates and races after the Primary Election takes place.

---

**ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY**

All maps were supplied by the Community Mapping Assistance Project (CMAP), a service of the New York Public Interest Research Group.
## NEW YORK CITY MAYOR
TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS • SALARY: $195,000

Dem:  
- Christopher Brodeur  
- Fernando Ferrer  
- C. Virginia Fields  
- A. Gifford Miller  
- Arthur Piccolo  
- Anthony Weiner

## NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC ADVOCATE
TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS • SALARY: $150,000

Dem:  
- Michael Brown  
- Damon Cabbagestalk Jr.  
- Jay Golub  
- Betsy Gothaum  
- Andrew Rasiej  
- Norman Siegel

## MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT
TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS • SALARY: $135,000

Dem:  
- Brian Ellner  
- Adriano Espaillat  
- Margarita Lopez  
- Carlos Manzano  
- Stanley Michels  
- Eva Moskowitz  
- Bill Perkins  
- Scott Stringer  
- Keith L.T. Wright

## BROOKLYN DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS • SALARY: $136,000

Dem:  
- Charles Hynes  
- Arnold Kriss  
- Mark Peters  
- John Sampson

## MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS • SALARY: $136,000

Dem:  
- Robert Morgenthau  
- Leslie Crocker Snyder

## BROOKLYN CIVIL COURT
TERM OF OFFICE: TEN YEARS • SALARY: $125,600

District 3 † Dem:  
- Martin Needelman  
- Richard Velasquez

District 6 † Dem:  
- Cynthia L. Boyce  
- Michael Gerstein  
- Ingrid Joseph

**ELECTED COUNTYWIDE †**

Dem:  
- Sylvia Ash  
- Norma Jennings  
- Sandra Roper
# CONTESTED PRIMARIES

## NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS  •  SALARY: $90,000

### Districts in Brooklyn

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 8*</th>
<th>Dem: Nelson Denis</th>
<th>Joyce S. Johnson</th>
<th>Felipe Luciano</th>
<th>Melissa Mark-Viverito</th>
<th>John Ruiz</th>
<th>Ari Hoffnung</th>
<th>Oliver Koppell</th>
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### Districts in Manhattan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 34*</th>
<th>Dem: Diana Reyna</th>
<th>George Rivera</th>
<th>Letitia James</th>
<th>Albert Vann</th>
<th>Sara Gonzalez</th>
<th>Eddie Rodriguez</th>
<th>Yvette Clarke</th>
<th>Zenobia McNally</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District 35</td>
<td>Dem: Samuel Eric Blackwell</td>
<td>Letitia James</td>
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<td>Sara Gonzalez</td>
<td>Eddie Rodriguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 36†</td>
<td>Dem: Richard Taylor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sara Gonzalez</td>
<td>Eddie Rodriguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 38†</td>
<td>Dem: David Galarza</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sara Gonzalez</td>
<td>Eddie Rodriguez</td>
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### Districts in Bronx

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### Districts in Bronx

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<tr>
<th>District 8*</th>
<th>Dem: Diana Johnson</th>
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<tr>
<td>District 11</td>
<td>Dem: Ari Hoffnung</td>
<td>Oliver Koppell</td>
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## BROOKLYN SURROGATE

TERM OF OFFICE: FOURTEEN YEARS  •  SALARY: $136,700

### Dem: Diana Johnson | Margarita Lopez Torres

### MANHATTAN SURROGATE

TERM OF OFFICE: FOURTEEN YEARS  •  SALARY: $136,700

### Dem: Kristen Booth Glen | Eve Rachel Markewich

## NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

TERM OF OFFICE: FOUR YEARS  •  SALARY: $90,000

### BRONX

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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Dem:</th>
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<td>8*</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nelson Denis</td>
<td>Joyce S. Johnson</td>
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<td>Felipe Luciano</td>
<td>Melissa Mark-Viverito</td>
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<td>District 13</td>
<td>Dem:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ismael Betancourt Jr</td>
<td>Stephen Kaufman</td>
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<td>Joseph McManus</td>
<td>Egidio Sementilli</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 11</td>
<td>Dem:</td>
<td>Ari Hoffnung</td>
<td>Oliver Koppell</td>
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### BROOKLYN

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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Dem:</th>
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<tr>
<td>34*</td>
<td>Diana Reyna</td>
<td>George Rivera</td>
<td>Letitia James</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Samuel Eric Blackwell</td>
<td>Letitia James</td>
<td>Albert Vann</td>
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<td>36†</td>
<td>Richard Taylor</td>
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<td>Sara Gonzalez</td>
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<td>38†</td>
<td>David Galarza</td>
<td>Sara Gonzalez</td>
<td>Eddie Rodriguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>40†</td>
<td>Yvette Clarke</td>
<td>Zenobia McNally</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 41</td>
<td>Dem:</td>
<td>Alicka Ampry-Samuel</td>
<td>Royston Antoine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William Boyland Sr</td>
<td>Essie Duggan</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 42†</td>
<td>Dem:</td>
<td>Charles Barron</td>
<td>John Whitehead</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Kendall Stewart</td>
<td>Samuel Taitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 43</td>
<td>Dem:</td>
<td>Lewis Fidler</td>
<td>Takara Grandoit</td>
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* District includes portion of more than one borough
† Citizens Union did not evaluate this race
Incumbent candidates in bold
**CONTESTED PRIMARIES**

### MANHATTAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 2 - Dem:</th>
<th>District 8* - Dem:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Beys</td>
<td>Nelson Denis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren Bloch</td>
<td>Joyce S. Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Brightharp</td>
<td>Felipe Luciano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Kavanagh</td>
<td>Melissa Mark-Viverito</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosie Mendez</td>
<td>John Ruiz</td>
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<td>Christopher Papajohn</td>
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<td>Gur Tsabar</td>
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<tr>
<th>District 4 - Dem:</th>
<th>District 9 - Dem:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meryl Brodsky</td>
<td>William Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Garodnick</td>
<td>Rodney Carroll</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jak Jacob Karako</td>
<td>Yasmin Cornelius</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Lester</td>
<td>Inez Dickens</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 5 - Dem:</th>
<th>District 10† - Dem:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eric Cesnik</td>
<td><strong>Miguel Martinez</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Lappin</td>
<td>Ruben Dario Vargas</td>
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<td>Dan Quart</td>
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<td>George Spitz</td>
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<th>District 7 - Dem:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victor Bernace</td>
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### QUEENS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 21† - Dem:</th>
<th>District 28 - Dem:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luis Jimenez</td>
<td>Albert Baldeo</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hiram Monserrate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Allan Jennings</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marlene Tapper</td>
<td>Robby Mahadeo</td>
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<tr>
<th>District 24 - Dem:</th>
<th>District 29† - Dem:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Gennaro</td>
<td><strong>Melinda Katz</strong></td>
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<td>Renee Lobo</td>
<td>Joseph Nocerino</td>
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<td>Dilip Nath</td>
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<th>District 25 - Dem:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rodolfo Flores</td>
<td>David Hooks Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryan Pu-Folkes</td>
<td><strong>James Sanders</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Helen Sears</strong></td>
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<th>District 28 - Dem:</th>
<th>District 31† - Dem:</th>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Diana Reyna</strong></td>
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<th>District 34* - Dem:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>George Rivera</strong></td>
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* District includes portion of more than one borough  
† Citizens Union did not evaluate this race  
Incumbent candidates in bold
VOTING ELECTIONS AND REFORMS

1. Do you support allowing independents to vote in party primaries?

2. Do you support allowing non-citizen immigrants the right to vote in municipal elections?

3. Do you support the passage of state legislation that would allow for other charter measures to appear on the ballot at the same time when there is a charter reform proposal initiated by a charter commission appointed by the Mayor?

4. Do you support allowing non-emergency municipal workers to work at the polls on Election Day while receiving their pay plus a poll-worker bonus?

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

5. Do you support stricter requirements on the dispersal of campaign finance matching funds to candidates who face non-competitive challengers?

6. Do you support limiting the influence of those doing business with the city by banning campaign contributions from these entities?

7. Do you support a “war chest” restriction for candidate campaigns that would prohibit the transfer of funds raised in a previous election cycle for a different political office into a candidate committee for another office?

8. Do you support allowing public campaign financing for charter proposals?

9. Do you support Intro 564-A that would create new guidelines for the evaluation of union contributions to determine if they have been directed or coordinated by a “single-source” parent union?

CITY COUNCIL REFORM

10A. Do you support allowing Council committees to function more independently of the Speaker than is presently the case?

10B. Should committee staff be hired by and report to committee chairs?

10C. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?

10D. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?
11. Do you support strengthening the rule and the practice of allowing council members to propose amendments to bills during consideration by the council at its regularly stated meetings?

12. Do you support giving council committees a greater role in the budget process?

13. Do you support eliminating stipends for committee chairs and leadership positions and raising the base pay to a higher level that is equal among all city council members?

14. Do you favor removal of restrictions on discharge petitions (currently, nine City Council members are needed to request a vote to the floor)?

15. Do you support requiring earlier public notification of City Council meetings?

16. Do you support keeping council term limits in place for two consecutive four year terms? If not, why, and what do you propose?

POLICY ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

17. Do you support keeping in place the current property tax rate? If not, what do you propose?

18. Do you support 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?

19. Do you support the use of eminent domain to seize private property to allow for development of projects like the basketball arena in downtown Brooklyn?

20. Should New York City pay a portion of the amount required to comply with the Campaign for Fiscal Equity decision should the state fail to allocate the entire amount?

21. Do you favor amending the City’s Human Rights Law to require that co-ops, at the time they reject an applicant, provide that applicant with a written statement of the reasons for rejection, as proposed by Intro 504?

22. Do you support increasing the limit on the number of charter schools permissible by law?

23. Do you support the use of all the Marine Transfer Stations included in the Mayor’s proposed Solid Waste Management Plan? If not, which station do you oppose, why and what alternative site do you recommend that could handle an equal amount of waste?
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<tr>
<td>BRONX</td>
<td>11/Koppell</td>
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- Numbers that appear before candidates’ last names signify the district number
- Incumbent candidates in bold
| District/Name | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 | Q7 | Q8 | Q9 | Q10A | Q10B | Q10C | Q10D | Q11 | Q12 | Q13 | Q14 | Q15 | Q16 | Q17 | Q18 | Q19 | Q20 | Q21 | Q22 | Q23 |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| **MANHATTAN** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 1/Gerson      | N  | N  | Y  | Y  | N  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    |
| 2/Beys        | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | A  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    |
| 2/Bloch       | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | N  | Y    | N    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    |
| 2/Kavanagh    | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    |
| 2/Mendez      | D  | W  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | N    |
| 2/Papajohn    | D  | N  | Y  | Y  | N/A | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    |
| 2/Isabar      | D  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | N    |
| 3/Quinn       | D  | W  | N  | A  | Y  | Y  | N  | N/A | N/A | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N/A  |
| 4/Brodsky     | D  | N  | N  | A  | N/A | N/A | N/A | N  | N  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    |
| 4/Garodnick   | D  | N  | N  | Y  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    |
| 4/Korako      | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    |
| 4/Lester      | D  | W  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    |
| 4/Murphy      | R  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    |
| 5/Cesnik      | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    |
| 6/Brewer      | D  | W  | N  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | N    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N/A  |
| 6/Yablons     | R  | Y  | N  | N  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N/A  | N/A  | N    | N    | N/A  |
| 7/Jackson     | D  | W  | N  | Y  | Y  | N  | N  | Y  | N  | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N/A  | N  | N/A  | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N/A  | N/A  |
| 7/Denis       | D  | N  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | N  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    |
| 8/Johnson     | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | N  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | N  | Y    | Y    | N/A  | N    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  |
| 8/Luciano     | D  | Y  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  |
| 8/Viverito    | D  | W  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | N  | N  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  |
| 9/Bloodsaw    | I  | Y  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N/A  |
| 9/Brown       | R  | Y  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | Y  | N  | Y    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N    | N/A  | Y    | N/A  | N    | N/A  | N    | N/A  |
| 9/Carroll     | D  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  |
| 9/Cornelius    | D  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | N    | N/A  |
| 9/Dickens     | D  | N  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N/A  | Y    | N/A  | N/A  |
| 9/Duty        | D  | N  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | N/A  |
| 9/Montague    | D  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | Y    | N    | N    | Y    | Y    |

**CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES**
### CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

**Candidate Responses**

- **Y** = Yes
- **N** = No
- **NA** = No answer or qualified answer

**Party Affiliations**

- **C** = Conservative
- **D** = Democrat
- **I** = Independence
- **R** = Republican
- **WF** = Working Families Party

- Numbers that appear before candidates’ last names signify the district number
- Incumbent candidates in bold

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To view the candidates’ complete responses to the Citizens Union Questionnaire, go to www.citizensunion.org
2005 PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE PREFERENCES

CITYWIDE

Democratic Candidate for Mayor
C. Virginia Fields

Democratic Candidate for Public Advocate
No Preference

BRONX

City Council District 11
Oliver Koppell
City Council District 13
Jimmy Vacca

BROOKLYN

District Attorney
Charles Hynes

Surrogate Court
Margarita Lopez Torres

City Council District 34
Diana Reyna
City Council District 35
Letitia James
City Council District 41
David Miller
City Council District 45
Samuel Taitt
City Council District 46
Lew Fidler

MANHATTAN

Borough President
Scott Stringer

District Attorney
Robert Morgenthau

Surrogate Court
Kristin Booth Glen

City Council District 2
Brian Kavanagh
City Council District 4
Dan Garodnick
City Council District 5
Jessica Lappin
City Council District 7
Robert Jackson
City Council District 8
Melissa Mark-Viverito
City Council District 9
Yasmin Cornelius

QUEENS RACES

City Council District 24
James Gennaro
City Council District 25
Bryan Pu-Folkes
CITYWIDE RACES

- DEMOCRATIC MAYORAL CANDIDATES -

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – C. VIRGINIA FIELDS ★

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 60  Occupation: Manhattan Borough President
Education: Knoxville College; Indiana University (MSW)

Born in Alabama, C. Virginia Fields moved to New York City in 1971 and worked in social services for the Children’s Aid Society and the city’s Work Release program. She was elected to the City Council in 1989 and went on to become Manhattan Borough President in 1997. Ms. Fields was a Democratic district leader and chair of Community Board 10. Her dedication to issues of justice and equality date back to her experience as a civil rights pioneer, marching alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a teenager.

In her quest to become the city’s next mayor, Ms. Fields has articulated a clear vision for the office that includes a focus on affordable housing, unemployment and improved educational opportunities for our city’s school children. She also has a thoughtful and well formed perspective on the city’s economy and the interplay that exists between the need to provide improved services and employment opportunities without raising taxes.

Ms. Fields is an advocate in the fight to ensure that the city remains affordable for working class families and seniors and has a commendable plan to accomplish that goal. As borough president, she championed an alternative plan for the Hudson Yards that focused on the housing and commercial needs of Hell’s Kitchen’s residents and the city at large. To further her affordable housing goals, she pledges to require developers to provide low, moderate and middle-income housing in communities where affordable housing is being replaced with market rents. She would require that at least 20 percent of new housing built in rezoned areas be affordable with a goal of building 10,000 affordable housing units annually and preserving an additional 8,000 units per year. Ms. Fields also has some specific and laudable ideas for improving education that includes a focus on early childhood education and expanding vocational training in the city’s schools. If elected, she pledges to appoint a Deputy Mayor of Unemployment to deal with a growing crisis of joblessness in the city, especially among the city’s young African-American and Latino men.

Ms. Fields’ commitment to strengthening citizen engagement both in the process of community planning and government decision making as part of a broader effort to reshape how city government operates is appealing on many levels. It is Ms. Fields passion for the job, her extensive record of public service, her ability to work with many different communities all across this great city, and her willingness to find new ways to involve citizens in how the city government operates that has earned her Citizens Union’s preference for the Democratic nomination for mayor.
CHRISTOPHER X. BRODEUR
Has returned questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 37  Occupation: Freelance journalist

FERNANDO FERRER
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 55  Occupation: Former President, Drum Major Institute
Education: NYU (BA); Baruch College (MPA)

Raised in the South Bronx, Fernando Ferrer served in the New York City Council from 1982 to 1987 when he was elected Bronx Borough President, a post he held for 14 years. Mr. Ferrer previously ran for mayor in 2001, narrowly losing a run-off election to Mark Green. Since then, he has served as president of the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy, a non-profit organization that works on economic and social justice issues.

Mr. Ferrer points to his record of accomplishments in the Bronx, helping build 66,000 units of affordable housing and adding the addition of over 34,000 new jobs, as his unique qualifications for mayor. Mr. Ferrer believes a major shift in emphasis from the current Mayor on business development is warranted. He favors a comprehensive indexing of economic subsidies, and an eventual redistribution of subsidies provided to big business—which he claims amount to over $500 million per year—to small business in the form of tax incentives for new business creation and incentives for small businesses that hire people that live in New York City. Mr. Ferrer favors a greater emphasis on job training and workplace development programs, and a decrease in the commercial property tax rate, which he claims has increased by 18.5 percent and has stunted small business growth.

As part of his plan to address the affordable housing needs of city residents, Mr. Ferrer, supports an inclusionary zoning formula that requires developers seeking residential zoning changes to provide a minimum of 30 percent affordable rate units, with a bonus incentive for developers willing to make an additional 20 percent available for low income residents. Mr. Ferrer believes the city needs to focus greater attention and resources to reduce class size and believes the Mayor places too much emphasis on test scores and not enough on graduation rates and the quality of education.

Mr. Ferrer’s accomplishments in his home borough of the Bronx and his continued advocacy on behalf of under-represented New Yorkers makes him a strong and worthy candidate in this Democratic primary.
A. GIFFORD MILLER

Has returned questionnaire

Age: 35   Occupation: Speaker, New York City Council
Education: Princeton University

A lifelong resident of the Upper East Side, Gifford Miller began his political career working on the staff of U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney following his graduation from college. In 1996, at the age of 26, Mr. Miller was elected to City Council and was selected Council Speaker by his colleagues six years later.

Mr. Miller points to his fiscal stewardship as Council Speaker as well as his ability to build coalitions among the diverse City Council members as two things that set him apart from his fellow Democratic candidates. Miller believes the projected budgetary deficits and the long-term structural problems with the city budget can be solved with a mix of three remedies: smart spending cuts, responsible tax increases, and getting a more equitable share of tax dollars from both Albany and Washington, DC, which he claims take a combined $24 billion — more than half the city’s budget — than they give back. Mr. Miller proposes extending the income tax surcharge on individuals earning more than $500,000 a year, and using those funds to directly reduce class sizes in the city’s public schools by 20 percent across the board, and billing the state for the cost of using the city jail for inmates pending trial in excess of one year.

To address the affordable housing crisis, Mr. Miller favors the use of inclusionary zoning incentives, such as those utilized in Williamsburg/Greenpoint and Clinton/Hell’s Kitchen under his leadership as Speaker, which if fully realized will lead to developers setting aside 33 percent and 28 percent, respectively, of the units for affordable housing. Mr. Miller pledges to lead the city in viewing recycling programs as a driver for job creation and economic development, not waste management, and will help secure the funds and support necessary to transition to a zero waste future.

Mr. Miller’s experience in fighting for New Yorkers, and his successes as Speaker of City Council also make him a solid and very worthy opponent in the race for mayor.

ARTHUR PICCOLO

Has NOT responded to questionnaire   Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview

Occupation: Chairman, Bowling Green Association
CITYWIDE RACES

ANTHONY WEINER

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 40  Occupation: Congressman, U.S. Congress  Education: SUNY-Plattsburgh

After graduating from college Anthony Weiner went to work for then U.S. Representative Charles Schumer in 1985. Six years later, at the age of 27, Anthony Weiner was elected to the City Council, the youngest person to serve in the council at the time. When Schumer left the House in 1998 to run for Senate, Weiner set his sights on that congressional seat and with Schumer’s endorsement, he narrowly won the primary and went on to win the general election.

Currently, Mr. Weiner serves on the Homeland Security Task Force, the Committee on the Judiciary and the Transportation Committee and has consistently scored high ratings from national and local environmental groups. He has authored the Silent Skies Act that would require carriers to use only the quietest and most energy efficient airplanes and legislation to facilitate an increase in local and independent radio programming and content in the face of increased media conglomeration.

Mr. Weiner has a plethora of ideas to confront the city’s challenges, some old and some new. To address the pending budget deficit, Mr. Weiner proposes that the city government invest in money saving technology, such as an electronic filing format for Medicaid claims, which he claims can help save millions of dollars annually. He also proposes that all government property sales should take place through an open bidding process so that taxpayers do not lose money through closed door deals. Mr. Weiner vows to get tough on Albany and Washington, DC and demand they pay their fair share for education funding, homeland security funding, and property taxes on the roughly one thousand buildings in the city that are exempt. He also proposes to cut or reprogram five percent of the worst performing projects or services of the city budget.

To improve the performance of the city’s school children, Mr. Weiner advocates that the city move away from the uniform curriculum put in place, and perhaps even from federal No Child Left Behind regulations, and allow teachers to teach to their students and not to tests. Mr. Weiner favors using zoning regulations to ensure that developers set aside 20 percent of new units for middle class families, 20 percent for low-income households, and the remainder sold or rented at market rate.

Mr. Weiner’s tenacious style and thoughtful and insightful look at city politics and the issues that define it make him an effective leader and a compelling candidate for higher office.
NO PREFERENCE

BETSY GOTBAUM  
*Has returned questionnaire*  
*Occupation: Public Advocate*  
*Education: Teacher's College of Columbia University (BA)*

Betsy Gotbaum was elected as Public Advocate in 2001. In the past, she has worked as an advisor to three mayors, as head of the New York Police Foundation, as commissioner of the Department of Parks and Recreation, and as president of the New-York Historical Society. Ms. Gotbaum approaches the office of Public Advocate differently than her predecessor, preferring to work behind-the-scenes in addressing the particular needs of individual citizens. Ms. Gotbaum's low key approach has not landed her in the newspapers quite as often as Mark Green, and hence her record of accomplishments is not quite as evident. Among the accomplishments cited by Ms. Gotbaum are her efforts to restore “meals-on-wheels” food delivery to seniors in the Bronx, assist thousands in getting the food stamp benefits to which they are entitled, bring attention through the release of reports to the inadequacies of the city’s foster care and shelter system for children and the safety of municipal outdoor swimming pools, and oppose the mayor on his plan to build a football stadium on the West Side of Manhattan. While Ms. Gotbaum may have accomplished a number of laudable tasks working behind the scenes, they are insufficiently known to the citizens of the city. This lack of visibility in serving as Public Advocate compounded by the serious issue as to whether this position should exist as a citywide elected office became factors in our decision not to prefer any candidate in this race.

ANDREW RASIEJ  
*Has returned questionnaire*  
*Age: 47*  
*Occupation: Entrepreneur*  
*Education: Cooper Union (BFA)*

Andrew Rasiej is the founder of MOUSE (Making Opportunities for Upgrading Schools and Education), a non-profit organization focused on integrating technology into public schools and the creator of Personal Democracy Forum, a non-partisan online magazine, focusing on the evolution of technology in politics and public policy. He founded the New York Nightlife Association, and has served on the New York City Board of Education's Task Force on Technology. Mr. Raisej is running largely on his vision of equipping the entire city with wireless internet connection capabilities. He believes an entirely wireless city will foment a technological revolution in government that will lead to greater citizen involvement and government efficiency and accountability. While his
idea is creative and innovative, his single-issue focus on pursuing Wi-Fi gives us some pause when he has not fully addressed how he would help average citizens deal with the day to day problems they encounter with government unrelated to the use of internet and wireless communications. Mr. Raisej’s entrepreneurial ideas, while compelling, are not sufficient grounds to support his bid for this particular public office.

NORMAN SIEGEL
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 61    Occupation: Private Attorney    Education: Brooklyn College (BA); NYU (JD)

Norman Siegel, a civil liberties lawyer, is making his second attempt for the public advocate’s office having lost in a runoff primary to the current incumbent in 2001. Mr. Siegel has served as executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union and was a member of former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani’s Commission on Police-Community Relations. As a lawyer, Siegel has represented demonstrators that were jailed during the Republican National Convention, participants in the monthly Critical Mass bicycle protest, and residents and business owners seeking to stop construction of a basketball arena in downtown Brooklyn. If elected, Mr. Siegel would create a team of deputy advocates to work on the ground in communities throughout the five boroughs gathering information and responding to citizen complaints. Along with this, Mr. Siegel pledges to create an “institute of advocacy” to build the writing and communication skills of citizens so that they would be more equipped to advocate successfully on their own behalf. Though Mr. Siegel now presents himself as being more collaborative than combative, his confrontational approach in the past has not always been effective.

MICHAEL BROWN
Has returned questionnaire    Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 40    Occupation: Entrepreneur    Education: Oakwood College (BA); Rutgers University (MBA)

DAMON L. CABBAGESTALK, JR.
Has NOT responded to questionnaire    Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Education: College of New Rochelle

JAY GOLUB
Has returned questionnaire    Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 36    Occupation: Dentist    Education: Drew University (BA); NYU (DDS)
BRONX RACES

• CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES •

District 8-Democratic Primary

Please see evaluation on page 52. District 8 encompasses sections of Manhattan and the Bronx.

District 11-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – G. OLIVER KOPPELL ★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 64 Occupation: Member, New York City Council
Education: Harvard University (BA); Harvard Law School (JD)

Prior to serving on the City Council, Oliver Koppell was member of the New York State Assembly for 22 years, after which he became the State Attorney General in 1994. He is also the President of Community School Board 10. Mr. Koppell is proud of legislation he authored to address overdevelopment in Riverdale through “downzoning” of the central area. The bill effectively prohibits developers from building over seven stories in central Riverdale. Mr. Koppell stood firm against the construction of a water filtration plant under Van Cortlandt Park, a position that his challenger does not support. Given his previous elected posts, the fact that Mr. Koppell has not championed any particular citywide issue or authored any significant piece of legislation outside of his own district is a notable surprise. Mr. Koppell has proven that he can be an independent voice in government. It is hoped that he will work harder at having a greater impact over the next four years.

ARI HOFFNUNG

Has NOT responded to questionnaire. Candidate could not be scheduled for interview.
Age: 32 Occupation: Vice-President, Bears, Sterns, & Co., Inc.
Education: Queens College (BA), New York University (MBA)

District 13-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – JAMES VACCA ★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 50 Occupation: District Manager, Community Board 10 Education: SUNY (BA); CUNY (MA)

Working tirelessly for his community for the past three decades, Jimmy Vacca is running for public office for the first time. An urban studies professor at Queens College and District
Manager for Community Board 10 for the past 25 years, Mr. Vacca understands the needs of the Bronx communities he is seeking to represent and has had success addressing them. He has led the fight for everything from installing speed bumps to reducing traffic along residential streets such as Stadium Avenue, to overcrowding at P.S. 194, to addressing perceived parking ticket blitz that has angered residents in his district. He has been an advocate of preserving the residential character of many of the district’s neighborhoods, while arguing for tax incentives to encourage the development of affordable housing units where appropriate. Mr. Vacca hands-on approach to public office and his commitment to the community he has been a part of his whole life, make him the best choice for the district.

ISMAEL BETANCOURT, JR.
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 67    Occupation: President, Multicultural Business Institute
Education: Columbia University (BA); Harvard University (MBA)

President and CEO of the Institute for Multicultural Communications, Cooperation and Development, Ismael Betancourt served in the U.S. Air Force and has been active in efforts to promote cultural opportunities and the creation of small business opportunities in the Bronx. Mr. Betancourt would like to bring jobs and economic development to City Island and advocates for greater tax incentives to encourage development in the Zerega industrial zone.

JOSEPH McMANUS
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 56    Occupation: Steamfitter    Education: Lehman College (BA)

Union shop leader and member of Community Board 11, Joseph McManus is running to address community concerns from the need for more public garbage receptacles to relief from a perceived recent parking ticket blitz. Mr. McManus also calls for a thorough analysis of costs and benefits of the tax breaks the city has provided big business because he feels it has not lived up to expectations in hiring city workers.

STEPHEN KAUFMAN
Has NOT responded to questionnaire    Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 61    Occupation: Private Attorney, Alpert & Kaufman    Education: Hunter College; American University (JD); NYU (LLM)

EGIDIO SEMENTILLI
Has NOT responded to questionnaire    Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 40    Occupation: Business Consultant    Education: College of New Rochelle (BA)
FIRST Elected as Kings County District Attorney in 1989, Charles “Joe” Hynes has previously served as special state prosecutor for the New York City criminal justice system and as the New York City Fire Commissioner under Mayor Ed Koch. Regarded as an innovator in many circles, Mr. Hynes started the first mental health court in the state and recently received an award from the American Bar Association for his alternatives to incarceration programs. Mr. Hynes’ Drug Treatment-Alternative to Prison (DTAP) program has been nationally recognized for its efforts to direct non-violent drug offenders to long-term residential drug treatment facilities instead of incarceration. Mr. Hynes is disturbed by the growing trend of crimes committed via the internet, especially the dissemination of child pornography and the trolling by cyber sexual predators for young children, and pledges to continue to pursue prosecution in that area. Initially aligned with the Democratic Party organization, Mr. Hynes is presently seeking conviction against the leader of the Kings County organization, Clarence Norman, Jr., for misuse of public funds and charges related to improper campaign contribution disclosure and accounting. Though Mr. Hynes’ reputation for exercising poor judgment at times in managing his budget and office and asking his senior Assistant District Attorneys to participate in his campaigns may be worthy of discussion, his recent independence from the Democratic party in Brooklyn is commendable and we hope that it will continue as he pursues corruption in the borough’s courts and in the Democratic party. For having served well the criminal justice and law enforcement needs of Brooklyn, Hynes has earned another four years in office.

ARNOLD KRISs

First elected as Kings County District Attorney in 1989, Charles “Joe” Hynes has previously served as special state prosecutor for the New York City criminal justice system and as the New York City Fire Commissioner under Mayor Ed Koch. Regarded as an innovator in many circles, Mr. Hynes started the first mental health court in the state and recently received an award from the American Bar Association for his alternatives to incarceration programs. Mr. Hynes’ Drug Treatment-Alternative to Prison (DTAP) program has been nationally recognized for its efforts to direct non-violent drug offenders to long-term residential drug treatment facilities instead of incarceration. Mr. Hynes is disturbed by the growing trend of crimes committed via the internet, especially the dissemination of child pornography and the trolling by cyber sexual predators for young children, and pledges to continue to pursue prosecution in that area. Initially aligned with the Democratic Party organization, Mr. Hynes is presently seeking conviction against the leader of the Kings County organization, Clarence Norman, Jr., for misuse of public funds and charges related to improper campaign contribution disclosure and accounting. Though Mr. Hynes’ reputation for exercising poor judgment at times in managing his budget and office and asking his senior Assistant District Attorneys to participate in his campaigns may be worthy of discussion, his recent independence from the Democratic party in Brooklyn is commendable and we hope that it will continue as he pursues corruption in the borough’s courts and in the Democratic party. For having served well the criminal justice and law enforcement needs of Brooklyn, Hynes has earned another four years in office.

ARNOLD KRISs

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 58 Occupation: Attorney, Self-Employed
Education: Pace University (BA); Brooklyn Law School (JD)

A former Assistant District Attorney, Arnold Kriss has served as a lawyer for the police department and has been in private practice in Brooklyn for more than 20 years. Despite his ties to the police department, Mr. Kriss has pledged not to take
police union support for his campaign to maintain his independence and ability to investigate cases of police misconduct honestly. Citing statistics that show the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office lags behind all other City District Attorneys’ offices in felony arrest to convictions, Mr. Kriss believes the office should be restructured and budget priorities realigned. He proposes an agenda that incorporates videotaping station interrogation, increasing funding for witness protection programs and allowing for more Second Chance programs which permit non-violent drug offenders, after meeting certain conditions, to have criminal convictions expunged as a means to permit easier re-entry into the workplace. If elected, Mr. Kriss also pledges to analyze and investigate what he calls “the real scandal in Brooklyn”: the surrogate court system.

MARK G. PETERS
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 40    Occupation: Attorney, Scarola Ellis LLP
Education: Brown University (BA); University of Michigan (JD)

The former chief Corruption Prosecutor of the New York State Attorney General’s Public Integrity Unit, Mark Peters would model his office after that of Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, if elected. Mr. Peters has experience prosecuting police misconduct cases and trying grand jury cases in his previous work and would focus a greater portion of resources of the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office on: 1) the practice of predatory lending, which he claims has cost hundreds of Brooklynites their homes and has led to deterioration in certain neighborhoods, 2) judicial and political corruption, 3) the sale and trafficking of personal information via the internet, and 4) auto insurance fraud claims rings that involve abuse in the medical profession as well. Mr. Peters pledges to continue and expand the successful programs initiated by incumbent Charles Hynes, such as the drug treatment and domestic violence programs, and, if elected, he promises he will personally investigate the allegations against Clarence Norman, Jr. Mr. Peters is a talented public servant with a promising future who will make his mark in office if elected.

JOHN SAMPSON
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 40    Occupation: Senator, New York State Senate
Education: Brooklyn College; University of Albany Law

John Sampson has represented the 19th Senatorial District in the New York State
Senate since 1996. A former attorney for the Legal Aid Society, Mr. Sampson continues to work as an attorney with a private law firm while holding public office. Sampson is running for the District Attorney’s office with the support of the County Democratic Party organization. He has claimed that if elected all cases currently pending would come under his review to determine if they have merit, presumably including the case against Brooklyn Democratic Chairman Clarence Norman, Jr. who is facing conviction for misuse of public funds and charges related to improper campaign contribution disclosure and accounting. If elected, Mr. Sampson pledges to fight for the complete repeal of the Rockefeller Drug Laws and create satellite family and domestic violence centers throughout Brooklyn. While Mr. Sampson has been a good state Senator, his close ties to the Democratic Party organization in Brooklyn leads Citizens Union to question whether Mr. Sampson could uphold the good government standards of independence and impartiality if elected to office particularly given the current cases before the courts involving Norman and certain judges of the court who have close ties to the party.

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – MARGARITA LÓPEZ TORRES ★

Has returned questionnaire

Age: 53    Occupation: Judge, Civil Court of the City of New York
Education: Queens College (BA); Rutgers University (JD)

Margarita López Torres has been a presiding judge in the Civil Court of Brooklyn since 1992. In that time, she has served on the family court, the criminal court and the housing court. In 2003, Ms. López Torres ran an inspired, but ultimately unsuccessful bid for Supreme Court on a third party line after having failed to win the backing of the Brooklyn Democratic Committee allegedly due to her unwillingness to accept law clerks selected by the party. Having grabbed hold of the mantel of reform, Ms. López Torres is again seeking election, this time to the surrogate court, without the backing of the party apparatus. Like her opponents, López Torres pledges, if elected, to push through a slate of reforms, chief among them she pledges that fiduciaries would be selected based on qualifications, rather than political connections, and she would ensure that their work is properly monitored and that only reasonable counsel fees are received as compensation from the estates for which legal services are actually tendered. She also believes that the Surrogate should be held accountable for the Public Administrator and she would engage in active judicial oversight of that office. Ms. López Torres is running to restore pub-
lic trust in the surrogate's court, and her nomination by the voters of Brooklyn, would be the first step in that process. She is the clear reform candidate in the race and her election would sever the way in which the surrogate’s court is used as a cash machine for the corrupt Brooklyn Democratic party organization. Citizens Union supports Ms. López Torres and her bid to instill greater independence in our judicial system.

DIANA A. JOHNSON

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 51    Occupation: Supreme Court Justice, New York State
Education: City College (BA); NYU (JD)

Diana Johnson has served as a State Supreme Court Justice since 2001. She was a housing Court Judge from 1991 to 1995, and a Civil Court Judge from 1995 to 2000. Ms. Johnson believes the greatest challenge facing the surrogate court is the lack of public confidence resulting from the misconduct of the previous surrogate. If elected, her first order of business would be to conduct an open and transparent selection process for the Counsel of the Public Administrator, a job that has often been filled with close associates of the Surrogate. Ms. Johnson believes there needs to be greater oversight in the court system and review and accounting of fees. Though she claims that she is not running with the support of the County Democratic organization, its support in her previous run gives us pause.

LAWRENCE KNIPEL

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 52    Occupation: Supreme Court Justice, New York State
Education: NYU (BA; JD; LLM)

Lawrence Knipel has served as a judge for the past 15 years, serving as a justice on the Civil Court from 1991 to 1997 and the last seven on the Supreme Court. Much like his opponents in the race, Mr. Knipel pledges to remove favoritism and patronage from the court. Mr. Knipel also favors a merger of the court system to increase efficiency. In this plan, the surrogate’s court would come under the umbrella of an expanded Supreme Court. Mr. Knipel also believes the Public Administrator’s office should be merged into a city agency, most preferably the Corporation Counsel which would remove the Public Administrator’s office as a source of patronage appointments. Mr. Knipel believes the plan for a second Brooklyn Surrogate is ill-advised, claiming that it has been a disaster in Manhattan. As with Ms. Johnson, Citizens Union is concerned about Knipel’s ties to the Democratic Party organization in Brooklyn and believes that
there is enough reason to question whether or not he would be able to exercise the kind of independence needed for this important seat on the bench.

• CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES •

District 34-Democratic Primary

★★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – DIANA REYNA ★★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 31   Occupation: Member, NYC City Council   Education: BA

The former chief of staff for Assemblyman Vito Lopez and a member of Community Board 4, Diana Reyna was first elected to the City Council in 2001. Ms. Reyna’s leadership in her community and on the council has been impressive in her first four years in office. Ms. Reyna has been a champion of issues important to low- and middle-income families, such as affordable housing, and senior and youth services. Ms. Reyna’s leadership in efforts to ensure that the Williamsburg/Greenpoint development plan incorporated a significant portion of affordable units resulted in a final plan that provides incentives for up to 33 percent of the units being available to families with a median income of less than $50,000 and one-third of those being created for families earning $18,000 or less. She also supports a ban on campaign contributions from those doing business with the city as well as a “war chest” restriction that would prohibit candidates from transferring funds raised from one race into their campaign for another seat. Ms. Reyna will continue to be an effective voice for her community and deserves another four years in office.

GEORGE RIVERA

Has NOT responded to questionnaire   Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview

District 35-Democratic Primary

★★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – LETITIA JAMES ★★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Occupation: Member, NYC City Council   Education: Howard University (JD)

Elected to the City Council in 2004, Ms. James worked as an aide to Assemblyman
Roger L. Green and in the office of the State Attorney General prior to running for elected office herself. Ms. James has become one of the most visible figures in the fight to preserve the affordability and character of Brooklyn’s historic neighborhoods. Ms. James has actively opposed the plan to use eminent domain to seize private property in the surrounding communities where the Nets would like to build a sports arena. Against the support of many elected officials, Ms. James has led a tireless effort to ensure that the concerns of all of the citizens who will be impacted by the project are represented in the planning process. She continues to push the city to require that the project not circumvent the city’s land use review procedure. Ms. James also has committed her time to improving education in the district by meeting with all the district’s principals to assess the needs and build working relationships. She pledges to commit more time to child-care and environmental concerns if elected to a second term. For her leadership on these and other issues, Ms. James is Citizens Union’s preferred candidate for the 35th district.

SAMUEL ERIC BLACKWELL
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 40  Education: MA

Eric Blackwell is a professor of Urban Planning and Economic Development at Long Island University in Brooklyn. He co-founded and served as former executive director of Brooklyn United for Innovative Local Development and is the co-founder and economic development director of the Fort Greene Strategic Neighborhood Action Partnership (SNAP). Mr. Blackwell believes issues such as job creation and HIV infection in Brooklyn have not received the attention they deserve because of the attention the issue of development is receiving in the district. He advocates for greater home ownership for low income people and the issuance of city backed bonds to build affordable housing. Mr. Blackwell’s efforts in the community are commendable and we encourage him to continue the fight to draw greater resources and attention to the district’s pressing needs.

District 41-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – DAVID R. MILLER ★
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 56  Occupation: CEO, DRM Entertainment Company  Education: CUNY
David Miller is the CEO of DRM Entertainment Company and a long-serving member of Community School Board District 16. Mr. Miller has worked extensively with those with AIDS and HIV in his neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant and if elected would use the City Council seat as a bully pulpit to raise awareness about the crisis in Brooklyn, which has the 4th highest HIV/AIDS population in the country. Mr. Miller stressed the importance of early detection and preventative health care and pledges to bring more resources to address these concerns if elected. Mr. Miller supports legislation that would prevent landlords from going into foreclosure in order to be able to get out of Section 8 affordable housing agreements. Mr. Miller has deep roots in the community and would be a welcome change to a community that has suffered from neglect due to inattentive representation.

ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 29   Occupation: Attorney, Scott & Mason-Kingsy    Education: North Carolina A & T State University (BA); CUNY School of Law (JD)

A civil rights and defense attorney, Alicka Ampry-Samuel is the former New York State Democratic Committeewoman for the 55th Assembly District, and the former legislative aide for both Tracy and William Boyland. Ms. Ampry-Samuel has focused her career on issues of mental health, homelessness, and child advocacy. Ms. Ampry-Samuel lists as one of her top priorities, if elected, the need to address the distressingly high rate of unemployment of black males that hovers around 60% in the district. To address the affordable housing needs of the district, Ms. Ampry-Samuel not only favors mandatory inclusionary zoning requirements that would require developers seeking rezoning allowances to build affordable housing, she also favors mandatory requirements to ensure that residents of buildings that are being demolished are provided housing in the district at comparable prices. Ms. Ampry-Samuel has a bright future in public life and is encouraged to continue on that path.

ESSIE DUGGAN

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Occupation: CEO, Wayside Development Corp.

Essie Duggan is currently a member of Community Board 16, the CEO of the Wayside Development Corporation, and Outreach Director for the Wayside Baptist Church. Ms. Duggan is a founding member of the Central Brooklyn Economic
Development Corporation and the Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corporation. While Ms. Duggan’s knowledge of the workings of city politics are less than impressive, her accomplishments in her community are admirable.

PAMELA M. JUNIOR
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 47    Occupation: Legal Assistant, Schulte, Roth & Zabel LLP    Education: John Joy College

Pamela Junior currently serves as Community Board 3’s chairperson for the Social Service Committee and as president of the 500 Decatur Street Block Association. She also sits on the board of directors for the Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corporation and works full time as a legal assistant on Wall Street. Ms. Junior has committed her time to housing, education, health care, and economic development in her community and would continue fighting for these issues if elected. Ms. Junior is a passionate and energetic advocate who is a valuable asset to her community.

STANLEY KINARD
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11
Age: 55    Occupation: Executive Director, Carter G. Woodson Cultural Literacy Project
Education: University of Massachusetts (BA)

Running for the second time for City Council, Stanley Kinard is well attuned to the many needs of the district. He is the founder and executive director of the Woodson Cultural Literacy Project, which is active in Brooklyn public schools, and is a member of Community Board 16. Mr. Kinard’s knowledge not only of his district, but of the workings of City Council are equally impressive. Mr. Kinard claims that his district is one of the most neglected in the city, with the highest rates of HIV infection, prostate cancer and infant mortality. Mr. Kinard rightly points the finger at the family which has dominated public office in the district for years for the neglect it has suffered. Should Mr. Kinard be elected to public office he would be a welcome change over the current leadership.
ROYSTON ANTOINE  
*Has NOT responded to Questionnaire*

WILLIAM F BOYLAND, SR.  
*Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate DECLINED to be interviewed*  
Age: 65  
Occupation: Retired Assembly member, New York State Assembly  
Education: Brooklyn College (BS)

DANNY KING  
*Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*  
Occupation: Retired Police Officer

DARLENE MEALY  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 1. Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*  
Age: 40  
Occupation: Senior Administrative Assistant, NYC Transit Authority  
Education: Manhattan Community College

MARYANN A. SAMAD  
*Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*  
Occupation: President and Founder, 101 Inner City Women

District 45-Democratic Primary

**PREFERRED CANDIDATE – SAMUEL TAITT ★**  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11*  
Age: 58  
Occupation: Professor, Kingsborough Community College  
Education: Brooklyn College (BA; MA)

A challenger for the seat two years ago, Mr. Taitt lost to the current incumbent by less than 200 votes in a field crowded with four primary challengers. Mr. Taitt is running again hoping to unseat an incumbent who many feel has overstayed his welcome in the district. As a Professor at Kingsborough and Community College and as coordinator of “College Now,” a program focused on preparing high school students for college, Mr. Taitt has traveled through the borough’s high schools and laments the lack of resources that district schools have in comparison to the rest of Brooklyn. Working with pastors in the district, Mr. Taitt is fulfilling a campaign pledge made in 2003 to establish a credit union in the district. Mr. Taitt lists as his priorities the development of affordable housing, specifically along the Foster Avenue corridor where there is available land, and the creation of a technology and cultural center for the entire com-
munity. Mr. Taitt has displayed the leadership and knowledge to represent the 45th council district and Citizens Union supports his efforts to do so.

KENDALL STEWART
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 11. Candidate could not be scheduled for interview
Age: 55  Occupation: Member, NYC City Council

District 46-Democratic Primary

★★PREFERRED CANDIDATE – LEW FIDLER ★★
Has NOT responded to questionnaire
Age: 49  Occupation: Member, NYC City Council  Education: NYU (JD)

First elected to the City Council in 2002, Lew Fidler currently chairs the Youth Services Committee and is a candidate to be the next Speaker of the council. Mr. Fidler’s priorities, if re-elected, include improving the public parks and spaces in his district, and helping tackle the city’s homelessness and runaway youth problem. Mr. Fidler would like to bring greater resources to improve his district’s two main parks, Marine Park and more importantly Canarsie Park, which he claims has been under funded for years. Mr. Fidler pledges to work more closely with the city’s not-for-profit organizations to do more targeted outreach to Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Transgender individuals who are on the streets, and are largely not being served by the shelters in the city. To help the city close the projected budget deficit, Mr. Fidler supports an absentee landlord surcharge fee which he states would raise up to $80 million in revenue. Mr. Fidler continues to be a thoughtful and attentive council member who has served his constituency well while in office.

TAMARA GRANDOIT
Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview

ELIAS J. WEIR
Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
CIVIL COURT JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

Elected Countywide-Democratic Primary

SYLVIA ASH
Age: 48 Occupation: Attorney at Law, District Council 37 Offices and Past Campaigns: Law Clerk, New Jersey Superior Court, 1984-1985 Education: SUNY Stony Brook (BA), Howard University (JD)

NORMA J. JENNINGS

SANDRA ELENA ROPER
Age: 49 Occupation: Senior Attorney, Law Offices of Sandra E. Roper Offices and Past Campaigns: Law Clerk, NYC Civil Court Judge Peter P. Sweeney, 2002-2003; Staff Attorney, Legal Services, Bedford Stuyvesant, 1989-1990; Corporate Counsel, Schering-Plough, Inc., 1988-1989; Associate, Pfizer Incorporated, 1986; Legal Intern, Office of the State Attorney General, New York State Department of Law, 1985 Education: New York University, School of Law, L.L.M. TRADE REGULATION; Brooklyn Law School (JD); Arnold & Marie Schwartz L.I.U. (BS)

District 3-Democratic Primary

MARTIN NEEDELMAN RICHARD VELASQUEZ

District 6-Democratic Primary

CYNTHIA L. BOYCE MICHAEL GERSTEIN

INGRID JOSEPH
Scott Stringer is in his sixth term representing Manhattan’s Upper West Side and the Clinton neighborhood in the New York State Assembly. Prior to his election to the Assembly, he served as chief of staff to then Assemblymember Jerry Nadler for eight years. Mr. Stringer positioned himself as a leader on reform in Albany, introducing the “Stringer Resolution” that served as a catalyst for the reform of several legislative operating rules for the Assembly, such as the end of the practice of empty-seat voting in which a legislator would not have to be present on the floor to vote. Mr. Stringer has been a champion of election reform in the Assembly helping ensure that the implementation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) addressed the unique needs of New York City voters and by authoring legislation to initiate Election Day voter registration in New York State.

In his bid for Borough President, Mr. Stringer released a controversial report on the operation of community boards which highlighted areas that negatively impact their functioning (i.e. the high numbers of vacancies; conflicts of interest) and offered suggestions to make them more functional (i.e. higher standards of review and accountability; more equitable distribution of funds; disclosure of lobbying efforts). Mr. Stringer believes the Borough President’s office can play an important public service by providing staff and resources to a parent center which would field complaints about the borough’s schools and provide training, resources and materials for parents to more effectively work with their children and the schools to improve education. While he is a supporter of the proposed 2nd Avenue subway line, Mr. Stringer believes the city needs to invest in a rapid bus system to relieve congestion and get people to work more efficiently.

Manhattan voters are well served in having to make a difficult choice for Borough President as there are nine excellent and well qualified candidates. Any one of them could have earned Citizens Union preference since CU has preferred seven of them in previous races, but like the voters, we are forced to pick one. Ultimately, Stringer’s record as a leader in the effort to reform Albany, his long standing focus on strengthening accountability in government and his many efforts at identifying ways to improve government services convinced us to prefer his candidacy over several other well qualified candidates.
BRIAN ELLNER
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 35    Occupation: Attorney    Education: Dartmouth College; Harvard Law School

Brian Ellner is a private attorney and the former president of Manhattan’s District 2 school board. Mr. Ellner has served as a special advisor to Mark Green, both in the public advocate’s office and during Green’s 2001 campaign for mayor, and currently serves on the board of directors at the Hetrick-Martin Institute. Mr. Ellner brings great energy and ideas to his bid for the Borough President’s office. He also has pledged not to take campaign contributions from developers, a position worthy of praise, and one that he believes would allow him to be more independent.

If elected, Mr. Ellner would work to promote economic development and encourage affordable housing throughout the borough, paying special attention to the area above 96th street, which he feels has been neglected and receives inferior services, has poorer schools, and has greater health concerns than the rest of the borough. Mr. Ellner believes the city needs to be more purposeful and accountable in its use of tax exemption to developers with incentives only when there is a significant public benefit, such as the creation of housing specifically for teachers and firefighters, or for the creation of public parks.

To address congestion and related environmental health issues, as well as raise money to fund a proposed 2nd Avenue subway and the extension of the #7 train, Mr. Ellner supports a congestion-pricing program, such as the one implemented in London, which would charge motorists a fee for driving in the busiest areas of the city during rush hours. While Mr. Ellner lacks experience in public office, he has great energy and many good ideas which make him a credible challenger in this crowded field of prominent candidates.

ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 50    Occupation: Member, New York State Assembly    Education: Queens College (BS)

Adriano Espaillat was first elected to the State Assembly in 1996, becoming the first Dominican-American elected to a state legislature in the United States. Prior to that election, Mr. Espaillat served as the director of Project Right Start, a national initiative to combat substance abuse through parent education. While in the Assembly, Mr. Espaillat sponsored legislation requiring hospitals to provide language assistance services to patients as well as a bill that established a bilingual teacher recruitment and
retention program. If elected to the Borough President’s office, Mr. Espaillat would like to continue efforts to ensure that the growing populace that is not proficient in English is not left behind. He advocates for even greater bilingual teacher recruitment incentives as well as incentives to encourage teachers to work in the city’s most troubled schools. However, if elected, Mr. Espaillat lists as his top three priorities: rent, rent and rent. Mr. Espaillat argues that the Rent Guidelines Board should not be made up solely of appointees of the Mayor’s office and that each Borough President should be allowed an appointment to provide the citizens of each borough with better representation. He also would push to ensure that tenants have greater access to legal services, stating that they often have no recourse in matters of dispute when they have no representation.

To accomplish many of his goals, Mr. Espaillat would decentralize the Borough President’s office and create four community offices to better serve the residents of Manhattan. Mr. Espaillat’s grassroots approach to the office of Borough President and his vision for the city are both compelling and commendable.

MARGARITA LOPEZ

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 54 Occupation: Member, NYC City Council Education: University of Puerto Rico (BA; MA)

Margarita Lopez was elected to City Council in 1998 and currently chairs the Committee on Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Alcoholism, Drug Abuse and Disability Services. Prior to her election, Ms. Lopez served as the Democratic party district leader for the 63rd Assembly district. Ms. Lopez feels strongly that comprehensive borough wide and citywide planning must be a greater part of the development process. She feels historic neighborhoods are losing their character and development is taking place without any connection to the greater needs of communities. To combat this, Ms. Lopez would attend community board meetings weekly on a rotating basis to better assess the overall direction in the borough.

Ms. Lopez strongly believes that the borough cannot afford to let Veterans Hospital on 23rd Street to close because of the undue strain it would put on the NYU Medical Center and Bellevue hospital as well as public hospitals around the city. Ms. Lopez is opposed to the small class size charter proposal that has garnered some public support, because she feels that mandating class size in the City Charter would impinge on budget flexibility, and is not feasible because neither the teachers nor the classroom space is available. An energetic public servant, Ms. Lopez makes a good case for her election as Borough President.
STANLEY MICHELS
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 72    Occupation: Retired City Councilmember
Education: Hobart College (BA); Cornell University (JD)

Having served 24 years in the City Council, Mr. Michels has a wealth of knowledge of the issues facing the borough and the machinations of city politics. First elected to the council in 1978, Mr. Michels served on the public safety and public housing committees and chaired the Committee on Environmental Protection. Mr. Michels is proud of his efforts to pass the city’s first indoor clean air act, as well as his work on the lead paint bill that was finally passed in 2004 by the City Council. Overcrowding in the public schools is the first and foremost education issue that Mr. Michels would address if elected borough president. He believes that resources spent building new classrooms is the most effective initiative a borough president could undertake with his share of budget dollars.

Mr. Michels advocates for greater citizen and community board participation in projects such as those proposed for Manhattan’s West side rail yards, and argues projects of that magnitude must go through the city’s established land use review procedure. Mr. Michels has been an effective leader in New York City and would bring a lot of know-how to the position of borough president if elected to office.

EVA MOSKOWITZ
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 41    Occupation: Member, NYC City Council
Education: University of Pennsylvania (BA); Johns Hopkins University (PhD)

Chair to the Education Committee on the City Council, Eva Moskowitz has represented District 4 since 1999, and is vacating her seat on the council to run for the borough president’s office. Ms. Moskowitz’s hearing on teacher contracts attracted great attention as she took on what many in government have been afraid to do for years. Her courage to stand up to the teacher’s union has helped bring much needed transparency and attention to work rules that many claim are wasteful and outdated. If elected, Ms. Moskowitz would continue to apply her efforts to improving the education system in the city, however, with a more hands-on approach. She pledges to work directly with parents and parent councils to address very specific concerns in each of the borough’s schools (such as lack of toilet paper, computers, or after-school programs and facilities.) Ms. Moskowitz would also like to build on the success she has as chair of the Education Committee by holding hearings and issuing reports to ensure accountability in government and shine the spotlight on government inefficiency and ineffectiveness.
To address the borough’s housing needs, Ms. Moskowitz pledges to work closely with the mayor’s office to create realistic targets for the number of affordable housing units to be built, and to conduct infrastructure assessments in neighborhoods in which development is planned to ensure that developers address the communities’ needs upfront. Ms. Moskowitz proposes streamlining the application process for affordable housing by creating an online application and tracking system. Ms. Moskowitz is an independent and tenacious legislator and a formidable challenger for the seat of borough president.

BILL PERKINS
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 56    Occupation: Member, NYC City Council    Education: Brown University (BA)

Elected to City Council in 1997, Bill Perkins is the council’s Deputy Majority Leader and the chair of its Government Operations Committee. Mr. Perkins has been instrumental in focusing the city’s attention on the public health issues connected to lead paint contamination and a thriving population of rodents in many of the city’s neighborhoods. Mr. Perkins passed, over the mayor’s veto, the childhood lead poisoning prevention act, that requires a more stringent lead paint clean up and inspection regimen than under prior law, and has established a “Rat Task Force” to focus on combating a rat epidemic that contributes to serious health problems, such as asthma.

Mr. Perkins’ leadership in shaping a more effective Campaign Finance Program as the chair of the Governmental Operations Committee has always been reasoned and inclusive. As chair of that committee, and as a 12-year member of his local community board, Mr. Perkins has gained valuable insight into the workings of the city’s community boards, one of the main areas of engagement of the Borough President’s office. Advocating for less of a top down approach to development, Mr. Perkins believes the community boards must receive greater resources and should be making better use of the 197A planning process - a process that allows community boards to map out future growth for the community.

To address the affordable housing needs of the district, Mr. Perkins advocates for a more realistic definition of affordable housing that speaks to the income levels of the districts being squeezed by skyrocketing real estate values, and a repeal of the Urstadt law that allows Albany to make rent and housing decisions for the city. Mr. Perkins has a proven track record not only as a leader in the City Council, but also on a number of issues of importance to Manhattan and the city at large and is well-qualified to assume the position of Borough President should he be elected.
KEITH L.T. WRIGHT
Age: 50    Occupation: Member, New York State Assembly
Education: Tufts University (BA); Rutgers University (JD)

Keith Wright has represented the 70th Assembly District in the New York State Assembly for the past 13 years. During that time, he has authored numerous bills, including a bill to repeal the death penalty and a proposed bill to have subways in New York staffed 24 hours a day 7 days a week in order to increase public safety on the subways.

The current chair of the Assembly Election Law Committee, Mr. Wright was instrumental in the efforts to pass long-overdue legislation to implement the Help America Vote Act. While the bills languished in Albany for failure of the Assembly and Senate to reach compromise, Mr. Wright deserves credit for ensuring that as the state acquires new voting machines, it will provide a voter-verified paper audit trail, a key element to ensure the accuracy of the system.

Mr. Wright believes a primary function of the borough president is to nurture and provide resources and guidance to the community boards as he sees them as a direct voice for the neighborhoods. If elected, Mr. Wright would focus the greatest amount of resources of the office on the issues of affordable housing and education. Mr. Wright has been a thoughtful and devoted public servant during his time in the Assembly and will hopefully continue to play an important leadership role, whether or not he is elected to this office.

CARLOS MANZANO
Has returned questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 38    Occupation: Technology consultant    Education: Queens College (BA); NYU (DBA)

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - ROBERT M. MORGENTHAU ★
Has returned questionnaire
Age: 86    Occupation: District Attorney, New York County
Education: Amherst College (BA); Yale University (LLB)

Robert Morgenthau was first elected as District Attorney for Manhattan in 1974. Prior to that, he served as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York for eight years. Mr. Morgenthau has many accomplishments over the span of time he
has served Manhattan, and has been well regarded as an effective District Attorney in his thirty years in office.

During that time, he led the City through a period when violent crime rates have fallen from historic highs to, now, record lows. Recently his office has addressed new criminal trends such as identity theft and internet crime while continuing his long term focus on white collar crime. Mr. Morgenthau started an identity theft unit in 2004 that prosecuted 1,738 cases in its first seven months of operation. In response to criticism he has received about the lack of a special domestic violence bureau, he points to a unit that handles domestic violence cases that has 120 attorneys with 4,500 cases handled last year.

Mr. Morgenthau has proposed state legislation that would make first degree sex crimes Class A felonies so that the statute of limitations would no longer apply to the most serious sex crimes and that they would carry the heaviest penalties available under law. Mr. Morgenthau also supports further amendments to the Rockefeller Drug laws, such as a kingpin statute that would allow drug importers and other major offenders to be more easily prosecuted and provided greater judicial discretion so that judges could assign shorter or non-custodial sentences to first time, non-violent offenders. He also emphasizes that treatment and prevention have not received the resources they deserve. Mr. Morgenthau is staunchly opposed to the death penalty and never sought it when it was in effect in New York State. Mr. Morgenthau’s strong record of accomplishment in office and his continued ability to serve the borough with distinction warrant another four years in office.

**Leslie Crocker Snyder**

*Has returned questionnaire*

Age: 63  
Occupation: Partner, Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman, LLP  
Education: Radcliffe College; Harvard-Radcliffe Program in Business Administration; Case Western Reserve Law School

Leslie Crocker Snyder is a practicing attorney and former New York State Supreme Court justice. She has served as an Assistant District Attorney, Chief of Trials at the Office of the Special Prosecutor, and Deputy Criminal Justice Coordinator and Head of the Arson Strike Force at the Office of the New York City Criminal Justice Coordinator. She is a frequent commentator on Court TV and is a legal consultant to the television show “Law and Order.”

Ms. Crocker Snyder wants to bring new energy and leadership to an office that she
believes is growing complacent. While on the bench, Ms. Snyder was known as a tough law and order judge. Ms. Crocker Snyder during this campaign has advocated for more reform of the Rockefeller Drug Laws to allow greater judicial discretion to place eligible defendants in treatment programs, as well as a kingpin statute so that violent drug gangs and major offenders are delineated from small time users who could better be helped by alternative drug treatment and rehabilitation programs. If elected, Ms. Crocker Snyder would create a comprehensive Domestic Violence Bureau with specially trained Assistant District Attorneys and staff devoted solely to domestic violence prosecution, and a Domestic Violence Court, which exists in every borough except Manhattan.

Ms. Crocker Snyder has been a supporter of the death penalty. During this campaign, she has stated that when a truly heinous crime is committed, such as a terrorist act or a serial child rapist/murderer is caught, and if the defendant is properly represented, an independent panel could be assembled and the death penalty could be considered. However, she does not advocate for its reinstatement in New York State. Ms. Crocker Snyder is a thoughtful candidate and has been a valuable part of the judicial system in New York City.

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - KRISTEN BOOTH GLEN ★

Has returned questionnaire
Age: 62  Occupation: Dean and Professor, CUNY School of Law
Education: Stanford University (BA); Columbia Law School (LLB)

Kristin Booth Glen served as Dean of CUNY School of Law from 1995 until 2005. She was elected to the Civil Court of the City of New York in 1980, and in 1986, she was elected Justice of the New York Supreme Court. In 1992, she was appointed to the Appellate Term where she heard appeals from the Civil Court and the Criminal Court. Ms. Glen would bring distinction to the Bench and a record of integrity and high standards. As a Judge, she worked to decrease the stigma associated with AIDS and her writings provide guidelines for dealing with HIV related cases and are used around the country. Ms. Glen emphasizes that the Court needs to be more accessible to city residents; she would recruit a greater number of interpreters and bilingual staffers and would make a pro se clerk available to help clients that cannot afford a lawyer to accomplish this. Her record of accomplishment and sensitivity to the diverse needs of those who the court serves will be of great value to
the citizens of New York if elected to office. Citizens Union believes that she would bring an admired level of independence to surrogate’s court and would be the most effective of the two candidates in separating the Surrogate’s office from the Democratic party organizations.

**EVE RACHEL MARKEWICH**  
*Has returned questionnaire*  
*Age: 43   Occupation: Attorney, Blank Rome LLP*  
*Education: Harvard College (AB); Columbia Law School (JD)*

Eve Rachel Markewich is a practicing attorney with valuable experience in trusts and estates litigation and a former Democratic district leader for the 67th Assembly District. To reduce delays in the court system, Ms. Markewich, while recognizing the confidentiality risks of submitting documents on disk, would still like to institute a pilot program where lawyers could submit documents electronically, as well as in paper form, so that cases could be reviewed more quickly, ideally within 90 days of their submission. Ms. Markewich emphasizes the need to improve the Court’s accessibility and cites her desire to improve access for the physically disabled as well as increasing translator services, adding pro se clerks, and providing tours to lawyers who are not familiar with the Court so that they can be more effective advocates for their clients. Ms. Markewich would like to work more closely with the borough’s other Surrogate to improve efficiency and coordination.

**CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES**

**District 2-Democratic Primary**

**★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - BRIAN KAVANAGH ★**  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12*  
*Age: 38   Occupation: Project Counsel and Chief Researcher on the National Voter Registration Act Implementation Project, Demos*  
*Education: Princeton University (BA); NYU (JD)*

Running against a slate of very talented challengers, Brian Kavanagh has amassed an impressive array of experiences relevant to the position he is seeking. Mr. Kavanagh served as chief of staff for Councilmember Gale Brewer and as an aide to Mayors Koch and Dinkins from 1989-1993. He has been a board member at the Lower East
Side’s Nativity Mission Center since 1984 and most recently worked on a nationwide effort to secure the voting rights of low-income citizens with Demos, a national good-government organization. Mr. Kavanagh also has done pro bono work on behalf of battered women, immigrants and community based nonprofit organizations. 

Mr. Kavanagh’s policy experience includes his efforts in passing the Domestic Worker Protection Act, a bill championed by Gale Brewer’s office that protects the rights of housekeepers and caregivers and bills to foster the use of technology to make government more accessible and efficient. Mr. Kavanagh is a strong supporter of gaining local control over liquor licensing which could help reduce the unpopular flourishing of noisy bars in the district and local control of rent stabilization. In his many different civic roles, Mr. Kavanagh has accumulated a wealth of policy and community relations experience and has the know-how to deliver for his district which is why Citizens Union has chosen to back his election to office.

MICHAEL P. BEYS

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 33    Occupation: Assistant U.S. Attorney
Education: Harvard College (BA); Columbia Law School (JD)

Michael Beys served as a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York from 2000 until March 2005. He was assigned to the Violent Crimes and Terrorism Unit, where he prosecuted numerous criminals for murder, illegal gun use and drug trafficking. Since September 11, 2001, he also has investigated and helped prosecute domestic and international terrorist groups. Mr. Beys advocates for lowering the city’s density restrictions on residential development so that there would be more leverage to negotiate with developers for increases in exchange for agreements to set aside a minimum number of units for affordable housing. Ultimately, he is in favor of high density development to ensure that resident’s aren’t displaced from the community. Mr. Beys is a credible challenger in this tightly contested race.

DARREN BLOCH

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 31    Occupation: Member, Community Board 6
Education: Middlebury College (AB); New York Law School (JD)

One of many well qualified candidates vying for this open seat, Darren Bloch is a member of Community Board 6 and has worked as an analyst for the City Council’s finance division. He also was former executive director of the Nassau County
Democratic party and manager of city government relations for Consolidated Edison of New York. One of Mr. Bloch's top priorities, if elected to office, would be to promote more sustainable development in his district and citywide. He advocates for greater incentives for green building construction and regular energy audits in new development throughout the city and in city agencies to improve energy efficiency. In order to confront the impending budget deficit, Mr. Bloch believes that the current tax rebate of $400 that certain homeowners receive must be eliminated or adjusted to put more revenue back into the city.

ROSIE MENDEZ
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 42  Occupation: Public Interest Lawyer
Education: NYU (BA); Rutgers Law School- Newark (JD)

Former chief of staff for City Councilmember Margarita Lopez, Rosie Mendez worked as a tenant organizer and has served as a democratic district leader for the 74th Assembly district since 1997. Ms. Mendez pledges to fight to close loopholes that allow developers to build without respect to the character of existing neighborhoods. She points specifically to a community facility bonus that developers have exploited to overdevelop residential side streets. If elected, Ms. Mendez would build on existing student mentoring programs in the district to help students having trouble with basic language and math skills, and work to expand the asthma-free school zone program that prevents vehicles from idling outside of schools, and staffs each school with trained nurses to address asthma concerns. Ms. Mendez has strong support within many communities and is one of many well-qualified candidates vying for the council seat.

CHRISTOPHER PAPAJOHN
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 42  Occupation: Attorney  Education: Brown University (BA); NYU (JD)

Christopher Papajohn is a practicing attorney who sits on the Supervisory Committee of the Lower East Side Peoples Federal Credit Union. To address one of the biggest concerns in his district, affordable housing, he would fight for city control of rent regulation policy and work with community boards and City Planning to develop “contextual zoning” plans that address very specifically the concerns of neighborhoods, including character of development, density and use. Mr. Papajohn does not believe the city should have separate schools for gifted students, arguing that there should be special programs within schools so that we don’t have segregation of those who are not as talented.
GUR TSABAR

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 42  Occupation: Senior Policy Advisor, NYC City Council  Education: The Wharton School (BS)

Gur Tsabar is currently a senior policy advisor to Council Speaker Gifford Miller and former chief of staff for East Side Councilmember Eva Moskowitz. Mr. Tsabar has taken an independent and ethical step of funneling contributions from those who have contracts with the city directly to community programs. He also has made election reform somewhat of a theme of his campaign, by issuing a “no challenge challenge” prior to the petition filing deadline to encourage candidates to not get involved in lengthy and expensive signature challenge battles. He supports a verification program by the Board of Elections instead of the chaotic process that now disproportionately impacts less well-funded candidates, as they have to spend their resources on lawyers to defend their signatures. Mr. Tsabar, one of several strong candidates in this race, is focused on addressing the health and environmental concerns that exist in the district.

JOAN BRIGHTHARP

Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Occupation: Minister

District 4-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - DAN GARODNICK ★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 33  Occupation: Attorney, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP  Education: Dartmouth College (BA); University of Pennsylvania (JD)

A litigator by trade, Dan Garodnick spent two years working for the New York Civil Rights Council and served as a law clerk to a judge of the United States District Court for the southern district of New York. Mr. Garodnick has served as president of the Samuel J. Tilden Democratic Club and as a public member of Community Board 6. A supporter of a 2nd Avenue subway as a way to decrease the strains on the Lexington Avenue line, he recommends the more immediate transportation alternatives such as a rapid bus transit system that would utilize a satellite tracking system to reserve lanes and inform passengers of waiting times. Mr. Garodnick projects his own enthusiasm, energy and commitment to voter issues while advocating greater citizen participation in the planning process. He pledges to continue to fight as hard as the departing coun-
cil member to ensure the district’s school needs are met. Mr. Garodnick receives Citizens Union’s preferred candidate rating for the district’s Democratic primary.

**MERYL BRODSKY**  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12*  
*Age: 56 Occupation: Self-employed Education: Columbia University (AB)*

As the 73rd Assembly District’s Democratic Leader, Meryl Brodsky is familiar with city government and prides herself on her working relationship with many standing council members. Ms. Brodsky advocates reforming the city’s established land use review process to create a better conduit between the concerns of citizens and those of the city planning department, however, she did not articulate a clear vision for the office.

**JAK JACOB KARAKO**  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12*  
*Age: 38 Occupation: Financial Analyst, AXA Financial Education: BA; MBA*

Jak Jacob Karako is a financial analyst and an active member of Turtle Bay Association and the Assembly of American Turkish Associations. Though running as a Democrat, Jak Karako, aligns himself closely with Libertarian principles of limited government on the issues of drug use and education. Mr. Karako advocates for a free market approach towards education: he would give parents vouchers for public school and allow them to enroll their children in any city school. He believes that would result in closing bad schools and shifting resources to good schools. Mr. Karako also believes marijuana arrests should be de-prioritized and that the City Council could use its budgetary powers to encourage the police to adopt that policy. Mr. Karako argues for a greater level of citizen participation in key city decisions, such as tax increases and deficit spending, and supports the use of referenda to do so.

**JACK LESTER**  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12*  
*Age: 51 Occupation: Attorney Education: New York Law School (JD); SUNY (BA)*

Jack Lester is an attorney and the founder of the Anti-Bias Unit for the Queens District Attorney’s Office. He has served as counsel to the New York State Senate Finance Committee and has represented many neighborhood associations in District 4. Mr. Lester has an impressive background in city-related activities and a compre-
hensive set of ideas on how to improve the city including: making the Board of Standards and Appeals responsible to City Council not the Mayor; mandating smaller classes through a charter amendment, and implementing a stock transfer tax that would go directly towards education.

District 5-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - JESSICA LAPPIN ★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 30  Occupation: District Chief of Staff to Gifford Miller
Education: Stuyvesant H.S.; Georgetown University (BA)

Jessica Lappin left her post last April as a senior advisor to the City Council Speaker to run for this open seat. She has served on the boards of the Sutton Area Community group, the Advocacy Committee of Sanctuary for Families, and the Lenox Hill Democratic Club. Ms. Lappin opposes the Mayor’s plan to process Manhattan commercial and residential waste at the 91st Street marine transfer station. She supports an alternative Solid Waste Management Plan which would open the 91st Street Station for paper recycling, the 59th Street station for residential waste, Pier 76 for commercial waste, and the Gansevoort site for other recycling. She favors the use of inclusionary zoning incentives to create new affordable housing units with the percentage of affordable units in a new development based on a number of economic and geographic factors that vary by neighborhoods. Ms. Lappin is a bright and conscientious candidate with the ability to deliver for her constituents and the city which is why Citizens Union prefers her for the Democratic nomination.

ERIC CESNIK

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 33  Occupation: Attorney, Latham & Watkins LLP
Education: Dartmouth College (BA); Harvard Law School (JD)

A finance lawyer and first time candidate for public office, Eric Cesnik worked for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Howard Dean presidential campaign in New Hampshire. Unlike other candidates in the district, Mr. Cesnik does not oppose the reopening of the marine transfer station on 91st Street. He believes that trash should be handled in each borough and that the existing facility should be utilized. He does advocate for compensation and mediation to lessen the impact and provide the community benefits for accepting the facility. He suggests technology
like GPS, a global satellite tracking system, be utilized to ensure that trucks are not queuing up in front of residential areas or blocking up traffic. He also favors a widening of entry ramps and a car wash type system that would pull the trucks into the station to avoid further congestion and air and noise pollution. Mr. Cesnik calls for an end to the property tax rebates and the redirection of that money to increasing teachers salaries.

DAN QUART
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 33    Occupation: Attorney
Education: SUNY-Binghamton (BA); St John’s University (JD)

Dan Quart is a practicing attorney who also does pro bono work with the Legal Aid Society. He is currently the co-chair of Community Board 8’s transportation committee and chair of the 2nd Avenue Subway Task Force. While Mr. Quart agrees with the Mayor’s solid waste management plan conceptually as it relieves the impact that low income communities have faced by shouldering the city’s trash burden, he is opposed to the re-opening of the 91st Street facility to transfer trash to barges for he believes he has an obligation to represent the interests of his constituents. Mr. Quart is a proponent of the new 2nd Avenue subway, but also emphasizes the need for more immediate alternatives such as increased and improved ferry service on the East Side and the implementation of computer driven trains which he argues would allow the MTA to put more trains on the tracks. Mr. Quart would fight to keep Roosevelt Island a middle income community.

GEORGE SPITZ
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Occupation: Retired   Education: Columbia University (BA)

A dedicated and well informed model citizen, George Spitz is a retired auditor for the New York State Department of Social Services who has run previously for several offices, including Mayor, Assemblyman, and State Senate. Mr. Spitz’s admired civic efforts were recently credited by Mayor Bloomberg when the city decided to establish a video voter’s guide that profiles each candidate in municipal elections. Mr. Spitz is opposed to the construction of a subway along 2nd Avenue and would rather build light rail elevated trains along 1st and 2nd Avenue arguing that elevated trains would be cheaper. Mr. Spitz favors proportional representation and two year terms of office for all City Council members.
District 7-Democratic Primary

★★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - ROBERT JACKSON ★★
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 55  Occupation: Member, NYC City Council  Education: SUNY- New Paltz (BA)

The current chair of the Committee on Contracts, Mr. Jackson has served in the City Council since 2002. Prior to joining the council, Mr. Jackson served as the president of Community School Board 6 where he was the lead plaintiff in the city’s Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit to provide the city’s school children with the same level of education given those in the rest of the state. Mr. Jackson is a prime sponsor of legislation recently passed by the council over a mayoral veto that would require that the City to do business only with those companies that provide the same employment benefits to employees with domestic partners as they provide to their married employees. He is working with Councilmember Brewer on legislation to require the use of electronic bidding in the city’s procurement process, an efficiency that can save the city hundreds of millions of dollars. Mr. Jackson has served his district admirably and well over the past three and a half years and is Citizens Union’s preferred candidate for District 7.

VICTOR A. BERNACE
Has NOT responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Occupation: Professor, John Jay College  Education: NYU; Harvard Law School

District 8-Democratic Primary

★★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO ★★
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 36  Occupation: Strategic Organizer, 1199 SEIU
Education: Columbia University (BA), Baruch College (MPA)

Melissa Mark-Viverito is an organizer for New York’s Health Care Union, 1199 SEIU. Prior to this, she served as Director of the Hispanic Education and Legal Fund and served as Deputy Director of ASPIRA of New York, a youth leadership development organization. Ms. Mark-Viverito has made housing, economic development and reform of the powers of the City Council her top priorities. She advocates for a more aggressive use of inclusionary zoning incentives to encourage developers to set aside units for affordable housing and she supports decentralizing some
of the City Council’s authority including empowering all council members to participate in the budget process. Ms. Mark-Viverito is an intelligent and thoughtful candidate with an activist streak that promises to be a plus for her constituents which is why she should be elected to office.

NELSON DENIS
.Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 50    Occupation: Attorney
Education: Harvard (BA): Yale (JD)

Nelson Denis represented the 68th Assembly District in the New York State Assembly from 1996-2000. Mr. Denis would like the City Council to provide financial incentives to help keep health clinics in the community as well as to encourage other health providers to offer free or subsidized care to District 8 residents as an alternative for Medicaid through a scholarship program that would benefit medical students who commit a time to offering subsidized or free care in their communities. Mr. Denis supports allowing non-citizens to vote in municipal elections as a way of making the system fairer and in recognition of the work they do for the city.

JOYCE S. JOHNSON
.Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Occupation: Director of Operations, Readnet Charter School
Education: Howard University (BS)

After rising through the ranks at Seagram & Sons, Johnson shifted her energies to the public sector, including stints at Ruth Messenger’s borough president office and the office of former New York City Comptroller Alan Hevesi. She was the Executive Assistant to Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew. Ms. Johnson is well-versed in housing issues, having served on Community Board 7 since 1991 and as Executive Board Manager of the Mitchell-Lama Residents Coalition for four years, and she pledges to make affordable housing a main priority if elected to office. Another top priority would be creating a parent council representing each one of the forty-four schools in the district. With years of successful leadership in corporate and public roles, Johnson would make a dedicated and thoughtful member of the Council if elected.
FELIPE LUCIANO
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Occupation: Motivational Speaker

An Emmy award winning journalist, co-founder of the Young Lords, former commissioner of the City Task Force on Police and Community Relations, reformed gang member and ex-offender, Felipe Luciano currently works as a motivational speaker and has been an inspiration to many in his community. This is Mr. Luciano’s second bid for City Council, a race he narrowly lost in 2001 to incumbent Philip Reed. To address the district’s pressing housing needs, Mr. Luciano advocates for inclusionary zoning with consideration of the household income of the district itself and secure memoranda of understanding with developers to provide community benefits, such as the creation of green space. His experiences in rehabilitating prisoners, in media and communications make him a credible challenger in this crowded field of candidates.

JOHN RUIZ
Has NOT responded to the questionnaire
Occupation: District Leader, Assembly District 68

A retired firefighter, current District Leader and longtime community activist, John Ruiz seeks to bring his local political and community work to the council. Making constituent services a priority, Ruiz opened a constituent office, a Democratic club and a legal clinic for local residents. Ruiz is also very involved with local charities and food drives as well as outreach to schools through the award-winning Rappin Fireman Safety Program.

District 9-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - YASMIN CORNELIUS ★
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 34    Occupation: Former childbirth educator    Education: City College (BA)

Yasmin Cornelius is the current district manager for Community Board 10 in Harlem, and the top candidate in this crowded field of competent candidates. She has worked for departing Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, was past president of the Mid-Manhattan Branch of the NAACP, and vice president of School Board 3. If elected, she pledges to mandate more transparency in the Department of Education and force the hand of the department to come to informal meetings with parent groups to discuss changes in the school system. She advocates for
changes in the parent coordinator system to give the coordinators more power and place more emphasis on parent outreach. Ms. Cornelius suggests a more active and far-reaching land use and community planning process to balance the benefits of development with the impacts of affordable housing, traffic and demand on services. Ms. Cornelius is bright and articulate, and promises to bring fresh ideas and energy to District 9 which is why she has earned Citizens Union’s preference.

RODNEY CARROLL
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 40    Occupation: Supervisor, NYC Administration for Children’s Services
Education: New York Institute of Technology (BA)

Rodney Carroll is a supervisor at the New York City Administration for Children’s Services and a member of Community Board 10. He also is a former union organizer and representative for SSEU Local 337. Mr. Carroll envisions a greener city and advocates a greater citywide effort to reduce paper use and increase recycling efforts. He argues that there are not enough opportunities for young people in politics and would like more interaction between school children and city government to enhance civic engagement; he suggests trips to City Hall where students and parents could interact with their council members. Mr. Carroll also argues for more vocational skills training in the high schools to prepare students for work as such skills training could prepare kids to go directly into a trade.

INEZ DICKENS
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 56    Occupation: Real Estate    Education: Howard University (BA)

Inez Dickens is the Democratic district leader for the 70th Assembly District, the first vice chair of the New York State Democratic Committee, and daughter of the late Assemblyman Lloyd E. Dickens. Ms. Dickens believes that health care, housing, and education are the most pressing issues in her district. Ms Dickens would like to see City Council pass a health security bill that would oblige small businesses to provide health coverage for their employees or pay the city a small fee so the city can provide health care itself. Ms. Dickens does not believe that the 80/20 incentives that the city offers to encourage developers to set aside 20% of their units for low-income households with 80% being made available at market value goes far enough. She advocates for a 60/40 approach, especially in light of the trend towards privatization of former public housing projects. Ms. Dickens favors greater city council oversight of development projects.
CYNTHIA DOTY
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 54    Occupation: Community Advocate    Education: Emerson College (BA; MA)

Cynthia Doty is the Democratic district leader for the 69th Assembly District. She worked for nine years as a legislative aide to former State Assemblyman Ed Sullivan. She advocates for increased transparency in city government. Specifically, she advocates for the creation of site-specific community advisory boards that would have oversight powers over development projects. The boards would abide by strict conflict-of-interest guidelines and would be open for observation by the public with the minutes of these meetings made available to the public. Ms. Doty also believes that New York City should have more independence from Albany for matters such as rent stabilization and taxation and argues that City Council should take an active role in establishing such independence.

VIRGINIA MONTAGUE
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 12
Age: 63    Occupation: Former Director of the Manhattan Borough President’s Office

Virginia Montague worked in the constituent services office for Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields and also was chief of staff for Fields when she was City Council member for District 9. Ms. Montague has run, unsuccessfully, for the City Council in 1997 and 2003. In order to improve the availability of housing that is affordable to low-income families, Ms. Montague wants the City Council to pass a bill creating incentives for local banks to give home loans to those with low incomes.

WILLIAM A. ALLEN
Has NOT responded to the questionnaire Candidate could be scheduled for an interview
Occupation: District Leader, Assembly District 70

WOODY HENDERSON
Has NOT responded to the questionnaire Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Occupation: President, Organization for Reunification & Rehabilitation of Children and Families

I. RONNIE HOLLY
Has NOT responded to the questionnaire Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
District 24-Democratic Primary

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - JAMES GENNARO ★

Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 13
Age: 48   Occupation: Member, NYC City Council
Education: Queens College (BA); Cardozo Law School JD

The current chair of the Committee on Environmental Protection, Mr. Gennaro played a key leadership role in the passage of a package of five air quality bills that will allow the City to purchase cleaner vehicles, use ultra-low sulfur diesel, and reduce emissions of pollutants from vehicles that handle waste materials. The measures are hailed by environmentalists as a major victory for the health of New York City residents. Mr. Gennaro has also been active in the effort to restore Jamaica Bay and was a co-sponsor of a building construction fire safety bill that was authored and passed at the request of the Mayor. Gennaro’s priorities for the next term, should he be re-elected, include working to ensure greater environmental protection for the Catskill/Delaware watershed which provides 90% of the city’s drinking water, and efforts to encourage New York City to become the “silicon valley” of environmentally-friendly green industry technology. For his leadership on these and other issues, Mr. Gennaro is Citizens Union preferred candidate for the 24th district.

RENEE LOBO

Has returned questionnaire. Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Age: 39    Occupation: Broadcast Journalist
Education: SUNY-Old Westbury; London School of Journalism

An investigative journalist by trade, Renee Lobo is attempting for the second time to unseat the incumbent City Council member. While Ms. Lobo laments a lack of affordable housing in Queens, she believes that her district needs to be “downzoned” to avoid the demolition of 1 and 2 family homes to make way for units with greater density. Ms. Lobo faults the incumbent council member for spending $23,000 to remodel his legislative office when the district has more pressing needs, such as extended library hours and better health care services. Ms. Lobo’s passion and knowledge, and her run for office, can help draw needed attention to critical issues in the district.
DILIP NATH  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 13. Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

*Age: 32    Occupation: Adjunct Professor    Education: MBA*

District 25-Democratic Primary

★★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - BRYAN PU-FOLKES ★★

*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 13*

*Age: 36    Occupation: New Immigrant Community Empowerment    Education: Queens College (BA); New York Law School JD*

A spirited challenger, Bryan Pu-Folkes is the founder and executive director of New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE), a nonprofit cross-cultural organization working to better engage new immigrants in the political process. Mr. Pu-Folkes has been an attorney in both the private and public sector and his government experience includes working on campaigns for Alan Hevesi in the Assembly and serving on the city’s Human Rights Commission. Aware of the needs of the many newcomers in his diverse district, Pu-Folkes stresses the need for more funding for ESL classes and increased support for legal services, computer training, and job development. Concerned that his district contains a mere 2% green space, Pu-Folkes helped to found the conservancy for Flushing Meadows Corona Park and, if elected, would make increasing park land a top priority. Beyond housing, environment, and health issues for his district, Pu-Folkes supports changes to city council rules and structures to open up the process. Pu-Folkes’s dynamic commitment to meeting the needs of the varied constituent groups of his district and stances on reform issues make him a Citizens Union preferred candidate.

HELEN SEARS  
*Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 13*

*Age: 75    Occupation: Member, NYC City Council    Education: Queens College (BA)*

First elected to the City Council in 2001, Helen Sears was formerly a senior specialist with the New York City Department of Aging and is the founder of the 82nd Street Business Improvement District. Ms. Sears currently provides legal services in her office for three hours every Wednesday for all of the district’s residents. She co-sponsored legislation to create day laborer centers to create a more hospitable envi-
environment for the city’s laborers that often huddle on street corners waiting for work. Ms. Sears voted against the parking meter repeal on Sundays and does not believe the city should require developers to set aside a minimum amount of units of affordable housing for projects in which they seek zoning changes. Ms. Sears’ record of achievements on the council is limited and the district deserves stronger leadership to cope with an ever-growing and changing constituency.

District 28-Democratic Primary

NO PREFERENCE

ALBERT J. BALDEO
Has returned questionnaire. Responses on page 13
Age: 45 Occupation: Attorney
Education: University of the West Indies (JD)

A former Magistrate from Guyana, and now a practicing Attorney in Queens, Albert Baldeo joins a race that is mired in controversy. The leadership and ethical conduct of the current council member, Allan Jennings, has been nothing short of substandard during his three and a half years in office. He has made his private life public through personal ads in local newspapers and was sanctioned for sexually harassing more than one of his council staffers. Joining the race with the backing of the Queens County Democratic Party is the former council member, Thomas White, who did not have the most stellar ethical record while in office. Unfortunately, Mr. Baldeo was accused of waving a gun at a challenger’s wife several days after he filed a claim against that challenger for harassment on the campaign trail. Mr. Baldeo appears to be a qualified candidate to replace the current council member, but the charges have raised questions. If elected, Mr. Baldeo promises to help reduce the high rate of foreclosures in Queens, by advocating for “bail-out” legislation to help homeowners who have lost a wage-earner in the family, or have been hospitalized or laid off. He also proposes greater access to community children for after-school programs and job training. It is a shame that the 28th district has suffered from a lack of good leadership, and that the Democratic county organization has failed to present a credible candidate to better serve the district.
ALLAN W. JENNINGS
Has not responded to questionnaire. Candidate DECLINED to be interviewed
Occupation: Member, NYC City Council   Education: John Jay College of Criminal Justice (BA)

ROBBY MAHADEO
Has responded to questionnaire. Responses on page 13
Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.
Age: 41   Occupation: Doctor.

THOMAS WHITE, JR.
Has not responded to questionnaire  Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview
Occupation: Former member, NYC City Council
FURTHER RESOURCES

TO REGISTER TO VOTE & TO FIND OUT LOCATION OF POLL SITE

NYC Board of Elections (212) VOTE-NYC  www.vote.nyc.ny.us
NYPIRG (212) 349-6460  www.nypirg.org
League of Women Voters of NYC (212) 725-3541  www.lwvnyc.org

TO RESEARCH CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

NYC Campaign Finance Board (212) 306-7100  www.nyccfb.info
NYS Board of Elections (800) FOR-VOTE  www.elections.state.ny.us
FEC Federal Database (202) 628-0617  www.tray.com/fecinfo

TO RESEARCH CANDIDATES AND ISSUES

Gotham Gazette (212) 227-0342  www.gothamgazette.com
Project Vote Smart (888) VOTE-SMART  www.vote-smart.org
New York Wired  www.newyorkwired.com
NY1  www.ny1.com

TO RESEARCH INCUMBENT RECORDS

NYC Council (212) 778-7100  www.nyccouncil.info
NYS Assembly (518) 445-4100  www.assembly.state.ny.us
NYS Senate (518) 455-2800  www.senate.state.ny.us

TO LEARN ABOUT THE POLITICAL PARTIES

Conservative  www.cpnys.org
Democratic  www.nydems.org
Green  www.gpnys.org
Independence  www.ipny.org
Liberal  www.liberalparty.org
Libertarian  www.ny.lp.org
Republican  www.nygop.org
Working Families  www.workingfamiliesparty.org

HOW TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR DISTRICT

GothamGazette.com is a key source of information about New York City election contests. To find out about your district - or any other one that interests you - log on to www.gothamgazette.com/campaign2005. GothamGazette.com is published by Citizens Union Foundation, the education and research affiliate of Citizens Union.
The primary election will be held on Tuesday, September 13. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you have general questions regarding eligibility, or the location of your polling place, please call 1-866-VOTE-NYC. You can also locate your polling place online at: http://gis.nyc.gov/vote/ps/index.htm.

Under federal law, if you are disabled and choose to vote in person rather than by absentee ballot, you are entitled to assistance. You can rely on the election employees for help. To locate the handicap entrance to your polling site, please visit: http://gis.nyc.gov/vote/ps/index.htm.

At the polls, if there is no entry for you on the voter registration list, it may be because your registration form was not received or filled out incorrectly. If you believe that you are eligible to vote, you can still vote by requesting an affidavit ballot. After the election, the Board of Elections will check its records and your vote will be counted if you are indeed eligible to vote.

BECOME A POLL WORKER

The New York City Board of Elections is looking for good citizens to join its Election Day poll worker teams. Poll workers receive $200 for a rewarding day of work, plus a $35 bonus if they work both the primary and general election. Hours are from 5:30 AM to 9:30 PM each Election Day. All poll workers are assigned as close to their home as possible. All poll workers must attend a three-hour training session. Contingent upon working on Election Day, trainees will receive a $25 stipend for attending the class and passing an exam. Sign up today by calling the Board of Elections and asking for the Poll Worker Department or by calling 1-866-VOTE-NYC.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGISTER TO VOTE

To be eligible to vote in municipal, federal and state elections you must be 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and registered 25 days before the election. If you are not yet 18, but will be 18 before the election you are eligible to vote. Send your voter registration card in January of the year you turn 18 and it will be filed on your 18th birthday.

To request a voter registration form please call 1-866-VOTE-NYC or visit www.vote.nyc.ny.us/register.html.