Citizens Union appreciates your response to the following questionnaire related to policy issues facing New York City and our interest in reforming city and state government. **Please return the questionnaire to us as soon as possible, and no later than June 28th.** Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for the New York City Council, and to issue our preference for the Primary and endorsement for the General Election. Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.

If you seek our support, we will also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. **Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed.**

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues.

We thank you very much for your response.

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**Biographical Information**

Candidate Name: Helen Rosenthal

Party Affiliation(s): Democrat

Age: 

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Michigan State University; Master of Public Health, Yale University (Graduated with Highest Distinction)

Office Sought (including district): New York City Council Member, District 6 (Upper West Side, Manhattan)

Occupation/Employer: New York City Council Member, District 6/City of New York

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: New York City Council Member, District 6 (2014-Present); Manhattan Community Board 7 - Chair (2008-2009); Member (2001-2013). New York City Office of Management and Budget (1989-1995), Assistant Director (Responsible for overseeing budget for New York City’s health care spending).

(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)

**Campaign Contact Information**

Campaign Manager Name: Natasha Avanessians

Additional Staff Contact:

Address: 225 West 83rd Street

Telephone: (917) 553-3026

Fax:

Website: www.Helen2017.com

Email: Natasha@helen2017.com
Affirmations
Elected Officials:

NYC Public Advocate Tish James
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer
NY City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito
NYS Senator Liz Krueger
NYS Assemblywoman Deborah Glick
NYS Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell
Council Member Margaret Chin
Council Member Andrew Cohen
Council Member Laurie Cumbo
Council Member Danny Dromm
Council Member Dan Garodnick
Council Member Corey Johnson
Council Member Mark Levine
Council Member Carlos Menchaca
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Ritchie Torres
Council Member Jimmy Vacca
Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer
Former District 6 Council Member Ronnie Eldridge
Former NYC Comptroller and Congresswoman Elizabeth Holtzman

Advocates and Advocacy Groups:

National Organization for Women NYC
Planned Parenthood NYC Votes
Tenants PAC

Michael Moore

Political Parties:

Working Families Party
Women's Equality Party

Organized Labor:

1199 SEIU
32BJ SEIU
Central Labor Council
Council of School Supervisors and Administrators
Doctors Council SEIU
Hotel Trades Council
Political Clubs:

Three Parks Independent Democrats
Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club

Advocacy Group Scorecard:

Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club City Council
Rating Report: one of 5 members to score a perfect 100.


Have you completed required campaign finance filings? YES / NO
Are you willing to be interviewed by CU’s Local Candidates Committee? YES / NO
(Please note: interviews are prerequisites of being considered for Citizens Union endorsements.)

Signature of Candidate: Helen Rosenthal Date: June 28, 2017

1. POLICY QUESTIONS

Please state whether you support or oppose the following reform measures, and feel free to elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

VOTING AND ELECTIONS REFORM

1. What is your position with respect to eliminating party primaries and establishing a non-partisan election system in which all candidates and all voters participate in the first round and the top two candidates advance to the second round? Support / Oppose

2. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting for all citywide offices and for all special elections for city offices? Support / Oppose

3. What is your position on creating a voluntary municipal poll worker program to supplement poll worker recruitment by district leaders? Support / Oppose

4. What is your position on requiring the Board of Elections to report performance metrics to the City Council that conform to the Mayor’s Management Report? Support / Oppose
5. What is your position on modifying the City Charter to require that laws enacted by referendum only be changed through approval by the voters?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
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</thead>
</table>

### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

6. What is your position on prohibiting participants in the city’s campaign finance program from using public matching funds to purchase strategic campaign consulting services from firms that also provide lobbying services?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
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7. What is your position on increasing the Campaign Finance Board’s public matching grants from a partial match of 55% to a full match of funds raised (Int. 1130-A)?

*I've co-sponsored Int. 1130-A. If enacted, this reform measure will better enable campaigns to compete with independent spending by “outside” - often, special interest - organizations.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
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### CITY COUNCIL REFORM

8. How do you feel the reformed bill drafting process is going under the enacted 2014 Council Rules Reforms and do you think we need a more independent process similar to New York State Legislature’s bill drafting commission?

While I wasn't a Council Member under the old bill drafting process, it's my sense that we have made progress under the 2014 rules. However, there is certainly more work to be done to ensure that the Council is able to move legislation expeditiously and with quality input from stakeholders inside government and beyond. The current process is still very centralized, and that sometimes limits more cutting edge legal ideas and necessarily means there can be a bottleneck that delays important debates. Whether an Independent Commission is the right way to solve this or whether there there are further reforms to the internal process that can be made, we need to streamline the process and ensure that it is facilitates as broad and creative a public policy debate as Council Members and advocates can come up with. As a Member of the Progressive Caucus, I am working with my colleagues to come up with solutions that will deliver exactly that.

9. What is your position on the following proposals enabling Council committees to function more effectively and independently of the speaker:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Should committee chairs have the ability to hire at least one committee staffer?</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Now that committee chair stipends have been eliminated what is your position on reducing the overall number of committees so members can participate more meaningfully in fewer issues?</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Oppose</td>
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</table>

10. What is your position on greater disclosure of councilmembers’ outside income?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. When the Quadrennial Compensation Commission is reconvened, what is your position on requiring that any future increase in councilmember compensation only apply prospectively to the following term?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. What is your position on ensuring a more equitable and needs-based distribution of discretionary funding?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. What is your position on increasing transparency of discretionary funding by requiring the list of capital and expense funds and their sponsors be provided to Council Members and the public three days in advance of any vote, and expanding the online searchable database of expense funds to include all capital fund recipients and applicants?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. What is your position on extending term limits from two four-year terms to three four-year terms?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. What is your position on making all actions designed to influence any City Council outcome, including the choice of Speaker, reportable as a lobbying expense?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
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**PUBLIC SAFETY AND OVERSIGHT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Support / Oppose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16. What is your position on establishing the Commission to Combat Police Corruption (CCPC) as a permanent commission in the City Charter while empowering the CCPC to issue subpoenas?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. What is your position on enhancing the Civilian Complaint Review Board’s (CCRB) authority to initiate an investigation into reported or known incidents of police misconduct without receipt of a formal complaint?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. What is your position on granting the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) with the authority to prosecute officers found guilty of lying during CCRB investigations?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. What is your position on reinstating the zero tolerance penalty for false official statements by public officers?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. What is your position on requiring the Police Commissioner to explain divergence from NYPD trial judge and CCRB disciplinary recommendations and to make the explanation public?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. What is your position on requiring the NYPD to publish a regular report of use of force incidents with data disaggregated by race?</td>
<td>Support / Oppose</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
22. What is your position on granting the CCRB authority to prosecute officers who lie under oath during the course of their investigations? | **Support** / Oppose

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BUDGET REFORM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23. What is your position on establishing independent budgeting for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. the borough presidents?</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Conflicts of Interest Board?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. the public advocate?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. community boards?</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. What is your position on making the budget process more transparent by clearly defining and limiting units of appropriation?</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. What is your position on release of revenue projections (other than property taxes) prior to Council hearings on the Executive budget?</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>LAND USE AND COMMUNITY BOARD REFORM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26. What is your position on designating urban planners for use by community boards and requiring borough president’s report to the Council the manner in which they advertise and make community board appointments?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. What is your position on establishing a formal standardized and transparent process for community board appointments including written applications, interviews of candidates, and filling vacancies within 30 days?</td>
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</table>

*Having served on Manhattan's Community Board 7 for 12 years - with 2 years as Board Chair - these issues resonate with me. A formal, standardized and transparent process would make it easier to evaluate candidates on an equal footing, and help explain why appointment decisions are made. I strongly support filling Board vacancies within 30 days.* |

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>28. In November, voters in New York will be asked whether they wish to hold a constitutional convention to amend the New York State Constitution. What is your position on holding such a convention?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. If you support the constitutional convention, what actions, if any, will you take to ensure that it takes place? If you oppose the convention, what will you do to defeat it?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I’m sympathetic to the motivations and objectives of many who support calling a constitutional convention to amend the New York State Constitution. My concern is that, in the event, such a convention will be dominated by the views and goals of special interests - whose objectives may undermine the wellbeing of the vast majority of New Yorkers; and work against the goals of reform groups who desire greater transparency, accountability and fairness. In particular, I’m concerned that a convention could put at risk many of the State constitutional protections of workers and workers rights - which are particularly vital in an age of increasing economic inequality.

This may be an issue on which many people of shared values genuinely disagree. It’s critically important that voters cast informed ballots on this question, regardless of the outcome on Election Day. It’s clear to me that most voters are - at this moment - only marginally aware of this issue and the stakes involved. When I was first elected to the NYC Council, I organized - along with three other, newly elected colleagues - a series of public forums in which City Council Speaker candidates could present their vision to residents throughout the City’s five boroughs. These forums received meaningful publicity, with one being broadcast on live television by NY1. A purpose which served both public education and popular engagement was achieved, for a process which had historically been an entirely “inside game.” If re-elected, I’d look to organize and hold - along with colleagues in City government - analogous forums focused on the November Constitutional Convention ballot question, for similar purposes of education and engagement. It’s my hope that Citizens Union would join me in organizing and conducting these forums.

30. Last year, Citizens Union helped craft and push for the enactment of a law that placed political contribution limits and disclosure requirements on nonprofits that are formed by, or affiliated with, elected officials, which helped prevent some significant features of an emerging “pay-to-play” culture in New York City. Do you have any other ideas to further limit such a culture and create a better environment where contributions, either personal or political do not unduly influence the actions of elected officials?

“Undue influence” can result from outsized political contributions or fundraising; or from actors seeking to “monetize” their access or position of trust with public officials. Conversely, mechanisms which “leverage” smaller-sized donations from everyday residents can work to limit “undue influence”.

For these reasons, I favor: 1) reducing individual contribution limits to municipal candidates by 20% (including limits for individuals who do business with the City; 2) increase the “public match” from 6:1 to 8:1; and 3) make contributions matchable up to $200 (now $175).

Contribution limits which apply to “people doing business with the city” should also apply to their “bundling activities” (i.e., if their contribution limit is $400, they can only solicit individual contributions capped at $400).

Drawing upon the regulatory framework which governs the definition of “insiders” in the financial markets, the definition of “doing business with the city” should apply to spouses, children and people who live in the same household or are otherwise financially dependent upon someone who directly does business with the city.

I also support limiting contributions from one elected official’s campaign committee to another campaign committee to $400.

“Monetizing” access to government officials is corrosive to the process and undermines public confidence in the system. For this reason, we should consider prohibiting firms which do campaign consulting work from serving as
lobbyists; and set an extended period of time before ex-city government officials or officeholders can work as paid lobbyists.

Additional Comments:

VOTING AND ELECTION REFORM:

In the run-up to the 2016 Presidential Primary, I initiated and led an effort sponsored by the New York City Council to register NYC high school students to vote. This “Student Voter Registration Day” resulted in 8,500 high-school students registering to vote for the first time. This total represented the single highest voter registration effort made by the City Council before or since. Further to this successful effort, I’m the Prime Sponsor on Res. 280 to create an annual Student Voter Registration Day (SVRD) - whose objective is to increase civic engagement and voter turnout by New York City youth.

This accomplishment notwithstanding, there’s much more work to do. On Primary Election Day (April 19th) a number of poll sites were changed overnight with limited communication from the Board of Elections. In addition, thousands of voters - primarily in Brooklyn - were struck from the voter registration rolls without cause, effectively disenfranchising them during a highly contested presidential primary. I support both increased Council oversight of and a meaningful funding increase for the Board of Elections, to achieve a simple objective: making sure every registered voter can cast their ballot without impediment, and that votes be counted accurately. I also support increased appropriations to better train poll workers, and provide email and text message notification of polling site information and hours for voters. I urge New York State to join the twelve states plus the District of Columbia that offer same-day voter registration; and the thirty-four that offer early voting.

Highlighted by the unexpected decision of Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland not to seek re-election, women are acutely underrepresented on the New York City Council. Women make up more than half of city voters, but only a quarter of the Council Members. With retirements, this number could fall to fewer than 1 in 5 after this year’s elections-- 10 women of 51 members. It’s noteworthy that this under-representation which exists with respect to gender does not exist with respect to race of sexual orientation: Members of color represent a majority of the Council, while the LGBTQ Caucus makes up 7 of 51 Council Members. Simply put, the exceptionally low percentage of women on the Council does not adequately represent the abilities and contributions women make to this City, and artificially muffles women’s voice on vital matters such as gender pay equity, domestic violence and sexual assault, and economic empowerment, among others. To address this glaring inequity, I’m supporting three, highly qualified women in the Bronx who are seeking open seats on the City Council: endorsing them, holding fundraisers in my home for them, and providing campaign and tactical advice.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM:

I am an advocate for and a participant in the public matching program. I am co-sponsor of Int. 1130-A, which would raise the cap on public funds received by participating candidates to a full match with the expenditure limit. I do not believe public funds should be used to fund strategic methods that support firms with lobbying activity.

CONTRACTS REFORM:
As Chair of the Contracts Committee I am focused on procurement reform. A recent study examined the cost of construction contracts which are much higher in the US vs. Japan or European countries. The study looked at contributing factors and ruled out the cost of labor, materials, or real estate. They found that the fundamental difference is the layers of review and bureaucracy in the US. This is certainly the case in NYC. It takes 70 steps to move from funding to completion of NYC Parks Department projects. 70 steps. We’ve chipped away at some of these steps-- but there is a long way to go.

Every time a contractor found a way to steal money from the city, the city imposed another hurdle to close that one loophole. As a result, there are so many hurdles that it is daunting for any company (or nonprofit organization) to contract with the city.

I’ve introduced and passed a number of bills to make it easier to do business with the city, without compromising responsibility. The City is now required to put VENDEX online and make it digital. The success of the HHS Accelerator is paving the way for all city contracts to move through a similar system.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM:

The Criminal Justice Reform package passed by the City Council last year is a good first step to getting the NYPD less focused on minor crimes. In addition, the NYPD’s current steps toward “community policing” appear to be paying off. Police officers should wear body cameras. We should pass the Right to Know Act, the Right to Consent Act, and the Right to Record, all of which I am co-sponsors on.

Furthermore, in my second year in office I introduced Local Law 086, the Pretrial Detainee Transparency Bill, requiring the NYC DOC to report quarterly on the length of stay and bail amount of all people held in NYC jails. Passing this bill was a big step in the City’s goal for meaningful criminal justice reform. No one should be in jail if their only crime is poverty.
II. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS (PAST AND CURRENT)

In addition to evaluating stances on the issues above, Citizens Union also assesses incumbents on how well they kept the promises made to voters during the previous election.

As an elected official who is seeking re-election,

- what were the top five promises you made to your constituents when you ran for your current seat and what progress has been made in keeping those promises, and
- what are the top five promises you are making to voters during this campaign?

Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient, and to affix additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements. We thank you very much for your response.

TOP FIVE CAMPAIGN PROMISES FROM LAST ELECTION AND ACTION ON THEM

1. **Academic Excellence for All**

Four years ago, I had worked side-by-side with parent leaders to address persistent overcrowding in several of the schools, by successfully advocating for a new school. I pledged to fight for excellent public schools.

For the past three years, the public school parent leaders (CEC D3) wrestled with persistent overcrowding in one school (PS 199) and concentrated poverty in another (PS 191). Their 2015 plan to integrate the two schools failed in the face of community opposition. I knew that if we could speed up opening a new school building from 2018 to 2017, the pieces would be in place to pass an integration plan.

I convinced the Mayor and SCA to make it a priority to open the new school one year earlier than expected. With the availability of new space, the CEC D3 voted 9-1 to redraw the zone lines in such a way as to integrate three public schools. The NYT and NY Daily News Editorial Boards endorsed the plan and I was the only UWS elected official to support the parent leaders.

I was proud to play a role in integrating the schools-- for the first time in 50 years, there are three excellent school options for all families who live south of 70th street.

2. **Fiscal Responsibility**

When I ran for office, my campaign slogan was a play on the York Peppermint Patty one: cool, refreshing, and really good with numbers. I highlighted my work in the NYC Office of Management and Budget as an Assistant Director with oversight responsibilities health care budgets-- and pledged to bring an eye towards fiscal responsibility.

In 2015, an education watchdog brought to my attention a DOE contract that was suspiciously large. The DOE’s Panel on Education Policy was about to sign a $1.1 billion contract for a computer networking system. As reported by Juan Gonzalez in the NY Daily News, Public Advocate Tish James and I compelled City Hall to force the DOE to negate the contract they had signed. Seven months later, the DOE rebid the proposal and over a dozen contracts were signed, many of which were with a Minority and/or Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE). The final
cost was roughly $475 million.

3. Economic Justice: Lift Every Boat

Four years ago, I spoke about the importance of creating meaningful jobs for everyday New Yorkers. I was Board Chair of Parent Job Net, a small nonprofit program helping “female single head-of households” find work to support their families.

One of the first pieces of legislation that I introduced and passed was Local Law 423, requiring the City to support the worker cooperative model via the Department of Small Business Services. That year, Bronx Councilwoman Maria Carmen Arroyo and I sponsored a Worker Cooperative Initiative that brought over $1 million to develop new businesses. Over the past three years, nearly 70 worker cooperatives have started, creating nearly 500 jobs. The average salary for these otherwise low wage workers is $25/hour.

4. Economic Justice: Strengthen the Safety Net

Much of my work, prior to running for office, was in the nonprofit sector and I saw the critical work that these organizations provided, often on a shoestring budget. I pledged to strengthen the sector.

As Chair of the Contracts Committee it became clear to me that government systematically under-funds social service provider contracts in the human services sector. Over the past two years, I’ve led the effort to “right-size” these contracts. After some progress from the Administration to form a HSC Resiliency Committee to study the issue, the FY18 budget includes over $40 million to “right-size” many, although not all, of the human service contracts. This “right-sizing” includes additional funds for the increased costs of overhead, maintenance, technology, and supplies-- funds that had not been increased for over 20 years.

5. Open Civic Life and Access to City Government for those with Disabilities

When I ran for office, I knew it was important to increase access to government for all New Yorkers-- including those with disabilities.

In 2016, I introduced and passed two key pieces of legislation to expand accessibility for people with disabilities. The first, Local Law 27, requires a qualified disability facilitator to be present in every government agency to coordinate and comply with ADA requirements and investigate any complaints they may receive. Local Law 28 requires that any publicity materials for events sponsored by the City have information about what accommodations will be available and contact information to coordinate any further accommodations. In 2017, I also passed Local Law 51 which requires the installation of hearing loop induction systems for all capital projects funded by the City.

TOP FIVE 2017 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. Protect Affordable Housing: Keep Tenants in their Homes

I am committed to strengthening tenants’ voice in the face of landlord harassment. I will continue to fight for the Stand for Tenant Safety legislative package until every bill is passed into law. In addition, I have introduced legislation that will create a Office of Tenant Advocate (OTA) in the Department of Buildings. The OTA would
give residents a platform that is equal to that of the building owner. My office will continue have a strong Housing Director and other staff every day who help individual tenants to stay in their homes as well as monthly housing clinics, providing access to free legal services for tenants.

2. **Economic Justice: Human Service Workers**

The City relies on contracted non-profits to provide a vast range of essential services for more than 2.5 million New Yorkers. For over a decade, these services have been chronically underfunded and now the organizations that provide them are on the brink. These are our day-care providers, our home care attendants, homeless services professionals and others who often do the thankless work for a fraction of their true value. While we have made sound gains for this sector, made up predominantly of women of color, most are still severely underpaid. I pledge to keep up the fight for higher wages and improved working conditions for human service workers and continue to make this my priority in budget negotiations in the years ahead.

3. **School Integration**

In 2016, I was a strong advocate of integrating District 3’s schools and am proud of my success. I would like to see the same results city wide. The Chancellor of School’s plan to increase diversity in schools was admirable and I believe that the council needs to take a strong stance in advocating for integration city wide. Students deserve equal access to education regardless of their race. This term, I co-sponsored a bill, Int. 1378, that would require the city to establish an Office of School Integration within the Human Rights Commission to study the prevalence and causes of racial segregation in public schools.

4. **Sustainable Environment: Energy Codes**

Next term, reforming energy code in New York City will be one of my top priorities. On June 6th, I introduced four pieces of legislation to improve City Code in regards to sustainable energy in New York. The first, Int. 1639, would require the city to submit a plan for encouraging business improvement districts to increase their solar energy usage. Int. 1629 would require the administration to submit recommendations to the Council on how to make energy codes more stringent. The bill would also require that all buildings built or undergo extreme renovation in 2025 and after be low energy intensity buildings. Int. 1632 would require property owners to disclose information about the building’s energy efficiency to potential purchasers or lessees. Finally, Int. 1637, would create a task force to create a long-term energy plan for the city every four years.

5. **Financial Responsibility**

I pledge to continue to keep my eyes on the City’s budget-- to keep an eye open for waste, fraud, and abuse. To make sure that the funding sources and expenses are transparent and sound.

III. **ETHICAL REPRESENTATION OF CONSTITUENTS**

Citizens Union believes that all New Yorkers deserve to be represented by officials who work for the public interest and honor public trust. With the corruption conviction of recent state legislative leaders, we seek to endorse a candidate who will demonstrate that she/he will honor the full commitment of the oath of office, and will always represent the public interest above all else.
Please tell us how you have and would continue to conduct the political affairs of this office in an upright manner, and restore the public trust in your district.

Four years ago, I was one of a handful newly elected Council Members who advocated to hold the NYCC Speaker race forums in every borough. Next term, I am committed to making the speaker race as fair as possible and pushing my colleagues in the Council to continue the forums.

I am proud that my office has ranked among the top 5 Council Members for constituent services. On the Upper West Side, I am a firm advocate for all my residents, fighting for the issues that affect their daily quality of life. My office sponsors monthly tenant clinics with access to free legal advice. Our office helps constituents navigate and access various housing programs. My office will also continue to serve the thousands of residents that walk through our door as well as those who attend our monthly housing clinic.

Further, I will continue to stand for what is right, regardless of whether it is politically expedient. I was the only elected official who stood with our public school parent leaders to redraw the school zone lines in a way that would integrate three schools-- it was the right thing to do.

As demonstrated during my first land use negotiation, in addition to 20% low income affordable housing and a Universal Pre-K, I compelled the developer to provide middle-income affordable housing without accessing taxpayer dollars. Next term I plan to push through the bills discussed above that will expand accessibility to housing services (Office of the Tenant Advocate), increase transparency in the criminal justice system, and fight for fairness in our electoral process.

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee, 299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007
Via email to candidates@citizensunion.org or fax to 212.227.0345 • Call us at 212-227-0342 with questions.