



Candidate Questionnaire
Local Candidates Committee
New York City Council Elections 2017

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.

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.

Biographical Information

Candidate Name: John C. Doyle
Party Affiliation(s): Democrat Age: 31
Education: Le Moyne College, Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science, 2007
Office Sought (including district): NYC City Council, District 13
Occupation/Employer: Associate Director of Public Relations, NYC Health and Hospitals/Jacobi
Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:

(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a resume, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)
NY Senate Aide, 2007-2012, Worked on NYS Senate Campaigns of Dave Valesky (2006), Brian Foley (2008) and David Carlucci (2010); City Island Civic Association, Corresponding Secretary (2010-present), 45th Precinct Council, Sergeant-at-Arms (2012-Present), Jacob Derzon Coalition, Member of Staff Council, Laurie Davis 718-864-0438

Campaign Contact Information
Address: 3594 E. Tremont Ave, Bronx, NY 10465
Telephone: 347-921-3271
Website: johndoyle.nyc
Email: john@johndoyle.nyc
Twitter: https://twitter.com/johndoyle4nyc
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/johndoyle4nyc

Affirmations

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:

Date: 6/17/2017

## I. 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 <input checked="" type="radio"/> Oppose
2. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting for all citywide offices and for all special elections for city offices?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support Oppose
3. What is your position on creating a voluntary municipal poll worker program to supplement poll worker recruitment by district leaders?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support Oppose

### 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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support Oppose
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)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support Oppose

### 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?

Yes, we need legislators to be able to legislate and introduce legislation independent of whoever is Speaker. This is how we get the best ideas out into the forefront and how good policy can be shared with the public at large. People need to be able to lobby their individual legislators to support a bill and they can only do that if they can read it in black and white. It creates a clear and accountable system.

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9. What is your position on the following proposals enabling Council committees to function more effectively and independently of the speaker:	
a. Should committee chairs have the ability to hire at least one committee staffer?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
b. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
c. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
10. What is your position on greater disclosure of councilmembers' outside income?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
12. What is your position on ensuring a more equitable and needs-based distribution of discretionary funding?	Support / Oppose
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 Councilmembers 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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
14. What is your position on extending term limits from two four-year terms to three four-year terms?	Support <input checked="" type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND OVERSIGHT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT**

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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
19. What is your position on reinstating the zero tolerance penalty for false official statements by public officers?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
21. What is your position on requiring the NYPD to publish a regular report of use of force incidents with data disaggregated by race?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose

22. What is your position on requiring the NYPD to publish a regular report of use of force incidents with data disaggregated by race?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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**BUDGET REFORM**

23. What is your position on establishing independent budgeting for: a. the borough presidents?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
b. Conflicts of Interest Board?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
c. the public advocate?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
d. community boards?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
24. What is your position on making the budget process more transparent by clearly defining and limiting units of appropriation?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
25. What is your position on release of revenue projections (other than property taxes) prior to Council hearings on the Executive budget?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose

**LAND USE AND COMMUNITY BOARD REFORM**

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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Oppose

**CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

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?	<input type="radio"/> Support <input checked="" type="radio"/> Oppose
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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?

While I am sympathetic to the outrage many feel towards the corruption that is unfortunately all too common in Albany, we cannot open our state constitution process to a convention. Doing so could very well weaken our labor rights and other protections for working people (as has happened in states like Wisconsin, Michigan and other states). Our state constitution has been in place for over 100 years and has been amended close to 200 times. As such, there's an existing process in place if changes need to be made to our state constitution outside of a convention.

While my campaign will be primarily focused on how we can build upon the quality of life enjoyed in the East Bronx, I will also speak about how this convention can be harmful to working families.

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?

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Fighting corruption has been a focus of mine for a long time. Since early in my campaign, ive been committed to introducing participatory budgeting in my district, so that residents will have a direct say in how their tax dollars are spent and avoid "pet projects" from their elected officials. I also believe in establishing a dialogue and building trust with the community, as ultimately public officials should be accountable to those they serve, so along with annual town halls in every one of my communities, I also will fight to have city council members be required to disclose their schedules. This way, the residents of New York City can see that their elected officials are working hard for them, or call them out if they meet with special interests.

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I'm also a proud participant in the NYC Campaign Finance Boards Matching Funds program, and believe that all candidates running for office should play on the same even field.

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Please use the space provided or a separate sheet of paper to elaborate on your positions on the issues contained in the previous pages. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

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I also support the various other campaign reform efforts, including transparency in regards to outside income for elected officials, as well as expanding opportunities to vote and provide more opportunities to register to vote, along with increasing the period where people can reregister to vote in a party primary.

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As I have said, I am a proud to participate in the matching funds program that NYC has. My campaign is fueled by almost 600 small dollar donors, with 90% of contributions coming from the Bronx and 70% coming from within the district I seek to represent. Our median donation amount is \$50, and 92.14% of our donations come from small dollar donors. We have been recognized on multiple occasions as a leader for in-district and small dollar contributions, and I believe it is a testament to the strength of the public financing of campaigns that our system allows us to spend less time courting powerful interests and donors, and more time talking to the people about needed reforms with the additional financing provided by this system.

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## II. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS

As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, what are your top five campaign promises you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position.

If elected, Citizens Union will use these promises to evaluate your performance while in office, as well as to evaluate your candidacy in the future.

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 2017 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. ~~Open Accessible Government. As I've already described above I want to do participatory budgeting, town halls in every neighborhood, put my public schedule on my city council website to make sure the public knows that im working for them, and I will not accept the new pay raise for the city council.~~

3. ~~Transform the Appearance of Pelham Bay Station- Right now, PB Station is not a good reflection of the wonderful community which it sits in. John will fight and spend major capital resources to modernize the exterior of the station. He will push the DOT to finally make the nearby overpasses two-way streets to alleviate some of the traffic congestion to the area.~~

4. ~~Increasing viable transportation options to our district including Ferry and Metro North Service with park and rides. Reducing commute times for East Bronx residents who suffer some of the longest times in city.~~

5. ~~Fighting for the Public Hospital System- As a longtime employee of NYC Health + Hospital system, I know the value and necessity of a good public healthcare system. As city councilman, he will continue the fight to improve and expand our access and care so that all New Yorkers have the ability to excellent and affordable care.~~

6. ~~Fighting for resiliency measures to preserve our coastal residential communities. I served on the NY Rising Committee on the East Bronx Waterfront and I want to continue the protection measures we started.~~

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 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.

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I understand that the public's confidence in government has waned in recent years. City residents want to be involved in improving their communities and need to see the same level of commitment from their elected officials. On my first day in office, I will institute the following steps to bring the people's government directly to his constituents: Participatory Budgeting in the 13th District, hold town hall meetings within every community of the 13th District annually, release my government schedule on my website , and not accept the 32% pay raise the Council voted for itself. None of these policies require a new law to pass, just the commitment to do them, and as a member of city council I will be there my people and not for profit.

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