



Public Employee Press

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District Council **37** AFSCME  
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SPECIAL ELECTION SUPPLEMENT



## UNION ENDORSEMENTS



FOR **JUNE 22**  
**PRIMARY**

# What is RANKED-CHOICE VOTING?

When New York City voters go to the polls for the June 22 primary election, they won't be casting their vote for one candidate per position, but instead multiple candidates.

Ranked Choice Voting, which was approved by voters in 2019, took effect this year and will be used to elect the Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough Presidents, and City Council members. In the District Attorney primaries in Brooklyn and Manhattan, Ranked Choice Voting will not be used.

Instead of just choosing their favorite candidate, voters will have the option of ranking up to five in order of preference. The candidates for each office will appear in rows on the left side of the ballot, and each column will be labeled first through fifth choice. Voters will indicate a preference next to their top five candidates and have the option of leaving some blank.

This process will not be used in November's General Election.

After the polls close, all first-choice votes are counted. If a candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, that candidate wins. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the first-choice votes, the vote moves to round two with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated. If a voter's first choice candidate is eliminated, that voter's second-choice vote is counted and added to the candidate's total. This process continues until one candidate has more than 50% of the vote and a winner is declared.

According to the City's Campaign Finance Board (CFB), 17 cities and the state of Maine already use Ranked-Choice Voting — as does the Academy Awards. With the process-of-elimination method, the CFB predicts that final results in Ranked Choice elections will not be known until all absentee and military ballots are tallied.

By the June 22 primary, the CFB expects the State Board of Elections will have software to automatically complete the tabulations, which eliminates Board of Election workers having to manually count ballots for races that may go through multiple rounds.

It's important to remember that in Ranked-Choice Voting, voters cannot rank the same candidate more than once and should be careful not to rank more than one candidate in the same spot. Doing so will invalidate your ballot.

Voters casting ballots in person will be notified by the voting machine once the ballot is scanned if they give multiple candidates the same ranking, or submit a completely blank ballot. If a mistake is detected, voters may ask a poll worker for a new ballot. The voting machine will not let voters know if they skip rankings or rank the same candidate multiple times.

In addition to saving New York City an estimated \$20 million for each election cycle that would have required a runoff, research shows the new voting system tends to make campaigns less negative and encourages more women and nonwhite candidates to run. It also means your vote counts, even if your first-choice candidate does not win.

The new voting system also encourages more women and minorities who typically have a more difficult time raising campaign funds, to run for public office, as RCV eliminates the need for any possible and costly run-off elections.

New York City voters registered with a political party can vote in that party's primary election on June 22, or during the early voting period of June 12-20.

## JUNE 22 PRIMARY ELECTION

As New York City builds back following a pandemic that took thousands of lives and left even more unemployed, who we elect for office is more critical than ever. District Council 37 took its responsibility incredibly seriously to endorse candidates and help advise members in this primary. Each candidate considered went through a thorough process with the union's Screening Committee, was ranked by members through a survey, and ultimately voted on by both the Executive Committee and the Union's delegates. Union leadership took into account the candidate's record and platform on issues such as labor job security, affordability, and police reform, to name a few.

After a long vetting process, District Council 37 is proud to make endorsements in the following races:

- Mayor
- Comptroller
- Public Advocate
- Manhattan & Brooklyn DA
- Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens & Bronx Borough President
- City Council

You can find details of each endorsement in the following pages. The endorsement section can be easily removed from the rest of the PEP so you can bring with you to the polls to ensure you rank DC 37 endorsed candidates #1.

# CITYWIDE RACES



## Eric Adams Mayor

Eric Adams, raised in South Jamaica, Queens, is a lifelong New Yorker and the son of a DC 37 member.

At age 15, he was beaten by police in the basement of a precinct house. Instead of giving into anger, Adams steeled himself to reform the NYPD from the inside.

In 1984, after graduating second in his class from the Police Academy Adams served in the New York Transit Police and the NYPD from 1984 until 2006, rising to Captain. He remains an outspoken activist against police brutality and for criminal justice reform. He also was president of the Grand Council of Guardians and co-founded 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care.

In 2006, Adams was elected to the New York State Senate representing the 20th District in Brooklyn, and then elected Brooklyn Borough President in 2013, where he has served the people of Brooklyn ever since.

With his decades of experience as a progressive activist and his extensive legislative and executive experience, Adams has proven to be the leader who can guide New York City's recovery from the pandemic and move the city to a stronger, more equitable and dynamic future.

"This is a city made up of workers," Adams said. "This is not a startup. This is a city where you have to have been a worker. I am you. We need a blue-collar mayor to run a blue-collar city."

Adams envisions a future of building an inclusive economy to benefit all New Yorkers. His goals as mayor include a fair and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, which has struck the city's communities of color the hardest.

As mayor, Adams seeks government reform, believing that the inefficiency and inequality intertwine, leading to injustice. His plan is to re-envision the way in which the city's programs and services deliver effectively to those who need help most.

He believes that the path to recovery begins with introducing policies of direct assistance to communities hardest hit by the pandemic. This agenda includes building a stronger safety net with direct cash assistance to struggling New Yorkers, providing subsidized or free child care, and developing an extensive job placement plan.

His plans to revitalize the city and reduce unemployment include significant investments in "green jobs," including work in retrofitting the city's buildings; renewable energy production, such as wind power; and additional incentives to improve infrastructure and change the city's land use policies.

To ensure success, Adams will work to reform the New York City public school system. His goal is to end the systemic inequality within the system by expanding school and instruction options, providing universal access to online and in-person instruction, and focus on growing a generation of students prepared to take on the challenges of a new, vibrant community.

Essential to this plan is to improve New York City's health care system. COVID-19 exposed the inequality in the delivery of health care services, particularly in communities of color and new immigrants, that suffered the most during the pandemic.

Adams will fight for a major overhaul of the City's health care by forming a unified hospital network citywide and expanding and improving preventative care and wellness programs to close the vast racial gaps in health services.

Adams also seeks to expand affordable housing, emphasizing infrastructure and jobs to support communities where new developments are built.

As a veteran of the NYPD and activist against police brutality, Adams believes in reforming the city's police force, including civilianization of more positions, and training police officers to balance community relations while fighting rising crime.

As a longtime friend of the union, DC 37 counted on Adams for his support during the pandemic when many DC 37 essential workers were unable, and in some cases not allowed by managers, to have PPE while on the job. Adams worked tirelessly, meeting with union officials and activists to help coordinate and meet their immediate needs for help to protect the city's essential public workers in the early weeks of the crisis.

Adams has proven time and again that he's not only the first choice, but also the best choice for the job. DC 37 is proud to endorse Eric Adams for mayor.

# Corey Johnson

## NYC Comptroller



Corey Johnson has always been a fighter and a leader, entering public service as an activist advocating for equal rights and tenant protections.

First elected to the City Council in 2013, Johnson became Speaker in 2018. As Speaker, he led efforts to protect tenants from eviction, and fought for criminal justice reform. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Johnson was key in passing legislation to provide legal protections for tenants and small businesses, and later helped stage-manage the reopening from the citywide lockdown, including the Open Streets program.

Under his leadership as Speaker, the City Council delivered on-time balanced budgets three years in a row. While under intense pressure during the COVID-19 crisis, Johnson shepherded through a budget that preserved funding for critical City services and for communities suffering from the pandemic.

From his time serving as the leader of the City Council, Johnson is an experienced manager, overseeing a staff of nearly 900 workers, including a team of financial analysts and economists.

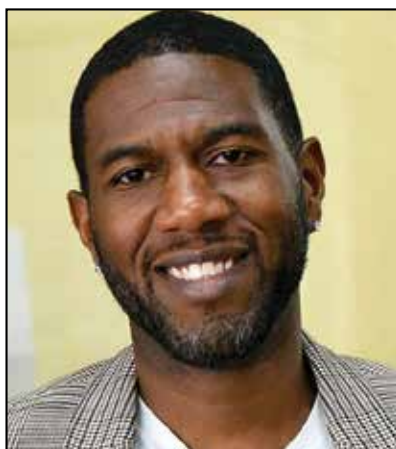
Johnson conducted hundreds of oversight hearings into the City's fiscal practices. Under his watch, the City

Council discovered NYCHA's failure to provide 80% of residents heat and hot water, and in another investigation uncovered disparities in remote learning that left Black and brown students behind.

As the City's chief financial officer, Johnson will use the Comptroller's office to audit City agencies to ensure that services are delivered equally, with funds used properly.

Johnson believes that the recovery from the pandemic offers an opportunity to invest in communities hardest hit by the financial crisis. By using the power of his office, he will prioritize small businesses in our communities as well as invest in affordable housing and a green, resilient future.

As the person responsible for New York City's five pension funds, Johnson will focus on cutting the billions in fees paid to Wall Street to manage our investments. Johnson believes that instead of sending exorbitant fees to hedge funds, that money would be better spent on projects to create jobs and develop economic opportunities in underserved communities.



# Jumaane Williams

## Public Advocate

New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams is an effective leader, a frontline fighter against injustice and inequality, and a guiding force for change.

From Brooklyn of Grenadian heritage, Williams began his career as a community organizer and advocate for tenants' rights after graduating with a master's degree from Brooklyn College. In 2009, he was elected to the New York City Council representing Brooklyn's 45th District.

While a member of the City Council, Williams became a leader in the fight against then-Mayor Bloomberg's abuse of the odious "stop, question and frisk" policy that targeted young men of color, and other important reforms of the NYPD. He sponsored the Community Safety Act, legislation that established major changes to city policing, including creating the Office of the Inspector General that oversees unlawful and unethical behavior by officers within the City's police department.

In his three terms at the City Council, Williams led efforts to combat gun violence by helping to create Cure Violence Groups that reduced shootings. He also challenged the de Blasio administration's affordable

housing plan. Williams prioritized efforts to keep at-risk communities from being priced out of their homes and passed legislation to curb landlord abuses of low- and middle-income tenants.

Elected in 2019 to the Office of Public Advocate in a special election, Williams raised his activism to a higher level, actively working for transformational change in affordable housing, race, and gender issues while addressing the increasing problem of inequity in education and city services.

In running for a full term as New York City's Public Advocate, Williams will continue to champion forward-thinking progressive policies on behalf of all New Yorkers. He will push for additional powers for his office to better serve the city. Williams also will fight for further housing reforms to benefit the community instead of developers, work to end mass incarceration and other criminal justice reforms, put an end to underfunding public schools serving immigrant and communities of color, and strongly supports a comprehensive approach to fighting climate change.

# Manhattan

## District Attorney



### Tahanie Aboushi

From a hard-working Palestinian immigrant family, Tahanie Aboushi learned from an early age after her father's arrest and incarceration, that the legal system is unequal and that liberty and justice are not for all.

She has spent her adult life as an outspoken progressive attorney, demanding fair treatment for her clients, regardless of background. In her career, Aboushi has defended those who have been mistreated and wronged by society. Understanding the destructive impact of mass incarceration for families and communities, she sees that the legal system's lack of support ultimately undermines the safety of New Yorkers.

In her legal practice, Aboushi has been fearless in her quest in fighting back against racism and the abuse of power. In her personal experience, she sees this as a time to fundamentally change the role and function of our legal system

As Manhattan's District Attorney, Aboushi will establish a Police Accountability Unit, to investigate police officers who engage in misconduct and use excessive force. She will support legislation to hold police accountable and supports criminal justice reform.

To Aboushi, "public safety means stability." She believes that the role of the prosecutor is to stand back and allow community-based organizations to address root causes of crime while acting as a partner to these groups.

She will create a unit in the District Attorney's office to focus on wage theft and worker protections, investigating and prosecuting employers and landlords in cases including, wage theft, payroll tax fraud, health and safety violations, including deaths and injuries caused by negligence.

## Borough President



### Mark Levine

A resident of Washington Heights and a former junior high school teacher, Mark Levine, a two-term New York City Council member, represents one of the most diverse districts in New York City.

Perhaps at the top of his long list of accomplishments, sits his leadership in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Serving as the City Council's Health Committee Chair throughout the last year, he was a useful source for information for his constituents and New Yorkers generally.

A strong advocate for affordable housing, Levine led an effort to pass legislation that guaranteed a tenant's right to counsel in eviction proceedings at the City's Housing Courts. He also was successful in working to create hundreds of affordable housing units in his district.

As Chair of the Parks Committee during his first term as a City Council member, he led efforts for greater investment in parks in low-income communities and supported efforts for improved transit services and bike-friendly streets. Another accomplishment was his effort to pass legislation to create New York City's Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes.

As Borough President, Levine wants to rebuild New York City the right way as it recovers from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including creating a Manhattan COVID-19 Recovery Unit dedicated to supporting working families and small businesses. He supports police reforms and accountability from the NYPD, including more community policing and residency requirements for NYPD Officers. In his proposed housing policy, Levine plans to fight to stop landlords from warehousing apartments and storefronts by advocating for a Vacancy Tax, and to push for guarantees that all students have equal access to resources and programming.

## CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



### Jenny Low (District 1)

A passionate community advocate and the current Administrative Director to the New York City Council Speaker, Jenny Low supports the most vulnerable in her community. She has achieved historic wins for women and people of color. Her priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses, public schools, and affordable housing.



### Carlina Rivera (District 2)

Currently the Chair of the NYC Council Committee on Hospitals, Councilmember Carlina Rivera has represented District 2 since 2017. She advocates tirelessly for COVID-19 relief and recovery for New York families and businesses. Rivera helped pass legislation that supports DC 37 and its members. Her priorities for the district are affordable housing, COVID-19 recovery and small business survival, equitable healthcare and transportation.

# MANHATTAN



## Erik Bottcher (District 3)

Erik Bottcher is a dedicated public servant and activist who embraces the vision of a society free of systemic racism and bias. He advocates for COVID-19 recovery to bring back jobs and small businesses. His priorities for the district include quality education for all, services for the homeless, affordable housing, public safety, and criminal justice reform.



## Keith Powers (District 4)

As Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee, Councilmember Keith Powers worked to overhaul the criminal justice system and change the culture of New York City's jails. He introduced legislation to protect tenants' rights and prevent unlawful evictions, preserve affordable housing, make it easier to run for office, broaden sexual harassment protections, and protect small businesses. His priorities include criminal justice reform, transportation, education, and healthcare.



## Julie Menin (District 5)

An attorney and civic leader with more than two decades of experience in the public and private sectors, Julie Menin most recently served as the New York City Census Director. Her priorities for the district include education, jobs, transportation, and streets.



## Gale Brewer (District 6)

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer is well qualified to return to the City Council seat she held for 12 years. Brewer is a longtime friend of labor and ally of working families. Her record has consistently advanced the interests of DC 37 and its members. Brewer's priorities for the district include education, sustainable green jobs, increased funding for public hospitals and social services, and COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses.



## Shaun Abreu (District 7)

Housing, education, youth programs, and small business are among Shaun Abreu's priorities for the upper Manhattan district. "In New York City, a worker's salary is not enough to navigate the increasing cost of living, from rent and food, paying utilities and transportation, and student loans, among other things. This is why we must achieve pay equity and apply pressure to the incoming Mayor to do right by DC 37 and its locals," said Shaun Abreu.



## Diana Ayala (District 8)

Diana Ayala chairs the NYC Council Committee on Consumer Affairs and Business Licensing. Councilmember Ayala is an ally of working families and DC 37. She helped pass the City's most comprehensive mental health legislation in decades. Ayala continues to advance legislation that addresses the needs of working families and labor. Her priorities for the district include mental health, education, and affordable housing.



## Carmen De La Rosa (District 10)

Carmen De La Rosa's advocacy and passion for justice are deeply influenced by her roots as a lifelong District 10 resident. As a member of the New York State Assembly, De La Rosa led the passage of the state Dream Act. She sponsored legislation for a billionaire's tax, which would help close the budget gaps the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated. Carmen De La Rosa's priorities for District 10 include housing justice, education equity and workers' rights.



# BRONX

## Borough President



### Vanessa Gibson

Vanessa L. Gibson supports policies to build a sustainable Bronx focused on the health of its residents. She will collaborate with labor, climate justice advocates and healthcare providers to help reduce air and noise pollution and excessive truck traffic -- reducing the high rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses in the Bronx.

She will work to address health disparities in the Bronx by promoting and investing in urban agriculture and expanding farmers' markets to ensure wider access to healthier food options for Bronx residents, especially those who live in food deserts or face food insecurity.

In the fight to stem the pandemic, Gibson believes that communities of color must have equal access to COVID-19 vaccines and testing. She will fight for more equitable distribution and availability of vaccines and testing in the Bronx.

Gibson also supports expanding healthcare resources to prevent the underlying health conditions that led to higher rates of COVID-19 cases in the Bronx.

Gibson's top priorities include adequate funding for public housing. She is fully committed to working with community associations for legislation to strengthen tenants' rights, and to invest in affordable housing in the Bronx.

A strong supporter of labor and workers' rights, Gibson is committed to work with unions by supporting union priorities in budget negotiations, protecting union jobs and preventing layoffs, improving work conditions and benefits, and providing fair wage increases.

## CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



### Eric Dinowitz (District 11)

DC 37 is proud to endorse Eric Dinowitz for City Council. Eric's vision falls in line with the priorities and values of DC 37. A former schoolteacher and union organizer, Eric understands the fight to maintain workers' rights in New York City and the need to enhance the City's workforce, benefits and social services. "Fundamentally, as a teacher, I listen and build consensus-- and I will do that on the Council to protect all DC 37 members and advance an agenda that uplifts working families in New York City."



### Kevin Riley (District 12)

Winner of the Dec. 2020 Special Election, Council member Kevin Riley's focus is on helping New York City navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, the health care disparities it has exposed, and the economic crisis crushing small businesses and local economies in the Bronx and other boroughs. Riley's priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery, education, pay equity for women, health care, and affordable housing.

# BRONX



## Marjorie Velazquez (District 13)

After a narrow loss in 2017, where her opponent outspent her by more than \$1 million, Marjorie Velazquez remains dedicated to public service. She is a passionate advocate for the Bronx. Her priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery, eliminating food insecurity, and revitalizing the workforce.



## Pierina Sanchez (District 14)

Pierina Sanchez served as an organizer, activist and urban planner before becoming a senior policy advisor at City Hall. Her priorities for District 14 include affordable housing, education and employment. “In times of economic uncertainty, reducing government service, and therefore government employees, are always considered first for ‘cost savings.’ I disagree with this strategy. I believe deeply that labor and municipal employees are central to fighting economic inequality in this city,” said Pierina Sanchez.



## Althea Stevens (District 16)

Althea Stevens’ record as a community leader makes her the strongest candidate in the race to represent District 16 on the New York City Council. Stevens is a passionate advocate for working families, seniors, young adults, and students. Her priorities for the district include affordable housing, youth development and employment, and criminal justice reform.



## Rafael Salamanca (District 17)

As chair of the NYC Council Committee on Land Use, Council member Salamanca is a proven champion for working families. He has fought for job creation by requiring companies in the Bronx to invest in and hire local residents. Salamanca is committed to providing the children of the Bronx with access to quality education and technology. His priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses, education, and affordable housing.



## Amanda Farias (District 18)

As the current State Committeewoman of the 87th Assembly District in the Bronx, Amanda Farias advocates for the Soundview community to have easy access to voting and will work to create new jobs and training for Bronx youth. She is committed to ensuring that Bronx residents have access to resources and broader opportunities. Farias’ priorities for the district include criminal justice reform, jobs, affordable housing, and COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses.

# QUEENS

## Borough President



### Donovan Richards

Queens was the hardest hit borough during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the coronavirus exposed deep disparities in the city's healthcare system. Donovan Richards will fight to expand access to healthcare, particularly for communities of color and immigrants, whose neighborhoods endured months of suffering during the pandemic. He will advocate for more funding for public healthcare, community health centers, and new hospital construction.

Climate change is real. Richards is determined to make Queens the most sustainable county in the United States. To improve the quality of life in Queens, Richards is committed to investing in programs to improve air quality, public health and create renewable energy sites that would add thousands of new green jobs. These programs would help Queens recover from the economic fallout from the pandemic.

Richards understands that New York City is becoming unaffordable for many. The economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the need for bold measures to preserve and expand affordable housing in Queens. He supports funding emergency relief for tenants and property owners, citing that many multi-family residences are owner-occupied. Richards also will fight for sustainable new housing developments and sustainable upgrades and improvements to NYC Housing Authority apartment complexes.

## CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



### Austin Shafran (District 19)

Austin Shafran's wide range of experience in finance and public service on the federal and city levels makes him uniquely qualified to serve on the City Council. His priorities for the district include universal daycare, education, services for seniors, economic development and employment assistance, and property tax relief for families and businesses.



### Sandra Ung (District 20)

Sandra Ung is currently the Special Assistant to Congresswoman Grace Meng (D-Queens) and sits on the Flushing YMCA's Board of Managers. She is an attorney and advocate who works tirelessly to serve the community and advance women's issues and youth development. Ung's priorities for the district include diversity and language access, family care for children and seniors, and COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses.



### Francisco Moya (District 21)

Francisco Moya was elected in 2017 to represent District 21 on the City Council. He is a former New York State Assembly member who represented Queens for seven years. He is friend of DC 37 and a champion of working families. His record includes passing legislation that preserves unions, improves workplace safety, and protects workers' rights. Moya's priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery for families and small businesses, immigration, and education.

# QUEENS



## Tiffany Cabán (District 22)

Attorney Tiffany Cabán's career as a public defender led her to run for the City Council. An advocate for her community, she uses the law to help New York City's most vulnerable residents. Her passion for justice amplifies her desire to achieve real progress and change in City Hall. Her priorities for the district include criminal justice reform, education, and housing.



## James Gennaro (District 24)

James F. Gennaro is seeking to reclaim the City Council seat representing the 25th District where he served 11 years from 2002 to 2013. As a Councilmember, he chaired the Environmental Protection Committee. In 2014, Governor Andrew Cuomo appointed him Deputy Commissioner for New York City Sustainability and Resiliency at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Through his career, Gennaro proved to be dedicated to the community, labor, and all New Yorkers. His priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery, quality of life, and environmental protection. Gennaro will be a tireless advocate for equity and opportunity. The union is counting on him for the bold action needed to shape the future of our City.



## Shekar Krishnan (District 25)

Shekar Krishnan is a relentless advocate for justice and equality for those most often neglected by government. In his Elmhurst and Jackson Heights neighborhoods, he is forging community partnerships through Friends of Diversity Plaza, which he co-founded. Shekar's priorities for the district include affordable housing, immigration, and public safety.



## Amit Bagga (District 26)

Inspired by his belief that the people of Queens deserve new opportunities, dignity, and power, Amit Bagga is running for City Council to represent the 26th District. His priorities include healthcare, affordable housing, sustainable green jobs, immigration, and public schools.



## Nantasha Williams (District 27)

A well-established community leader, social justice advocate, and political organizer, Nantasha Williams is committed to bringing real change in her community. Her mission is to serve the residents of her hometown, Southeast Queens, by focusing on an agenda based on real reform. Her priorities include economic development, public safety and criminal justice reform, and education.



## Adrienne Adams (District 28)

Adrienne Adams is the current Chair of the NYC Council Committee on Public Safety. Council member Adams is a life-long resident of Queens and an advocate and leader in the City Council. She has helped pass legislation that advances labor, working families, and DC 37's membership. Her priorities for the district include COVID-19 recovery, public safety, and education.



### **Lynn Schulman** (District 29)

Lynn Schulman is a long-time community advocate and LGBTQ activist. She has decades of leadership advancing issues such as access to health care and social safety net services with the City Council. Schulman is running for City Council because she has vision and a desire to bring about the changes that Queens residents need. Her priorities for the district include health care, education, and transportation.



### **Juan Ardilla** (District 30)

Juan Ardilla's vision for District 30 puts people first. As a civil servant, he is working for the community by helping underserved and at-risk residents obtain much-needed social services. His priorities for the district include affordable housing, universal pre-K and 3-K, public education, immigration services, and transportation.



### **Selvena Brooks-Powers** (District 31)

A lifelong resident of Queens and winner of the February 2021 Special Election, Selvena Brooks-Powers is a powerhouse in the 31st District. Already navigating the NYC Council as a member, her priorities for the district include access to health care, affordable housing and community development.



### **Felicia Singh** (District 32)

Felicia Singh is an educator and lifelong resident of Queens. She is committed to empowering communities and bringing progressive change to the City of New York. Her priorities for the district include 3-K, pre-K, and early childhood education, public schools, CUNY, climate justice, environmental resiliency, and transportation.

New York's Primary Election is June 22

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# BROOKLYN

## District Attorney

## Borough President



### Eric Gonzalez

A Brooklyn native who grew up in East New York and Williamsburg, Eric Gonzalez was the first Latino elected as District Attorney in New York State.

Spending his entire legal career at the Brooklyn DA's office, Gonzalez worked his way up to Chief Assistant District Attorney. Following the passing of then-

District Attorney Ken Thompson, Gonzalez was named acting DA until he was elected for a full term in 2017.

After his election, Gonzalez launched Justice 2020, a 17-point plan to transform the Brooklyn DA's office into a progressive justice model, focusing the DA Office's on accountability and community-based preventative solutions, instead of an overreliance on convictions and imprisonment.

Gonzalez is committed to continuing to lower incarceration rates through exploring conflict resolution and other victim-centered approaches. He believes that restorative justice is effective in reducing recidivism and support of victims.

Gonzalez will continue building partnerships with community-based organizations, empowering them and building further trust within Brooklyn. Based on early successes, he will expand programs that rely more on community involvement and less on law enforcement. He believes that his role is to lead a prevention-focused movement, rather than one centered solely on crime response.

Gonzalez knows the COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity to better engage communities. The pandemic further shown a light on inequities in policing in communities of color. Gonzalez understands that and knows it is a time for new thinking, not only in justice and law enforcement, but in other areas where communities need support, such as education and transportation.



### Khari Edwards

Born and raised in Crown Heights, Khari Edwards is the son of immigrant parents from Guyana and Trinidad, both of whom were city workers. He is a product of the city's public schools and now has three public school children of his own.

Edwards' nearly two-decade career has been dedicated to community development

and political action. Recently, he served as Vice President of External Affairs at Brookdale Hospital, where he was the first VP of color. At Brookdale, Edwards developed the hospital as a community resource, building partnerships with community-based organizations.

Edwards created several community-based initiatives targeting those in need, including free math tutoring programs geared toward young women and girls of color. He is one of the lead coordinators of the East Brooklyn Call to Action Campaign, a project that focuses on housing, healthcare, workforce development disparities, and physical fitness for central Brooklynites.

As Brooklyn Borough President, Edwards will focus on health disparities in Brooklyn. With a focus on preemptive care, he will provide robust funding for hospitals, mental health programs, and addiction treatment. Edwards' plan also includes expanding COVID-19 testing and increasing community wellness visits by doctors.

Edwards will tackle the affordable housing crisis in Brooklyn, using his power as Borough President to introduce legislation that will enact policies to protect thousands of at-risk families.

He advocates for a tax structure to ensure small businesses will continue to be the foundation of economic growth, including support for young entrepreneurs and funding youth business initiatives, and creating a portal for youth jobs and paid internships.

## CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



### Lincoln Restler (District 33)

With a deeply rooted love for his borough and community, Lincoln has dedicated over a decade to revitalizing Brooklyn and ensuring residents are not silenced by corporations and big money machines. His priorities for the district include climate justice & coastal resiliency, lower rent in NYC, and education.



### Jen Gutiérrez (District 34)

Jennifer is an organizer, activist and ally. Currently, she serves as the Chief of Staff to City Council Member Antonio Reynoso. She was the leader of eight cycles of Participatory Budgeting that led to more than \$5 million of investments to public spaces like schools, streets, parks, and NYCHA. Her priorities for the district include a fair COVID-19 recovery, education and environmental justice.



### Crystal Hudson (District 35)

Born and raised in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, Crystal Hudson is deeply committed to the residents of the 35th District. Her priorities for the district include education, affordable housing and criminal justice reform. “I will use the platform that my role affords me to unapologetically advance equity and justice for the workers who keep our City moving, including the tens of thousands of DC 37 members who, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic, have finally been seen for the essential labor they provide,” she said.



### Henry Butler (District 36)

Former Local 371 member Henry Butler has had the experience of being in our members’ shoes. He is a fierce advocate and leader in his district, assisting families and ensuring their quality-of-life needs are adequately addressed. His priorities for the district include criminal justice reform, education, and housing.



### Sandy Nurse (District 37)

Sandy Nurse is the founder of BK ROT, co-founder of the Mayday Space, a direct action organizer, and a carpenter. She has spent nearly a decade working to create the alternative institutions we need for positive social change. Her priorities for the district include housing, mental health care, and quality education for all.



### Alexa Aviles (District 38)

Alexa Aviles has the passion and drive to make District 38 greater. She has dedicated her career to community philanthropy, working to keep young people and adults out of our country’s criminal injustice system. Her priorities for the district include equitable education, affordable housing, and a people’s budget.



### Bridget Ann Rein (District 39)

An educator, political activist, and strong advocate for teachers’ and workers’ rights, Bridget Ann Rein is the leader the district needs. As a local political activist in Brooklyn’s 39th Council District, Rein has led social campaigns to enhance labor initiatives throughout Kings County and New York City. She also serves as a member of Community Board 6. Her priorities for the district include education, small business, and transportation.



### Kenya Handy-Hillary (District 40)

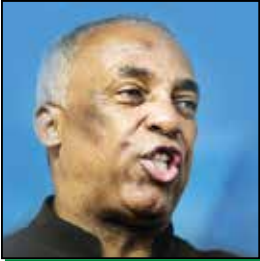
Kenya Handy-Hillary has an opportunity to bring forth meaningful change in the 40th District. Her priorities include COVID recovery and economic resiliency, housing, homeless services, and education. “I have a great appreciation and respect for the collective strength of organized labor as a whole and the work of the individual worker. I strongly believe that unions are integral partners in creating and executing legislation and policy,” she said.



### Alicka Ampry-Samuel (District 41)

Current chair of the NYC Council Committee on Public Housing, Council member Alicka Ampry-Samuels is a force to be reckoned with. She has a proven track record of crafting and sponsoring legislation to assist the working class and minorities in her district and all of New York City. Her priorities for the district include criminal justice reform, equitable recovery for the City, and affordable housing.

# BROOKLYN



## Charles Barron (District 42)

DC 37 values the partnership and longstanding working relationship we have built with Charles Barron. Charles has been the voice of DC 37 and our members in the halls of government throughout his entire career. His priorities for the 42nd District include healthcare, free education, and housing.



## Justin Brannan (District 43)

Current Chair of the NYC Council Committee on Resiliency and Waterfronts, Council member Brannan has a proven track record of pushing forth legislation that not only benefits DC37 and its membership, but all of NYC's working families. His priorities for the district include environmental protections and preservation, education, and health care.



## Kalman Yeger (District 44)

Council member Kalman Yeger unapologetically fights for the rights of the residents in his community and all of NYC. His priorities for the district include small business reform, education, and transportation.



## Farah Louis (District 45)

Current Chair of the NYC Council Committee on Mental Health, Disability, and Addiction, Council member Louis is making progressive movement. During her first year in office, Louis rolled out an ambitious agenda and spearheaded critical legislation to protect survivors of domestic violence, close the food insecurity gap, and expand access to nonprofit services, education, reproductive rights, and healthcare.



## Ari Kagan (District 47)

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Ari Kagan has been hard at work supporting our communities and small businesses. He is a fierce organizer and leader in his community. Kagan's priorities for the district include healthcare reform, education, and supporting small business.



# Staten Island



## Amoy Barnes (District 49)

A former DC 37 member, Amoy Barnes is dedicated to making a difference in her community. Her priorities for District 49 include health care, education, and housing. "As a proud DC 37 SSEU Local 371 member, I was able to participate in the union's tuition reimbursement program. That assistance helped me through graduate school debt-free. I know firsthand that unions are the foundation of our community and provide multiple pathways to success for all those willing and able to join a union," she said.

