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2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Didi Barrett

Office Sought (district if applicable): NYS Assembly, 106th District

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1. Please share your accomplishments or experiences that indicate your commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda. These experiences may be professional or personal.

-I fought for and secured \$300 million in EPF funding in the 2016-17 state budget.

-I championed and secured \$20 million in farmland protection funding for the Hudson Valley in the 2015-16 state budget.

-I am working with members of the NY City Council to encourage the mayor to invest in farmland protection in the Hudson Valley to ensure a sustainable food source for underserved communities in the city.

-I worked hand in hand with local constituents to fight against the Governor's Energy Highway's plan to build monster powerlines in the Hudson Valley.

-I am a strong believer in conservation and farmland protection and have worked extensively with the Columbia and Dutchess County Land Conservancies, as well as Scenic Hudson on a range of initiatives.

-I have been a passionate supporter of local agriculture, including organic and bio-dynamic farming, value added products, and support for veterans going into farming

-My office hosted a forum on energy use and conservation in the Hudson Valley in collaboration with NYLCV in 2014

-I have been outspoken in my opposition to hydro-fracking and other natural gas infrastructure projects, including pipelines

-Received a perfect score on the Environmental Advocates of NY's 2014 scorecard and an 87 on the 2015 scorecard

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity with respect to, the following issues:

(To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV's 2016 State Policy Agenda](#))

2. Ensuring adequate funding for the environmental agencies and programs

Voted Yes on the 2016-17 state budget that included over \$1.4 billion in funding for environmental agencies and programs. Included in this funding was \$300 million in EPF funding that I actively fought for during budget negotiations.

Fought for and secured \$20 million for farmland protection, specifically for the Hudson Valley, in the 2015-16 state budget.

3. Addressing the causes and effects of climate change (e.g., clean energy and emission controls)

Voted Yes on A.6072 that would authorize the DEC to promulgate rules and regulations establishing a limit on greenhouse gas emissions.

Voted Yes on the 2016-17 state budget that included \$24 million in the EPF for newly established climate change initiatives including: greenhouse gas management outside the power sector, funding for vulnerability assessments, and created the Climate Smart Communities Program.

4. Protecting the health of New Yorkers and their communities (e.g., toxics, air quality, food quality and security)

Voted Yes on A.5612 which would prohibit the use of harmful chemicals in children's products and prohibit the sales of products containing the most harmful chemicals.

Votes Yes on A.2592 which would: 1. Require the Commissioner of Health to give written notice requiring the discontinuation of a paint condition conducive to lead poisoning when an area of high risk is designated. 2. Require the Commissioner of Health to conduct a hearing when a designated dwelling fails to comply with the demand and order abatement of a paint condition conducive to lead poisoning. 3. Creates a penalty of up to \$2500

5. Conserving and protecting natural resources (e.g., water, open spaces, habitat, organic recycling)

Within the increased EPF funding is the following: \$40 million for open space, an additional \$20 million for farmland protection, \$20 million for municipal parks, \$16 million for waterfront revitalization, and \$14 million for municipal recycling

I fought for and secured \$20 million for farmland protection for the Hudson Valley in the 2015-16 state budget

I fought against the powerline proposals that would have carved their way through the Hudson Valley and caused irreparable harm to the region, farms, economy, and viewsheds

6. Investing in better, smarter infrastructure (e.g., transportation, electrical grid, green infrastructure, smart growth, rail transport of crude oil)

I am a Co-Sponsor and voted Yes on A.7625 which would increase the requirements for major petroleum facilities to demonstrate financial responsibility and require railroads to submit certain financial preparedness information

I participated in a viewing and Q&A of “Hudson River at Risk” with its director John Bowermaster and Ned Sullivan from Scenic Hudson.

I am a supporter of REV and smart grid technology and fought against the building of monster powerlines (a dinosaur of our past) in the Hudson Valley