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2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Donna Lupardo

Office Sought (district if applicable): State Assembly -123rd 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.

As you know, my commitment to a pro environment agenda is life-long. Prior to my election I worked on numerous causes including municipal recycling, the defeat of a garbage burning incinerator in Broome County, and activism around TCE contamination in the Village of Endicott. I was one of the founders of our local Earth Day organization which has the longest continuously running Earth Fest in the state. As member of the Environmental Conservation Committee, I have supported every major environmental issue in the last decade. And as a member of the Governor's Hydrofracturing Advisory Council, I asked many of the questions that helped to undermine permitting.



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:

In the 2016-17 budget I joined my colleagues in supporting a significant increase in EPF funding to \$300 million. I have long supported this goal. I also helped secure a 3.7% (\$184 million) increase in State Transit Operating Assistance (STOA). Along with my Upstate majority colleagues, we successfully secured an additional \$10 million for Upstate Transit Systems, a 5.3% increase. The legislature also allocated an additional \$175 million to the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act.

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

I have supported the state's Reforming Energy Vision (REV) plan, and will work to ensure its goals are reached and implemented, with input from all stakeholders. I have attended numerous workshops and listening sessions on the plan. I have worked closely with local clean energy advocates to help spread awareness of and increase access to renewable energy incentive programs. I am also a co-sponsor of the New York State Climate and Community Protection Act (A10342).

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

I'm the lead sponsor of A9687 which would require schools to periodically test for lead contamination in school water sources and systems. I've worked closely with the NYLCV and other advocates on amendments to strengthen the bill. I'm also a co-sponsor of A5612A, which would increase regulation of toxic chemicals in children's products. I voted in favor of A7837A which would prohibit the use of flame retardants in upholstered furniture and am the long time sponsor of A3098 which would ensure workers in state owned, leased and operated buildings have an indoor environment plan which would protect indoor air quality in those buildings.



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

Conserving and protecting our natural resources is absolutely essential. I believe New Yorkers should have access to clean water and our state parks should be preserved and expanded. I hosted a briefing with the Restore NY Woodlands coalition to advocate for funding in the state budget and to raise awareness about the challenges facing woodland owners and regeneration of forest land.

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 of two bills (A6090A and A8195) which would expand ride sharing services like Uber and Lyft in NYS. I have also advocated for the expansion and funding of transit services to rural areas of the state. I supported efforts to make my district more walker and bicycle friendly, including projects such as the recently announced trail connecting Binghamton University to Downtown Binghamton.