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**2017 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire   
for New York City Candidates**

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the New York League of Conservation Voters Questionnaire.

The New York League of Conservation Voters is the only non-partisan statewide environmental organization in New York that fights for clean water, clean air, renewable energy and open space through political action. This questionnaire is designed to elicit your views regarding what environmental, public health, clean energy and transit and environmental justice groups consider to be the most important issues of the day. Responses may inform NYLCV’s educational and legislative programs and actions NYLCV takes in the election cycle.

Responses should be considered public. Although NYLCV may choose not to publicize responses to every question, verbatim responses may be reproduced and distributed publicly. If so, your responses may be shortened, if necessary, but will not be edited in substantive ways. If you choose to refer us to a position paper or website, please indicate exactly what text you would like us to cite. For candidates choosing not to respond to the questionnaire, NYLCV will note as much in its public materials.

NYLCV and its partners in the environmental policy arena believe that New York’s voters are determined to make the environment a voting issue this year. Candidate positions on issues such as protecting public health, building a clean energy future, and mitigating climate change will help voters decide how to cast their ballots this election cycle. This questionnaire is one of the primary ways the public will get this information.

Here are a few guidelines:

* Questionnaires are due **Friday, May 19**
  + The completed questionnaire is mandatory for endorsement consideration and must be submitted via e-mail as a Microsoft Word file to: [politics@nylcv.org](mailto:politics@nylcv.org)
  + Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg ([jklainberg@nylcv.org](mailto:jklainberg@nylcv.org))
* To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV’s 2014-18 NYC Policy Agenda](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/NYC_Agenda_FINAL.pdf)
* After receipt of the completed questionnaire, candidates will be invited to participate in a formal interview with our Chapter Board
* All candidate endorsements will be made by the state board on July 26, 2017

**Campaign Contact Information**

Candidate Name: Antonio Reynoso  
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Campaign Manager’s name and email: N/A  
Press Secretary’s name and email: N/A  
Scheduler’s name and email: N/A

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

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

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| During my time on the City Council I have made a point of pushing a focus on environmental justice and equity and introduced legislation that will keep vulnerable poor communities from suffering under the weight of concentrated waste dumping. As Chairman of the Council’s Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management I have assessed these atrocious conditions and co-sponsored Intro 495 to prevent more waste transfer being concentrated in poor areas. I was also one of the first Council Member’s (outside of the prime sponsors) to sign on to the Council’s Bag Bill. |

**ISSUES**

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 2014-18 NYC Policy Agenda*](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/NYC_Agenda_FINAL.pdf) *when formulating your responses.)*

Healthy New Yorkers: Policies that improve the well-being of all New Yorkers through the protection of the environment and that provide access to basic needs.

1. Water Quality — Every New Yorker has the right to clean drinking water and waterways

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| I have treated this as a top priority. Working with the Public Land Trust I have committed to creating green spaces that not only provide safe and attractive areas for children and their families to spend time in. These gardens will also filter thousands of gallons of storm water to provide water for community gardens. |

1. Air Quality – Every New Yorker has the right to breathe clean air

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| As part of my waste management agenda – maintaining safe and breathable air will remain a main priority when I’m re-elected to the City Council. Our city must deal with high density blocks and as a consequence – often higher levels of air pollution and high concentrations of asthma in the poorest neighborhoods. Woodhull Hospital has one of the City’s highest admittance rates for asthma related issues so I know this issue personally With more equitable waste management and more of a focus on green spaces for residents we can reduce air pollution throughout the five boroughs. |

1. Healthy & Local Food – Every New Yorker has the right to access healthy, local, affordable produce

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| Many neighborhoods have seen sky rocketing rates of diabetes and heart problems among residents. This can be directly contributed to poor food options within their community. We must end the existence of food deserts and ensure that all New Yorkers have access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and that they can afford that produce as well-be that through SNAP benefits or vouchers. |

1. Green Buildings – Every New Yorker deserves the protection of a home that is energy efficient and is resilient to impacts of storms heat waves and extended utility outages

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| We have shied away from requiring developers to include green energy initiatives in affordable housing and large scale developments. As part of the waste equity initiative to make sure residents in poor and low income areas aren’t burdened by the negative impacts of waste concentration - I will also focus on levying higher penalties on developers that fail to meet minimum emission levels and increase incentives for units that will encourage reliance on renewable energy. |

Strong Neighborhoods: Promote policies that improve the quality of life for communities in all five boroughs.

1. Parks & Recreation – Every New Yorker should live within a 10-minute walk of a park that is clean, safe and well-maintained

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| I have actively supported funding specifically designated to parks and green spaces throughout district 34. During my time on the City Council I allocated $5 million for renovations to Lindsay Park, Central Knoll in Bushwick and designated half a million for planting 300 new trees in Ridgewood every year. These efforts to beautify our district are both functional and important to making sure our district is comfortable for residents and to keep our green spaces a focus in our neighborhoods. As the 47th district with the least amount of parks, I value green and open space (not just black top playgrounds like we have now) and that’s why I have funded schools in their efforts to replicate this by installing green walls along their gates as an impetus to the BQGreen in Williamsburg. |

1. Waterfront Access – Every New Yorker should have safe and public access to clean rivers, creeks, bays, harbors and other waterways

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| By focusing more on our Participatory Budgeting initiatives, I would like to see more investment in Newton Creek and surrounding areas. Residents have been making their voices heard by voting on capital spending and we have seen tremendous improvements in our infrastructure programs. |

1. Transportation – Every New Yorker should have safe, affordable, reliable and efficient transportation options in their daily life

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| This is critically important in our district – especially with the proposed construction on the L line. We must ensure that residents are given safe and effective alternatives while one of the most high traffic lines in Brooklyn is under construction. I will remain a big advocate for options that are accessible and reliable and help fund infrastructure that accomplishes that. |

1. Resiliency & Recovery – All communities should be better able to handle extreme weather events: rainfall, snow, storm surges, heavy wind, heat and utility failures

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| As we see more and more extreme weather patterns due to global warming we have to account for the harmful effects of power outages and general utility failure. Response times have been extremely harmful to residents – particularly throughout Brooklyn and the Bronx. I believe that we must ensure that all New Yorkers are able to withstand extreme weather circumstances so that we never have the crisis of another Super Storm Sandy. |

Vibrant Economy: Promote policies that foster green job creation while protecting New Yorkers from the effects of climate change

1. Infrastructure – Make critical investments to maintain New York City’s competitive edge in the global economy while creating local jobs

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| Our district has invested substantially in investments in our housing and business sectors and we have seen a substantial increase in new residents. We must maintain this growth while also being conscientious of our environmental impact. |

1. Solid Waste – Effective solid waste management will reduce environmental burdens in overburdened communities, save the city millions of dollars in exporting waste and generate quality green jobs

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| This has been a top priority during my time on the City Council. More efficient waste management will not only save millions and generate green jobs but will quite literally protect the health of vulnerable residents who suffer from exposure to higher levels of air and nosie pollution than their counterparts in wealthier districts. |

1. Green Workforce Development – Provide training for New Yorkers to help green the city and support its resiliency

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| The waste equity projects and more investments in renewable energy in buildings will represent an important shift in New York City. We must stay committed to green job growth and ending our reliance on harmful pollutants in order to stay competitive nationally and globally. The Green Economy is the future, and if we don’t invest now, New York and New Yorkers will be left behind. |