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## 2017 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire for Long Island 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.

After receipt of your completed questionnaire, you will be invited to participate in a formal interview with our Chapter Board. The interview will provide you with an opportunity to present your credentials, elaborate on your questionnaire responses, and respond to questions. Here are a few more guidelines:

- Questionnaires are due **Friday, June 2**
- 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)
- To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV's 2016-17 Long Island Policy Agenda](#)
- Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg ([jklainberg@nylcv.org](mailto:jklainberg@nylcv.org))

## CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Bridget Fleming

Office Sought (district if applicable): Suffolk County Legislator for the Second Legislative District

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## 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.

As Southampton Town Councilwoman (2010-2015):

Liaison to Southampton Town's Sustainability Committee; Landmark passage of a [Sustainability Amendment to our Comprehensive Plan](#) (co-sponsor); ban on single use plastic bags (co-sponsor); Bill requiring that all fill brought to the Town be certified as non-toxic (sponsor); Liaison to the Waste Management Department; Spearheaded search for a Department Head with focus on environmental impacts of Town waste management practices; revision to our Solid Waste Management Plan and Code revisions that for the first time required that private garbage carters (who haul 85% of residential solid waste and 100% of commercial waste produced in the Town) be permitted by the Town, required to certify that trucks are secure, and to report data regarding the components and materials they haul (sponsor); Liaison to the Community Preservation Fund (the fund created by the East End 2% transfer tax on all real property transactions over \$250 thousand); authored legislation that provides for fast tracking of all acquisitions in critical watershed areas; sponsored [Southampton Coastal Resources and Water Protection Plan](#).

As County Legislator 2015-present

Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee member; Health Committee Vice Chair; member of Working Group that authored revisions to Sanitary Code, Article 19, authorizing County to oversee advanced onsite wastewater treatment, and currently drafting revisions to Articles implementing their installation; organized dialogue between the East Hampton Town Trustees and Vector Control to advance the goal of reduction or elimination of methoprene spraying for mosquito control, primarily through restoration of wetlands ecosystems; spearheaded creation of Public Transportation Working Group and travelled to Albany twice to advocate for funding for public transportation; as an EV owner, exploring installation of charging stations at County facilities; secured capital funding for equipment for Arthropod-Borne disease lab and re-established Tick Control Advisory Committee to oversee management of tick population, and for the prevention of tick-borne illnesses; sponsored Bill which authorizes the County to use tax defaulted properties for siting of advanced onsite wastewater treatment; exploring revisions to open space acquisition policies to allow for coastal resiliency planning and implementation; secured funding for advanced storm water recharge for major traffic circle reconstruction in Riverside, Southampton.

## 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 2016-17 Long Island Policy Agenda](#))*

2. Expanding Renewable Power: Streamlining and standardizing regulations that will spur innovation and wide-spread adoption in the residential and commercial sectors

Strongly support. County: Hosted LI Green Homes seminars in my district to promote home energy efficiency measures and solar; participated in Yaphank Master Plan Working Group to ensure the continued potential siting of large-scale solar. Town: Supported fleet management plan requiring fuel-efficient vehicles, and an energy audit of Town Hall; as liaison to the Dark Skies Committee, supported replacement of lower wattage bulbs and energy-efficient bulbs in municipal installations throughout Town.

3. Improving Water Quality: Identifying financing mechanisms to replace failing septic systems

Strongly support, as a top priority, establishing a recurring funding source for replacement of onsite wastewater treatment systems, and the grant and loan program recently signed into law. As Councilwoman, supported aggressive acquisition of open space, prioritizing watershed parcels, and spearheaded the passage of a \$30 million bond program to allow for expedited acquisitions under the Community Preservation Fund.

4. LIRR Third Track: Ensuring the Long Island Rail Road completes a planned third main line track from Floral Park to Hicksville

Support

5. Expanding Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure: Facilitating the development of a larger network of charging stations that will encourage more municipalities, businesses and individuals to switch to EVs in the coming years

Strongly support. As a recent owner of an EV, I am in discussions to explore installation of charging stations at County facilities.

6. Sustainable & Transit-Oriented Development: Creating livable and sustainable communities that permit increased density and diversity in our downtowns and neighborhoods

Strongly support.. On the Southampton Town Board, I was a strong supporter of first affordable rental development, east of the Shinnecock Canal, in proximity to CR39; worked successfully to pass the Riverside Revitalization Action Plan (triple bottom line overlay zoning), and continued to support hamlet-centered development in the area by securing substantial funding for traffic circle restoration envisioned by the Plan.

7. Transportation: Maximizing environmentally friendly mobility options in and around residential and commercial centers

Strongly support. Spearheaded creation of Public Transportation Working Group and travelled to Albany twice to advocate for funding for public transportation.

8. Open Space Preservation: Planning strategies such as clustering, creating pocket parks in developed areas, and encouraging biotic corridors in less densely populated areas

Strongly support. Currently exploring revisions to open space acquisition policies to allow for coastal resiliency planning and implementation; at the Town Board, supported aggressive acquisition of open space, prioritizing watershed parcels, and spearheaded the passage of a \$30 million bond program to allow for expedited acquisitions under the Community Preservation Fund; advocated the assembling of parcels from different owners, particularly on coastlines to enhance water quality impacts and restoring contiguous wildlife habitat.

9. Sustainable Public Access Management: Making significant impacts on energy use and the environment simply by deciding to spend money and deploy resources wisely

Strongly support

10. Energy: Achieving energy efficiency in residential and commercial settings, in existing and new buildings, and with cutting-edge technology and the smarter use of older technology

Strongly support. Have hosted NYSERDA LI Green Homes seminars in my district. At the Town Board supported an energy audit of Town facilities.

11. Water Quality and Aquifer Protection: Ensuring clean water not only for drinking but for recreation and agriculture

Strongly support. Working with Health Department to test for and mitigate Chromium 6 in Wainscott, East Hampton and PFOS at Gabreski Airport in Southampton; support efforts to mitigate 1,4 dioxane contamination; currently advancing the goal of reduction or elimination of methoprene spraying for mosquito control, primarily through restoration of wetlands ecosystems.

12. Natural Resource Protection – Comprehensively managing and protecting regional natural resources (i.e., air, water and land)

Strongly support

13. Farms and Local Food: Managing development and providing access to healthy, fresh foods

Strongly support. Spearheaded creation of a youth-run Farmer's Market in Flanders, an area of Southampton that otherwise does not have access to fresh produce. Market accepts WIC and SNAP benefits, and is still thriving in its 7th season. Because of the market, I received Sustainable Long Island's "Getting it Done" award in 2012.

