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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
 - Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg (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](#)
- ☑ 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: Elizabeth Crowley

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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.

In my first term on the New York City Council I have served on the Environmental Protection committee, where I have sponsored or co-sponsored numerous pieces of legislation aimed at protecting the environment.

Some examples of these are:

Intro. 250: in relation to elimination of permit and or filing fees for green building projects undertaken on one to four family homes. This legislation would serve to incentivize homeowners to install solar panels and other green infrastructure in their homes.

Intro. 1025: in relation to requiring landlords to test apartment air quality before offering a lease for signature. This bill would ensure that occupants are not harmed by air contaminants when leasing a new apartment.

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](#) 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.

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

We must protect our natural resources, especially our water. I am committed to protecting our resources from the impact(s) of drilling, investing in wetland restoration and managing drought.

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

I personally have always had asthma so air quality has always been very important to me and my health. I will support any piece of legislation that seeks to monitor air quality and reduce transportation emissions.

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

Every New Yorker, regardless of income should have easy access to healthy, locally grown and affordable produce. I will advocate for funding in the City's budget to help bring more farmers markets into our communities on a weekly basis to give residents the opportunity and access to a healthier lifestyle.

5. 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

The cost of living is growing each day and something as simple as making homes more energy efficient will go a long way for New Yorkers. We need to look to more options to develop more energy efficient homes. Also, after seeing the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy we have unfortunately learned that making our homes resilient to impacts of storms heat waves and extended utility outages is essential. It is not only critical to the health and wellbeing of every New Yorker but to our environment. It is crucial that we develop homes that can withstand the effects of unforeseen circumstances.

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

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

By providing better access to parks for every New Yorker, we are improving their quality of life and ensuring a cleaner environment for our communities. I will continue to vote for funding for our NYC Parks department to ensure our parks stay safe and clean and I will also support an increase to funding to improve access to parks in underserved communities.

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

It is essential that New Yorkers have access to safe and clean waterways. My district is home of the Newtown Creek, which I have fought for tirelessly to ensure the cleanliness, in 2016 the Department of Environmental Protection put \$30 Million to build four litter capture devices that will improve the health and aesthetics of Newtown Creek. I am committed to ensure that not only the Newtown Creek but all New York's waterways are getting the attention they deserve.

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

I strongly support this position, in particular the implementation of the Vision Zero plan which has helped towards making our roads safer for both drivers and pedestrians. I have also been a strong advocate for the Light Rail Project. The existing travel conditions for residents are inconvenient and arduous, and it is vital we cease any opportunity to lift this burden and make everyone's commute easier, safer, and less congested.

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

Extreme weather and events are unpredictable and every community should be better prepared and equipped to handle such events. In addition, we must work towards rebuilding our wetlands and restoring the homes surrounding Jamaica Bay. These communities surrounding the Bay were severely damaged from Hurricane Sandy and 5 years later we are still rebuilding. Going forward, we must be better prepared for extreme weather conditions by building homes that can withstand unforeseen weather.

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

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

It is critical to the success and survival of our residents that we make investments in local jobs which will only contribute to the improvement of our City’s economy. Investing in renewable-energy projects in New York is a step in the right direction to maintaining our competitive edge.

11. 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

The quality of life of New York City’s residents is a number one priority and solid waste management directly impacts that. I will support any effort to effectively reduce and dispose solid waste safely and effectively.

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

With the job market continue you to grow in the green technology sectors it is important to provide training to enable New York City residents to obtain these jobs. Investing in a green workforce will only improve the environment but also improve our economy and increase access to better paying jobs.