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**2017 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire   
for Capital Region 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 9**
* 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 Capital Region Policy Agenda](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Capital-Region-Agenda-16-17.pdf)
* Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg ([jklainberg@nylcv.org](mailto:jklainberg@nylcv.org))

**Campaign Contact Information**

Candidate Name: Phil Barrett  
Office Sought (district if applicable): Town/County Supervisor- Town of Clifton Park/Saratoga County  
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Twitter handle:   
Campaign Manager’s name and email:   
Press Secretary’s name and email:   
Scheduler’s name and email:

**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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| **Since my first year in office in 2000, the Town has established an Open Space Plan and permanently preserved 1300 acres of land, exponentially increasing our park recreational resources. We have also added 14 miles of new trails throughout the Town. In December of 2016, a 1 megawatt solar array went live. The array is comprised of more than 3,000 solar panels, installed on the Town’s capped landfill. We are currently working on creating a RFP that will lead to Town ownership of streetlights and conversion to LED technology. We have initiated many other programs over the years that highlight, enhance and protect our environment.** |

**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 Capital Region Policy Agenda](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Capital-Region-Agenda-16-17.pdf)*)*

1. Regional Transit Analysis: Working with the Capital Region Regional Economic Development Council to develop rapid transit options (i.e., bus and light rail) between central business districts

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| We continue to have discussions with CDTA about the possibility of expanding bus service in and around Clifton Park, particularly since the completion of our Town Center Plan. |

1. Renewable Energy: Streamlining and modernizing the process for obtaining government approval to install renewable energy facilities

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| In addition to our solar project, the Town was invited to participate in a working group coordinated through CUNY, to comprise a Unified Code for solar in NYS. We were asked to provide our insight as leaders in NYS in the area of codes relating to solar installations. I was also asked to participate in a panel discussion on the topic at John Jay in NYC. |

1. Clean and Safe Water: Working to ensure counties and localities regularly test their drinking water using EPA’s Contaminant Candidate List and Unregulated Drinking Water Contaminants

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| We have exponentially expanded our water supply and securing of redundant sources. We have also taken the necessary steps to connect our larger system with the Rexford Water District to ensure viability for all residents in the future. As these large improvements and new partnerships have been consummated our supply has become more plentiful and of higher quality. We have also invested a substantial amount of money in treatment upgrades and protection mechanisms for current sources within the Town. |

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

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| In recent years, the Town completed its Town Center Study and subsequent zoning changes through a new Form Based Code. The new zoning regulations in the Exit 9 Commerce Area, will allow for mixed use applications through the code and standard site plan approval by the Planning Board. |

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

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| Since 2000, we have constructed 14 miles of new trails/sidewalks, connecting neighborhoods, parks and our Exit 9 Commerce Area. Our newest trail project was just completed. It has resulted in a 5 plus mile connection along the Mohawk River, featuring some of the most beautiful areas of Town. |

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

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| Since 2000, we have permanently preserved 1300 acres of property. Through the use of cluster zoning, particularly in the western more rural area of Town, we have been able to disrupt less open space and endeavor to improve connectivity between green areas. |

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

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| Through incentive programs we have installed new HVAC and lighting to reduce our energy use. We are currently working with CDRPC on new initiatives to expand this effort. We view the streetlight project mentioned previously, as an additional initiative toward reducing energy usage. |

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

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| In addition to what I have already highlighted, we hired a FT storm water technician in recent years, who works on protecting our natural resources and storm water regulations. |

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

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| We work closely with our working farms to market their efforts and highlight important segments of the year for their business. Farm Fest, held every September, is our largest initiative in this regard. Our conservation easement and PDR programs have been beneficial for some of our large landowners and farmers. |

1. 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

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| Please see earlier answers. |