

	<p><b>Ellen Birnbaum (D)</b>  County Legislator - 10th District  Incumbent (Elected in 2015)  Endorsed in 2017</p> <p><u>Leadership/Committee Membership:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Review; Economic &amp; Community; Development &amp; Labor; Finance; Towns, Villages &amp; Cities; Veterans &amp; Senior Affairs</li> </ul> <p><u>Professional Background/Education:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Served as the Director of the Office of Intermunicipal Coordination (OIC) for the Town of North Hempstead</li> <li>Served as a Director of the Water Authority of Great Neck North.</li> <li>Vice-President of Membership and a former President of the Lulav Group of Hadassah</li> <li>Holds a B.S. in Consumer Economics and Public Policy from Cornell University and an MBA in Finance from New York University</li> </ul>
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### Personal and Professional Initiatives:

- In response to Question 1, which asks the candidate to share their *accomplishments* or *experiences* that indicate their commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda, candidate responded:
  - “As a Nassau County Legislator, I have voted in favor of preserving open space and providing access to the space wherever possible in the County. I believe in
  - preserving our local parks, wooded areas and safeguarding our natural resources. I understand the importance of public transportation and have supported increased funding for NICE busses and actively worked to restore cut bus routes.”
  - “I have been monitoring the plume that is moving in my District and have met with Lockheed Martin officials for updates about their clean-up efforts. I have attended many conferences about our aquifer and supported funding for water studies.”

### Questionnaire Highlights:

Supports all of the initiatives of the NYLCV, with the following additions:

- In response to Question 2, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to *Sustainable & Transit-Oriented Development*, the candidate responded:
  - “I have supported the Great Neck Park District’s partnership with NICE bus in providing a shared ride service to the LIRR station. I have been exploring roads in my Legislative District where bike lanes could be created. I have advocated for increased funding to NICE bus for additional routes.”
  - “I have also supported the expansion of workforce housing in my community. I am also a proponent of public transportation to the Hub which is being developed by the Nassau Coliseum.”

- In response to Question 3, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Public Health***, the candidate responded:
  - “I am concerned about keeping our air clean, having access to neighborhood parks, fresh food, and protection from toxic chemicals – all of which affect our quality of life. I have met regularly with National Grid representatives to learn what they are doing to provide natural gas in my District.”
  - “I have secured grants for improvements to local playgrounds.”
- In response to Question 4, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Open Space Preservation***, the candidate responded:
  - “I have examined various proposed projects to see that as much green space as possible is set aside. I have been involved with a homeowner association to safeguard a local pond. In the downtown area of my district in which there is transit-oriented development, I have discussed the protection of undeveloped green space.”
  - “At the County level, I have voted to maintain access to open space whenever possible. I have also been actively seeking funding for the restoration of the Saddle Rock Grist Mill, a beautiful landmark in my community.”
- In response to Question 5, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Energy***, the candidate responded:
  - “I believe in investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy to reduce gas emissions and air pollution. I have attended local Village meetings to learn about green building standards for new projects. I have supported any legislation dealing with clean energy projects. I am one of 2 Legislators on a Blue Ribbon panel which is looking to streamline the permitting process of building in Nassau County.”
- In response to Question 6, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Sustainable Public Asset Management***, the candidate responded:
  - “I have obtained County grants for Villages to convert streetlights to energy efficient LED bulbs. I have also worked with many municipalities to apply for and receive County grants for planting street trees and other beautification projects.”
- In response to Question 7, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Waste***, the candidate responded:
  - “I am a strong supporter of recycling and composting and do both at my home. I have been looking at innovations that the local water pollution control district is currently undertaking. They have been collecting restaurant oil and converting it biofuel that can be used in their vehicles and generators. I have invited other elected officials to visit them and learn about this program. Also, methane gas from their digestion tanks are used as fuel to run their microturbines.”
- In response to Question 8, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Water Quality and Aquifer Protection***, the candidate responded:

- “Sustaining the quality of our water and protecting our aquifer are issues that are of vital importance to me. As a past director at the local water authority, I know how important it is to constantly monitor our water and if any contaminants are found, to locate the source and take immediate remedial action. I understand where wells are located and realize the importance of protecting our aquifer.”
  - “At the County level, I have supported the conversion of the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Facility into a pump station to reroute waste to the Bay Park facility. I am strongly against the reopening of Jamaica Water wells and know that there is a USGS assessment taking place. I have advocated and was successful in getting funding for the local sewage plant to do a feasibility study to add homes who currently have septic tanks to their district.”
  
- In response to Question 9, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Natural Resource Protection***, the candidate responded:
  - “I was a co-sponsor of a bill in Nassau to ban plastic bags and promote reusable bags. I am pleased that the State passed a similar bill which will go into effect next year. I recognize that stormwater management is crucial and have been to meetings where various options have been discussed.”
  
- In response to Question 10, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Farms and Local Food***, the candidate responded:
  - “I recognize the importance of having access to healthy, locally grown food. During the warmer months, there are farmers from the east end of LI who sell produce at Farmers Markets in County and local parks in my District.”