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2021 Environmental Questionnaire for Long Island Candidates

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

To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please consult [NYLCV's 2021 Long Island Policy Agenda](#) when answering the questions.

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 the 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, April 30, 2021**
- ☒ 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)
- ☒ After receipt of the completed questionnaire, candidates will be invited to participate in a formal interview with a local Chapter Board.
- ☒ General election endorsements will be made by the NYLCV State Board on July 29, 2021.

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate name: Denise Ford

Office sought (& district number if applicable): Nassau County Legislator District 4

Campaign e-mail: daford36@aol.com

Campaign phone: 5166396084

Website:

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Campaign manager's name and email: Patti Dunham pjlandi1@aol.com

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.

As a home owner, I put solar power on my house. As a legislator, I have always supported initiatives to protect our environment. I was proud to sponsor and pass legislation prohibiting the sale of Styrofoam in the county. I have advocated for and support the NYS diversion project which will divert the effluence from the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant to the outflow pipe in Cedar Creek. I served on a committee with Sarah Meyland as we are pushing for a comprehensive plan to help protect and conserve water in Nassau County.

ISSUES

Each year, NYLCV works closely with New York's leading environmental, public health, conservation, energy, environmental justice, and transportation organizations to identify the most pressing priorities on fighting climate change, conserving land and water, and protecting public health. These issues drive NYLCV's advocacy work throughout the legislative session, influence the bills we select for NYLCV's Environmental Scorecards, and informs the decision on the candidates we choose to endorse. To ensure your responses are in alignment with the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV's 2021 Long Island Policy Agenda](#) when formulating your responses.

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity concerning, all the policy priorities of our partners per the following issues:

Combating Climate Change

The time to act on climate is now. We must make radical changes in short order to avoid catastrophic climate change. New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act will require action at all levels of government to achieve its ambitious goal of reducing economy wide emissions 85% by 2050 and achieving 70% renewable energy by 2030. By allocating resources wisely, local governments can have a significant impact on energy use and the environment. Localities must also adapt to a changing climate and include resiliency planning in all aspects of future governance.

2. Energy (p. 5)

I do support solar and wind energy. I have advocated for a new, more efficient, environmentally friendly power plant to replace the Barrett Power Plant in Island Park. I have also asked LIPA to consider putting Battery Storage in the Island Park site. As a legislature, we legislation to provide for an electric vehicle fleet and charging stations.

3. Transportation (p. 6)

Worked with the community and DPW to do a road project in East Atlantic Beach which will provide a protected bike lane. Pushed for a traffic study on Lido blvd to establishing a bike lane. Adopted and supported the Complete Streets Policy and approved funding for transit oriented

development. I have always supported public transportation and joined with my fellow legislators to increase funding to the NICE system.

4. Resiliency (p. 6 - 7)

As stated before, I have advocated for the Bay Park Conveyance project. This will help clean up the Western Bays and with the nitrogen removal, the marshlands will be protected against further erosion and will be restored.

5. Solid Waste (p. 7)

We banned Styrofoam products and I support the elimination of plastic bags. I am interested in the many ideas listed in your agenda and they should be discussed. We need to all come together to consider these and other ideas as solid waste management is a critical issue.

Protecting People and Natural Resources

All New Yorkers deserve indoor and outdoor environments that are free of contamination and pollution.

6. Clean Water (p. 8 - 9)

Authorized the creation and funding of the Long Island Commission on Aquifer Protection and passed legislation to require annual public reporting on Nassau County's groundwater and public water supply.

Working with the community of Point Lookout and DPW, we are conducting a study looking at converting the community from using a septic system onto our sewer system.

7. Sustainable Development (p. 9)

Voted to Establish the Commercial Property Sustainable Energy Loan Program and to adopt NYS Climate Smart Communities Pledge.

I support the planting of trees and shrubs throughout my district. Working with communities to establish bicycle lanes.

8. Parks and Open Spaces (p.11)

Living in a beach community, we do not have many parks and those of us in the West End do not have yards with grass or trees. Years ago, I worked with the City of Long Beach to build a flower garden on West Beach Street. I provided funding for a renovated playground in Point Lookout and a community garden. I supported the Environmental Bond Act which helped purchase open space and cleanup of brownfields.

9. Farms and Local Food (p. 11)

I helped in bringing the Farmer's Market to Long Beach. I support any effort to bring healthy, locally grown food to our communities especially our schools