



30 Broad Street – 30th Floor
New York, NY 10004
212-361-6350

politics@nylcv.org / www.nylcv.org

2021 Environmental Questionnaire for New York City 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 New York City 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, February 26, 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.
- Candidate endorsements will be made by the NYLCV State Board on April 29, 2021.

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate name: Lynn Schulman

Office sought & district number: NYC Council, District 29

Campaign e-mail: Wade@schulman2021.com

Campaign phone: Campaign Manager phone is 860-805-1818

Website: www.schulman2021.com

Facebook page: @schulman2021

Twitter handle: @schulman2021

Campaign manager's name and email: Wade Roberge; wade@schulman2021.com

Press Secretary's name and email: contact campaign manager, Wade Roberge;

wade@schulman2021.com

Scheduler's name and email: contact campaign manager, Wade Roberge; wade@schulman2021.com

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.

I have been involved in environmental causes for many years, and have been very active in my community with the Queensway project, a community-led effort to transform a blighted, 3.5 mile stretch of abandoned railway in Central Queens into a family-friendly linear park and cultural greenway.

My vision for the NYC Council is to make sure the environmental legislation that has been passed by the current Council is enforced, like Local Law 97 which caps emissions by large buildings. Much of the environmental legislation passed by the Council has effective dates that will come into play for the next Council, so oversight and enforcement will be key to creating a more sustainable and green future. I would also fund and enhance current green programs, such as Green City Force, a non-profit organization that enlists and trains young people from low income housing communities for a new and more equitable green economy. Green City Force's AmeriCorps program prepares young adults aged 18-24 who reside in NYCHA housing for careers through green service. I have worked with Green City Force over the past three years to provide sustainable green jobs for youth and create urban farms at NYCHA facilities.

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 New York City 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:

Top Priorities

Transportation isn’t only the number one source of greenhouse gas emissions in our state—it is also a major source of air pollution, causing respiratory and other public health issues. This is particularly the case near New York City’s many major highways where too often, these communities are low-income and communities of color.

2. Encouraging the Shift to High Efficiency, Low Emission Forms of Transportation (p. 3)

I am committed to the transition of the entire vehicle fleet of all NYC agencies towards zero emissions by 2025

More than ever, New Yorkers realized the value of our parks and open spaces in 2020 as our cultural institutions were closed and we had to practice social distancing. Open green space is one of the City’s most valuable environmental assets but also contributes to the well-being of our residents and our economy.

3. Conserving New York City’s Parks and Natural Areas (p. 3)

I am committed to rapidly expanding the amount of green space within District 29 by 2030 by re-engineering our streets to be more efficient including reducing asphalt and concrete where-ever possible, and supporting the Queensway, a community-led effort to transform a blighted, 3.5 mile stretch of abandoned railway in Central Queens into a family-friendly linear park and cultural greenway.

Reaching the City’s Zero Waste goal by 2030 will require work from all New Yorkers—cooperation of city officials and private industry, and buy-in from the public. Stimulating behavioral change is critical to meeting this goal, as is ensuring the City has programs in place that promote waste reduction, diversion, and sustainable waste management.

4. Common Sense Waste Management (p. 3)

I would promote public/private partnerships to promote waste reduction. In addition, I would make sure the City expands its composting program which was cut in last year’s city budget.

Combating Climate Change

The time to act on climate is now. The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report makes it clear that we must make radical changes in short order to avoid catastrophic climate change. We will work to advance policies that decrease emissions from all sectors, prepare us to meet the unavoidable impacts of climate change, reduce waste, and foster a strong green economy. We must also ensure the changes we make to tackle climate change benefit disadvantaged communities and provide for a just transition.

5. Energy and Infrastructure (p. 5)

My plan is to create an electric grid that is powered by 100% renewable energy by 2030 and promote an aggressive time-table to convert all polluting buildings to clean energy by 2030

6. Transportation (p. 5)

I propose to prioritize Pedestrian and Cyclist safety in all street redesigns and expand Bus Service, especially rapid bus transit like Select Bus Service in my community

7. Resiliency (p. 6)

As someone who worked for a public hospital during Super Storm Sandy, I know too well the devastating effects of storm surge and climate change. We must have a comprehensive resiliency plan to ensure the city is prepared for this type of disaster in the future.

8. Solid Waste (p. 7)

I am committed to adopting legislation to advance a citywide program for mandatory residential organic waste recycling; investing in recycling and composting, reducing unnecessary waste, requiring city agencies to source materials for projects from the City's own waste stream where possible.

Protecting People and Natural Resources

All New Yorkers deserve indoor and outdoor environments that are free of contamination and pollution. We will promote policies that provide access to healthy air and water, protect our open spaces, and improve the well-being of all New Yorkers.

9. Parks, Natural Areas, and Active Waterfronts (p. 9)

I support all listed measures, particularly increasing investment in parks.

10. Lead Poisoning Prevention (p. 9)

I support all listed measures, and in particular, we need to ensure that NYCHA facilities are lead free.

11. Reduce and Mitigate Heat Vulnerability (p. 9 – 10)

I support all listed measures, especially expansion of the Cool Neighborhoods program.

12. Clean Air for All (p. 10)

My plan includes:

Creating an electric grid that is powered by 100% renewable energy by 2030

Transitioning the entire vehicle fleet of all NYC agencies towards zero emissions by 2025

Developing aggressive time-tables to convert all polluting buildings to clean energy by 2030

Rapidly expanding the amount of green space within District 29 by 2030 by re-engineering our streets to be more efficient including reducing asphalt and concrete where-ever possible

13. Clean Water for All (p.11)

I support all listed measures, particularly urging DEP to conduct a study and develop recommendations on water rate restructuring that promotes the equitable generation of needed revenues, water conservation, and widespread use of green infrastructure, which would greatly benefit my community.

14. Sustainable Food Systems (p. 11)

I support all listed measures, including fighting to ensure every family has access to healthy, local, and affordable produce through the expansion of critical food access programs such as SNAP, FRESH, GrowNYC Youthmarkets, and Health Bucks redeemable at farmers markets across the city. I work with many of these food organizations in my current role at the City Council where I cover social services. In addition, during my tenure at NYC H+H, I was instrumental in bringing a green market to Woodhull hospital in Brooklyn, and other H+H facilities.