



30 Broad Street – 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
212-361-6350

[politics@nylcv.org](mailto:politics@nylcv.org) / [www.nylcv.org](http://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](mailto:politics@nylcv.org)
- ☒ Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg ([jklainberg@nylcv.org](mailto: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: Sal Albanese

Office sought & district number: NYC City Council 50 district

Campaign e-mail: Albanese.sal@gmail.com

Campaign phone: 917-992-1693

Website: Sal2021.com

Facebook page: Sal Albanese City Council

Twitter handle: @SalAlbaneseNYC

Campaign manager's name and email: interviewing candidates

Press Secretary's name and email: interviewing

Scheduler's name and email: interviewing

## 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 was a NYC Councilmember representing a Brooklyn District from 1982 to 1997 and a candidate for Mayor in the 2017 Democratic Primary. As a member of the Council I sponsored legislation to ban vending machines from selling cigarettes & distribution of loose cigarettes on the streets of the City. I voted to ban smoking in restaurants & bars in NYC. I was a supporter of revamping waste removal by initiating recycling. As a candidate for Mayor my platform included expanding recycling to San Francisco levels (about 75%) & transition all city vehicles from fossil fuel to natural gas and electric.**

**I was a strong advocate for adequate funding for mass transit to make it more affordable & efficient to entice more people to use it instead of driving. As a NYC Councilmember & candidate for Mayor I proposed increasing the City's share to the MTA by a billion dollars.**

## 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 will support incentives such as tax incentives to transition vehicles to electric power. I will promote a hard time frame for all city vehicles to transition to electric power.

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)

As a candidate for a Staten Island City Council seat (largest park land in NYC) I will promote well maintained & accessible parkland. As a member of the City Council I allocated a significant portion of my member items & capital budget to maintaining & rebuilding parks in my district

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 believe a Zero Waste Goal by 2030 is achievable all we need is the political will to get it done. I plan on being part of the political movement to make it happen.

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)

Climate change is the most pressing problem facing our City & the world. I will be supporting efforts to foster a green future. We need all hands on deck to move to a green economy etc, we really have no choice. I will be actively involved to decrease emissions from all sectors, including from buildings, transportation, waste reduction etc.

6. Transportation (p. 5)

I support adequate funding of mass transit to make it affordable & efficient. That also includes eliminating transit deserts by expanding mass transit. All vehicles need to transition to electric as soon as possible. I also support the Schwartz congestion pricing plan. We need to get people out of their cars to the extent possible

7. Resiliency (p. 6)

We need to shore up our vulnerable communities so we can avoid another Sandy disaster. On a local basis in my home borough I will push hard to have the seawall built on Staten Island. It has unfortunately been delayed by bureaucratic problems between local, state & federal agencies.

8. Solid Waste (p. 7)

I am committed to achieving the City's zero waste target by 2030

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 am totally committed to the above goal & have a record as a former legislator to prove it.

10. Lead Poisoning Prevention (p. 9)

I voted for the law to eliminate lead from our buildings as a member of the City Council by standing up to the landlord lobby who was lobbying me to vote against it. I was & am a major critic of Mayor deBlasio for failing & covering up the exposure of lead in the New York City Housing Authority developments.

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

I am fully supportive of above.

12. Clean Air for All (p. 10)

My record as an anti tobacco City Councilmember (the most active) demonstrates my commitment to clean air. I have a Masters Degree in Health Science from NYU that informs me of the importance of Clean Air for All.

13. Clean Water for All (p.11)

Will be an ardent supporter of Clean Air for All

14. Sustainable Food Systems (p. 11)

Important to provide healthy & sustainable food systems for health & environmental systems. I will work hard to provide accessible & nutritional food (fresh vegetables & fruits) to underserved communities.