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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](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.
- General election endorsements will be made by the NYLCV State Board on July 29, 2021.

## CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate name: **Thomas McKeivitt**

Office sought (& district number if applicable): **Nassau County Legislator, 13<sup>th</sup> District**

Campaign e-mail: **legislatormckeivitt@gmail.com**

Campaign phone: **(516) 253-5721**

Website:

Facebook page: **<https://www.facebook.com/LegislatorTomMcKeivitt>**

Twitter handle:

Campaign manager's name and email:

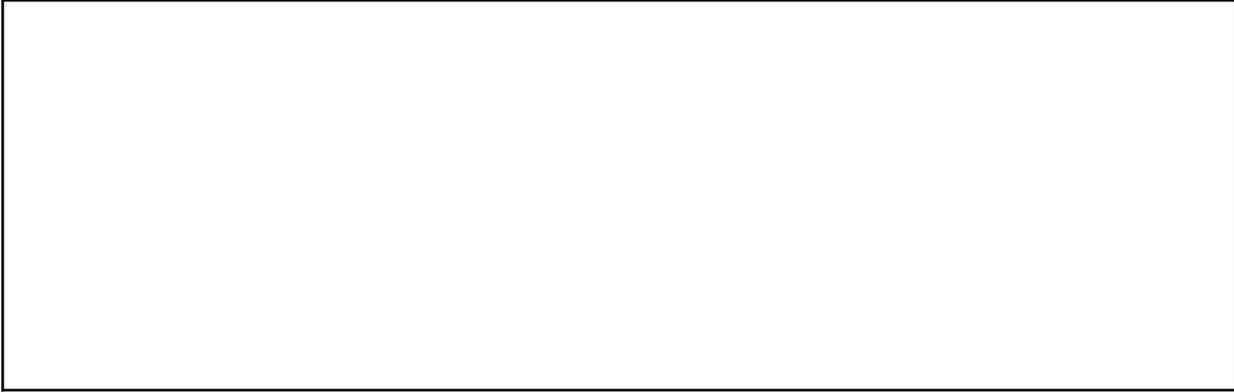
Press Secretary's name and email:

Scheduler's name and email: **Lynn Schafering, lschaefering@aol.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 now been in elective office for sixteen (16) years, twelve (12) in the New York State Assembly and four (4) in the Nassau County Legislature. While in the Assembly, I advocated and voted in favor of increasing the Environmental Protection, consistently voted in favor of the Child Safe Products Act and a constitutional amendment for clean air and water for all New Yorkers. In the County Legislature, I have supported the Sustainable Energy Loan Program and supporting expanding renewable energy programs and signed on to the League's advocacy letters when requested.**



## 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 was a proponent of amending the capital planning process to include environmental infrastructure projects such as solar power development. I also supported amendments to the Energy Improvement Corporation to eliminate barriers for the program to finance renewable energy systems.

#### 3. Transportation (p. 6)

As Chairman of the Committee which oversees NICE bus, I have worked with NICE leadership and have made it a priority to provide funding for the continuation of services. For 2021, we were able to restore \$4.5 million in funding. I have also supported funding for transit oriented development and additional capital funding for pedestrian and bicycle paths.

4. Resiliency (p. 6 - 7)

I have supported and approved the funding the Bay Park Conveyance Project, one of the largest public works projects in Nassau County history. This project will significantly improve the water quality in the Western Bays and enhance environmental conditions for the ecosystem in the area.

5. Solid Waste (p. 7)

I voted in favor of banning Styrofoam containers in Nassau County. It will be important for Nassau County to work with other municipalities in the near future to address a response to the planned closure of the Brookhaven landfill.

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)

I voted in favor of renewing and funding the Long Island Commission on Aquifer Protection. I have also participated in hearings and meetings with stakeholders and residents regarding the treatment of 1,4 Dioxane, and supported the approval of easements for the remediation systems for the cleanup of the Grumman Plume. I have also been meeting with Navy representatives and adjacent property owners on mitigating impacts of soon to be built treatment facilities.

7. Sustainable Development (p. 9)

I have supported and voted for the Commercial Property Sustainable Energy Loan Program as well as the Climate Smart Communities Pledge. I have also signed onto the League's letter for the support of a federal recovery package that addresses climate change and invests in clean energy and jobs.

8. Parks and Open Spaces (p.11)

I supported a local law which requires Nassau County owned parkland and open spaces to be accessible to all residents. This legislation will also require signage and public information on the county website on these properties. I also signed on to the League's letter requesting preservation of 30% of the nations lands and oceans by 3030.

9. Farms and Local Food (p. 11)

I have worked with and have supported the Cornell Cooperative Extension which operates the East Meadow Farm in my hometown.