

**1. What is the single most important issue to you as a candidate for District Leader? Why?**

The single most important issue facing our community is COVID-19. The pandemic has exposed a variety of issues from food insecurity, race inequality, disparities in the healthcare system, education, unemployment and more. These are just some of the issues that I am currently tackling throughout the community every single day. As District Leader, I would like to continue to fight for the families of Queens and ensure that they have access to essential resources amidst these uncertain times.

**2. What endorsements do you have from elected officials, political organizations, unions and community leaders?**

I have received endorsements from Congresswoman Grace Meng, New York City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, Council Members Peter Koo and Daniel Dromm, Senator Toby Stavisky, Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi, District Leaders Peter Tu and Michael Cohen as well as the Geraldine Ferraro Democratic and Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Clubs.

**3. If elected, what changes would you bring to being District Leader that may differ from any of your predecessors?**

I have not had a predecessor in quite some time but I can tell you the changes I have brought to the district while being District Leader as well as living in the community for over 57 years. Throughout the years, the district demographics have changed dramatically. This includes an increase of migration in groups that identify as Bukarian, Asian, South Asian and more. I have formed a relationship with the immigrants of our community that consists of trust and mutual respect and attended to their individual needs. Queens is constantly changing and I look forward to working with all those in our community.

**4. Some district leaders opt to create their own democratic clubs. If elected, do you intend to create your own democratic club separate from QCDC? Why or why not?**

I am one of the original founders and play a major role in the Geraldine Ferraro Democratic Club. I will continue to be a part of it as this democratic club has been active in the community for multiple years now.

**5. What reforms do you believe the Queens County Democratic party needs to institute? How will you help institute them?**

I would say that the Queens Democratic Party is one that is reflective of the diverse borough of Queens. I have been in politics since 1978 and I have found that the Organization has absolutely moved with the necessary reforms over the years. The Queens County Democratic Party has and continues to be

welcoming and diverse: it consists of members of varying races, ages, genders, sexualities. I encourage those who have interest in getting involved to do so because a diverse party such as ours requires diverse opinions and points of view. That's how you bring about change and reforms in the Queens County Democratic party and in our ever-evolving borough.

**6. Do you believe transparency is an issue with District Leaders? If so, what would you do to increase transparency of the position and decision-making process?**

I do not believe that transparency is an issue with District Leaders. As District Leader, I have always been aware of the issues affecting my community and I have always felt free to express my opinion and to welcome the opinion of others at all times. I have always been involved in the decision making process in the endorsement of candidates and if I had concerns I have always been outspoken about my views, and if I disagreed with something I have always felt welcomed to express my opinion.

**7. Please identify a time when you have disagreed with the Queens County Democratic party. What did/would you do to work through this disagreement?**

I ran against the Queens County Democratic party in the 1980's, long before it was a popular trend. I ran against the party's endorsed candidate for State Committee Woman. Initially, I met with the Queens County Democratic party representatives and I respectfully explained my values and why I thought I was the best candidate. Although the Queens County Democratic party did not endorse me, I continued to be active in the community and ran a clean campaign. When I won the election, although I was not their first choice, the Queens County Democratic Organization did embrace me and we have worked together over the years as a united front.

**8. Why are you uniquely qualified to represent us as District Leader?**

In the midst of the coronavirus, I am uniquely qualified to represent you as District Leader of the 28th Assembly District because of my many years of experience interacting with agency and department heads throughout the city to deliver on the needs that are important to the residents of this Assembly District. I have been a District Leader since 1986. Throughout this time, I have made countless positive contacts in city, state, and federal affairs, who I believe will support and assist this community whenever needed.