



VOTER GUIDE: CITY COUNCIL

District 46

Primary Day: June 22, 2021

About this Voter Guide

New Kings Democrats (“NKD”) developed a voter guide to help inform Brooklynites about the 2021 City Council primary races. It includes information about the 16 City Council races in Brooklyn and the candidates that will vie for the Democratic nod on June 22, 2021. **This PDF includes just City Council District 46.**

About New Kings Democrats

NKD is a progressive, grassroots political organization committed to bringing transparency, accountability, and inclusionary democracy to the Brooklyn Democratic Party. Founded by veterans of the Obama campaign, it is a borough-wide political organization that helps people seeking to become more engaged in local politics, and hopes to nurture a new generation of elected Brooklyn Democratic leaders.

As of the date of publication, NKD has endorsed candidates in City Council Districts 33, 34, 35, 37, and 39.

Please e-mail politics@newkingsdemocrats.com to learn more about our work.

About: City Council, Ranked Choice Voting, and How to Vote

What does the City Council do?

City Council is the lawmaking body for the city, made up of 51 elected officials. In much the same way that Congress acts as a check and balance to the Executive Branch, City Council acts as a check and balance to the Mayor's office. Brooklyn has 16 City Council members, representing districts 33 through 48. To see a map of the districts, visit council.nyc.gov/districts. Currently, all City Council members from Brooklyn are registered Democrats.

In addition to debating and passing laws, City Council is responsible for negotiating and passing the city budget, monitoring city agencies, and making land use decisions.

City Council can also pass resolutions on state and federal issues that are relevant to New Yorkers. Resolutions allow City Council to speak on behalf of NYC voters and can play an important role in the development of law and public policy.

How does Ranked Choice Voting work?

New York City will now use Ranked Choice Voting (RCV, also known as "Instant Runoff Voting") in the primary and special elections for Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough President, and City Council. Voters elected to use RCV in a 2019 ballot measure with 73.5% support.

New York City's RCV law allows voters to rank up to 5 candidates in order of preference. If you prefer, you can still vote for just one candidate. Ranking other candidates does not hurt your first-choice candidate.

To learn more, see the Board of Elections guide: vote.nyc/page/ranked-choice-voting.

If a candidate receives more than 50% of first-choice votes, they win the election. If no candidate receives more than 50% of first-choice votes, then the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Votes for the eliminated candidate are redistributed to their voters' next ranked choice. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has won a majority of these votes. The process is repeated until a candidate wins an outright majority and is declared the winner.

Want to practice RCV on a ballot? Check out this [link](#) on rating your favorite bodega snacks from Rank The Vote NYC.



	1	2	3	4	5
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



	1	2	3	4	5
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>				
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>				
Candidate C	<input type="radio"/>				
Candidate D	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Candidate E	<input type="radio"/>				

Why Ranked Choice Voting matters

RCV is more democratic, but ensuring voters are informed about the process is crucial. Ranking candidates lets you choose several candidates that share your values rather than rallying around a single front-runner. This way of voting can help build coalitions and means your vote *always* counts, whether or not your first-choice candidate wins. You can still have a say in who’s elected!

RCV also encourages candidates to be civil in campaigns since all candidates are vying for the top five slots on your ballot. Theoretically, candidates will try to appeal to more voters, rather than narrowly cater to their assumed base, meaning candidates who are more diverse and representative of community members win elections. **In cities that use RCV, more women and people of color are elected.**

Confirm your voter eligibility and where to vote

Confirm if you are registered to vote at www.nycvotersearch.com. If you are registered to vote, results will include your City Council district. You can confirm your polling location by clicking “Poll Site Information” in the top-right corner of the screen.

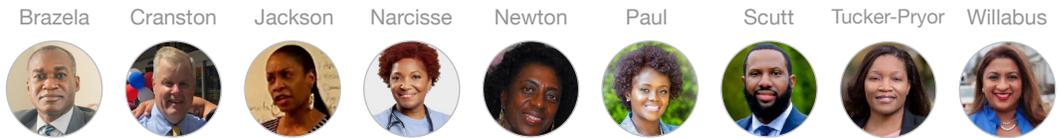
In Brooklyn, where most races will be won by Democrats, the Primary election is the real election for these local positions—**so it is very important that you are registered as a Democrat and can vote this June**. You can register by mail, online, or in person prior to May 28 and still be eligible to vote in the Primary Election as long as you are registered with a party. Visit vote.nyc/page/register-vote to register to vote.

Important dates for primary election voters

- **May 28**—last day to register to vote in the Primary Election
- **June 12**—early voting begins
- **June 15**—deadline to request an absentee ballot for Primary Election
- **June 22**—Primary Election and last day to postmark the primary election ballot, or deliver to Brooklyn Board of Elections (345 Adams Street) or your local polling site

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46

Council District 46 covers Bergen Beach, Canarsie, Flatlands, Georgetown, Gerritsen Beach, Marine Park, Mill Basin, Mill Island, and Sheepshead Bay. It is currently represented by Alan N. Maisel, who is term-limited. This is a packed race with many candidates having longstanding ties to the local politicians, the party machine, and/or NYPD and other correctional agencies.



	Brazela	Cranston	Jackson	Narcisse	Newton	Paul	Scutt	Tucker-Pryor	Willabus
Committed to free or accessible healthcare for all?	X	X	√	X	X	√	√	X	X
Has a plan for small-business rent relief during COVID?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Has a plan to reform the ULURP (land use) process?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Committed to <i>not</i> taking money from real estate developers?	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X	X
Committed to <i>not</i> taking money from law enforcement agencies, foundations, or unions?	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X	X

The information in the chart above is based on publicly available information. Where we have noted “yes” or “no” to a candidate’s commitments, “no” may also indicate that the candidate’s position is unknown or unavailable to the public.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46, continued

Gardy Brazela

About the candidate: Brazela has a long-term involvement in the community: he is the Chair of Community Board 18 and president of the 69th Precinct Community Council. He's stated his opposition to bike lanes, and has a close relationship with the NYPD. He seems committed to affordable housing, including a reform of AMI.



What stands out about his platform: He hopes to continue the legacy of Council Member Maisel.

Where you can learn more:

www.gardybrazela.com

[@ggbrazela](https://twitter.com/ggbrazela)

Donald Cranston

About the candidate: Donald is a business person with family connections to the Department of Corrections and the NYPD. Donald was previously in constituent services for State Senator Marty Golden, the problematic conservative politician who was ousted by Andrew Gounardes after decades in office.



What stands out about his platform: He has suggested increasing a visible police presence in underserved areas to decrease gun violence.

Where you can learn more:

friendsofdjc.com

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46, continued

Zuri Jackson

About the candidate: Zuri is an educator who demonstrates an understanding of the structures and current campaigns for reform. She has voiced support for transit and safer streets for pedestrians & cyclists. She has a detailed platform for universal healthcare, affordable housing, criminal justice reform, climate justice, and more. To date, she has raised just over \$1,000.



What stands out about her platform: Zuri's platform is progressive and notably thorough.

Where you can learn more:

www.zurivoiceofthepeople.com

[@zuri4N](https://twitter.com/zuri4N)

Mercedes Narcisse

About the candidate: Mercedes is a community activist, single mother of four, registered nurse, business consultant, and youth and teen counselor. Her platform includes a desire to redirect funds from the NYPD to fund mental health and education. It also mentions housing, climate justice, and immigrant justice.



Where you can learn more:

www.mercedesfornyc.com

[@MercedesforNYC](https://twitter.com/MercedesforNYC)

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46, continued

Judy Newton

About the candidate: Judy's website lists a long history of public service as a (now retired) detective with the NYPD, on the education committee of Community Board 18, and through charitable work. However, her website doesn't have any details on her platform. She is a member of the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club, which is a club associated with the Party machine.



What stands out about her platform: She appears to be most focused on families and the concerns of homeowners.

Where you can learn more:

www.newton2021.com

[@judynewton2021](https://twitter.com/judynewton2021)

Shirley Paul

About the candidate: Shirley is an attorney and has worked for many political figures, including former Party Boss Frank Seddio and President Joe Biden, and at the NY Supreme Court and the Governor's office. Her housing platform focuses on protecting homeowners, but makes no mention of improving public housing or housing affordability. She plans to fight for more MTA funding to improve bus service.



What stands out about her platform: Her platform is much narrower than those of other candidates in this district.

Where you can learn more:

shirleypaulny.com

[@SP_ESQ](https://twitter.com/SP_ESQ)

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46, continued

Stanley Scutt

About the candidate: Stanley is an Advocate Intervene Mentor with the NYC Department of Probation. He lists many ambitious changes on his platform, including universal basic income, universal healthcare, tuition-free colleges, ending cash bail, and affordable housing reforms.



Where you can learn more:

www.stanleyscutt.com

[@StanleyScutt46](https://twitter.com/StanleyScutt46)

Tiffany Tucker-Pryor

About the candidate: Tiffany describes herself as a public servant and activist, having worked in both the Kings County District Attorney's office and the Manhattan DA's office. Her platform includes bringing affordable housing to the neighborhood, increasing funding for city hospitals, and improving public transit. The endorsements Tiffany has listed on her website are all from religious figures.



Where you can learn more:

www.tiffanypryor.com

[@WinWithTiffany](https://twitter.com/WinWithTiffany)

COUNCIL DISTRICT 46, continued

Dimple Willabus

About the candidate: Dimple is a small business owner, the former President of the District 22 Community Education Council, and a member of several local organizations. She has a detailed platform that includes quality healthcare being available to all residents, additional funding for CUNY, increasing funding for repairs to NYCHA, expanding Citibike and Ferry to the district, and investing in green infrastructure. She calls for increased transparency into decisions that impact the neighborhood, and ending machine politics.



What stands out about her platform: Her platform is detailed and includes specific plans, including some fairly progressive goals.

Where you can learn more:

www.dimplewillabus.com

[@DimpleWillabus](https://www.instagram.com/DimpleWillabus)

Another candidate has filed but has limited information about their campaign available online and may no longer be in the race, Nicholas Sterlacci.

A FEW FINAL NOTES

For each City Council District candidate, we completed the “yes”/“no” chart based on publicly available information. Where we have noted “yes” or “no” to a candidate’s commitments, “no” may also indicate that the candidate’s position is unknown or unavailable to the public.

For the question “Committed to free or accessible healthcare for all?”, we noted a “yes” if a candidate has publicly stated support for accessible healthcare for all, universal healthcare, or the New York Health Act.

For the question “Has a plan for small-business rent relief during COVID?”, we noted a “yes” if a candidate has an explicit, detailed plan for how to get small businesses rent relief during or as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the question “Has a plan to reform the ULURP (land use) process?”, we noted a “yes” if a candidate addressed problems with the ULURP or land use process and outlined specific ways they would address this in the Council.

For the question “Committed to not taking money from real estate developers?” and “Committed to not taking money from law enforcement agencies, foundations, or unions?”, we noted a “yes” if a candidate has explicitly stated that they have not and will not take money from the parties noted.