

Thank you for agreeing to complete the South Central Brooklyn United for Progress City Council District 48 candidate questionnaire. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with how our endorsement process works - a candidate must receive $\frac{2}{3}$ of the ranked choice vote in order to win our endorsement. [More details here.](#)

Your answers to these questions will be made available to the public on our website, <http://scbkunitedforprogress.org/>, and will be promoted on our Facebook page and twitter feed.

Answers are due 24 hours prior to your scheduled interview time if you want to be considered for endorsement!

Campaign Information

What is your name? Amber Adler

What are your preferred pronouns? She/Her

What office are you running for? City Council District 48

Who is the point of contact for your campaign and what is the best way to get in touch with them? *Please direct all questions to info@amberadler.com and one of our team members will get back to you.*

What is your campaign address? 1775 E. 13 Street Brooklyn, NY 11229

What is your campaign phone number? 347-460-4256

What is your campaign email? info@amberadler.com

What is your campaign website? www.amberadler.com

Is your campaign on social media? If so, what platform(s) and what are the names?

www.facebook.com/TheAmberAdler

www.instagram.com/AmberAdlerNYC

www.Twitter.com/AmberAdlerNYC

Campaign Issues

What would you do to improve **health care** as a city council member?

I support affordable quality healthcare and would like to see more preventative care options available. I will fight for fair pricing and to end disparities in healthcare. I believe in cost transparency and will fight against cost increases that seek to financially exploit people based upon their need for care. I will also work to put an end to local pollutants that harm children's health. Additionally, in this district, there many community members that are facing mental health challenges due to how they have been impacted by the pandemic. Once elected, my district office will increase the mental health resources which are available to community members.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and those in your district specifically **immigrant rights and access to resources** and what would you do to address them?

Within the district, there are many diverse communities that share many common denominators. To better address the needs of these communities we need to expand our ability to most effectively reach residents. To do this, we need to both increase funding to local organizations and develop new sectors within existing organizations to accommodate the community members whose needs are falling between the cracks. Additionally, I have already pledged that once elected I will add additional resources that are more specific to the needs of immigrants in my district office.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and those in your district regarding **civil rights and criminal justice** and what would you do to address them?

My community and I have a strong commitment to public safety. I believe that every neighborhood should be able to decide how it will be policed. My district is composed of many residents that are culturally diverse and also culturally identifiable. For the future, I will continue to promote unity but I will also lead the charge against hate and bigotry while making sure that anyone who commits a hate crime is held fully accountable. My office and I will also work to provide moral support for victims. I will work to expand programs which educate to stop hate. And, I will work to end cycles of hate and prevent repeat offenses by supporting relevant and cost effective rehabilitation efforts.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and those in your district regarding **public schools and education** and what would you do to address them?

During the pandemic, we have seen a bevy of issues that relate to balancing all the pieces of remote learning. It has brought items such as technological access for all students to the forefront of educational conversation. There are still many households in this district without internet access. I would work to resolve this issue.

In terms of in-person education, equity must be at the center of education. To this end, we must start by expanding 3-K and Universal Pre-K access. Students also need additional one on one time with teachers to prevent them from falling behind. Social workers are vital to spur emotional growth and we need to make sure our schools have enough social workers.

I will work to expand experience based learning opportunities and training programs that enable students to learn a trade or graduate with professional skills geared for entering for the workforce.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and those in your district regarding **housing** and what would you do to address them?

Across the district, both property owners and renters are being priced out. Homeowners face rising property taxes which are often passed on to renters. And, according to data released by the city, this district has been in danger of losing over 1,600 affordable housing units by 2022, since 2017. Many residents in the district have been priced out and a number of families have already moved to other areas of New York City, or out of state. I will fight for our families to be able to stay together and once elected I will bring everyone to the table to develop new ways to bring affordable housing units to the district.

What would you do to improve **transit and street (pedestrian/bicycle/car) safety** for New Yorkers in your district?

As a car crash survivor, this is an issue that is near and dear to me. I will work to end the series of everyday dangers that pedestrians and drivers encounter in the district. This includes but is not limited to u-turns, road and parking rage, intersection series with no crosswalks or signage double parking on main streets and avenues. I also will propose rumble strips to be added on bike lanes. I will also fight for the immediate addition of strategically placed speed bumps in areas where drag racing is a common occurrence.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and those in your district regarding **the environment, including access to, maintenance, development and preservation of parks and other open spaces** and what would you do to address them?

The biggest challenge to our district's environment is the need for both updated infrastructure to manage flooding and new preventative infrastructure to manage environmental changes. Heavy downpours of rain bring flooding quickly because of the need for new drain systems. During and after Superstorm Sandy we saw how much more we need to do to prepare our coastal community. I support structural requirements that mitigate flooding. I also support seawalls, sandbars and responsible dredging. As the district's next council member, I will team up with colleagues and stakeholders to collectively fight for necessary improvements and preventative measures to be made in a timely manner.

In relation to the development and preservation of parks and other open spaces, Council member Deutsch secured funding to update many parks within the district. Some of this work is completed and some will begin at a later date. I would carry on his efforts and work to make any additions needed. I believe that parks promote wellness, build community and positively impact the mental health of people of all ages, so I will always fight for our parks to be clean, safe, beautiful oasis's. I would also like to explore what more we can do with the green space at Asser Levy park. I believe there is untapped potential in the area where the bandshell sits.

Sheepshead Bay, Manhattan Beach, and Brighton Beach have the highest COVID-19 positivity rate in the city with Midwood and Gravesend not far behind them. What would you do as a city council member to **decrease the rate of COVID-19** in your district?

As the first candidate to be boots-on-the-ground during the pandemic, and the only candidate with over a decade of experience meaningfully helping our community, I understand this district inside and out.

To decrease the rate of COVID-19 in this district, you have to actually speak to the people in a way in which you will be heard and trusted. There are multiple ways to approach this but the first is through the dissemination of information in languages that are native to residents and in news outlets that already have earned trust with the residents. This means more than publicly displaying ads and passing out flyers. You have to work with local leaders and news outlets to get them on board.

While many community groups are doing a great job of getting out the message, it is not enough. Many area residents are associated with a community group but not everyone is. For example, if you have signage up saying that masks are important, etc. but the media outlets in the area lean toward an opinion that does not agree with them being a necessity, no change is happening.

Currently, I have relationships with many of these news and community outlets in the area. As a City Council member, I can fight for implementation that resonates and produces the desired from community members.

What other issues do you consider important and how will you address them?

In Council District 48, issues relating to Quality of Life, Childcare and Seniors are also very important. In regards to **Quality of Life** issues, I will fight to further expand resources that improve quality of life throughout the district by making sure that my district office keeps constituent services #1. Providing help on a day to day basis is what being an effective councilmember is all about.

To support families, I will fight for affordable **childcare** for young children and push to expand opportunities for participating in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). For the **senior** members of our community, I will fight for their financial security because I believe they should be able to live their golden years peacefully. I plan to increase funding to senior centers, senior transportation services and home delivery food resources. I will also fight passionately against elder abuse by supporting policy that stops seniors from being neglected or financially abused.

What is your position (and why) on the proposed homeless shelter on 100 Neptune Avenue?

I was the only candidate to provide a statement about this proposed homeless shelter at the recent Community Board 13 meeting. I believe we need to be focused on transitional housing that filters into permanent housing in a time efficient manner. We also need to focus on mental health treatment

and everyday ways to boost the mental stability of these members of our society as they move through their challenging time. The proposal for the Neptune Avenue location fails to provide what is most needed on multiple levels.

For fun (answers to these questions are not required)

If your district had a musical anthem, what would it be and why?

I would pick the song *America the Beautiful* because this district embodies the pursuit of the American dream. So many people in this district have overcome so much and made sacrifices to be where they are in order to pursue their dreams. They believe America is beautiful and optimistically push forward with hope for a better life for themselves, their family and future generations.

What is your favorite restaurant in your district?

I couldn't pick a favorite restaurant because there are just so many great ones. I can say though that as the single mother of two young boys, there are a many food establishments such as Perizia Pizza and Joseph's Dream Burger know us by name and order.