

Thank you for agreeing to complete the South Central Brooklyn United for Progress City Council District 40 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.

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.

Campaign Information

What is your name? Vivia Morgan

What are your preferred pronouns? Ms.

What office are you running for? City Council, District 40

Who is the point of contact for your campaign and what is the best way to get in touch with them? Email: voteviviamorgan2021@gmail.com

What is your campaign phone number? 347-450-6821

What is your campaign email? voteviviamorgan2021@gmail.com

What is your campaign website? www.viviamorgan.com

Is your campaign on social media? If so, what platform(s) and what are the names? Facebook; vote vivia morgan 2021; Twitter; vote vivia morgan 2021; instagram; vote vivia morgan 2021

Campaign Issues

What would you do to improve **health care** as a city council member? Make it accessible for patients to have ambulance response time and hospital arrival time shortened. Monitor healthcare at local hospitals. Cut red tape as to the rapid availability of the COVID vaccine. Work towards preventing our hospitals from closing down, and our nursing staff being cut; more training for essential workers. Publicize the new advanced medical care options available at SUNY Downstate thanks to the City Council.

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? Outreach to immigrants through the churches, tenant organizations and block associations so immigrants would have access to advocacy and not have to fear interface with

government, and so they know their rights. Many times, because of not being informed of their rights, immigrants are taken advantage of by landlords.

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? Create programs for young people, most of all; my motto is JOBS, NOT JAILS; More is needed in addressing help for mentally ill persons, who need medical help, not incarceration. We need more vocational and tech programs, because, as we know, most of our work is done on the internet. Education is the biggest area of racial disparity, considering the education level and output for minorities. More laptops and internet service distributed to minorities, free of charge or low-cost, in this era of increased remote learning. As a member of laborers union, local 79, I know firsthand the value of access to a good job. We need homes for the homeless and real affordable houses for persons who make less than \$16,000 annually. Often, in requesting housing, persons are asked to document their income, which intimidates persons who are asked to prove work eligibility.

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? Disparities in education of minorities; need to increase capital spending to repair and equip schools up to par. The Mayor should encourage, not close opportunities for excellent students. More community and parent involvement.

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? Because of lack of jobs and resources due to COVID, we are seeing an uptake of evictions and loss of housing. We need to address these causes now.

What is your opinion on **the development at 1620 Cortelyou road** and on how the city should handle **development and rezoning** generally? Keep the zoning to its contextual levels. Because of the rezoning laws, housing has become unaffordable for the average essential worker. The AMI formula currently causes rents to increase.

What would you do to improve **transit and street (pedestrian/bicycle/car) safety** for New Yorkers in your district? Replace traffic signals with countdown lights visible from all sides of the corner; ease requirements for speed bumps; adjust computer-based signal light timing for time of day and degree of traffic congestion. Adjust length of red signaling time in areas where Seniors cross the streets. Provide safety training for new bicycle or motorcycle riders. Enforce the helmet laws.

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? This is my specialty, as initiator of Friends of Wingate Park. In an area where recreation for youths has been limited, we addressed the park function. This is in the southern part of Community District 9, which has a heavy population density, so we in conjunction with the Board of Education, brought in cultural programs. Advocating for the renovation of 2 playgrounds; a fitness center, the basketball courts, summer book reading series, holiday events and stop-gun-and-gang-violence walk / march. The fields need a friendlier turf, not one that scratches people lol.. We can adopt many of these initiatives in Caton Park and Knickerbocker Park.

What other issues do you consider important and how will you address them? Building safety is a growing concern. Muggings and mail theft can be curtailed by active Tenants Associations, more communication between neighbors, secured mailboxes in buildings, and increased camera surveillance. I would advocate for enhanced FTAP patrols and tenant patrols. We should work closer with the NYPD NCO's (Neighborhood Coordination Officers).

For fun (answers to these questions are not required)

If your district had a musical anthem, what would it be and why? "America the Beautiful" by Ray Charles, "O beautiful for heroes proved / in liberating strife Who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life / America, America may God thy gold refine / 'til all success be nobleness, and every gain divine" Love your country, and LOVE BROOKLYN

What is your favorite restaurant in your district? Brooklyn is a melting pot of any cuisine possible, including Kosher, Halal, Jamaican, and those of diverse cultures. To identify a favorite is impossible.