

Thank you for agreeing to complete the South Central Brooklyn United for Progress City Council District 39 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? **Briget Rein**

What are your preferred pronouns? **She/Her/Hers**

What office are you running for? **City Council of the 39th District**

Who is the point of contact for your campaign and what is the best way to get in touch with them? **Jesse Conrad, jesse@theadvancegroup.com / 484-769-8596**

What is your campaign address? **290 Clinton Street, Apt. 2A Brooklyn, NY 11201**

What is your campaign phone number? **917-825-2353**

What is your campaign email? **briget.rein@icloud.com**

What is your campaign website? brigetrein.com

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

Twitter: @briget4brooklyn

Facebook: @briget4brooklyn

Instagram: @brigetrein

Campaign Issues

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

As a city council member, I would improve health care by making sure that I work alongside my federal and state partners to provide funding for all healthcare facilities and staffing. We must find appropriate healthcare services for all members of our community, especially BIPOC residents and immigrants. In light of the current pandemic, we must increase our testing and vaccination capabilities to meet the needs of New Yorkers and get this city back to life.

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?

The biggest challenges facing New Yorkers and the community members of my district are the collapse of small businesses, the need for COVID-19 relief in stimulus payments, and access to quality education. In terms of immigrant rights, New Yorkers deserve appropriate translation at all City agencies representing the communities they preside over. Along with that, there needs to be proper information and education for immigrant citizens to acquire formal citizenship in the country. Access to resources need to become more facilitated. All New Yorkers must be able to get tested and vaccinated in a timely and safe manner. The City Council must use its power and resources to ensure that every life in New York City is well-taken care of.

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?

For New Yorkers, we must implement more social services and fight for social justice when it comes to our civil rights and criminal justice reform. We must allocate a proper amount of funds from the NYPD to trained professionals who can deal with more psychological matters. Also, we must take a step back on hard policing and raise up our community by offering resources such as drug rehabilitation and access to education. Racism, bigotry, and discrimination have no place in the City of New York and the City Council should do all that it can to ensure that every New Yorker lives in a safe and welcoming environment.

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?

The problems facing students today are their need for appropriate after-school programs to support our children with a more robust curriculum. There is also a great need for wrap-around services to allow our schools to act as a community hub for students and parents. We must have tutorial programs within the school to support the overall education of our students. We also need to provide the most updated technology to our

students, such as broadband and computers. Having a teacher at the helm of the education committee at the City Council, will ensure a true advocate for the students of the City of New York.

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?

The City of New York yearns for more affordable housing for its residents. NYCHA developments need to offer New York City citizens a functional, and clean place to live. As rents rapidly increase every year, New Yorkers are being pushed out of their homes and forced to find their community elsewhere. This is a tragedy and we must fix this by investing in our city and making sure that every New Yorker is properly housed. If I were elected to City Council, I would push for more affordable housing in my district and all across NYC. Along with that, I would legislate for workforce housing so that union workers and essential workers may always have a roof over their heads.

What is your opinion on **the Gowanus Green development** and on how the city should handle **development and rezoning** generally?

I am all for green spaces, as a partner in development. Yet, with the Gowanus rezoning, I call for a robust cleanup of the Gowanus Canal. Upon the approval of the EPA that it is appropriate and safe for the district to create parks, schools, businesses, and housing, then I would accept a rezoning project. It also has to have a caveat of community voice.

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

As a City Council member, I will work alongside my federal and state partners to secure funding for more bus lines in my community, a faster transportation system with our subway lines, an enhancement to our subway stations making them more accessible, and the creation of a designated area to have a distinct bus line, pedestrian walkway, and more lines for bicyclists.

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?

Park lands must be kept clean and functioning for our community. We must have active pathways for our joggers and walkers. We must have modern equipment for our children to use in the playgrounds. We must have accessible entrances and egresses for our parks and a defined bus line to bring community members to our various park grounds.

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

We need to work on bringing more small businesses into the district. This means supporting them to stay there, as well. As a City Council member, I will work with our landlords to provide small businesses with financial subsidies and assistance so we can ensure the small businesses' ability to thrive. I would also seek out partnerships with large companies and corporations to make sure that they support black-owned, women-owned, and Hispanic-owned businesses.

For fun (answers to these questions are not required)

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

Feeling Stronger Everyday - Chicago

What is your favorite restaurant in your district?

Vinny's of Carroll Gardens! I used to go there a lot with my mother who recently passed away.