

StreetsPAC 2017 New York City Council Candidate Questionnaire

1. OVERVIEW

For New York City to compete in the global economy, and provide the safety and quality of life that New Yorkers deserve, our leaders must embrace a 21st century vision for our streets, our roads and our highways that puts the well-being of people first. StreetsPAC supports candidates for public office who will champion safe, complete and livable streets.

Safe Streets are safe enough for children, seniors, and people of all abilities to travel without fear of death or injury. Despite progress under Vision Zero, far too many people are killed or hurt on New York City streets:

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of preventable death in New York City; while a record-low number of people were killed on NYC streets in 2016, the number of people killed on foot and on bicycles increased slightly.
- Although speeding is the leading contributing factor in NYC traffic deaths, police too rarely enforce speed limits on neighborhood streets, and prosecutors rarely pursue charges against sober drivers involved in fatal crashes.

To foster safe streets, StreetsPAC supports the use of speed and red-light cameras and other enforcement strategies, as well as changes in roadway design, all of which are proven to calm traffic.

Complete Streets encourage mobility and good health by allocating space for walking, public transportation, bicycling and wheelchair access, and by prioritizing curbside access for for-hire vehicles, delivery trucks and passenger loading over the underpriced curbside parking that now makes such uses difficult or impossible. For example:

- Select Bus Service using dedicated bus lanes has been an unqualified success, both reducing travel times by 20% and increasing ridership.
- An expanded bike-lane network has made cycling for everyday transportation a viable option for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Protected bike lanes have been proven to reduce crash injuries among bicyclists, walkers *and* drivers by approximately 40%.
- Countdown clocks, sidewalk extensions and landscaped pedestrian-refuge islands make walking safer, more pleasant and more efficient.

StreetsPAC supports improving the quality and variety of transportation choices to enhance personal mobility, and the building of a more sustainable transportation system of complete streets.

Livable Streets are comfortable and welcoming to residents and visitors alike, and attract patrons to shops, restaurants, hotels and other local businesses. New Yorkers want to live, work and shop on livable, economically vital streets. Research shows, for example, that:

- Pedestrian plazas, bike lanes, play streets and other amenities like benches and street trees dramatically improve economic activity, contribute to lower levels of crime, and lead to increased property values.
- The reduction in motor-vehicle traffic on Broadway from Columbus Circle to Union Square has created a mecca for tourists as well as technology and other new-economy businesses.

StreetsPAC supports repurposing street space for the use of people to promote livable streets where commerce and community life can thrive.

Process and Deadlines. StreetsPAC is a political action committee registered with the New York State Board of Elections and the New York City Campaign Finance Board. This questionnaire seeks to elicit your views on the important issues facing New York City's streets. Your answers will help inform StreetsPAC endorsement and contribution policy for the 2017 election.

All responses should be considered public, although StreetsPAC may at its discretion choose to disclose some, all or none of your responses. Responses may be shortened for publication. StreetsPAC may also disclose a candidate's decision to not respond to this questionnaire. If you refer in your response to a position paper or your web site, please specify the exact text you are referencing. By responding to this questionnaire, you give your agreement to the foregoing uses of your responses.

The StreetsPAC Board may request personal interviews with candidates who submit questionnaire responses. Please submit questionnaire responses via this webform by May 26, 2017.

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2. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide us with the following information:

* 1. Candidate Name:

* 2. Office for which you're running. (Please include Council District number, if applicable.)

* 3. Campaign Manager Name:

4. Press Contact:

* 5. Name and EIN/TIN of Committee:

6. Campaign Address:

* 7. Campaign Phone:

* 8. Campaign E-mail:

9. Campaign Website and/or Facebook Page:

10. Campaign Twitter Username:

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3. YES/NO QUESTIONS

Answers are required for all questions. (If you would like to submit supporting materials, please paste them into the comment field at the end of the questionnaire or email your proposals to Eric@StreetsPAC.org.)

* 11. Do you support New York City Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero policy, which aims to eliminate traffic deaths by 2024?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 12. Do you pledge to oppose any efforts to increase speed limits on New York City streets, such as the bills in the State Assembly and Senate that propose raising the 25 mph speed limit on Brooklyn's Ocean Parkway?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 13. Do you support further lowering of speed limits on neighborhood streets and in areas with high pedestrian volume as a means of enhancing pedestrian safety, including expansion and enhancement of the Department of Transportation's Neighborhood Slow Zone program?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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4. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 14. Do you pledge to oppose efforts to limit New York City's Right-of-Way Law, including opposing exemptions for bus drivers or other professional vehicle operators, such as New York City Council Intro 663?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 15. Do you approve of the way the Department of Transportation is working to manage traffic in New York City?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 16. Do you believe the NYPD does enough to enforce vehicular traffic laws in New York City?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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5. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

17. If you answered no to Question 16, do you have thoughts about how to make the NYPD more accountable in the effort to achieve Vision Zero?

* 18. Do you support enhancing civil and criminal penalties against careless, reckless and aggressive driving, and driving without a valid license, under New York State law?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 19. Do you support adoption of stiffer penalties for drivers involved in hit-and-run crashes?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 20. Do you support the expanded use of automated traffic enforcement, such as speed and red-light cameras, including efforts to deploy speed cameras around all 2,000+ New York City schools?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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6. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 21. Will you pledge to support efforts to allow the Department of Transportation to operate speed cameras 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 22. Would you vote in favor of a home rule message allowing New York City to implement automated enforcement measures without interference from Albany?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 23. Do you support the subsidization of Citi Bike with public funds in order to expand the bike-sharing system more quickly to more parts of the city?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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7. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 24. Do you approve of the process the NYC Department of Transportation and Community Boards use to determine locations for bike-share facilities?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 25. Do you support continued expansion of the on-street bike lane network in all five boroughs?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 26. Would you support adoption of an "Idaho Stop" law, which would permit people on bikes to treat stop signs like yield signs and traffic lights like stop signs?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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8. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 27. Do you support expansion of the city's pedestrian plaza program?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 28. Do you support the MoveNY fair tolling plan?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 29. Do you support permanently closing New York City's parks to cars?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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9. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 30. Do you support the removal or repurposing of on-street parking spaces if such removal can improve safety for pedestrians (such as with the implementation of curb extensions) and/or cyclists (as with protected bike lanes)?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 31. Do you support substantially reducing or even eliminating minimum parking requirements from the zoning code outside of Manhattan?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 32. Do you support fee-based residential permit parking in areas of New York City in which parking demand is highest, such as Manhattan, Brownstone Brooklyn and Western Queens?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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10. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 33. Do you support substantially reducing the number of parking placards issued by New York City, along with the adoption of measures to make placards more difficult to abuse or counterfeit, such as scannable barcodes?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 34. Do you support expansion of the city's PARK Smart 2.0 program, which frees up curbside parking by increasing parking meter rates during periods of increased demand?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 35. Do you support the New York City Department of Transportation's car-share pilot program, which will dedicate 300 on-street parking spaces and 300 spaces in city-owned parking lots exclusively to shared vehicles?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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11. YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 36. Do you support expanding Bus Rapid Transit, with dedicated bus lanes, in your district?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 37. Do you support the proposed Brooklyn-Queens Connector (BQX) project, which would create a 16-mile-long streetcar line along the waterfront between Astoria and Sunset Park?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 38. Do you support NYC Ferry, which will add five new routes to existing East River ferry service, as an extension of the public transit network?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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12. Copy of page: YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 39. Do you have any concerns about the significant per-passenger public subsidy required to operate ferry service at a fare of \$2.75 per ride?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 40. Do you support the Fair Fares campaign advocated for by Riders Alliance and the Community Service Society, which calls for city-funded half-priced Metro Cards for New Yorkers living below the poverty level?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 41. Do you support the recommendations for improving bus service in New York City outlined in the Bus Turnaround report created by TransitCenter, Riders Alliance, Straphangers Campaign and the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, including redesign of the city's bus network and routes, modernized fare collection and all-door boarding, signal priority and improved scheduling, and street design that prioritizes bus service?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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13. Copy of page: YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 42. Do you support creation of a transit-priority corridor along the route of the L subway line during the 15-month shutdown of the Canarsie Tunnel beginning in April 2019, as envisioned in Transportation Alternatives' "PeopleWay" proposal, which would ban or limit private automobile traffic while providing dedicated bus lanes, protected bike lanes and expanded sidewalks?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 43. Would you support adoption of a comprehensive snow-removal policy that puts pedestrians, transit users and cyclists on equal footing with drivers?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 44. Do you support the completion of the Harbor Ring, which would provide pedestrian and bike paths across all major New York harbor bridges, including the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

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14. Copy of page: YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 45. If elected, will you commit to recommending for appointment Community Board candidates who openly support safe, complete and livable streets?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 46. Would you consider not reappointing Community Board members who consistently oppose or obstruct safe-streets initiatives and transit-priority projects?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

* 47. Do you believe that Community Boards should have veto power over projects proposed by the NYC Department of Transportation?

- YES
- NO
- OTHER (Please provide details)

15. Copy of page: YES/NO QUESTIONS Continued

* 48. Do you support term limits for Community Board members?

YES

NO

OTHER (Please provide details)

16. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

49. If you would like to submit supporting materials, please paste them into the comment field below or email your materials to Eric@StreetsPAC.org.

Thank you for completeing the [StreetsPAC](#) survey