



Queens Civic Congress

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October 9, 2009

RE: 2009 Queens Civic Congress Candidates Survey

Dear Candidate:

Queens Civic Congress, an umbrella organization for more than 110 community and neighborhood groups representing tenants, co-op and condo owners and homeowners living in every part of Queens, presents its 2009 Candidates Survey (found on the next page). Kindly submit it as soon as possible. Responses will be posted as soon as practicable after receipt. Starting October 23, Queens Civic Congress will also post a list of candidates and whether or not they responded to the survey and link the responses to each survey. The responses will also be shared with the News media and our member organization. Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,
Corey Bearak
Corey B. Bearak, Esq.
President

Find Queens Civic Congress [Members](#) below or on the web at:
<http://queensciviccongress.org/organization/members.php>.

Queens Civic Congress Members

Addisleigh Park Civic Organization ♦ Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bay Terrace Cooperative Section 1 ♦ Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ♦ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ♦ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ♦ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Broadway-Flushing Homeowners Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ♦ Creedmoor Civic Association ♦ Deerfield Area Association ♦ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ♦ Douglas Manor Association ♦ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Association of Long Island City ♦ East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ♦ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ♦ Floral Park Community Council ♦ Flushing Heights Civic Association ♦ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ♦ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ♦ Forest Hills Crescents Association ♦ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ♦ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ♦ Georgetown Mews ♦ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ♦ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ♦ Holliswood Civic Association ♦ Hollis Park Gardens Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ♦ Juniper Park Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ Newtown Historical Society ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Neighborhood Association ♦ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ♦ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ♦ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ♦ Our Neighbors Civic Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ♦ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ♦ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ♦ Rockaway Park Homeowners/Residents ♦ Rocky Hill Civic Association ♦ Rosedale Civic Association ♦ Royal Ranch Association ♦ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ♦ South Ozone Park West Association Civic ♦ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ♦ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ♦ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ♦ Surrey Estates Civic Association ♦ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ♦ United Forties Civic Association ♦ United Mutual

**Queens Civic Congress 2009 Candidates Survey
Dan Halloran- Council District 19**

Will you support retaining zoning regulations that subject development of big box stores to public land review in most NYC neighborhoods? Yes No

Will you support legislation enabling the city to force violators to comply with Zoning Resolution and Building Code violations? Yes No

Will you support legislation authorizing City Council review of BSA decisions? **Yes** No

How do you envision the role of community boards in planning for neighborhood growth, budgeting and quality of life issues.

Community Boards play a vital role in our community and if anything their power and authority should be expanded particularly as relates to oversight of quality of life issues. Community Board needs assessments provide a critical guidepost to City Hall, City agencies and the City Council in formulating budgetary priorities or at least they should and would where I elected to the city council. The Community Board's role with regard to section 197(c) and (d) of the City Charter (ULURP) and with regard to CEQR is terribly important to preserving the quality of life within our communities and if anything we need greater protections with the BSA, and with regard to addressing DOB shortcomings. I look forward to a partnership with the community boards in the 19th CD because they have been the frontline in preserving our quality of life, identifying abuses and shortcomings and helping prioritize budgetary matters and amplify community concerns.

Community Boards should be empowered through reforms including mandating that even before as of right development occurs, the CB is notified with sufficient time to evaluate the plan and provide an advisory vote on the matter. I also would favor changing the law so that a CB's vote on a variance creates a rebuttable presumption against (or for it), which must be overcome by an even higher demonstration of necessity before the BSA.

Building and Code Enforcement

Will you sponsor legislation-called for by the Queens Civic Congress—to give the city authority to issue summons by DOB, FDNY and HPD to property owners who refuse access to their properties where a complaint of an illegal use exists. Yes No

Would you rescind the Department of Building's Rules 105-03 and 105-04 which limit challenges by the public to new construction for a period of 45 days after the issuance of work permits? Yes No

Water Rates

Will you sponsor legislation to abolish the NYC Water Board whose only function seems to be to raise revenue for whichever Mayor happens to occupy City Hall? Yes No

In view of the exponentially rising property taxes and water use charges, will you support returning the cost of water supply and treatment facilities capital expenses to New York City's capital budget? Yes No

New Yorkers are fed up with so called enforcement of quality of life violations. Will you support legislation to authorize traffic and other enforcement agents issue summonses for dumping, littering and similar offenses? Yes No

Parks/ Concessions

Will you support calls by park advocates for changes in the rules for major concessions that will require public review of changes in the use, design and configuration of parks, playgrounds and major features therein? Yes No

Will you support tightening rules for major concessions? Yes No

Discretionary Funding

How will you decide which groups to support with City Council member funds?

Not for profit civic groups, park preservation groups, educational and cultural groups, public safety groups and senior groups and so many others play a critical role in preserving our quality of life, ensuring the efficient delivery of vital services, protect and educate the public and add to the vitality and vibrancy of our diverse community life in the 19th CD. I will look to the Community Boards, the Queens Civic Congress and to the groups themselves to help me make these decisions. Having seen first hand the wonderful work done by so many groups in my community and having a great sense of what the challenges and priorities are within the 19th CD, I will work collaboratively to ensure such funds are fairly allocated.

How will you respond to situations where a group seeking funding employs a person who is your relative or is a relative of a staff member?

I think public officials always need to be mindful that perceptions of impropriety undermine citizens' faith in their government. My office will have a zero tolerance policy for nepotism or anything that reeks of nepotism in hiring of staff or allocating of funds.

CIVIC 2030

Have you read the Queens Civic Congress Platform*, CIVIC 2030? Yes No

Do you support CIVIC 2030? Yes No

Yes, but with exceptions Please list: _____

*CIVIC 2030 may be viewed or downloaded at <http://queensciviccongress.org/platform/CIVIC2030.pdf>

**Please return via email in either Word, OpenOffice or PDF format to Corey Bearak,
Bearak@aol.com**