



Dear 2022 Candidate:

The Village Reform Democratic Club is interested in knowing about your qualifications, thoughts and plans for the office you're seeking. We have prepared this very brief set of questions to help us know you better as we decide on our Club endorsements.

Please provide your name, website URL, the office for which you're running and contact information in case our members wish to request additional information or clarification.

- 1) What are your top 2-3 issues going forward? If elected or re-elected, what will be your specific approach to each of them?
- 2) Please list 2-3 things you have done for our community (the greater Greenwich Village area) and the results you achieved. What were the challenges, how did you address them, and how did you involve the community?
- 3) What do you most want our club members to know about you and why you believe you're the best candidate for the position?

**Brad Hoylman**

**Democratic candidate for State Senate, 30<sup>th</sup> District**

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**What are your top 2-3 issues going forward? If elected or re-elected, what will be your specific approach to each of them?**

My top issues are: (i) affordable housing; (ii) COVID-19 recovery; and (iii) equality, justice and human rights. My specific approach is to sponsor and support legislation in Albany to encourage the creation and protection of affordable housing, specifically rent-regulated, senior and supportive housing. I've introduced legislation to tax pied-a-terres, with the proceeds directed towards affordable housing, including NYCHA; convened a Senate Judiciary hearing on good cause eviction protections for non-regulated tenants; sponsored and passed the NYS Tenant Safe Harbor Act, which protected tenants from eviction during the pandemic; was part of the effort to renew and strengthen the rent laws, known as the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act;

and am now advocating for the creation of new housing as part of the Penn Station redevelopment proposal.

On COVID-19 recovery, among other things, I helped direct state money to struggling small businesses and arts organizations and have introduced legislation to end the punitive Commercial Rent Tax to help small businesses in Manhattan, and create a COVID-19 database for sufferers of “long COVID,” passed legislation to end the religious exemption to ensure that schoolchildren are vaccinated, and introduced legislation to require the COVID-19 vaccine for children once its fully approved by the FDA and recommended by the CDC.

On equality, justice and human rights, I’ve been a champion in Albany for marginalized communities and health equity. For example, I led the fight for passage of the Child Victims Act, which allowed nearly 11,000 adult survivors of child sexual abuse the opportunity to revive the civil claims against their abusers or the institutions that may have protected them and am working to pass the Adult Survivors Act, a companion bill that would allow adult survivors to file retroactive civil claims. I also passed legislation extending human rights protections for transgender and gender nonconforming New Yorkers, banned so-called LGBTQ “conversion therapy” and ended the gay panic defense. Finally, I am the co-sponsor of the NY Health Act which would bring a single payer health care system to New York State.

**Please list 2-3 things you have done for our community (the greater Greenwich Village area) and the results you achieved. What were the challenges, how did you address them, and how did you involve the community?**

I’ve been an outspoken proponent of safer traffic laws and pedestrian safety. For example, I led the coalition to lower the speed limit on the West Side Highway, inspired by a hit-and-run of a young man who had moved to NYC shortly after I was elected. I sponsor legislation to allow NYC the ability to do that as-of-right, instead of going to Albany for permission. I co-sponsor legislation to provide more rights to the victims of traffic violence and the placement of more speed cameras in the city.

I’ve also advocated for gun safety, which is especially important with the rates of gun deaths on the rise. I sponsored and passed legislation banning untraceable “ghost guns” in New York and am working on requiring microstamping technology be deployed in all guns sold in the state.

Third, I have sponsored and passed legislation requiring greater transparency of the SLA approval process and the translation of NYS websites. Fourth, I have supported local parks and arts organizations, including Washington Square Park with financial support, provided state money for renovations to a childrens’ playground in Hudson River Park, and state money for numerous arts, educational and human services organizations, including the NY Public Library, Greenwich House, Third Street Music School, La Mama, the Public Theater and many others. Finally, I’ve introduced legislation to support local through the Local Journalism Sustainability Act that provides a tax credit for subscribers of local news outlets and helps offset the salaries of local reporters.

The challenges are generally convincing my colleagues by building coalitions of support, which ties into the fact that I've worked with the local community board, block associations and political clubs by seeking their input and support of my efforts through town hall meetings, letters and resolutions.

**What do you most want our club members to know about you and why you believe you're the best candidate for the position?**

I want VRDC members to know that I'm always accessible to them by picking up the phone or emailing me to my personal contact information (above). I've known VRDC well, dating back over 25 years (gulp!). I think we've always had an open dialogue and some healthy back-and-forth about many issues. I'm especially mindful of this as part of my new Senate district encompasses VRDC territory.

I think I'm the best candidate for the position because my decade in the State Senate and another decade as a member of Community Board 2 (including three as chair) demonstrate my ability to stand up for the underdog, speak up against powerful interests and get things done behalf of our local Village community, of which my family and I are proud members, and our new Senate district, which runs from Canal Street to 81<sup>st</sup> Street on the West Side of Manhattan.

Thank you for your consideration!