



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?

Brian Robinson

Congressional Candidate for District 10 NY

<https://www.votebriannyc.com/>

Contact: admin@votebriannyc.com

Campaign Manager: Jin Choi

Jin.choi@votebriannyc.com

Phone: 917-971-1004

As the only moderate Democrat in the race, my candidacy strikes the right balance. I champion small businesses, socially liberal policies, open debate, public safety, and education.

1. Public Safety:

Responsible Rhetoric: The "Defund" movement began in D.C. and percolated through to local levels in the form of policy. Our Congressman in D 10 was a part of the "Defund" wave (Westside Rag: 6.7.20). While \$1 Billion was removed from the NYPD budget, including

funding of a crucial homeless outreach team, the worst of it was on a cultural level. The police were DEMORALIZED. They were asked to step back, and the people paid the price. This was never anything my family and I signed up for, yet the consequences are punctuated throughout the city. Good police officers need to be able to do their jobs.

While it's true that members of Congress are responsible for initiatives on the Federal level, their weight in local issues is understated. Jerry Nadler endorsed Alvin Bragg during a period of surging violent crime. I cannot fathom this was done in the best interest of the people, but I do know that creating a "crime sanctuary city" is not the way forward for NY.

I would personally introduce a bill to incentivize high crime cities to reign in violent crime to reasonable benchmark targets to receive certain federal grants. Incentive is the best motivator for behavioral change, and in the face of a negligent prosecutorial context, stricter measures ought to be taken to apply pressure on local levels to protect their citizens. Ultimately, public safety is about quality of life, and it is lacking here in NYC.

2. Small Business Advocacy:

It is imperative that we streamline emergency funds deployment in preparation for potential future crises. As a small business owner, I know that cashflow is key to survival. It keeps employees paid, and benefits fulfilled. Many small businesses would still be in business today if PPP was deployed efficiently, and expediently. I will introduce a bill to improve emergency readiness for the future.

Easier access to credit for small businesses at reasonable interest rates will help growth initiatives and fosters long term prosperity. I plan to be on the congressional Small Business Committee in order to work this bill through. As a small business owner for over a decade, I know what it takes from the inside to create an environment for small shops to succeed in NY. New York City has not made it easy for them, especially the past few years. We need to remember that small businesses are the gems that give neighborhoods character and provide residents a sense of community.

Small businesses deserve tax breaks. As Democrats we must do better to support these important but struggling community mainstays. Small tax breaks will lead to more operating cash flow and greater growth potential. We owe them as much following the enormous sacrifice the small businesses in this city have made for the greater good.

Bio - Community work (Greater Greenwich Village Area):

Brian Robinson is a proud Jewish American, father, husband, and man of his community. His passion to building a greater quality of life for the people around him led him to found his own consumer advocacy company over a decade ago in Lower Manhattan. He has helped individuals and small businesses alike deal with aggressive creditors and insurmountable debt here in the district and beyond, so that they can provide for a better financial future for themselves and their loved ones.

He authored the book *Adderall Blues*, based on his own experiences with ADD, to emphasize the importance of mental health and a system that supports intelligences of all types. The book became a finalist for the 2017 American Book Fest Best Book Award. Brian has been a guest lecturer on the topic since, recently presenting at the Manhattan Adult ADD Support Group. His presentation broke the record number of attendees. He guest lectures from time to time in addition to running his company.

Still true to his community roots, Brian continues to volunteer for Bogardus Plaza in Tribeca. He has recently been invited to join as an official board member. He spends the rest of his time in Lower Manhattan, where he lives with his loving wife Lindsey and their beautiful four-year-old daughter.

Lower Manhattan Community Work Endorsement:

Victoria Weil, President of Tribeca's Bogardus Plaza, Officially Endorses Brian Robinson for the Seat Currently held by Jerry Nadler in NY's 10th District.

"As a community organizer for almost 15 years, I've interacted with all sorts of people: elected officials, business owners, the community board and hundreds of residents," said Weil. "Brian is unique in that he expressed interest in helping out with our local pedestrian plaza and then jumped right in with no additional prodding. He has shooed away illegal skateboarders, wound the clock and now wants to help with the plaza maintenance. Brian is enthusiastic, earnest, and, if he believes in something, he pursues it relentlessly without being overbearing. I am thrilled that he's volunteering for the Friends of Bogardus Plaza and look forward to getting him on the Board of Directors. I am therefore happy to announce that Brian has my full endorsement for his candidacy, and I look forward to what he will continue to do for our community."

Why Vote for Me?

Our country is so incredibly polarized right now, and our city is in tatters after the implementation of some questionable policies. We need balance on all levels of government right now. As a moderate, I am in a unique position to be a mediator between progressive visions and practical, common-sense policy. It is unlikely the Democrats will hold on to a majority in the House of Representatives. The Democrats are looking to heal an internal divide that will arguably be the cause of the recent unpopularity of Democratic policies from a country wide perspective. We must look toward the future. If the Village Reform Democratic Club and other institutional Democrat organizations proceed to "rubber stamp" and endorse the incumbent, I fear NY will not progress to a mindset that will deliver this great city out of its slump. Safer streets are a first step. We need politicians that are in touch with reality, and constantly forward thinking. Reform depends on renewal and supporting new blood when the time is right. The time is absolutely right for a moderate Democrat to represent District 10 NY in 2023.

