

Candidate: Leslie Boghosian Murphy

Office: NYC Council District 3

Question: Please provide a brief statement about why you are running for this office. What would be your #1 policy priority if elected? And please provide one accomplishment that you believe illustrates why you're the best candidate for the job.

Candidate Response:

I am Leslie Boghosian Murphy and I am running for NYC Council District 3. Living in the district for over 22 years with my husband, 13-year old daughter and rescue dog, Bailey, I am the granddaughter of immigrants who fled the Armenian Genocide and came to NYC.

After a rewarding career as an EMMY-awarding winning investigative journalist and becoming a mother, I looked for ways to make a difference closer to home.

My path to run for office evolved organically, First as a member of my block association then volunteered at the local women and children's shelter and now I serve as a member of Community Board 4 where I was recently voted in as Chair unanimously by my peers.

As a member of the Port Authority Bus Terminal Advisory Council and the Hudson River Park Trust Advisory Council, I have taken the lead on the most important issues facing our district right now.

I led the "NO CASINOS" community group and won.

I led the charge for electric shore power at the Manhattan Cruise Terminal to clean up our dirty air and helped broker a \$1 per cruise ship passenger fee to go directly into an environmental community fund. That's around \$800,000 a year in perpetuity going directly into community projects and programs.

I am on the Launch Advisory Board for New Yorkers United for Child Care.

I believe in an affordable, clean, safe New York which will be my priorities as your Council Member. I will make sure to include working class and family size affordable units in the conversation on affordable housing, something that has up until now been neglected. We also must secure the mechanisms to allow people to age in place and provide the elderly the tools they need to foster engagement and prevent isolation.

I will continue my work to make this city greener and healthier by fostering more open spaces and enforcing stricter environmental baselines for new builds. Just recently, I negotiated with Sanitation leadership to add a midday "gap truck" for more frequent basket pick up in our district, a small action producing big results.

We now have a greater task - we have to work hard to Trump-proof our City. Coming from a family of immigrants, it is easy to recognize we have come to the point where ICE is no longer operating as a credible, federal agency. I would urge the Mayor and my colleagues to consider using the enforcement mechanisms at our disposal at the city level to prohibit ICE agents from moving freely in our streets and inside our buildings. I will focus on the same fierce protections for the LGBTQ+ community who Trump has also targeted.

I have built a reputation for showing up, listening and for standing up for our community, championing things most important to the neighborhood and already having a successful track record working with our local elected officials and agencies.

I have a daughter in middle school, am a long-time SAG-AFTRA union member and caretaker to my 92-year old parents. When I arrive at City Hall it will be with determination and passion. I will address all the quality of life issues, from the big things to the little things; they all matter. I love my community and advocating for you; it is why I am running.