



2022 Lieutenant Gubernatorial Candidate Questionnaire

Completed questionnaires will be public documents available on our website. If we hold an endorsement vote in your race, we will also share your questionnaire with our members before the vote.

Contact with questions: Jessica Thurston, NKD's VP of Political Affairs, politics@newkingsdemocrats.com

Name	
Top-line summary of your public service roles and areas of New York State represented	While I have not served in public office before, I have spent the last 20 years fighting on behalf of our communities across New York City and around the country.
What is one important way you think the Lieutenant Governor's Office should be reformed, and what is your plan for trying to implement such reform?	I believe the Lieutenant Governor's role can and should be one of accountability. For too long, the Governor's office has paid insufficient attention to low-income New Yorkers of color. In recent years, with a Democratic legislature, we've seen the Governor's office as the principal obstacle to progressive change, and the Lieutenant Governor (both current and former) has merely served as a surrogate for the Governor. If elected, I would take seriously the job of elevating the issues of low-income New Yorkers of color in the public sphere, making sure the Governor is hearing them—and, if the Governor is unresponsive, being a voice of accountability to ensure greater responsiveness. I would also work closely with like-minded legislators to ensure that the issue priorities of CVH and its partners are amplified as much as possible, and work to ensure they are enacted into law.
As Lieutenant Governor, how would you engage with communities traditionally underrepresented in Albany? In what ways and with which organizations are you involved?	<p>I have spent my entire career engaging with and fighting for communities who have been traditionally underrepresented. I have been a leader in New York and nationally in the fight for immigrant rights, worker justice, LGBTQ rights, and women's rights for two decades. I was born in Colombia and I have spent my entire adult life in New York. I co-founded and led several grassroots progressive organizations, including Make the Road New York and the Center for Popular Democracy, and I have dedicated my life to fighting for the rights and dignity of working people - Black, Latino, Asian, white, immigrant and native born.</p> <p>In New York, I fought for years so that every young person would be able to access high-quality education—helping lead campaigns to fully fund public schools, create school-based college access programs, and pass the New York Dream Act. I was also deeply involved in the fights for paid sick days, raising the minimum wage, and a range of other economic, racial, and justice campaigns. In New York and nationally, I have been a leader in the fight for humane immigration reform.</p>

<p>If elected, what will your top three legislative and/or budgetary priorities?</p>	<p>1. Affordable Housing: Housing is perhaps the centerpiece of any effort to help families and communities stabilize after the devastating pandemic. Without affordable and dignified housing, New Yorkers will keep struggling to make ends meet, take care of their loved ones, and thrive.</p> <p>No one in New York should worry about where they or their families might sleep at night. From renters to those trying to become homeowners, the current housing crisis impacts everyone. We need to protect vulnerable tenants by passing significant eviction protections, use public funds to combat homelessness, and have a comprehensive solution to the crisis of housing affordability, which includes re-orienting state development agencies towards building and preserving one million new affordable and publicly-built housing units for working and middle class New Yorkers. Doing so will increase public safety and create thousands of living wage jobs in the process.</p> <p>My long term vision for building permanently affordable housing is a wholly new approach at Empire State Development and New York State Urban Development Corporation. Instead of the failed practices of giveaways to large real estate developers, an ESD under our administration will partner with nonprofits and qualified housing operators to ensure that our public land produces housing that is permanently affordable and used for the social good. Our plan aims to produce one million affordable units over the coming decade.</p> <p>Under this system, housing would be available to all people at a range of income levels. Moderate income households, paying 30% of their income in rent, will be able to cross-subsidize lower rents paid by lower income families. Any gap in funding can be made up by the State through both new and existing subsidy programs. This system will lower the cost of providing housing by making it accessible to middle income people who can pay a higher rent, and by eliminating the drive for profit that characterizes our current affordable housing systems.</p> <p>Through this type of public option for housing, we can create an unprecedented investment in high quality, affordable housing across the state in urban, suburban, and rural communities. This is, in fact, how early public housing in the United States worked. Publicly owned, moderate cost apartments were built, and were available to a broad range of incomes. Rebuilding that original vision for a broad, universal, and mixed-income approach is the way forward from our housing crisis."Building a System of Care: Universal Child Care: New York State should invest in ensuring universal child care across the state—inclusive of all children, regardless of their immigration status. This could be done over a four year period. Unfortunately, the budget agreement just signed falls short of that.</p>
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Coverage for All: New York State should invest in ensuring that all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, have access to health care. New York should invest \$345 million per year to offer an Essential Plan to low-income people regardless of immigration status. Unfortunately, the budget agreement just signed falls short of that.

2. Investing in Community Safety:

Stable and resourced communities make safe communities.

We know that true public safety comes when communities have what they need to thrive. Public safety is safe housing, good health care, childcare, reliable transportation, and living-wage jobs—not overpolicing, arrests, incarceration, and surveillance.

The fact is every New Yorker has a right to be safe, and to feel safe. That means we have to reject fear-mongering and to invest in community-oriented and evidence-based solutions that we know can work to create stability in our neighborhoods, prevent gun violence, and save lives. It's critical that we resist knee-jerk reactions that could return us to failed, damaging policies of the past.

Gun violence in our communities is a serious national crisis that has been exacerbated amid the compounding public health and economic catastrophes brought on by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, cities across New York had worked over the previous decade to bring levels of violence to historic lows, in part due to a pivot away from focusing endlessly on punitive systems of criminalization and towards more holistic, community-centered approaches. Now, as the devastation of the pandemic has also brought greater instability and a corresponding uptick in violence, we must have a renewed and strengthened commitment to implement approaches that are both effective and moral.

It is not enough to return to the pre-pandemic “normal,” and we have a moral obligation to go further to end gun and other interpersonal violence, reimagining and redefining public safety to encompass a broad approach to building up communities. By both directly addressing the issues fueling violence and reshaping the systems and structures from which it takes root, we can build safer, stronger communities. We must shift away from existing approaches that rely and focus on an arrest-and-incarcerate approach, which has too often failed and inflicted greater and lasting harm.

As Lieutenant Governor, I will be a champion for common-sense solutions and greater investments in families and communities to prevent gun violence before it needlessly takes lives and causes even greater harm. We are asking our police to do too much and it's costing lives. Community-oriented solutions that involve highly

	<p>trained conflict resolution professionals and other members of the community will allow us to connect residents in need to mental health, job training, and other important resources to save lives and promote public safety for every community.</p> <p>We will treat gun violence like the emergency that it is and rapidly get greater resources out the door as quickly and effectively as possible to community partners and agencies doing the work. We will ensure that these funds will be earmarked across the gun violence prevention continuum to address root causes, create opportunities for at-risk New Yorkers, and intervene when necessary. And finally, historic and aggressive investment in the long-term health, economic, and housing infrastructure of our state coming out of this pandemic are necessary components to advance safety across the state.</p> <p>My running mate and I have articulated a 10-point public safety plan with a particular focus on gun violence. It includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Invest one billion dollars statewide in underfunded gun violence prevention, youth programming, and victims' services programs2. Build a statewide mental health infrastructure so all New Yorkers can access mental health services and supports in their communities3. Develop a state program of trauma response for communities and neighborhoods ripped apart by violence.4. Invest greater resources for community-based strategies to prevent and address interpersonal violence such as hate crimes, domestic violence, interpersonal violence and sexual violence5. Implement a housing, jobs, and infrastructure investment plan in the neighborhoods across New York State with the highest amounts of gun violence and overdose deaths6. End the flow of guns into communities by focusing on the supply chain7. Defend hard fought civil rights reforms and end the racial injustices plaguing our criminal justice system8. End the failed war on drugs upstate and downstate and invest in compassionate care and support for people and communities9. Ensure accountable, transparent, and focused policing, so they are responding to acute situations that specifically require law enforcement, not matters like routine traffic stops, mental health response, or addressing poverty10. End cycles of incarceration and instability by providing incarcerated and formerly incarcerated New Yorkers with support and resources—providing healthcare, employment, educational, and reentry support for those returning home from incarceration <p>3. Investing in Care for Children, Elders and Patients: As Lieutenant Governor, I would fight to:</p>
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	<p>Pass the New York Health Act: we need universal healthcare disconnected from big insurance profiteering for all New Yorkers, including access for all immigrants and coverage for mental health services and abortion care.</p> <p>Create a large-scale mental health infrastructure across the state, including culturally competent outreach, neighborhood clinics, mobile units, and school services.</p> <p>Ensure immigrant neighbors are protected by passing Coverage for All, creating a state-funded Essential Plan for all New Yorkers up to 200% of the federal poverty level who are currently excluded because of their immigration status.</p> <p>Invest in research and programs to support Black maternal health.</p> <p>Protect women's reproductive health and the right to choose.</p> <p>Build and fund state of the art public hospitals.</p> <p>Regulate and hold for-profit nursing homes accountable.</p> <p>Build strong elder care services.</p> <p>Additionally, healthcare is inadequate and unaffordable for millions of New Yorkers. If the federal government can't or won't do it, New York must lead the effort for universal, single-payer healthcare. Every New Yorker should have fully covered healthcare that includes dental, mental health, and long-term care without worrying about insurance companies dictating their health.</p> <p>All New Yorkers have the right to safe, free, culturally competent health care. Decades of underinvestment in health services created the conditions for the coronavirus to spread most rapidly, the public health system to be overrun most quickly, the pain to be felt most deeply, New York to become the epicenter of the epicenter. We need to reverse the damage done to Medicaid in the last administration and provide universal health care—including for people often left behind. It's critical that we combat health disparities and inequities, from food insecurity, to Black maternal morbidity to underfunding of hospitals in already underserved areas.</p> <p>It is critical that we create universal childcare for all New York families and a permanent end to food insecurity.</p> <p>Childcare is the number one investment we can make to increase social and economic opportunities for New York's children and parents. Without child care support, parents can't go to work, pursue higher education opportunities, and children fall farther behind in the education system. At the same time, we can ensure strong wages, benefits, and protections for our child care workers.</p>
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	<p>As your Lt. Governor, I would fight to:</p> <p>Develop and phase-in a guaranteed, universal childcare system that supports parents, children, and childcare workers. This must be for all children across our communities, regardless of immigration status.</p> <p>Invest in early childhood education that is high-quality and culturally responsive.</p> <p>Create subsidies for fresh, healthy food accessible to every resident facing food insecurity. We must revamp New York's food distribution system to improve efficiency, resilience, and sustainability</p>
<p>NKD expects elected candidates to openly discuss how they will reform the areas of voting rights. Please summarize your priorities in those areas here.</p>	<p>We must ensure all New Yorkers' voices are heard and their votes counted. Our rigid voting laws disenfranchise New Yorkers, particularly the most marginalized groups. We must expand voting rights by allowing all voters to vote by mail and expand early voting. Amid a national tide of anti-voter measures that threaten our elections and disenfranchise individuals and populations, New York has an opportunity to stand as a model, but only if we make this a priority.</p> <p>We must also make serious commitments to end the influence of big money on our politics. This includes fully resourcing and embracing New York's public financing system, and for candidates to reject money from corporations, lobbyists, and powerful special interest groups like the real estate industry.</p> <p>Albany also needs major ethics overhaul, accountability, and culture change to to end the scourge of sexual harassment and abuse in state government. We must ensure the Governor's appointments are free of conflicts of interest and other forms of dangerous corporate influence.</p> <p>Expand NY's voting rights (including absentee voting, same day registration) and fund and reform Boards of Elections</p> <p>Fully fund and implement public financing of our elections to limit the influence of big money in our politics</p> <p>Bring an ethical approach to governance, including making sure appointments are free of conflicts of interest and corporate influence, and ensure strong transparency and accountability from Albany</p>
<p>NKD is a proud supporter of the Sexual Harassment Working Group. If elected, will you commit to working side-by-side with the SHWG to fight for changes to the culture of sexual</p>	<p>It is critical that we root out any form of sexual harassment and abuse within our government. I confronted former Arizona Senator Jeff Flake just before the Senate Judiciary Committee's vote for controversial Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, leading to a delay in the process and forcing Flake and all Senators to reckon with their responsibility for allowing someone credibly accused of</p>

harassment and abuse in Albany?	sexual assault to ascend to the Supreme Court. I am committed to fighting for changes to this toxic and harmful culture. Just today,
What is your path to victory? This could include endorsements, relationships, and major sources of campaign funds.	<p>I have an unprecedented and extraordinary opportunity to be the next Lieutenant Governor—and the first Latina and LGBTQ+ New Yorker elected statewide.</p> <p>I am the only viable candidate with a progressive record and a clear commitment to everyday New Yorkers. There is a clear path for my victory.</p> <p>Our path is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energize our progressive base: this includes WFP backers, the progressive movement across our state, and young people. Ensure their firm support and turn them out in June. This is 15% of our electorate, and if we lock up serious progressive endorsers like Bernie and AOC, which we plan to do, could be up to 40% of our vote. • Continue to consolidate support among Latinx community: we must make clear we are the Latinx campaign - and that together we will make history. This is 10-15% of the primary electorate, closer to 15% if we surge. • Compete in Black communities: with Benjamin out, Ana María now has a much better opportunity to win over Black voters. • Consolidate support from big players: we are competing for support from figures like Sens. Schumer and Gillibrand, AG James, and Members of Congress. We expect our first Congressional endorsement this week. • Consolidate endorsements: Building on critical endorsements over the past two weeks, we are working to lock in as many elected officials as possible to demonstrate both strength and viability. We already have the most endorsements in the field from both elected officials and organizations. • Big Labor: with Brian Benjamin out, we can compete for leading labor organizations. We are engaging them and hope to win their support. • Editorial Boards (esp. NY Times): we are advancing an aggressive strategy to encourage them to endorse Ana María as an accountability candidate. This is based on NYT's 2018 endorsement of Jumaane Williams as an independent, progressive LG. This is critical to win decisively among white liberal and good government-inclined voters.

	<p>We have received the most endorsements of any candidate in this race, including dozens of elected officials and organizations. The full list is here: https://www.anamariafornny.com/endorsements</p> <p>Some of the most prominent ones include: Reps. Nydia Velazquez and Jamaal Bowman State Sens. Mike Gianaris, Alessandra Biaggi, Gustavo Rivera, and James Sanders State Assemblymembers Gonzalez-Rojas, Epstein, Niou, and Kim City Council Members Caban, Nurse, Hudson, Osse, Restler, Hanif, Won, Krishnan Organizations: Working Families Party, Make the Road Action, NYCC, Citizen Action of NY, VOCAL Action Fund, and many more</p>
<p>What could New York State do to improve conditions for NYCHA residents and to create more truly affordable housing statewide?</p>	<p>NYCHA residents are very upset and worried after decades of neglect. We need to address the public housing that we have and dramatically upgrade New York's public housing infrastructure while ensuring management is held accountable. As Lieutenant Governor, I will prioritize a dramatic increase in funding for NYCHA. I will also push for improving oversight and transparency of entities like the New York City Housing Authority, and work closely with federal and local partners to realize a Green New Deal for Public Housing. It's time to update New York's public housing for the 21st century. New York has neglected public housing for far too long and its residents, our neighbors, and our communities deserve better.</p> <p>While I understand the position of those who support Blueprint and RAD/PACT in exploring all possible paths to ensuring that NYCHA gets the funding it needs, I am concerned about moving in the direction of privatization of NYCHA housing. This is a very complex issue, and it's crucial that NYCHA tenant voices are at the center of the debate.</p>
<p>Police, Republicans, and some Democrats blame bail reform for every uptick in crime, despite research showing this is not true. How will you change the conversation on this issue, and how will you reduce the number of people sent to jails and prison?</p>	<p>Stable and resourced communities make safe communities.</p> <p>We know that true public safety comes when communities have what they need to thrive. Public safety is safe housing, good health care, childcare, reliable transportation, and living-wage jobs—not overpolicing, arrests, incarceration, and surveillance.</p> <p>The fact is every New Yorker has a right to be safe, and to feel safe. That means we have to reject fear-mongering and to invest in community-oriented and evidence-based solutions that we know can work to create stability in our neighborhoods, prevent gun violence, and save lives. It's critical that we resist knee-jerk reactions that could return us to failed, damaging policies of the past.</p> <p>By emphasizing the need to invest more in our communities, we can shift the conversation away from the false claims surrounding bail reform and push for the safety that comes with resources and stability.</p> <p>I am committed to reducing the number of people sent to jails and</p>

	<p>prison through working with allies in the state legislature. We saw throughout COVID-19 an effort across stakeholders to reform the justice system. I look forward to continuing this work as Lt. Governor.</p>
<p>The IPCC report shows we need immediate action to survive climate change, but NYS legislation has only set targets for future administrations. What concrete actions will you take in your first term to reduce emissions that cause climate change?</p>	<p>As your Lt. Governor, I would fight to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully fund and implement the state's landmark climate bill, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act to jump-start the transition to a clean energy economy. • Rapidly increase climate resilience across the state by investing in at least \$15 billion annually, starting this year, creating thousands of strong union jobs and ensuring investments go to communities of color disproportionately impacted by climate change • Expand and strengthen public transit infrastructure across the state, including bus services upstate and work for a new deal for NYC subways to ensure safety, dependability, access, and modernity • Implement a moratorium on environmentally damaging Proof-of-Work bitcoin mining in the state and ensure a rigorous study of the environmental impacts of existing and potential future cryptocurrency mining operations • Ensure energy is independent from corporate interests to bring down costs for working families and to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels through efforts like the Public Power and Public Renewables campaigns
<p>What is one fun fact about you?</p>	<p>I make fresh arepas for my kids every morning. Remarkably I still get it done during the campaign!</p>

I have completed this questionnaire and confirm that my responses in this document are accurate:

Candidate Signature: Ana Maria Archila

Date: 5/18/22

You must sign this questionnaire! When complete, please email your signed and scanned questionnaire as a PDF file to politics@newkingsdemocrats.com