

# NEW YORK PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE 2022

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GOVERNOR  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
STATE ASSEMBLY  
DISTRICT LEADERS  
JUDICIAL DELEGATES

*Voter Guide*

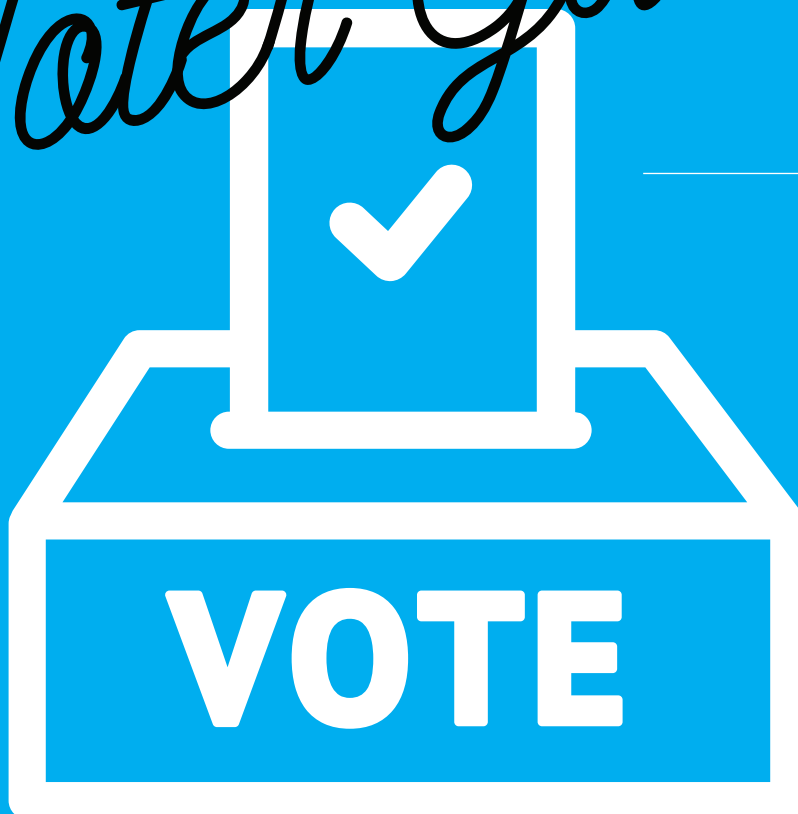
Does my vote  
matter?

What is a  
District Leader?

Which  
candidates are  
on my ballot?

Where do I vote?

What does  
a Lieutenant  
Governor do?



## ABOUT THIS VOTER GUIDE

### PRIMARY DAY IS JUNE 28

New Kings Democrats (“NKD”) developed this voter guide to help inform Brooklynites about candidates who may be on their ballot in the June Democratic Primary, including candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, for State Assembly seats in Brooklyn, and for the Brooklyn Democratic Party positions State Committee Member/District Leader.

**This guide is for the races in the June 28, 2022 Primary.** It does not cover County Committee candidates who are on the primary ballot — visit [this page from RepYourBlock](#) for information on those races.

**The August Primary will include races for Federal Congress and State Senate and is not covered in this guide.**

## ABOUT NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS

NKD is a progressive, grassroots political organization committed to bringing transparency, accountability, and inclusionary democracy to the Brooklyn Democratic Party. Founded by veterans of the Obama campaign, it is a borough-wide political organization that helps people seeking to become more engaged in local politics, and hopes to nurture a new generation of elected Brooklyn Democratic leaders.

As of the date of publication, NKD has endorsed candidates in some of these races, and will explain why within this document.

Please e-mail [politics@newkingsdemocrats.com](mailto:politics@newkingsdemocrats.com) to learn more about our work.

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## HOW TO VOTE

### CONFIRM YOUR ELIGIBILITY AND WHERE TO VOTE

You must be registered as a Democrat to vote in the June 28 Democratic primary. Confirm if you are registered to vote and your party affiliation, if any, at [www.nycvotersearch.com](http://www.nycvotersearch.com). If you are registered to vote, results will include your Assembly District and Election District. You can confirm your polling location by clicking “Poll Site Information” in the top-right corner of the screen. Go to [findmypollsite.vote.nyc](http://findmypollsite.vote.nyc) to view a sample ballot and your poll site locations and hours.

**In Brooklyn, where many races will be won by Democrats, the Primary elections (plural!) on June 28 and August 23 are crucial elections for state and federal positions – so it is very important that you are registered as a Democrat and vote both times.**

Important dates for primary election voters

- June 3 — deadline to [register to vote](#) in the Primary Election
- June 13 — deadline to request an [absentee ballot](#) for Primary Election
- June 18 — early voting begins
- June 28 — Primary Election and last day to postmark the primary election ballot, or deliver to Brooklyn Board of Elections (345 Adams Street) or your local polling site

### BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT

#### A PLAN FOR REFORM



Brooklyn Can't Wait is a partnership between organizations and candidates, all of which have agreed to [this pledge to reform the Brooklyn Democratic Party](#), which is letting everyday Brooklynites down with its insider politics and lack of action to fight back against Republicans. Brooklyn Can't Wait was initiated as a project of New Kings Democrats and is a volunteer-powered campaign dedicated to electing new leadership in our local Party who will show up for all Brooklyn Democrats – not just Party insiders.

District Leaders, referred to as State Committee Members on the ballot, can change the Brooklyn Democratic Party – and every leader is up for election in June 2022. Brooklyn Can't Wait and the partner clubs behind it – New Kings Democrats, Lambda Independent Democrats, and Brooklyn Young Democrats – are

supporting [candidates](#) who are engaged, accessible, and committed to change. Together, we can create a Kings County Democratic Party that respects, empowers, and includes all Brooklynites.

What's wrong with the current Party leadership?

- We're losing races to Republicans that we should win
- Judges are chosen in backroom deals
- Party insiders shut out volunteers
- Voters get shut out, too

The Brooklyn Can't Wait slate includes candidates from across Brooklyn who are committed to making the Brooklyn Democratic Party more accessible, accountable, and transparent. In the pages that follow, candidates endorsed by Brooklyn Can't Wait will be noted as such.

### THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR

PRIMARY DAY: JUNE 28

In New York State, we elect Governors in the general election – but because Democrats typically win, the Democratic Party primary (the one on June 28) is the most important time to vote in this race.

Governor is the highest state office in New York and the head of the executive branch. The Governor is popularly elected to a four-year term. In the case of current New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, she assumed office after Andrew Cuomo [resigned](#) following multiple allegations of sexual harassment.

The primary responsibilities of the Governor are to enforce state laws, approve or veto bills passed by the legislature, convene the legislature, and grant pardons. Less officially, the Governor sets the tone for the state leadership's priorities.

In 2022, Democrats control the three offices of Governor, Secretary of State, and Attorney General. Democrats also control the Assembly and the Senate – the two houses of the state legislature. But because Democrats are typically in control, there is a spectrum of how progressive – or not – Democrats can be.

New York State is at a crossroads: The state legislature failed to pass reforms regarding public power and tenant protections, to name a few, in a state with rising inequality in healthcare, housing, safety, and more. New York is ready for progressive leadership, and the Governor's race is an important time to evaluate what you want to see out of someone holding this incredibly important position.

**READ ON TO MEET THE CANDIDATES >>>**

## THE CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

### TOM SUOZZI

CANDIDATE 1 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Tom Suozzi is a moderate Democrat. He is currently the U.S. representative for New York’s 3rd district, which covers parts of Long Island and Queens, after first being elected in 2016. Previously, Rep. Suozzi was the county executive of Nassau County from 2002 and 2009, before which he was mayor of Long Island’s Glen Cove. He previously ran unsuccessfully for governor against Eliot Spitzer in 2006.



**What stands out about his platform:** Not much. Rep. Suozzi’s website does not outline his platform for the role of Governor and he did not respond to New Kings Democrats’ invitation to participate in the endorsement process. He calls himself a “common sense Democrat.” He has proposed increasing judges’ power [to jail individuals accused of low-level crimes](#), and programs to provide more funding to police. He has criticized Governor Hochul’s rollbacks of bail reform as not going far enough (implying that he would favor more pretrial incarceration).

Rep. Suozzi is running alongside Diana Reyna, who is running for Lieutenant Governor.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [suozziforny.com](https://suozziforny.com)
- [@Tom\\_Suozzi](https://twitter.com/Tom_Suozzi)

#### Endorsements

- Asian Wave Alliance

### THE CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR, continued

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

#### KATHY HOCHUL, INCUMBENT

CANDIDATE 2 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Kathy Hochul is the current governor of New York State. She was elected as the Lieutenant Governor in 2014 and again in 2018, and ascended to the role of Governor in 2021 when Andrew Cuomo resigned. She is the state's first female governor. Prior to her tenure as Lieutenant Governor, Governor Hochul was a Congress Member, serving less than one term after winning a special election.



As Governor, Hochul approved a deal to have taxpayers finance \$850 million for a new Buffalo Bills stadium but committed just \$18.2 million in funding for the Gun Involved Violence Elimination initiative. She has promised to protect abortion rights and is prioritizing investing in schools and keeping communities safe.

Governor Hochul selected former State Senator Brian Benjamin as her Lieutenant Governor. On April 12, he resigned after being indicted on federal charges of bribery, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and falsification of records, all of which allegedly took place while he was a State Senator, before joining the Governor in office. Governor Hochul then selected Congress Member Antonio Delgado to serve as Benjamin's replacement, abandoning his Democratic position in a key swing district. He is now running for Lieutenant Governor alongside Hochul in this primary.

**What stands out about her platform:** Governor Hochul has made women's rights a central feature of her platform.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [kathyhochul.com](https://kathyhochul.com)
- [@KathyHochul](https://twitter.com/KathyHochul)

#### Key Endorsements

- AFL-CIO Of New York State
- Hotel Trades Council (HTC)
- EMILY's List
- 32BJ Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
- Bay Ridge Democrats
- NOW-NY (National Organization for Women- NY State)
- Congress Member Carolyn Maloney
- Congress Member Jerry Nadler
- Congress Member Hakeem Jeffries

### THE CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR, continued

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

#### JUMAANE WILLIAMS

CANDIDATE 3 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Jumaane Williams is the current Public Advocate for the City of New York and has been in the role since 2019, previously serving in the New York City Council in Brooklyn's 45th District from 2009-2019. Williams is a first-generation Brooklynite of Grenadian heritage. He has Tourette Syndrome and ADHD, and is an advocate for disability rights.

In 2018, Public Advocate Williams ran unsuccessfully for Lieutenant Governor, but captured much of the vote. His progressive campaign received more votes than any candidate of color in a statewide primary in history, receiving 47% of the vote. He was endorsed by U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, *The New York Times*, and many grassroots organizations and leaders across the state.



Public Advocate Williams' running mate is Ana María Archila, who is running for Lieutenant Governor.

**New Kings Democrats has endorsed Jumaane Williams in this race.**

**What stands out about his platform:** Public Advocate Jumaane Williams believes in transformational change. New York State is suffering under the status quo, and Jumaane Williams is the only candidate who will bring real, progressive change. He will capitalize upon his citywide leadership role to immediately jump into action, and has convened a powerful breadth of diverse endorsers who will ensure that Williams is responsive to New Yorkers most in need. Jumaane is the candidate that won't cater to the billionaires who doubled their wealth during the pandemic while families and children went hungry. Instead, he will ensure housing and healthcare for all, support legislation that makes for a truly environmentally sustainable New York State, and will invest in young people and their futures.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [jumaanewilliams.com](https://jumaanewilliams.com)
- [@JumaaneWilliams](https://www.instagram.com/JumaaneWilliams)



### **Jumaane's Key Endorsements**

- 504 Democratic Club
- Brooklyn Young Democrats
- Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats (CBID)
- CUFFH Action
- Indivisible Nation BK
- Make the Road Action
- Muslim Democratic Club of New York
- New York Communities for Change
- The Jewish Vote
- Working Families Party
- New York City Comptroller Brad Lander
- Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso
- Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou
- NYC Council Member Alexa Aviles
- NYC Council Member Tiffany Caban
- NYC Council Member Jen Gutierrez
- NYC Council Member Shahana Hanif
- NYC Council Member Mercedes Narcisse
- NYC Council Member Sandy Nurse
- NYC Council Member Lincoln Restler
- Former Buffalo Mayoral Democratic Nominee India Walton
- New Kings Democrats

## **THE RACE FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

PRIMARY DAY: JUNE 28

The Lieutenant Governor of New York is the second-highest ranking official in the state. It is a four-year term. The Lieutenant Governor is the president of the State Senate, and is responsible for serving as acting governor when the Governor is out of state or unable to perform their duties. The Lieutenant Governor becomes Governor in the event of the Governor's death, resignation, or removal from office due to impeachment.

With the history of problematic tenures of New York Governors, the Lieutenant Governor's race is keenly important – especially following the recent indictment of Kathy Hochul's first Lieutenant Governor, Brian Benjamin.

While some candidates have co-endorsed each other and are running together, they technically do not run as a ticket in New York State.

**READ ON TO MEET THE CANDIDATES >>>**

### THE CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

#### ANA MARIA ARCHILA

CANDIDATE 1 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Ana María Archila co-founded and led several grassroots progressive organizations, including Make the Road New York and the Center for Popular Democracy. She has dedicated her life to fighting for the rights and dignity of working people, and has been a leader in New York and nationally in the fight for immigrant rights, worker justice, LGBTQ+ rights, and women's rights, for over two decades.



Remember when a woman confronted former Arizona Senator Jeff Flake just before the Senate Judiciary Committee's vote for Supreme Court then-nominee Brett Kavanaugh, forcing Senators to reckon with their responsibility for allowing someone credibly accused of sexual assault to ascend to the Court? That woman was Ana María.

**New Kings Democrats has endorsed Ana María Archila in this race.**

**What stands out about her platform:** Ms. Archila has specific, focused ideas for transforming New York State to support working people, immigrant families, rural communities, and more. She is focused on housing, healthcare, and childcare, among other issues, and is approaching them as an organizer and activist. If elected, she'll be the first Latina and first queer person to hold the office, and will center the experiences of people who have been relegated to the margins. She wants the Lieutenant Governor's office to set an example of accountability.

Ms. Archila is running alongside Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

**Where you can learn more:**

- [anamariaforny.com](http://anamariaforny.com)
- [@AnaMariaforNY](https://www.instagram.com/AnaMariaforNY)
- [Ana María's completed NKD questionnaire](#)

### **Ana María's Key Endorsements**

- New York City Comptroller Brad Lander
- U.S. Congressional Representative Nydia Velázquez
- State Senator Andrew Gounardes
- State Senator Jabari Brisport
- State Senator Julia Salazar
- Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou
- Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes
- Assembly Member Phara Souffrant Forrest
- New York City Council Member Sandy Nurse
- New York City Councilmember Crystal Hudson
- New York City Councilmember Shahana Hanif
- New York City Councilmember Chi Ossé
- New York City Councilmember Lincoln Restler
- Actress & Former Candidate for Governor Cynthia Nixon
- New York Working Families Party
- Make The Road Action
- CPD Action
- New York Communities for Change
- Stonewall Democrats of NYC
- Brooklyn Young Democrats
- Independent Neighborhood Democrats
- New Kings Democrats

### THE CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, continued

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

#### DIANA REYNA

CANDIDATE 2 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Diana Reyna is a first-generation Dominican American, born and raised in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Diana Reyna was formerly Brooklyn Deputy Borough President from 2014-2017 under then-Borough President Eric Adams. She served in the New York City Council representing Bushwick, Williamsburg, and Ridgewood. From 2000-2005, she was the female District Leader for Brooklyn's Assembly District 53. As of May 2022, Ms. Reyna owes \$138,658 to the New York City Campaign Finance Board due to outstanding repayments from her third City Council campaign in 2009.



**What stands out about her platform:** If elected, Ms. Reyna's top three priorities would be: fighting crime, lowering taxes, and helping children in troubled schools. While Ms. Reyna previously held fairly progressive views on topics like community engagement and development, her campaign views are more aligned with those of centrist Representative Suozzi, alongside whom she is running.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [Diana's completed NKD questionnaire](#)
- [suozziforny.com/meet-diana-reyna](https://suozziforny.com/meet-diana-reyna)
- [@Reyna4NY](#)

#### Diana's Key Endorsements:

- Former State Senator Rubén Díaz Sr., [a known homophobe](#)
- Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Local 56
- BRS Local 241
- IATSE Local One
- IBEW Local Union No. 3, IBEW Local 25, IBEW 1049
- UWUA Local 1-2,
- New York City Council Member Bob Holden
- New York City Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.

### THE CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, continued

*In the order in which they will appear on the ballot*

#### ANTONIO DELGADO

CANDIDATE 3 OF 3

**About the candidate:** Antonio Delgado was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor on May 25, 2022, after Governor Hochul's previous pick was indicted on corruption charges. He is a native New Yorker and a Harvard-educated lawyer. Mr. Delgado was elected to Congress as a Democrat in 2018 in the Hudson Valley. In becoming Lieutenant Governor, he leaves an open seat in Congress in a district that is known as a swing seat and had been held by a Republican until 2018. He voted to protect the right to an abortion even if the Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*.



**What stands out about his platform:** We don't know. Mr. Delgado's website does not include information about his vision or priorities for the role, and he did not participate in New Kings Democrats' endorsement process.

Mr. Delgado is running alongside Governor Hochul.

**Where you can learn more:**

- [delgadoforny.com](https://delgadoforny.com)
- [@DelgadoforNY](https://twitter.com/DelgadoforNY)

**Antonio's Key Endorsements:**

- Representative Ritchie Torres

### THE RACES FOR STATE ASSEMBLY

PRIMARY DAY: JUNE 28

The New York State Legislature is composed of two houses: the Senate and the Assembly. The Assembly is considered the lower chamber of the Legislature and currently has 150 seats. Each seat is up for election every two years. Members of the Assembly are responsible for drafting laws and establishing the state budget in conjunction with the Governor.

While Democrats control the Assembly (they currently hold 106 seats), that grasp is tenuous, and the Assembly failed to deliver on key progressive legislation this session. The time is right to elect forward-thinking Assembly Members who are responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable in their communities and who will ensure New York becomes a nation leader for climate activism.

This guide does not cover all 150 Assembly seats or their races. Rather, we have chosen to highlight specific races that will play a key role in both making the Assembly more progressive while also lifting up the Brooklyn Can't Wait campaign and candidates and reform-oriented Governor and Lieutenant Governor candidates.

**READ ON TO MEET THE CANDIDATES >>>**

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 50

The 50th Assembly District encompasses Williamsburg and Greenpoint in North Brooklyn.

Population: 156,296

Gender: 49.8% female, 50.2% male

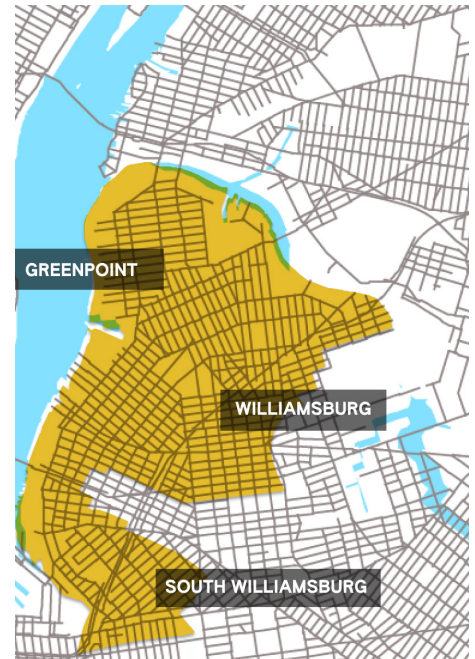
Race: 72.8% White, 5.2% Black, 5.5% Asian, 0.4% Native American, 0.1% Pacific Islander

Ethnicity: 14.6% Hispanic

Median Household Income: \$90,419

High school graduation rate: 86.4%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 census and 2020 ACS data*



### EMILY GALLAGHER, *INCUMBENT*

#### CANDIDATE 1 OF 2



**About the candidate:** Assembly Member Emily Gallagher is in her first term in the Assembly and has already accomplished a lot: She helped pass a historic budget that raised taxes on the wealthy to secure the biggest state investment in public education in generations, and secured more than \$115 million for local parks and safe streets in North Brooklyn. Assembly Member Gallagher has delivered billions of dollars in relief to tenants, workers, and small business, and has centered working people in everything she does – as she has always been a laborer and organizer herself. In every topic, she is thoughtful and data-driven about environmental externalities, backing up her commitment to halting climate change with focused and timely legislation to help bring our state into the future in a responsible way.

### New Kings Democrats has endorsed Emily Gallagher in this race.

**What stands out about her platform:** Assembly Member Gallagher is the clear progressive, unifying candidate in this race. She is driven by a simple but powerful mission: to create a New York where everyone has what they need to thrive. She has already introduced legislation – and will continue to do so – to protect workers, cut greenhouse gas emissions, audit tax giveaways to developers, improve pedestrian safety, reform prison oversight, and support neighbors struggling with substance use disorder. She embodies what we think of when we think of a kind, hard-working, boots-on-the-ground organizer, and she is the leader North Brooklyn needs – and that Brooklyn needs at the state level.



### THE CANDIDATES FOR STATE ASSEMBLY IN AD 50, continued

#### Where you can learn more:

- [www.emilyforassembly.com](http://www.emilyforassembly.com)
- [@EmilyAssembly](https://twitter.com/EmilyAssembly)

#### Emiy's Key Endorsements:

- Senator Chuck Schumer
- Congress Member Nydia M. Velázquez
- Congress Member Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
- State Senator Julia Salazar
- State Senator Jabari Brisport
- Council Member Lincoln Restler
- NYC DSA
- New York Working Families Party
- Tenants PAC
- Make The Road Action
- NY League of Conservation Voters
- NY State AFL-CIO
- 1199 SEIU
- Sunrise Movement NYC
- New Kings Democrats

### THE CANDIDATES FOR STATE ASSEMBLY IN AD 50, continued

#### PADDY O’SULLIVAN

CANDIDATE 2 OF 2



**About the candidate:** Paddy O’Sullivan is a local firefighter in Williamsburg. He has lived in North Brooklyn for a little over a decade and has volunteered with local food banks and community programs. His top three issues are rent, small business revitalization, and climate change. His campaign has focused on his goal to fight for working-class New Yorkers in Albany.

**What stands out about his platform:** Assembly Member Gallagher is the clear progressive, unifying candidate in Paddy’s platform is relatively progressive, but nothing really stands out. His own website states, “My agenda is shaped purely by the needs and wants of the people of our district and your feedback is crucial in helping to shape our legislative goals.”

New Kings Democrats interviewed Paddy as part of our endorsement process, and while he is a kind person dedicated to his community, his lack of organizing or policymaking experience was apparent, and he failed to present a compelling argument for his candidacy – especially over a woman who has hit the ground running in Albany.

**Where you can learn more:**

- [paddyforassembly.com](https://paddyforassembly.com)
- [@PaddyForNY](https://twitter.com/PaddyForNY)
- [NKD questionnaire](#)

**Paddy’s Key Endorsements:**

- Unknown

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 54

The 54th Assembly District includes parts of Bushwick and Cypress Hills, along the Brooklyn-Queens border.

Population: 132,758

Gender: 51.3% female, 48.7% male

Race: 15.2% White, 25.3% Black, 9.6% Asian, 1.5% Native American, 0.1% Pacific Islander

Ethnicity: 51.1% Hispanic

Median Household Income: \$55,362

High school graduation rate: 79%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 census and 2020 ACS data*



### ERIK DILAN, INCUMBENT

#### CANDIDATE 1 OF 2



**About the candidate:** Assembly Member Dilan has been in the role since 2015. He represented the 37th City Council District from 2002 to 2014. While in the Council, Dilan was chair of the Housing & Buildings Committee. He refused to allow a bill to count all vacant properties in the city, which activists protested on behalf of unhoused New Yorkers. Dilan also illegally acquired a housing unit designated as affordable housing, for which he exceeded the allowable income to qualify. He was fined \$9,000 in 2015. Dilan is known for his connections to real estate developers and for being relatively absent in the district.

Importantly, Dilan is part of a political family in the district – and one that has retained power while doing little for the most underserved communities under the family’s reign. His father, Martin Dilan, retired in 2001 from the City Council to run for the State Senate, which is when Erik Dilan ran for his father’s seat.

**What stands out about his platform:** Not sure. Assembly Member Dilan does not have a website or online presence for his reelection. He did not respond to requests to participate in NKD’s endorsement process.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [@edilan37](#)

#### Erik’s Key Endorsements:

- Unknown

### THE CANDIDATES FOR STATE ASSEMBLY IN AD 54, continued

#### SAMY NEMIR OLIVARES

CANDIDATE 2 OF 2



**About the candidate:** Samy Nemir Olivares is currently serving as District Leader for Assembly District 53. They co-founded Bushwick Ayuda Mutua, a volunteer-based grassroots networking group that helped feed thousands during the pandemic. They currently work as an advocate for the LGBTQ community which is reflected in their policy platform. According to their campaign, if elected, Nemir Olivares would be the first openly genderqueer legislator in the state and the first LGBTQ person of color to serve in the State Assembly.

**New Kings Democrats has endorsed Samy Nemir Olivares in this race.**

**What stands out about their platform:** Samy's campaign platform centers on housing justice, climate change, universal health care, and making CUNY tuition-free. Their healthcare platform stands out as some of the most progressive ideas amongst their colleagues, notably coverage for low income New Yorkers regardless of immigration status. In addition, their public safety platform highlights extensive progressive reforms. Samy also fought to tax the rich to fund the Excluded Workers Fund.

#### Where you can learn more:

- [Samy's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.samyfornewyork.com](http://www.samyfornewyork.com)
- [@Samynemir](#)

#### Samy's Key Endorsements:

- New York Working Families Party
- LID Brooklyn
- Brooklyn Young Democrats
- Make the Road Action
- CUFFH Action
- New York Communities for Change
- NYC DSA
- Congress Member Nydia M. Velázquez
- Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
- Council member Sandy Nurse
- State Senator Julia Salazar
- State Senator Jabari Brisport
- Congress Member Jen Gutierrez

### DISTRICT LEADERS

#### CALLED STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON YOUR BALLOT

##### What is a District Leader?

District Leaders are elected, unpaid leaders of the Brooklyn Democratic Party. There are two District Leaders - one male, one female, though we hope this rule that reinforces the gender binary changes soon – per each of the 22 Assembly Districts in Brooklyn. Those 44 District Leaders together serve as the Party’s Executive Committee.

Every District Leader seat is up for election every two years. On June 28, you can elect District Leaders that align with your values and want to make the Brooklyn Democratic Party more engaged, transparent, and inclusive.

On the primary ballot, district leaders are called State Committee members because they also serve on the New York Democratic Committee. See [this visual explainer](#) from NKD for more details.

##### What can District Leaders do?

District leaders play a major role in [choosing judges](#), staffing the NYC Board of Elections, and writing the rules governing our local party. They also elect the [Party Chair](#) (aka Party Boss), who determines party priorities and spending.

##### Who should I vote for?

The process for electing District Leaders is opaque by design. NKD believes the Party should be informing Brooklynites of their choices on the ballot and that the Party should not be intervening in primaries to put its thumb on the scale for Party loyalists who aren’t necessarily doing best by their communities. Please read this guide and learn about the candidates and their plans for the role so you can make the best choice for your community on June 28.

New Kings Democrats, in coalition with other political clubs, has endorsed the [Brooklyn Can’t Wait](#) slate of candidates for District Leader. Read more about Brooklyn Can’t Wait on [page 4](#).

##### How do I know who’s on the ballot? And what if there is no ballot order listed for my district?

In each of the Assembly District overviews that follow, you will notice two things:

- In many Assembly Districts, there is no competition for District Leader – so no name will appear on the ballot. This is just one way that incumbents retain power, typically to benefit the Party machine.
- The candidate names are not necessarily in alphabetical order. That’s because the order of names is determined by lottery, which we have reflected in this guide.

In the pages that follow, we have highlighted only districts in which there is either a competitive primary in the Female race, one in the Male race, or one in both. If you don’t see your Assembly District listed, that means you won’t see District Leaders (aka State Committee members) on the ballot in June.

**READ ON TO MEET THE CANDIDATES >>>**

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 43: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 43rd Assembly District covers Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Crown Heights, and East Flatbush.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### SARANA PURCELL, *INCUMBENT*

Sarana Purcell was appointed to the role in 2021 by the Democratic Party boss. She does not support reform or engagement (outside of her base) and has not acted to convene the Assembly District Committee, which is the responsibility of the District Leaders in the district. She participated in NKD's endorsement process and [her questionnaire is here](#).

#### KELLAN CALDER,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Kellan is committed to her community and wants to serve her neighbors. She believes that the district deserves better, more approachable, and transparent leadership — and she is ready to make that happen. This means that she will: work with local groups to make sure that their concerns are heard, help neighbors find more ways to become involved in their community, provide updates about the issues facing the community and ways those issues can be addressed, and make sure that voters have information about the judges on the ballot.

In her words: “District Leaders have the responsibility to positively influence policies at local levels that are in the best interest of our community. They should welcome participation and not maintain the practice of exclusionary politics. I envision the role as one that connects and unites our neighbors by doing outreach to bring them into the fold.”

#### Where you can learn more:

- [Kellan's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.kellanforbk.com](http://www.kellanforbk.com)
- [@KellanCalder4BK](https://twitter.com/KellanCalder4BK)



### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 43: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

The 43rd Assembly District covers Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Crown Heights, and East Flatbush.

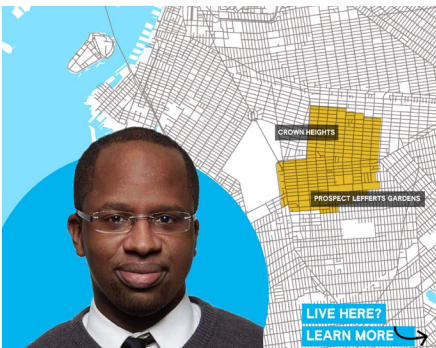
#### MALE SEAT

#### EDU HERMELYN, *INCUMBENT*

Edu Hermelyn is the incumbent District Leader after having been appointed by the Party boss, Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, his wife (though who represents a different district). He has been unresponsive to residents and has not convened the Assembly District Committee, the responsibility of the District Leader.

#### AKEL WILLIAMS,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Akel is a tried-and-true organizer. He is an everyday Brooklynite who has lived in the 43rd Assembly District for over 20 years. He knows what it is like to work two jobs to make ends meet, and having to deal with issues such as renting from an exploitative landlord. He believes that change is needed in the Kings County Democratic Party and is running on a platform of reform that would promote transparency, accountability, and inclusion, as many have lost faith in those who are supposed to serve them.

In his words: “If elected District Leader, my aim would be to demystify much of the inner workings of county politics. I would work to bring transparency to a political process that appears to be intentionally opaque. I would work to hold the Party Chair accountable with my vote and amplify voices of concern when party leadership acts in undemocratic ways in pursuit of the consolidation of power.”

#### Where you can learn more:

- [Akel's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.akerwilliams.com](http://www.akerwilliams.com)
- [@AkelNyc](#)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 46: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 46th Assembly District covers Coney Island and Sea Gate, as well as parts of Bath Beach, Bay Ridge, Brighton Beach, Dyker Heights, and Gravesend.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### ANGELA KRAVTCHENKO,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Angela is not a politician: She is a full-time registered architect and a mom. But Angela was spurred to action when she was denied the right to vote in last year's City Council primary, and that's when she learned about District Leaders. Now she is ready to lead and make sure the same thing doesn't happen to other people.

In her words: "Southern Brooklyn is home to a large diverse community of immigrants, like myself. We need a visionary Democratic Party where everyone's voice is represented and where every registered Democrat is excited about exercising their right

to vote. Democrats lost a City Council seat recently in my district because many Russian-speaking voters feel like they are being ignored by the Democratic Party."

Where you can learn more:

- [Angela's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [angela4bk.com](http://angela4bk.com)
- [@Kravtchenko4bk](https://twitter.com/Kravtchenko4bk)

#### DIONNE BROWN-JORDAN, *INCUMBENT*

Dionne Brown-Jordan was appointed to the role in 2021 by the Democratic Party boss. She has not been engaged with Democrats seeking to participate in the Party in the district. She did not participate in NKD's endorsement process.



### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 46: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

The 46th Assembly District covers Coney Island and Sea Gate, as well as parts of Bath Beach, Bay Ridge, Brighton Beach, Dyker Heights, and Gravesend.

#### MALE SEAT

#### MICHAEL SILVERMAN, *INCUMBENT*

Michael Silverman is the Party's choice to replace outgoing District Leader Mark Treyger, who can no longer hold political office. Silverman has presented himself as elected by the people of Coney Island, but was in fact appointed in a closed-door meeting by Party leadership.

#### CHRIS MCCREIGHT

Chris McCreight is the current District Leader in Assembly District 64 and was redistricted into the 46th, where he is running alongside progressive Assembly Member Mathylde Frontus and NKD-endorsed candidate Angela Kravtchenko. Chris is the Chief of Staff to Council Member Justin Brannan. He understands the challenges people face in southern Brooklyn.

##### Where you can learn more

- [chrismccreight.com](http://chrismccreight.com)
- [@chrismccreight](https://twitter.com/chrismccreight)

#### NOAH WESTON (no longer running)

Noah Weston is no longer running for District Leader, but is on the ballot, so we want you to know about him (but don't waste your vote). Noah is a California native running for District Leader on a platform of reform, though he has not traditionally been engaged with the progressive clubs in his district. Noah [came under fire](#) for a series of offensive antisemitic tweets that angered many leaders in the Brooklyn Jewish community. He was previously known as the battle rapper Soul Khan, when he was known for using language offensive to the LGBTQ+ community and women.

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 48: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 48th Assembly District consists of the neighborhoods of Borough Park and Midwood.

#### MALE SEAT

#### DAVID SCHWARTZ, *INCUMBENT*

David Schwartz is a young but longtime active Democrat who takes seriously his responsibility as both a District Leader and representative of Borough Park and Midwood. He engages with communities and leaders across Brooklyn, though the community he represents is fairly conservative. While NKD did not make an endorsement in this district, David has been a partner to many organizations, including reformers working with Brooklyn Can't Wait, and cares deeply about engaging and representing his community.

##### Where you can learn more

- [@davidschwartz48](#)

#### PINCHAS RINGEL

Pinchas Ringel (Pinny) is running with the Party leadership's support to [retaliate](#) against community leader and longtime active District Leader David Schwartz. Pinny recently had to take a [leave of absence](#) from the Adams administration after declaring his candidacy, which is against the rules for high-ranking city employees.

##### Where you can learn more

- [@pinnyringel](#)

#### HESHY TISCHLER

In our City Council Voter Guide, we summed it up simply: Heshy is a racist demagogue. On his radio show, he recently articulated that he hopes Republicans retake Congress in November, and is proudly anti-vax. Don't vote for him.

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 51: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 51st Assembly District includes the neighborhoods of Sunset Park, Red Hook, and northern Bay Ridge.

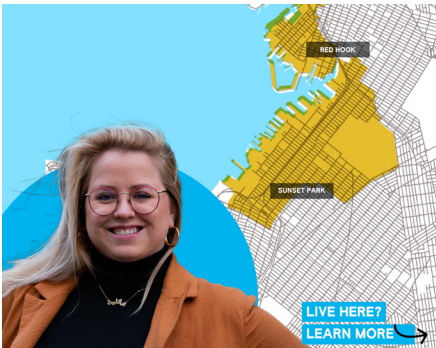
#### FEMALE SEAT

#### ARELIS MARTINEZ, *INCUMBENT*

Arelis Martinez has been in the District Leader seat for decades. She is notoriously absent in the district and did not respond to NKD's invitation to participate in our endorsement process.

#### JACQUI PAINTER,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Jacqui Painter is a lifelong resident of AD 51 and grew up in Red Hook. She is a queer female community organizer, activist, County Committee member, Deputy Director of the 51st AD's Assembly District Committee's Organizing Committee, founding director of Red Hook Relief, Vice President of Lambda Independent Democrats, former City Council candidate, and a fierce advocate for her community.

In her words: "Our democracy is in crisis, and we need new leadership in our Brooklyn Democratic Party that actually shows up and represents the voices of our communities, not just a powerful few. I'm fighting to ensure our communities have a voice in the party and are a part of the decisions that affect them."

Where you can learn more

- [Jacqui's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.painterforbk.com](http://www.painterforbk.com)
- [@JacquiPainter](#)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 52: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 52nd Assembly District includes much of Brownstone Brooklyn, including Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, and Downtown Brooklyn.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### SABRINA GATES

Sabrina Gates is supported by Party leadership. She participated in NKD's endorsement process and [her questionnaire is here](#).

#### LYDIA GREEN,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Lydia is a 26-year-old bi Jewish woman, organizer, Democratic Party reform activist, and lifelong Brooklynite. Lydia believes that as one of the highest turnout districts in the state and the center of political activism in Brooklyn, the 52nd AD is the engine that drives the progressive reform movement. As District Leader, Lydia will work to build the party, educate the public, and promote redistributing resources.

In her words: “As District Leader, I’ll provide avenues for my constituents to get involved in progressive campaigns all over the city, canvass and devote attention to NYCHA residents (arguably the most marginalized group in our district), organize deep canvasses in the rest of the district to help the many progressives here with racial privilege become more actively anti-racist, and work to fundraise from our wealthy neighbors to help those struggling to pay for basic needs.”

Where you can learn more

- [Lydia's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.lydiagreenbk.com](http://www.lydiagreenbk.com)
- [@lydiagreenbk](https://twitter.com/lydiagreenbk)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 52: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

#### CHERYL COOK, *ENDORSED BY BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Cheryl lives in Park Slope with her family. Cheryl and her spouse are raising their children in the home in which her spouse grew up. Cheryl is CEO of Avodah, a national not-for-profit training up current and emerging Jewish leaders in social justice.

In her words: "I'd like to see the Brooklyn Democratic Party create a platform based on issues that party members are passionate about. The Brooklyn Democratic party can be a powerhouse in advocating for issues we care about. I believe the key to this is to push for good (and indeed great) governance with our county party."

Where you can learn more

- [Cheryl's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.cook4brooklyn.com](http://www.cook4brooklyn.com)
- [@Cook4Brooklyn](https://twitter.com/Cook4Brooklyn)

#### MALE SEAT

#### SEAMUS CAMPBELL, *ENDORSED BY BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Seamus Campbell is running with the goal of making the New York State and Brooklyn Democratic Parties more inclusive with sensible reforms. He helped found the Brooklyn Young Democrats. Seamus has worked as a disability rights advocate.

In his words: "I will advocate for the Brooklyn Democratic Party to create a policy platform created by a committee made up of representatives from each Assembly District Committee so if there are certain areas rank and file members of the County Committee feel should be included in the platform, they can serve on the committee

or tell their representatives what to include."

Where you can learn more

- [Seamus's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [seamuscampbell.nyc](http://seamuscampbell.nyc)
- [@seamus4brooklyn](https://twitter.com/seamus4brooklyn)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 52: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

#### AARON OUYANG,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Aaron Ouyang is the son of a Taiwanese immigrant family, a tech worker, and a community organizer. In 2016, he began organizing in his neighborhood after seeing how insider politics stifled voter engagement. Aaron is running for District Leader because he believes in reforming the Brooklyn Democratic Party by building the largest progressive coalition of independent voters

In his words: “Brooklyn can’t wait for a Democratic Party that is built from the ground up. After four years as a County Committee Member working to make the leadership accountable for their actions, I’m

ready to fight alongside fellow County Committee Members, local leaders and everyday Democrats to create the party that voters in our district and communities all throughout Brooklyn, including the Asian American Community, deserve to have.”

#### Where you can learn more

- [Aaron’s NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.aaronforbrooklyn.com](http://www.aaronforbrooklyn.com)
- [@AaronOuyang9](https://twitter.com/AaronOuyang9)

#### RUBAIN DORANCY

We don’t know much, except that Rubain Dorancy is supported by Party leadership.



### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 53: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 53rd Assembly District covers parts of Bushwick and Williamsburg.

#### MALE SEAT

#### TOMMY TORRES

Tommy Torres is an establishment, Party-backed candidate. He is the person the Party has used to undermine sitting District Leader Maritza Davila and the poll workers she has supported in the role, as a means of redirecting power to the Party establishment.

#### FELIX CEBALLOS,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Felix Ceballos was born in the Dominican Republic and raised in Brooklyn, where he is a longtime Bushwick resident. He is running with the support of outgoing progressive District Leader Samy Nemir Olivares, who is running for State Assembly (and is backed by NKD) in the 54th AD.

In his words: “I have lived in Bushwick for 30 years, and have been active in my community for over 20 years. As an immigrant, I understand the challenges of predominantly communicating with Spanish-speaking people and in reaching out to underrepresented

communities I would like to promote transparency and inclusion. I want to make sure that the voices of our community are heard and that we are engaging and investing enough resources and attention into educating the voters and constituents in our district to have a voice and a vote.”

Where you can learn more

- [Felix's NKD questionnaire](#)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 54: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 54th Assembly District includes parts of Bushwick and Cypress Hills, along the Brooklyn-Queens border.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### ARLENY ALVARADO-MCCALLA, *INCUMBENT*

Arleny Alvarado-McCalla is the incumbent District Leader. She did not respond to NKD's invitation to participate in our endorsement process.

#### ACIRE POLIGHT,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



A Bushwick native, Aciré wants to be the connector between the community and local politics. She plans to hold forums, establish an Assembly District Committee, and work with paid elected officials to fulfill community needs.

In her words: "There are a number of reformative measures that need to be taken to bring the party in line with a vision that Democrats in Brooklyn need. I want to work on areas where the party can be seen as a valuable resource and body that is inclusive to the public."

#### Where you can learn more

- [Aciré's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.acirepolight.com](http://www.acirepolight.com)
- [@AcirePolight](https://twitter.com/AcirePolight)



### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 54: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

The 54th Assembly District includes parts of Bushwick and Cypress Hills, along the Brooklyn-Queens border.

#### MALE SEAT

#### HERIBERTO MATEO

Heriberto Mateo recently ran for City Council in the 37th Council District. He is involved in community affairs and cultural activities in the district.

#### ROBERT CAMACHO,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Robert Camacho is running for District Leader to preserve and protect the communities of BedStuy, Bushwick, Cypress Hills, and East New York. As a lifelong resident of the district, Robert is committed to fighting for real affordable housing and social services that the community needs. He is the President and Founder of Bushwick's First Annual Puerto Rican Day Parade, and is a member of Community Board 4.

In his words: "I have lived in Bushwick for 60 years, and have been active in every part of the community for over 30 years. A lot of people have turned away from traditional party politics because their input is not wanted, and they feel like the leadership is a clique. I want to create an environment in local politics and make the people feel wanted, and valued, and encourage them to get on board and be part of the process"

#### Where you can learn more

- [Robert's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [camachofor54.com](http://camachofor54.com)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 56: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 56th Assembly District includes parts of Crown Heights and Bedford Stuyvesant.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### KENESHA TRAYNHAM COOPER, *INCUMBENT*

Kenesha Traynham Cooper was appointed to the role by the Democratic Party boss. She has not been engaged with Democrats seeking to participate in the Party in the district. She did not respond to NKD's invitation to participate in our endorsement process.

#### MONAE PRIOLENAU,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Monae is a fourth-generation Brooklynite who has lived in the Bedford Stuyvesant area for the last 22 years. Politically activated at 11-years-old during the 2000 presidential election debacle, she has always been interested in good government and fair politics.

In her words: “Whether voting on county rules, choosing a party leader or choosing judicial delegates, I plan to always have the desires of the community and what is best for the community in mind when making decisions. I would always be seeking ways to increase constituent participation and to make democratic processes accessible to all.

Any vote on party rules that decreases transparency, decreases participation, and disenfranchises people will elicit a ‘no’ vote from me.”

#### Where you can learn more

- [Monae's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.monaeforbk.com](http://www.monaeforbk.com)
- [@Monae BK](#)

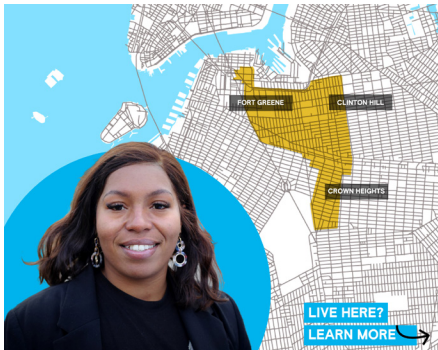
### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 57: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 57th Assembly District includes Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, and Crown Heights.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### SHAQUANA BOYKIN,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Shaquana lives in NYCHA's Walt Whitman Houses in Fort Greene, where she is raising two teenagers. She was born in Crown Heights and is a product of New York City public schools, including CUNY's Kingsborough Community College and New York City College of Technology. In recent years, Shaquana has worked at the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project as an engagement coordinator with NYCHA's Ingersoll Houses, and with Brooklyn Movement Center as the food sovereignty organizer.

As a first-term District Leader, Shaquana has already introduced a broad range of candidates to voters in the district, secured resources for local residents and organizations, and spoken out about the problems with our election systems at both the local and national levels.

In her words: "Before deciding to run for office in Brooklyn, I served as Myrtle Avenue's Mayor's Office Engagement Coordinator for NYCHA Ingersoll House. After moving into my apartment in NYCHA Walt Whitman Houses, where I still reside, I developed a passion for fighting for the best interests of my community.

I have been proud to serve as District Leader with a fresh voice for Assembly District 57. I am committed to continue championing neighbors who are seeking to connect with elected officials, making space for community organizers and community members, and working with NYCHA officials and partners to address residents' basic needs through collaboration. I look forward to continuing the work of creating a more inclusive and accountable Democratic Party."

#### Where you can learn more

- [Shaquana's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [www.shaquanaforbk.com](http://www.shaquanaforbk.com)
- [@shaquanaforbk](https://twitter.com/shaquanaforbk)

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 57: DISTRICT LEADER RACES, continued

The 57th Assembly District includes Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, and Crown Heights.

#### RENEE COLLYMORE

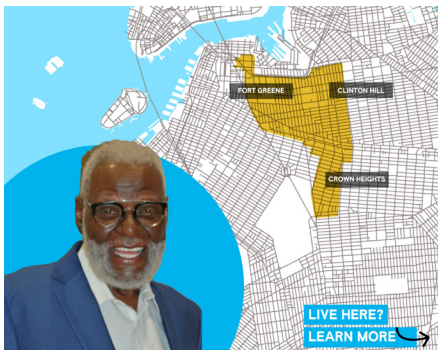
Renee is running with the support of Party leadership. She has levied a series of vile personal attacks against reformer and current District Leader Boykin on social media, none of which appear to be grounded in reality.

Renee participated in NKD's endorsement process and [her questionnaire is here](#).

#### MALE SEAT

#### MICHAEL BOOMER,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Mike Boomer is a lifelong Brooklynite, a pastor, and the chair of the 57th Assembly District Committee's Subcommittee on Community Service. He is doing the work, and caring for people along the way. Mike believes in educating his neighbors and getting folks excited about the democratic process.

"As a lifelong resident of Brooklyn, I have experienced elected officials rarely engaging with constituents unless it's election time. I plan to engage with our elected officials and community leaders and residents, connecting them with resources around issues that affect

them and finding solutions to these issues. I am committed to unity, transparency, inclusivity, equity and identity in the Kings County Democratic Party."

#### Where you can learn more

- [Mike's NKD questionnaire](#)

#### MICHAEL COX

Michael Cox is committed to fighting for equitable recovery from Covid-19, government and criminal justice reform, affordable housing, and educational and economic opportunities throughout Brooklyn and the City of New York. He identifies as neither an establishment nor a reformer candidate.

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 58: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 58th Assembly District covers parts of East Flatbush.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### MERCEDES NARCISSE

Mercedes Narcisse is the Council Member for the 46th District, which includes Canarsie, Marine Park, Sheepshead Bay, and more. She is running for District Leader, which will be vacated by incumbent Melba Brown. While NKD has not made an endorsement in this race, we'll note that Council Member Narcisse holds close alliances with several reform-oriented elected officials in this part of Brooklyn.

##### Where you can learn more

- [@cmmercedescd46](#)

#### ESTHER DEBBIE LOUIS

Esther Debbie Louis (Debbie) is a community leader, organizer, and professional strategist. She is running in partnership with State Senator Kevin Parker – and we definitely encourage you to read about him below.

##### Where you can learn more

- [debbielouis.com](#)

#### MALE SEAT

#### KEVIN PARKER

State Senator Kevin Parker is an elected official who has been known to make transphobic comments, [tweeted at someone](#) to go “kill [herself]” after she called him out for placard abuse in 2018, and was [convicted of misdemeanor charges](#) following a physical confrontation with a photographer in 2010.

#### NICKOLAS PERRY

Nickolas Perry is the Brooklyn Borough Director for Comptroller Lander's office. He is the son of Nickolas Perry, Sr., who was recently appointed as the U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica. Nick is a community relations specialist and is working with Council Member Narcisse in his run for District Leader.

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 59: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 59th Assembly District includes Canarsie, Marine Park, and Mill Basin.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### ROXANNE PERSAUD

Roxanne Persaud is the State Senator in Senate District 19, covering Canarsie, East New York, Brownsville, Mill Basin, and Sheepshead Bay. Senator Persaud did not actually petition to get on the ballot for this District Leader seat; instead, she was hand-picked by the incumbent, Assembly Member and District Leader Jaime Williams, to take Williams' place on the ballot. As such, the Senator did not engage with voters to run for this seat. She does not live in the district.

#### NAOMI HOPKINS,

*ENDORSED BY NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS & BROOKLYN CAN'T WAIT*



Naomi is a native Brooklynite and a career public service professional and has dedicated her life to improving her community and borough as a whole. She is the Chief of Staff to Council Member Chi Osse, and is a former Director at Girl Scouts and at The Campaign Against Hunger. Naomi works with community organizations with which she does an incalculable amount of community service.

"Watching my son grow up in the same community where I grew up is absolutely amazing. I've always prioritized civic engagement but being his mom has inspired me to further cement certain ideals for his future."

#### Where you can learn more

- [Naomi's NKD questionnaire](#)
- [naomihopkins.nyc](https://naomihopkins.nyc)
- [@NaomiTheHopkins](https://twitter.com/NaoimiTheHopkins)



### ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 60: DISTRICT LEADER RACES

The 60th Assembly District covers parts of East New York, Brownsville, and Canarsie.

#### FEMALE SEAT

#### INEZ BARRON, *INCUMBENT*

Inez Barron is the current District Leader in the 60th AD, and the former City Council Member in Council District 42, a seat that her husband, Charles Barron, now holds. Ms. Barron has expressed dismay at the way the current Party leadership has operated, and has a long history of public service.

#### NIKKI LUCAS

Nikki Lucas is the current Assembly Member in the district. She is endorsed by Mayor Adams in a slew of anti-progressive endorsements.

#### MALE SEAT

#### CHRISTOPHER BANKS

There is not much available about Chris's race, but he partnered with establishment Assembly Member Nikki Lucas in previous political campaigns against the Barrons.

#### CHARLES BARRON, *INCUMBENT*

Charles Barron is the new City Council Member in the 42nd Council District. As with his wife, his co-Leader in the district, he has expressed dismay in the way current Party leadership has operated. He is a longtime community leader.

### JUDICIAL DELEGATES

PRIMARY DAY: JUNE 28

**Skip the details and learn which judicial delegates are running in your district here >>> [www.bkjudicialdelegates.com](http://www.bkjudicialdelegates.com)**

### SUPREME COURT JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

In New York, judges are either elected or appointed to their positions, depending on the court. Civil Court, Surrogate Court, and Supreme Court candidates are elected. Unlike Civil Court and Surrogate Court, New York State (NYS) Supreme Court candidates do not appear on the Primary ballot. Instead, candidates for NYS Supreme Court appear on the general election ballot following a nominating convention.

Judicial candidates for the Supreme Court are nominated by the Brooklyn Democratic Party Executive Committee (there's those District Leaders again). Then, Judicial Delegates, selected by voters, attend a nominating convention to review and vote on the nominated judges to determine who will appear on your general election ballot.

### JUDICIAL DELEGATES

In the Primary, Democratic voters elect a slate of Judicial Delegates (and Alternates) to represent their Assembly District. Although there are 22 Assembly Districts in Brooklyn, there will not be a slate in every district. Judicial Delegate candidates petition to be on the ballot, but only appear if there are more candidates than seats. At the Judicial Nominating Convention, elected delegates vote on which Democratic Party Judicial nominees will become candidates on the General Election ballot for any Supreme Court vacancies.

Traditionally, Judicial Delegates have only been able to “rubber stamp” nominees because the Democratic Party’s Executive Committee only nominates the number of judges needed to fill vacancies. NKD believes electing Judicial Delegates can be an important power for voters! Supreme Court judges in New York can dramatically affect all of our lives. Normally, no one runs against the political appointees and their names for Judicial Delegates don’t often appear on the ballot. You might not even know Supreme Court judges are being selected.

For more information about this process, see our policy platform on [Reforming Judicial Elections](#). In addition, you can speak to your elected party leaders, including District Leader and County Committee members, on making the nomination of judges for Supreme Court more transparent and open to the public.



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