

Hello, Brooklyn. I'm Marty Markowitz and I'd be honored to serve you for one more term as Brooklyn Borough President.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as Borough President for these past eight years and the prior 23 years as a New York State Senator.

I was born in Crown Heights and got started in public life as a tenants' rights and senior citizens advocate.

I've always believed that the Brooklyn Borough President's purpose is to make government relevant in the lives of Brooklynites, to fight to enhance our quality of life, and to ensure that Brooklyn gets its fair share, which means whatever we get, it's not enough.

From fighting to keep our senior centers and school clinics open to helping

save critical units at one of our prominent
Brooklyn hospitals;

From working to increase parental
involvement in education to helping low
income kids go to summer camp, and when they
get a little older, find summer jobs;

From suing Exxon-Mobil to clean up the
polluted Newtown Creek to demanding that
auto insurers stop overcharging
Brooklynites;

From making sure Brooklyn gets national
retailers like IKEA, Target and Trader Joe's
to creating programs like "shop Brooklyn"
which help our "mom-and-pop shops" survive
and thrive.

I believe it is Brooklyn's ethnic and
economic diversity that defines us. Part of
my life I grew up in public housing and
since my days as a tenants' rights advocate,
I have fought for affordable housing that

allows Brooklynites of every income to live and raise families here - and ensures our children can afford to live here in the years to come.

In my land-use role, I have promoted "smart zoning," which preserves the unique ambience of our neighborhoods and makes our downtown the business and cultural center that our 2.5 million residents deserve - with hotels, office space, top retail, arts, diverse residential housing and, yes, a national basketball team as well.

I've always said Brooklyn is "proud home to everyone from everywhere," and with our expanded tourist economy, we can truly say Brooklyn also plays the role of "proud host to everyone from everywhere."

Visitors bring in dollars, and that's why I'm proud of helping to bring the cruise ship industry to our waterfront, starting the first tourism center outside Manhattan,

and launching popular events like the renowned Brooklyn Book Festival and Dine-In-Brooklyn.

In the days ahead, nothing is more important than finding jobs for Brooklynites, ensuring that investment continues and that Brooklynites reap the benefits of that growth. This means jobs in retail, business, hospitality, arts, health care, and in the manufacturing trades that Brooklyn is famous for.

As for me, I'm proud to say that I will always be as Brooklyn as they come!

Brooklynites know that I'm not shy and that I wake up every day and ask how can I make your life a little better, make you a little prouder to be a Brooklynite, and put a smile on your face.

If re-elected, I will continue to deliver on the promise of putting Brooklyn

on the map, promoting Borough-wide economic growth, making our downtown the business and cultural hub it should be, ushering in a new heyday for Coney Island, revitalizing our gorgeous waterfront, enhancing our unique neighborhoods and making sure that everyone, everywhere is either a Brooklynite or a Brooklynite wanna-be.

Together we can make it happen - and to have your support would be an honor.

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