

Hello. I'm Helen Marshall, President of the Borough of Queens. I've been that for the past seven years. I have had the honor of heading the most ethnically diverse borough in our City. Working with my partners in government, and you, I am proud to say we have made Queens an even better place for people to live, work and raise a family.

As Borough President, I have had the responsibility and honor of investing your tax dollars into projects that improve our neighborhoods. I allocated more than \$115 million to beautify our parks and playgrounds and more than \$80 million to improve libraries across the Borough and millions more to improve our cultural and tourism venues.

I've helped create more than 27,000 new school seats in 48 new schools and rezoned thousands of blocks in more than 58 Queens

communities. We've preserved the character of our neighborhoods while creating new opportunities for affordable housing.

And I spearheaded efforts to protect homeowners and tenants from predatory lending practices, foreclosures and businesses that prey upon vulnerable homeowners.

I am proud that I've led the fight to protect the quality of life of our seniors by securing millions in funds for senior centers, meals for homebound elderly and transportation for seniors to medical appointments and senior services.

As a lifelong Democrat, a former teacher, member of my Community Board, member of the New York State Assembly and then the New York City Council, I've always worked to bring diverse people together to solve problems.

As Borough President, I created the Queens General Assembly to promote cultural understanding, the Parents Advisory Board to give parents a voice in education, and the Queens Youth Board to promote civic participation among young people and provided vital funding for the Holocaust Center at Queensborough Community College.

After issuing a landmark framework for creating a comprehensive and sustainable health care system for Queens, I created a Hospital Task Force to fight for improved and expanded healthcare.

In the wake of the national recession, I created a series of economic development initiatives to stimulate the local economy through job creation and business development. We secured that Queens residents and businesses are front and center for employment and business opportunities created by large scale developments now under way. Working with

our friends in labor, they will be good jobs that help our families grow.

I am running again because the job is not done. Our healthcare system, schools and economy all need a proven, innovative hand at the helm. I am proud that the Queens Democratic Party, the Working Families Party, the United Federation of Teachers, Council of Supervisors and Administrators, DC37, 32BJ, Local 1199, the United Commercial Food Workers, Local 1500, NARAL, the Queens County Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club and the 504 Democratic Club, a champion for persons with disabilities, have endorsed my candidacy.

Together, we can steer Queens through this economic storm and make it an even better place for our families.

Thank You.

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