

Hi, my name is Jimmy Van Bramer and I'm a Democratic candidate for City Council in the neighborhoods of Sunnyside, Woodside, Long Island City, Astoria and Maspeth.

I've lived my entire life in Western Queens. I was born at St. John's Hospital, the fifth of eight children, and baptized at St. Teresa's. I'm a proud graduate of Queens public schools. I was the first member of my family to graduate from college, and I worked nights to pay my way through St. John's. This community's past is my past; that's why I'll fight for its future.

My parents were both proud union members who taught me the meaning of hard work and my career has been devoted to making life better for Queens families like the one I grew up in.

Currently, I serve as the Chief External Affairs Officer of the Queens Library. As the library's link between community members and government, I work to protect and expand important library services such as after-school programs, English language classes, new libraries and new technologies. Before the libraries, I worked on the Clean Money, Clean Elections Campaign because I believe that elected officials should be the choice of the people and not sold to the highest bidder. I also work to improve our neighborhoods outside of my job by serving as a member of the Land Use Committee of Community Board 2.

My family didn't have much growing up. But we had what truly mattered, a loving home, a commitment to education and the knowledge that hard work can make a real difference. That's why I will strengthen our schools by reducing class size and adding more after-school programs. I'll fight for affordable housing and public

transit improvements. I'll enhance neighborhood life by protecting the environment, preventing graffiti and reducing truck traffic noise. And I'll preserve our community's character by stopping overdevelopment.

To me, being a City Councilmember isn't about grabbing headlines or cozying up to political bosses. As a lifelong Democrat, I know that it's about doing one thing: working for all of us.

I hope that I can count on your support in the Democratic Primary and the General Election.

Thank you.

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