

Hello. My name is Medhanie Estiphanos. I'm a former high school special education teacher, housing policy maker, activist, and a consultant on Wall Street. I'm a Democrat, and I'm running for New York City Council. I'm asking for your vote.

I'm in this race because I believe education, housing, and affordable public transportation are the pillars of our community. But we're failing on all three fronts. 42 percent of children, including 70 percent of young black men, are dropping out of high school. Housing is no longer affordable, and a round trip subway ride soon will soon cost you \$5.50. The City is no longer serving or protecting us. The poor are pressured and the middle class is disappearing.

What's worse is that our leaders refuse to be honest with us about the challenges that we face and the solutions on the table.

Instead we're fed half-truths and flat out lies because in their mind poor and working people don't vote. Well, I'm standing here because I believe they are wrong.

I believe we all just waiting for some honesty. We're smart enough to understand the problems; we're smart enough to build solutions. But none of that can get done unless we have an open and honest dialogue. And when our leaders are honest, we do vote, we do count, we demand to be heard, and we demand change.

In this election we have the opportunity to make our City and our community into anything that we want it to be. We can once again make it fair and efficient for everyone. But nothing will change unless we come out, vote, and demand change. Let's not miss this opportunity.

My name is Medhanie Estiphanos. I'm a Democrat. I'm running for New York City

Council. I'm asking you to vote for me on
September 15th.

Thank you.

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