

## **Community Board 1, Queens – Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2021**

Meeting opens with Chairperson, Marie Torniali at 6:30 p.m.

Chair, Marie Torniali introduced the guest speaker, Eric Friedman and said he would be making a presentation on Ranked Choice Voting which will affect us in June here in the CB1 area.

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Eric Friedman, Assistant Executive Director of Public Affairs, NYC Campaign Finance Board**  
*(Presentation Attached)*

About Ranked Choice Voting (RCV): Starting in 2021, New York City will use Ranked Choice Voting in primary and special elections for local offices: Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough President, and City Council. You can rank up to five (5) candidates in order of preference, instead of choosing just one. You can still vote for just one (1) candidate if you prefer. RCV gives you more say in who gets elected, there is more civility and less negative campaigning and more diverse and representative candidates win elections.

### **Q&A with the Board Members:**

Daniel Aliberti - The person who gets the least votes in the first round, the votes, the percentage that they did get, is it evenly distributed over the other candidates, or is there some formula as to how it's distributed?

Eric Friedman – It all depends on who the second choice is on each of those ballots. For the candidate who was ranked last in our example, you know some percentage went to each of the remaining candidates. Based on each voter's preference, as indicated on their ballot. It is not really a formula just as much as you know, going down the preferences.

Eric Friedman – I think it is all basically in the hands of the voter to determine where that ballot goes again. It is why you want to rank. If your candidate is one of the candidates who ends up at the bottom. Your vote still has an opportunity to help elect.

Daniel Aliberti – What happens if some or a significant portion of the people do not vote for a first choice, they do a second third, fourth whatever, but not a first.

Eric Friedman – It is an interesting question and I think ultimately, the count is going to go to whatever your next choice, if you skip the rank, the accounting is just going to skip over that. It will take your second choice as your first choice in that instance.

Kathleen Warnock – I wanted to ask if you could break it down to Primaries in general. In this district, we generally have most of the candidates running on the democratic ticket, what happens with the Republican, Working Families party and The Serve America Movement (SAM) party during the Primaries and in the General (Election)?

Eric Friedman – Each party that has a Primary election will be conducted through Ranked Choice Voting, your observation is correct. I think it is the Democratic Primaries that are traditionally the most active. We have hundreds and hundreds of candidates across the City running for City Council, there is a host of candidates for Mayor. Most of those candidates are running in the Democratic Primary, but each Primary will be conducted with Ranked Choice Voting. Once you get around to November, those elections are conducted by Single Choice Elections you kind of touched on part of the reason. You can have candidates in the General Election who will appear on more than one party line. This is something that we have in New York State, Fusion Voting. Candidates can run as nominees of both the Democratic Party and the Working Families party. The Charter Revision Commission as they were, putting together the law around Ranked Choice Voting, it was their determination that Fusion Voting makes Ranked Choice too complicated and it was something that they thought would just be confusing for voters to try. You may see the same name twice on your ballot. You know I think we will see how it goes in the Primaries. It may be that Ranked Choice Voting is so popular that we are going to have to find a way to make it apply to the General Elections in the future, but for now it is something that is used by all parties in the Primary and not in the General Election.

Chair, Marie Torniali - Does any other board member have a question. I can see a question in the Chat, though I think you answered it. It is from Christina.

Christina asked, what if someone does not place a vote for each available candidate? Does that cause any changes in tabulation?

Eric Friedman – Certainly, I think, and I did touch on that. If you leave one blank and skip from first to third or skip the first choice, the tabulation will just move to the next choice on your ballot. Let's say you have a voter who ranks, a first choice and a second choice and it stops there. It could well be that the candidates who that voter is supporting both kind of fall off during the tabulation. There is a term for that kind of ballot called an Exhausted Ballot. It means that ballot does not end up being counted in the third or fourth or fifth round when those candidates have been eliminated. That is not so different than voters who vote for losing candidates under our Single-Choice Voting system. As long as it is possible to count your ballot, the tabulation will get all the way across and rank each of your choices in order.

Loren Amor – Do you have a sense from the recent special elections? How many voters actually took part in ranking multiple candidates and, if that had a significant impact on the results at all?

Eric Friedman – That is a good question and I cannot answer completely yet. I mentioned especially the special election of course there was no tabulation because a candidate, the winning candidate got more than 50% on that first choice of the voters: first choice ballots: now you know we would like, for the board of elections, to show the cast vote records. It is possible to answer your question and see how many voters actually rank multiple candidates, but we do not have that data. Yet from the Board of Elections, I noted that voting that counting out in District 31, you know Election Day was on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, but counting is only starting today in that election and so hopefully, by the end of the week, we will have a sense of how many voters ranked multiple candidates on their ballots and have some idea of how successful we have been in reaching out to voters and how much voters have adopted it. What we do have in those districts is a little bit of exit polling that was conducted in those races, and what we have seen in one poll that I have seen, about 61% of voters reported that they ranked multiple candidates on their ballot and most of the candidates who said that they did not rank more than 1 said, because there is only one candidate that they preferred. We have seen much higher numbers. Between 80% and 90% of voters reporting that they understood, Ranked Choice Voting, they understood the process. That is not a replacement for the actual data from the Board of Elections, but it is encouraging that at the end of the day, this is a process, it is not so difficult for most voters to understand and we do see that the majority of voters are taking advantage of it.

Kathleen Warnock – If anyone uses a mailing ballot that they fill out incorrectly, will the ballot be voided when they are put through the scanner or will the Voter have a chance to cure the ballot?

Eric Friedman – You may have better information than I about this now. I know that there is a process for cure, for defects with the absentee ballots. So, my understanding of this right now is, the cure process is for things like in signature on the oath envelope and defects of that nature. Once the ballot is opened and taken out of the envelope, you cannot associate that ballot with the voter again, so it ends up being difficult to reach out and reach back to that voter for a cure. I am happy to research the answer a little bit more and if it turns out that I am in error, I am going to reach back out to you and correct myself, but that is my understanding of the cure process.

Kathleen Warnock - I was at the mail-in balloting count last July and there were a fair number of ballots voided because there were just very small things incorrectly filled out and I can anticipate with people having to change the way they vote there will be a much higher percentage of ballots that are not correct.

Eric Friedman - That is the concern anytime. You change the method of voting and we are going to see once we have results in the special election for District 31. Now that there has been a tabulation, it will really be our first ability to start answering those questions to learn from the results to see if there are specific issues that we need to make sure that we are emphasizing between now and when voting starts in June to make sure that does not happen.

Marie Torniali, Chair – She asked for the website address to be put in the Chat, it would be great because some of us need to study this more for sure.

Eric Friedman – I will make sure I leave everything you need to see in the Chat.

Chair, Marie Torniali - Thank you very much Mr. Friedman for being here and we look forward to the Ranked Choice Voting after we study this a little more before June.

Eric Friedman - Thank you very much for the opportunity.

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS/REPRESENTATIVES – Announcements:**

##### **Daniel Bonthius, Office of Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez:**

- Recordings of all previous Town Halls will be available on our YouTube page: @RepAOC [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6XBnYptBnproA\\_ydn-b0A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6XBnYptBnproA_ydn-b0A)
- To hear about future events, sign up for our newsletter in either English or Spanish.
  - English Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/newsletter-subscribe>
  - Spanish Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/boletin-espanol>
- Last week President Biden signed the American Recovery Plan. Working with her colleagues, the Congresswoman pushed to get important relief included - including expanded funeral assistance, stimulus checks for adult dependents (who were not included in previous packages), a tax exemption for your first \$10,200 of unemployment benefits, and desperately needed state and local funding for things like the MTA. This legislation also extends much of the already existing COVID relief as well as including \$1400 stimulus checks, \$300 weekly UI Benefits, as well as an expanded \$3600 child tax credit. You can use this calculator to get a good sense of how much you will receive, [here](#).
- This week, the House is considering Immigration Legislation on two bills: The Dream and Promise Act and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act.
- On March 5, along with 8 of her colleagues from the NY Delegation, the Congresswoman sent a letter to Governor Cuomo to express their concerns about NRG Energy's Astoria Replacement Project.
- PPP applications are still open through March 31. Business owners can search for Small Business Administration approved lenders and find directions for applying for loans on the SBA website: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program>

- This year our office is participating in the **Congressional Art Competition**. If you are interested in participating, please contact Destiny Cruz via email at: [Destiny.Cruz@mail.house.gov](mailto:Destiny.Cruz@mail.house.gov) and “cc” myself at: [daniel.bonthius@mail.house.gov](mailto:daniel.bonthius@mail.house.gov)

**Assembly Member Zohran K. Mamdani:**

- NYC Free Tax Prep Info Session — Wednesday, March 24th, 7 p.m.
  - Covering taxes, personal finance, and stimulus checks
- NYS Eviction and Foreclosure moratorium until May 1st if tenants/homeowners fill out the declaration of hardship:
  - <https://www.nycourts.gov/covid-eefpa.shtml>
  - [bit.ly/declarehardship](https://bit.ly/declarehardship) (URL shortener/copy and paste)
- Our neighbors raised \$1,500 for family owned Pochana Thai Kitchen to recuperate costs after a recent break-in.
- Submit a public comment to oppose new fracked gas infrastructure in Astoria, threatening our community’s health: [bit.ly/noNRGplant](https://bit.ly/noNRGplant) (URL shortener/copy and paste)
- Budget Negotiation Update
- Contact: (718) 545-3889; E: [ad36@nyassembly.gov](mailto:ad36@nyassembly.gov)

Chair, Marie Torniali said, thank you Assembly Member and thank you for that uplifting story. We need those.

**Joseph Nocerino, Office of Borough President Donovan Richards:**

- Borough President Donovan Richards’ State of the Borough Address is available on their website. His vision is very positive.
- Community Board updates and new responsibilities for Committee Chairs
- Queens Borough President Richards, Queens DOT Commissioner Garcia and himself will do a walk-through of Northern Boulevard. Money for infrastructure.
- Borough President Richards’ upcoming Recruitment Fair on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., information available on their website.

**Dan Brown, Office of the Queens District Attorney, Melinda Katz:**

- The Queens District Attorney, Melinda Katz is having her Women’s History month event, Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> it is an online event, live streaming, begins at 4 p.m., and the keynote speaker is Congresswoman Stacey E. Plaskett.
- The event can be viewed on: <https://queensda.org/>, you can register for this free event
- You can check out the D.A.’s hotlines and office lines for the different bureaus we have, you can go to: <https://queensda.org/>
- I put my contact information in the Chat

**Shamima Rahman, Office of Assembly Member Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas:**

- The Assembly Member is in session
- She has co-sponsored at least 71 bills, in just over two months
- She partnered with Assembly Member Rosenthal sending a letter to Governor Cuomo and other colleagues about food pantry and food bank workers to be eligible for vaccines, which passed.
- I will send a link to the Chat so you can tell if you are eligible for the vaccine
- The Assembly Member is co-sponsoring several bills, one of the bills is a New York Hero Act which helps protect COVID-19 by establishing forcing health and safety standards.
- She is also sponsoring a bill called the “Humane Alternatives to Long-Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement” Act, which is a role that will signify the limited of use of solitary confinement and accept vulnerable populations, including minors, older New Yorkers people with disabilities.
- Those who are pregnant, caring for a child are in postpartum recovery. If you check her Twitter, you will see a great video she did, where she is speaking on the floor about this issue about solitary confinement, this is a very important issue to her, and we all hope that we are able to pass this law.
- Our offices are currently closed, but you can contact us via email. Her email address is: [gonzalezrojasj@nyassembly.gov](mailto:gonzalezrojasj@nyassembly.gov) and our phone number is: 718-457-0384, I posted it in the Chat
- We speak English, Bengali and Spanish and we can offer other languages if need be. We also offer PPE hand sanitizers at our offices, if you like to pick that up, you can make an appointment by email.

**Jessica Schabowski, Mayor’s Office of Community Affairs Unit:**

- We surpassed 3 million vaccinations in New York City and we are well on our way to our goal of 5 million New Yorkers, fully vaccinated by June.
- Last week we had our best week yet with 370,000 vaccinations in a week, and our goal is to have that at half a million a week, we are slowly progressing there.
- With the approval of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, we continue to emphasize to all New Yorkers that the goal right now is to get any vaccine whatsoever, and our health leadership is emphasizing the message that once you get vaccinated and you wait a few weeks, your body is close to zero hospitalizations and absolutely zero deaths, so we are encouraging all New Yorkers to get a vaccine as soon as they can and I will put the phone numbers and websites for appointments in the Chat.
- We continue to test for variants more than any other city in the country, we’re tracking the spread of the variants that we know about, and we’re also testing. So, we can find new ones that might emerge in the future to continue supporting our vaccination rollout.
- The city is recruiting 2,000 New Yorkers to serve in their communities, hiring for clinical roles vaccinators, as well as support and administrative roles and I’ll be putting that link in the Chat as well.

**Ernest Brooks, Office of Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney:**

- The American rescue plan, which is perhaps the major thing
- Carolyn is also working on passing two gun safety bills, a pro-worker bill to protect organizing rights, increase the formation of unions, make it more possible also reintroduce the improving Helicopter Safety Act, the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, the Measuring Real Income Growth Act and her resolution calling for the ratification of the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, something that's been far too long and coming, and
- As the Chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, she released new documents obtained during the Committee's investigation into Purdue Pharma and the Sackler Family and
- Launched an inquiry into the postal service's recent contract award to purchase up to 165,000 new postal vehicles from the Oshkosh Corporation. Trying to get the postal service in better shape, given the fact that we are going to have elections coming up and into the future.
- The Congresswoman also signed on to the letter with other of the congressional delegation in terms of the Astoria frack gas plant, and hopefully that will if you believe strongly that the billions going into new infrastructure should go into sustainable renewable infrastructure, not supporting the fossil fuel, one which is so much part of the problem at the present time.
- She was glad to announce the Congressional Art Competition for 2021. This year's students will be able to submit their artwork and additional information through a Google form. The winner's artwork will be hung in the Capital for a year. Each winner will also receive two free round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines to attend the winner's reception in Washington DC.
- I will put that in the Chat and along with the Congresswoman's website and the phone number at her office in Manhattan, the Queens office is not open, but the New York one is.

**Mary Jobaida, Office of State Senator Jessica Ramos:**

- Our office is moving from Junction Boulevard to Jackson Heights, but we are still unpacking and getting it ready to welcome our guests.
- When the office is ready, I will share the address with all of you. We are still working remotely. Our phone number is: 718-205-3881, I will also share it on the Chat.
- The Senator is also against the possible power plant. She has passed a bill S-3211A, which creates an enhanced public participation process for all major energy projects.
- As of now, the NRG plant has not made this new public participation requirements, and this would significantly delay the projects from being built. The Senator is also introducing another legislation to ban the construction of new fossil fuel powered plants. This bill will block new large electric generating facilities from getting permits from the department of environmental conservation in PSC. It would also block the energy plant.

**Jack Bernatovicz, Office of Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer:**

- It is with great sadness that I share the news that Ronald Tharrington, husband of Deborah Tharrington and father of former CB1 member Daniel Tharrington, passed away on Saturday. A memorial service will be held tomorrow at Corpus Christi (31-80 61st Street, Woodside, NY 11377) starting at 10:30am.
- Neighborhoods in CB1 are still seeing high COVID-19 positivity rates, with rates as high as 8.88%. Remember to keep social distancing, wear your masks, get tested, and get vaccinated when eligible.
- Monday, March 1st, marked the official beginning of Open Culture, with the application for now live! Cultural venues, arts organizations, and artists can apply for permits for free, donation based, and/or ticketed arts & cultural programs, events, and rehearsals in more than 100 streets across the City. Although culture never truly closed, this community has been without space to perform and put on ticketed events for a year, and now through Open Culture our streets will host dance, comedy, music, circus arts, song, and performance. We already have 250 plus events already being scheduled, and I will add a link in the chat to learn more about the program and to apply.
- This month CM Van Bramer wrote a letter to the Mayor calling for a stronger vaccine distribution program that works closely with the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that understand the needs of their neighbors so well. The letter highlights the need to prioritize our most vulnerable, specifically black and brown communities, that have seen lower vaccination rates. This is an effort to increase the number of vaccine sites across the City and creating more access to the vaccine in CB2.
- Budget season has begun in the Council with preliminary budget hearings taking place this month. The Council Member is paying close attention to the proposed budgets for our libraries, arts & culture, and social services across the City, and will be fighting for a just budget that supports a fair reopening and serves all New Yorker's equitably.
- Also, last month Council Member Van Bramer recognized black leaders across District 26 with our 11th annual Black History Month Celebration. Honoring Miles "Hollyhood" Casso from Queensbridge, Woodside based arts advocate Kat Bloomfield, Sunnyside author Lavelle Porter, and LIC business owner Kafia Saxe. We would like to thank all who joined and the students and staff of PS111 for performing & helping us celebrate.
- Happy Women's History Month

**Haris Khan, Office of Comptroller Scott Stringer**

- This March, the Comptroller testified at the City Council Committee on Finance on the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2022 Budget where he shared immediate needs to aid families and jumpstart our economy as well as highlighting the areas of spending without proven results.
- He noted that we are spending over \$400,000 dollars a year to incarcerate one person on Rikers Island while violence continues to climb and spending over \$3 billion a year on homelessness — twice as much now as we did seven years ago. Additionally, the City spends \$200 million dollars a year on mental health

programs without sufficient accountability, data, or measurable outcomes to show for it. This spending must be evaluated, and agencies must be held accountable for producing measurable results.

- Our newsletter details several policy areas the Comptroller have released which would help in an equitable recovery and stronger economy. I have also attached the MWBE University Flyer, a year-long series aimed at supporting our small businesses, feel free to share these documents within your circles.
- Feel free to reach out to me if there is any way our office can be of assistance. My email address is: [hkhan@comptroller.nyc.gov](mailto:hkhan@comptroller.nyc.gov) and my number is 929-512-1946

## **BUSINESS SESSION:**

### **Adoption February 2021 Minutes**

Motioned by Edward Babor; Seconded by Irak Dahir Cehonski

### **Chair Report:**

Chair, Marie Torniali said, I just want to take a moment of reflection on this anniversary of COVID-19 here in New York, so many of our families have been devastated by this disease and lost a loved one, so we have to remember them in our thoughts on this awful anniversary. At the same time, we have to be eternally grateful to our health care workers who cared for us while putting themselves at risk and also to EMS, FDNY and NYPD who helped us, as well as all the workers who stayed on the front line so we could get the essentials and get where we had to be so, while there is light at the end of the tunnel, it is not over. I love you all, please keep your mask on, get your vaccine when you can and let's move forward, hopefully to a better year.

### **District Manager Report:**

The District Manager, Florence Koulouris stated, I was going to begin my report regarding Debbie and Danielle Tharrington's loss, Jack Bernatovicz shared the information. She asked, please keep them both in your prayers. The second portion of my report is related to the Floating Hospital and Cynthia Davis. The Floating Hospital has received vaccines and provides transportation to qualified residents in our community. They have been working with all the NYCHA developments working to assist the Community wherever they can. The Floating Hospital is located at: 41-43 Crescent Street and the phone number is: 718-784-2240. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the Board Office, we are in from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The number for Cynthia Davis at the Floating Hospital is: 718-784-2240. They have vaccines and they are working with the Community. Thank you, be safe, be well, follow all protocols, and we look forward to seeing you next month.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Rod Townsend, Community and Economic Development** – We did have a meeting just yesterday, actually with a representative from Small Business Services, so that the Committee could learn more about what Small Businesses Services is doing and then also just had a general discussion of how we can help them out. Thank you.

**Andy Aujla (submitting for Eric Mouchette), Consumer Affairs Committee** – You will see the emailed spreadsheet for Consumer Affairs applications for liquor licenses from the past month. One thing that is worth pointing out is, since we have been sending out stipulations I would, say almost four years now we are sending out and agreeing to much fewer because we already have stipulations in place, but that being said, we still review every application with the 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct to make sure that there are no issues with bad actors that are worth bringing to the Board's attention being done in the last month. We are requesting that the Board approve the applications that were submitted and the stipulations that were sent in. Do you have any questions, does anybody have a question? Does anybody have a question about the stipulations, or the package sent from Consumer Affairs Committee? Are there any objections?

Seeing none.

Chair, Marie Torniali stated that it is unanimous.

**Judy Trilivas, Health and Human Services Committee** – We have no report this month, but wanted to share, on Tuesday March 23rd we are going to have a meeting, Mr. Chae No from the New York City Department of Health will be joining us and giving us a presentation and updates on COVID-19 and the vaccines, because we know there is a lot of questions still that are coming out and we thought we would devote a meeting to it.

**Elizabeth Erion, Land Use and Zoning Committee** – I want to bring you up to date with a number of proposals that will be coming to the Board within the next couple of months, before we go on our summer hiatus.

First is a BSA variance for Trinity Lutheran School, which is on 37<sup>th</sup> Street. They need rear yard and set back waivers to add an additional floor to their existing school. We met with them at the last meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are not here tonight for their public hearing because we asked them to do a couple of things. We asked for a shadow study for the impacts that this addition will have on the adjacent residences to the rear of the building. We wanted to know how they were going to treat the wall that will be increased, that is adjacent to these homes, and also, we wanted them to do some outreach to the owners of these homes. They are in the process of meeting those requests. They will be back at the April Public Hearing.

We also met with Wildflower Studios. I am sure you know that they are the group that is building studios, movie studios on the Steinway Piano property that fronts along the Luyster Creek and across from where the NYC Sanitation garage was approved for in the near future. We're going to be reviewing applications that they have submitted to City Planning in order to meet the regulations that have been established for any development along

waterfronts in the City. They will be coming to us pretty soon on that. We are also working with them to see just what we can do to get more participation by the Sanitation people for the other side of the Creek. You will be seeing the proposals that the Studios have for how they are going to be opening up the waterfront access to the public and 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. I think I speak for the rest of the Committee when I say that we are kind of excited to see this going on and hope it is going to be a real impetus and getting the local officials behind getting Sanitation side of the Creek accessible to the public, also or at least visually improved.

We also had two informational presentations for developments in the Ravenswood area. Their requests for rezoning, one was a request from an R5 to a mixed-use zone, that was 11<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a full block between 33<sup>rd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There are two sites that would be developed there for a total of 352 units, 105 of which would be Affordable Units under the MIH, and so that was both of them. Both of those buildings would be eight stories. There was the other proposal, informational proposal that came to us is for a mixed-use development. It is on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Crescent Street, seven story, building with 233 dwelling units, 60 of which would be Affordable. This would have a manufacturing component and a commercial component as well as the residential. I think for the first time, in a long very long time, we are going to be having a second meeting this month, the number of applications coming before the Board they are increasing, it is a lot of development activity.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. we will be having another meeting you will be receiving a notice from the District Office. This is an informational presentation for a rezoning proposed for Hoyt Avenue and 31<sup>st</sup> Street. It is taking in approximately all or three blocks from Astoria Boulevard North to 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the East side of 31<sup>st</sup> Street. It starts where the Neptune Diner is and goes North from there. The request is for a C 4-5 X and a C 4-4 zoning district, all told there are three mixed commercial community facility and residential buildings that are being proposed for this area, for a total of 295 dwelling units and 74 affordable units. As I said, this is an informational meeting.

The other item we are going to be discussing at that meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>, you have all heard about West Cove when it came to us and it was Astoria North. It has had several names, but they are beginning to do their environmental impact statement for the proposed development. There is a Hearing on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. City Planning is sponsoring a hearing on this EIS and we will be discussing at that meeting what we would like to be sure is going to be addressed in terms of the impacts that this large development is going to have.

**Katie Ellman, Parks/Recreation/Cultural Committee** - We had a meeting at the beginning of the month. Astoria Park Alliance shared their upcoming volunteer programming, which commences this Saturday with a shoreline and general solstice cleanup of the Park it is from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you want to get more involved with this Astoria Park Alliance feel free to visit their website: <http://www.astoriaparkalliance.org/> or follow them on their social media channels.

We also had a presentation by a local Ball Hockey organization, that is in the initial stages of forming a program for women and children in the district, so they are very new, they are very eager, and it was a good conversation with them, where they were trying to learn the ropes of the District and the parks and the groups that currently operate. Stay tuned for more information about that. They hope to be up and running in some capacity based on COVID-19 restrictions this summer.

Last, but definitely not least, you may have heard already that the fencing construction is on at the Astoria House's Esplanade for repairs of the Sea Wall. The fencing begins at the ferry dock and goes all the way up and around. So that is a huge win for the Community, first and foremost, and a win for the City, State and Federal representatives that worked to make this happen. There are too many to list, but they know who they are.

**Mitch Waxman, Transportation Committee** – I would like to offer my condolences to Deborah Tharrington, she has always been an incredible advocate for our Community. Secondly, we had a Transportation Committee meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. We met with the New York State Department of Transportation, discussed the Grand Central Parkway Astoria Boulevard and laid out some pretty broad stroke vision stuff with them.

We are going to be scheduling a meeting in April.

**Antonio Meloni, Public Safety Committee** – The 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct has been chosen as the only precinct in Queens and five city-wide to spearhead a new program through the Police Commissioner to stem the violence that has been happening the last couple of months, so they are going to be targeting certain neighborhoods and trying to reach out to the Community. I will have a lot more information in the next meeting, but I just wanted everyone to be aware that they were chosen for this, particularly because of the shooting up in Woodside Houses.

**Edward Babor, Education/Library/Youth Services Committee** – The Library Committee met on March the 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. A presentation was made by representatives of the New York City Department of Design, the Queen's Public Library and Yoshihara McKee Architects regarding the remodeling of the Astoria Library. The building will be refurbished and remodeled and will include an elevator for ADA needs. There were questions raised about the possibility of a ramp, in addition to the elevator to assist patrons who might be claustrophobic. The ramp was not considered feasible. Since there was no Committee quorum, the requested letter of support must be voted on by the Full Board.

We require the Motion for the letter of support.

**Stella Nicolaou** - I made a suggestion during the Committee Meeting since they cannot do a ramp. I would have liked to have some kind of a buzzer, because some people who are claustrophobic will not be able to use the elevator and since there is no ramp for somebody to come down and escort them up and also possibly use some glass that make the elevations on the side a little bit more transparent so the person will feel more comfortable. At the

Committee they said that is something that they would incorporate in and that should be part of the letter. That would be very helpful, and claustrophobia is not something to make light of. Public elevators are not always well maintained, and people may not feel comfortable using them, etc. So those are some small changes that will really strengthen accessibility.

Marie Torniali, Chair - Perhaps Ed, we could include that in the letter of support.

Edward Babor - We can include that in the stipulation.

Stella Nicolaou - The company had agreed to it when we spoke about it that day, but we did not have enough people for a quorum.

Chair asked for a Motion for a letter of support. Motioned by Stella Nicolaou; Seconded by Jean Marie D'Alleva

The Community Board will send a letter of support for this project.

#### **Old/New Business:**

#### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Mario (Female spoke/Constituent) – Ongoing issues with the Crescent Street bike lane. She said, they thought it would be a temporary bike lane and it looks like it is permanent. They want to compromise; they are not against bike lanes. She states it is causing a lot of issues with the parking, the elderly, the senior citizens getting access to the front of their homes. It has caused trouble for the fire engines, for the snowplows, for people picking up the kids from daycare.

Chair, Marie Torniali - I believe that Department of Transportation are going to go back and look at that section of the bike lane to see if anything could be done there.

Joe Nocerino – Myself, the Borough President and Commissioner Garcia were there the week before. We walked the whole length, we are aware of the homes, by the food pantry and we are aware by the Hospital. The Borough President gave Commissioner Garcia some strong suggestions that she took back to the engineers and we are waiting on feedback, hopefully within this week or next, what they can do.

Ron R. (Constituent) – Expressed his dismay with the young mother that was killed and the issues with the bike lanes. He said, let's focus on the safety of the Community.

Peter Moses (Constituent) - He said he would like to see enforcement with drivers following the rules of the road on the bike lane on Crescent. He would also like to ask if we can get updates on the Committee Meetings.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded, all of the Committee Meetings can be found on our website. Some Committees meet monthly, others meet as warranted so feel free to go on the website and check it out. The meeting notices and the agendas are on the website.

Peter Moses (Constituent) - If there is no meeting notice, if it is not warranted, then there can be a gap. Is there a way to tell when it was?

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded, some Committees meet monthly, but some meet every other month, depending on their workload.

Peter Moses (Constituent) - I guess you know, there has been an understanding that a few committees haven't met in the past year, if you look in the Chat.

Chair, Marie Torniali – That is incorrect so feel free to go on the website and check that out.

Peter Moses (Constituent) – He said that he would love to see a Sanitation Committee, the litter basket pickups been reduced due to budgetary reasons.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded, why don't you send those gaps or locations to the district office and we will follow up on it?

Peter Moses (Constituent) - I will do that, but I would love to know if there is a possibility to form a Sanitation Committee.

Marie Torniali, Chair – Responded, we are working on it, thank you so much.

Peter Moses (Constituent) – Complaint about an issue with Graffiti removal being suspended indefinitely. He would appreciate if the Community Board office can help.

Guadalupe Guzman (Constituent) – Concerned about the incident that happened on 48<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway where a women and mother of two children was shot and killed on Friday at 8 p.m. They are also concerned that there is a rise in violence/crime in the Community. She announced that there is a GoFundMe for the family. They are asking for more police officers in the Community. They are asking the 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct to tell them what their plans are for the future.



Marie Torniali, Chair – Asked Police Officer, Carlos Chacon to tell them about the meeting next Tuesday night at Astoria Manor.

Carlos Chacon, Police Officer, 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct – Reported that the Community Council Meeting will be happening this month. It is our first meeting that we'll be having since the Pandemic. It will hold true to our schedule, which is the fourth Tuesday of the month, so we are looking at March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm. The location has now changed because, unfortunately, Riccardo's has closed permanently, our new location will be the Astoria Manor. You can formally meet the new commanding officer of the 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct Captain Ray Jenkins. I would like to address Guadalupe's concern on the situation that she finds herself in. It is an open investigation; we have our detectives on it, and they are working relentlessly. I am a little emotional because I actually attended the funeral. Today, the NYPD provided transportation for the family. We provided a bus to take the family along, and you know it is a heavy concern and I say with a heavy heart, because a lot of people have made statements that it happened off of the housing development, but a lot of times people say that, and they say it as if it is acceptable that these things could happen in housing and not outside. To us, the Police Department, seems insignificant as to where it happened. It does not change the fact of what occurred, very unfortunate, such a tragedy. You know it was the first warm Friday of the year and that really affects our crime. The amount of crime that occurs is reflected on temperatures and time, and so this was eight o'clock at night. An innocent person, an innocent life being taken, and you know that is really what should be at the forefront of the conversations that we are having. The new Borough President Donovan Richards, Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer and Senator Jessica Ramos were present at the event today and we were very fortunate to have them. The family was very happy to have seen and spoken to them. Like I said it is an open investigation and we are working on it. We hope to see you all in person at this event that we are having, the 114<sup>th</sup> Community Council Meeting, there will be no Zoom as of, yet we are not planning on doing any Zoom, it will be in person only.

Marie Torniali, Chair – Asked Police Officer Carlos Chacon to put the meeting information in the Chat.

Guadalupe Guzman (Constituent) – I did mention that it was on 48<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, I wanted to clarify that because it is a busy intersection. There is a train, a lot of pedestrians use that area and therefore I think I just wanted to note that to kind importance of how delicate the situation was, thank you all for listening.

Chair, Marie Torniali - Thank you, Guadalupe and condolences.

Sarah Sachs (Constituent) - I built a civic tech project to create a pipeline for getting Community Board meetings, transcribed the full meeting transcript using the closed caption text from YouTube, so I created a whole platform for people to explore their Community Board information, and your Board is one of the few in Queens that actually publishes onto YouTube. The goal of this project is to make local policy information accessible and bite sized. So, with every meeting, that's posted onto YouTube, we will actually send you some meeting highlights from it directly from what was said. So, I was curious to hear some thoughts about this project in general because we're looking to connect with different community members and also curious if it would be possible to get some of the other Committee Meetings, also posted onto YouTube. It seemed like there are only the general Board Meetings posted and it would be great to have more access and to the other meeting information. So, I'll post the link here, but it would be great to learn more and maybe help using this project. Link: <https://blockparty.studio/>

Chair, Marie Torniali – Thank you, can you put your information in there as well? I don't know if we will be doing YouTube for the Committee Meetings at this time, but I would like to have your information anyway, so we could reach out to you.

Gloria Maloney (Dutch Kills Civic Association) - I just wanted to go back a little bit to the Zoning and Land Use Committee report. She stated that there was a building being built on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Crescent Street, and it was 200 apartments. Is that correct?

Marie Torniali, Chair - That is coming up at a Committee Meeting.

Gloria Maloney (Dutch Kills Civic Association) – She is distressed with the all the new construction as well as the bike lane on Crescent, which is wreaking havoc on the traffic there and now 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a one-way. She wants to know how are they going to do construction on a building on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Crescent Street? She stated that many construction sites are not completed, they have fencing all around them and have graffiti on the fencing which looks awful. She is concerned about the traffic in that area. She indicated that she will attend future meetings and speak about this.

Jeremy Welch (Constituent) - Commented in favor of leaving as much of the protected bike lane as possible.

Carlos Fernandez (Constituent) - I would like to give a suggestion not only as a neighbor but especially as a union member on the issue regarding the legislative changes they are bringing to the city's future planning and zoning. The total work history study should at least include a study on all past contractors, past projects, including, wage and hour violations rates, health care plans provided by the company subcontractors, workers, tax contributions in the past workers, compensation, insurance records, OSHA violations and a lot more access. I think that labor should always have a voice on the table so jobs may go to community members.

Vivian Nobile (Constituent) – She said, she is a lifelong Astorian. She expressed her dismay about the woman who was killed on 48<sup>th</sup> Street because of gang activity and feels the neighborhood is going downhill. Ms. Nobile said, we need more police, not less and I think what is happening is really horrible. She feels there are too many Citi Bike structures on streets. She feels that car owners pay for gas and pay taxes on the gas; pay taxes for registration and are being inconvenienced.



Adam Shriver (Constituent) – He said, he is in favor of a Sanitation Committee. He encourages the Community Board to be creative about ways that they can advocate for restored sanitation funding, even if it seems like there is not going to be a way to create a Sanitation Committee.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded, we have made our feelings known regarding this budget and sanitation cuts.

Adam (Constituent) - He asked, is there somewhere, where I could see any record of statements that you guys have made, because I haven't seen any of the advocacy that the Community Board has done on that issue?

Marie Torniali, Chair – Responded, you can call or email the Community Board Office.

Ray Normandeau (Constituent) - Expressed his concern with sex offenders who are living in the Community. He stated that he emailed the Community Board Office the names and addresses of three new registered sex offenders who have moved into the Community.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Suggested he contact the Precinct about this.

Ray Normandeau (Constituent) - He responded that he has a full database of information.

Maria Zois (Constituent) - She commented about Ms. Gudelia Vallinas' tragic death, she is outraged and said the amount of crime that we are seeing is unreal. She said, I feel it is very important that we support our Police Officers now more than ever, because they are doing an amazing job, they are out there every single day doing their best to keep us safe and they need to know that they are appreciated. We have to make a change.

Kate Peterson (Constituent) - She was listening to Adam one of the speakers and said she has not seen anything either. She asked if the Community Board wrote a letter.

Marie Torniali, Chair – Responded, yes, we wrote a letter to the Mayor's Office regarding budget cuts and Sanitation.

Kate Peterson (Constituent) - Asked how Community members can find out about that and learn about that.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded that she may reach out to the District Manager at 718-626-1021.

Kate Peterson (Constituent) – Commented that she is excited to hear that the Community Board wrote a letter. She said she strongly believes that we need a Sanitation Committee. Ms. Peterson said an upcoming resolution 2233, will wave many of the Sanitation fines for businesses or reduces them, which is great for businesses.

Marie Torniali, Chair – Responded, well, we are hopeful that these budget cuts will be restored and that is why CBI and other organizations have written about the importance of Sanitation.

Kate Peterson (Constituent) – She said, we need to actually speak out about our needs and as a Community.

Gene (Constituent) – Commented that he thinks bike lanes keep people who bike, and pedestrians safe and bike lanes enable people to travel in a healthy, non-polluting way.

Jeremy Rosen (Constituent) – He supports the call for a Sanitation Committee on the Community Board. He said he also supports the protected bike lane on Crescent. Expressed his dismay with the gun violence in the City.

Josh Tjaden (Constituent) – He is advocating for a Sanitation Committee and happy to hear about the letter that was written. He asked where they can find it and was it made public.

Chair, Marie Torniali – Responded to contact the Community Board Office, Florence will be happy to give you a copy.

Josh (Constituent) – Commented that it has not been publicly distributed, like on Twitter, Facebook or an email.

Marie Torniali, Chair – Responded, I would encourage everyone who is opposed to the budget cuts, as most of us are, to write to their local Council people.

Maria Zois (Constituent) – She made a comment about her disabled son who is 17 years old. She asked people to stop assumptions that everyone has the same physical abilities. Ms. Zois said, we have a large number of disabled people in our Community.

Evie Hantzopoulos – Commented regarding the 114<sup>th</sup> Community Council meeting that is scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> and the fact that there is going to be no Zoom. She said she is puzzled as to why that is happening, because the Pandemic is still happening, many people still have not been vaccinated.

Is there going to be measures in place in terms of crowd and social distancing? I am just puzzled as to why this option would not be offered while we are still in the middle of a Pandemic. If some people want to go in person, that may be fine, but other people may not be, and obviously public safety is of concern to everybody and people are raising it here tonight. So, I would like to know why that can't be possible.

Carlos Chacon, Police Officer, 114<sup>th</sup> Precinct – I believe as of the 19<sup>th</sup>, the new Executive Order allows up to 150 people to be in a room with masks, and so we have not been having Zoom meetings, it is not as if we have been having them and now we are going to go exclusive to in person. There were not any Zoom meetings prior, we have

been on pause this entire time. Now that opportunity exists for us to have a meeting, we were planning on having it in person. We do not believe that we are going to reach anywhere near that number, but we will be distributing masks to anyone that does not have one prior to entering and that is our plan. I will look into a Zoom capability, but that is beyond me. I will let my people above know that people are interested in having Zoom. I saw it also in the Chat, I saw that it was requested as well. I would like to speak about two things. Yes, we do have less Police Officers in the Precinct, not just in our precinct, not just in PSA 9, which covers housing developments that are in CB1, not in the borough, it is in the entire city. There are just less officers available, and that is what comes along with that. Some people believe the latter that there is no correlation between the amount of officers and crime. You know you leave an area vulnerable by not having enough officers on the contrary you should have more.

I saw also in the Chat about the sex offenders. The Police Department does not have any say. We are not consulted at all as to where those sex offenders are placed. That is the Department of Homeless Services that makes that decision as to placing them in shelters or anything like that in the area. Ultimately, we are not even made aware of those registered sex offenders. As a matter of fact, I got an email earlier today about this and I have gotten other complaints and we reached out to DHS because sometimes they will move in and fail to meet the requirements of their parole and not notify their parole officer of the residency and to no avail. So please, any concern with something like that, please make it vocal to the Department of Homeless Services. Hopefully they can help us.

Chair, Marie Torniali - Thank you, Officer, Chacon. She added, I just want to note, it seems that many people are concerned about this being an in-person meeting in the height of COVID-19. You know, I do not think personally, that people will come out and while I understand, Astoria Manor is open. They have a limitation right and; I believe if you are going to be a guest at a wedding that you are required to have a COVID test. So, I don't know how that translates into having a meeting in the catering hall. It seems to me that the people here feel that you would reach more people if you had it on Zoom. Maybe you can do both.

Chairperson, Marie Torniali asked for a Motion to Adjourn

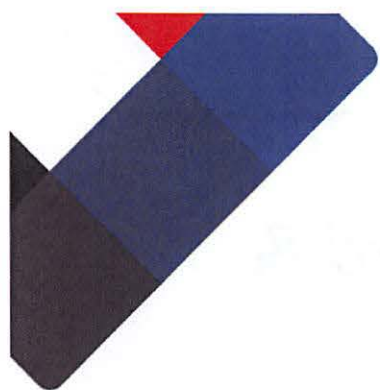
Motioned by Rodolfo Sarchese; Seconded by Jean Marie D'Alleva

Chair, Marie Torniali said, thank you all for being here and we will see you in April, get vaccinated if you can.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:20 p.m.**

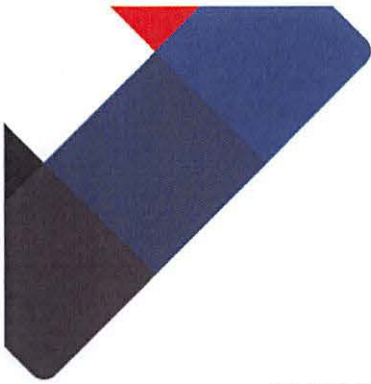
DATE 3/16/21


Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Rose Anne Alafogiannis	✓		E	Jerry Kril	✓	✓	
George Alexiou	✓			Hannah Lupien	✓		
Daniel Aliberti	✓			Jeffrey Martin	✓		
Loren Amor	✓			Amin Mehedi	✓		
Avninder Aujla	✓			Antonio Meloni	✓		
Edward Babor	✓			Eric Mouchette			E
Louise Bordley	✓			Stella Nicolaou	✓		
Ann Bruno	✓			Norma Nieves-Blas		✓	
Gerald Caliendo	✓			Mary O'Hara		✓	
Irak Dahir Cehonski	✓			Dino Panagoulis	✓	✓	
Jean Marie D'Alleva	✓			Juliet Payabyab		✓	
Antonella Di Saverio	✓			Robert Piazza		✓	
Katie Ellman	✓			RoseMarie Poveromo		✓	E
Elizabeth Erion	✓			Yawne Robinson		✓	E
Mackenzi Farquer	✓			Thomas Ryan	✓		
Dean Feratovic	✓			Rodolfo Sarchese	✓		
Shahenaz Hamde	✓			Dominic Stiller	✓		
Evie Hantzopoulos	✓			Andre Stith	✓	✓	
Amy Hau	✓			Marie Torniali	✓		
Helen Ho	✓			Rod Townsend	✓		
Pauline Jannelli	✓			Judy Trilivas	✓		
Vanessa Jones-Hall	✓		E	Kathleen Warnock	✓		
Richard Khuzami	✓			Mitchell Waxman	✓		
Nancy Konipol	✓						
Number Board Members Present <u>35</u>							
Present <u>35</u>				Absent <u>7</u>			
				Excused <u>5</u>			
Oct 2020							



 NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# **Ranked Choice Voting in New York City**



 NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# Campaign Finance Board & NYC Votes

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## WHO WE ARE

The CFB administers NYC's public matching funds program, provides campaign finance disclosure, and engages voters through the NYC Votes initiative.

Charter mandate to conduct voter education and outreach campaign introducing Ranked Choice Voting to New Yorkers.



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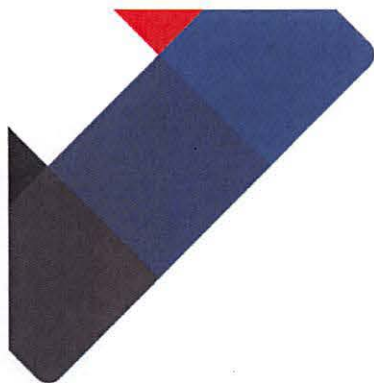


# Goals for this training

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## Training attendees will understand:

1. Overview of Ranked Choice Voting in NYC
2. How RCV can benefit voters
3. Where to find resources and FAQs



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# What is Ranked Choice Voting?





# What is Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)?

RCV is a new way for voters to elect their representatives

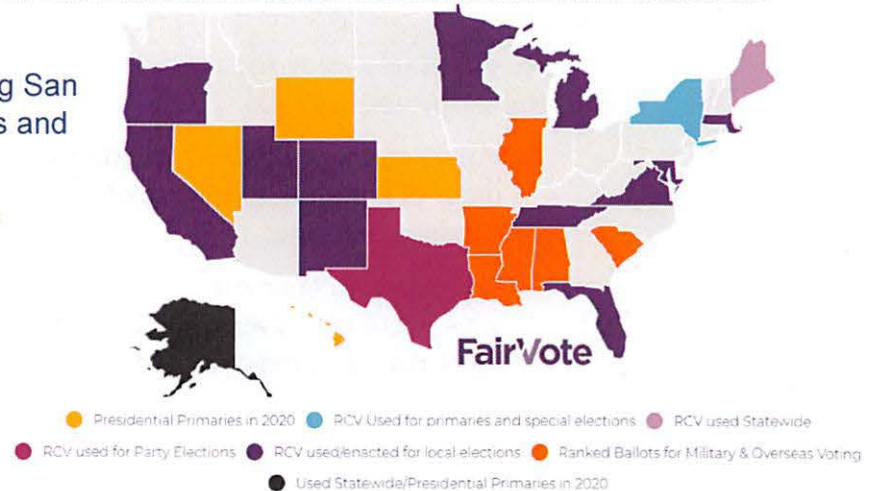
- ♦ Voters can rank up to 5 candidates in order of preference, instead of choosing just one.
- ♦ This gives voters more say in who wins, increases civility, and can lead to more diverse candidates winning.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## Who uses RCV?

- ◆ 17 U.S. cities (including San Francisco, Minneapolis and Santa Fe)
- ◆ Maine (+ Alaska soon)
- ◆ the Academy Awards





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## How did RCV get to NYC?

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The 2019 Charter Revision Commission voted to create **Ballot Question #1**, to establish ranked choice voting in primary and special elections for local office, effective January 1, 2021.

- ♦ **73.5%** of New York City voters voted **YES**



# How did RCV get to NYC?

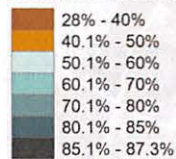
The map on the right shows the percent of voters who voted YES on Ballot Question 1 in 2019 by Assembly District.

This analysis was done by CUNY Center for Urban Research

## 2019 General Election Ballot Proposals Proposal 1: Elections/Ranked Choice Voting *Certified results, by Assembly District*

### Ballot Proposal 1 (Elections)

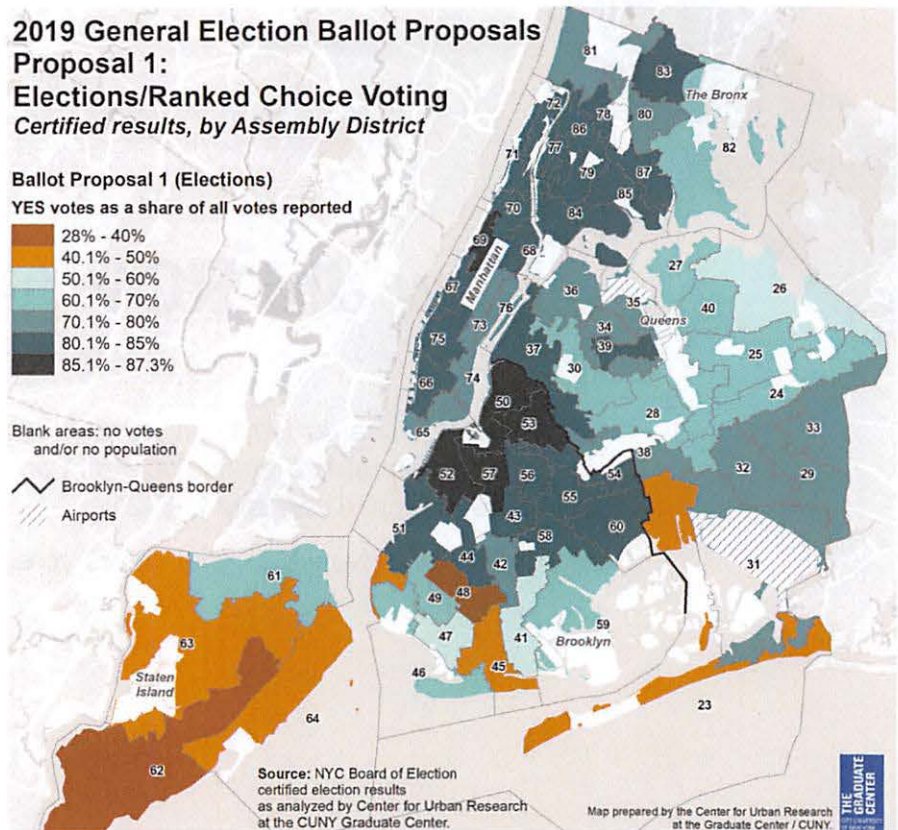
YES votes as a share of all votes reported



Blank areas: no votes and/or no population

Brooklyn-Queens border

Airports



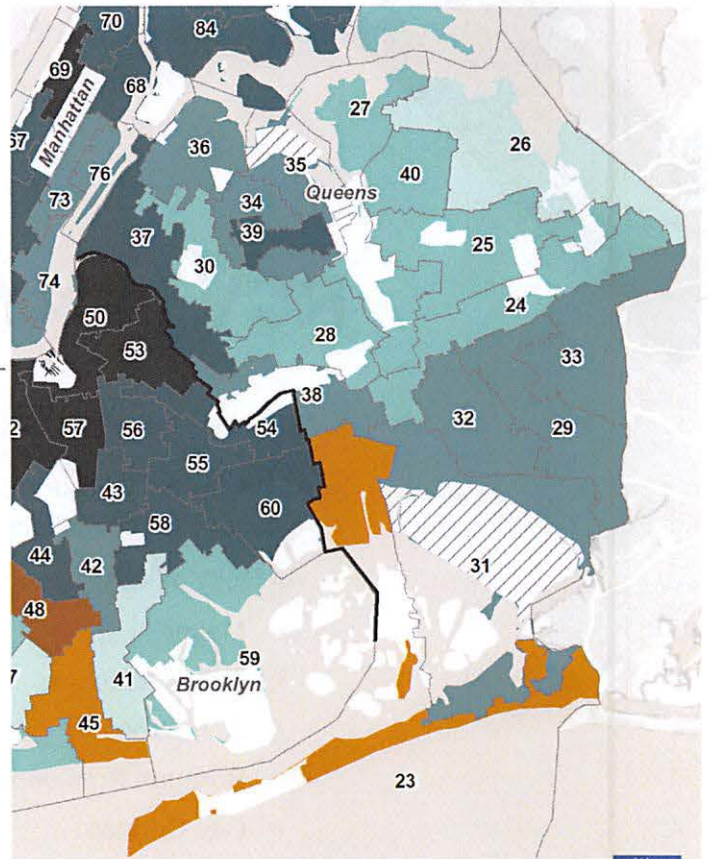
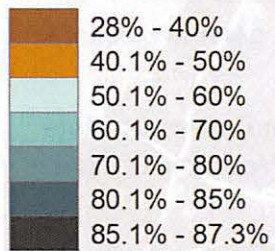




## Queens Focus

### Ballot Proposal 1 (Elections)

YES votes as a share of all votes reported





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# RCV in NYC

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- ◆ Effective January 1, 2021
- ◆ Used in special & primary elections for city offices
- ◆ All 5 city offices:
  - ◆ Mayor
  - ◆ Public Advocate
  - ◆ Comptroller
  - ◆ Borough President
  - ◆ City Council
- ◆ Not used in general elections
- ◆ Not used for Federal or State races like President, Congress, or Governor
- ◆ Not used in local races like District Attorney and Judgeships



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## How did we vote for these offices before?

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### Single-choice plurality elections

- ♦ Voters choose only one candidate for each office and the candidate with the highest number of votes wins.

### ...With runoffs for citywide office

- ♦ If no candidate received more than 40% of the total primary election vote for Mayor, Public Advocate, and Comptroller, a run-off election took place





## Drawback to single-choice + runoff voting

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- ♦ **LESS FREQUENT MAJORITY SUPPORT** -- In single-choice plurality elections, a candidate can win with 33% of the vote, which means 67% of the electorate had no part in electing the winner
- ♦ **RUNOFFS HAVE LOW TURNOUT, ARE EXPENSIVE, AND DON'T ALLOW FULL PARTICIPATION** – Turnout in runoff elections is 35-65% lower than a primary election, cost \$20M to run, and military and overseas voters don't have time to mail back their ballots.



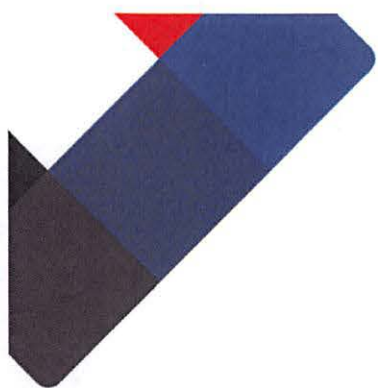
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# How does RCV change City elections?

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- ♦ Ranked choice voting **eliminates all runoff elections**
- ♦ Voters **will still use single-choice elections** for:
  - ♦ All elections for Federal, State, and some local offices like District Attorney
  - ♦ General elections for city office



# How does RCV work?



## Steps for Marking a Ballot

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



- ♦ Pick your first-choice candidate and completely fill in the oval next to their name under the 1st column.
- ♦ If you have a second-choice candidate, fill in the oval next to their name under the 2nd column.
- ♦ You can rank up to 5 candidates. You can still choose to vote for only one candidate if you prefer.



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## Steps for Marking a Ballot

- ♦ All candidates who qualify for the ballot will appear but voters can rank a maximum of 5
- ♦ To vote for a candidate whose name is not on the ballot:
  - ♦ Write the name on the "Write-in" line and fill in an oval to rank your choice

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE F	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE G	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE H	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WRITE-IN CANDIDATE <i>Candidate X</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Example Ballot

## Council District 15 Special Election

Sample Ballot provided by the NYC  
Board of Elections; showing English  
and Spanish

Council Member <small>Rank up to 5 choices Mark no more than 1 oval in each column</small> Miembro del Consejo <small>Clasifique hasta 5 opciones Marque no más de un óvalo en cada columna</small>		Choice Opción	Choice Opción	Choice Opción	Choice Opción	Choice Opción
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
A	John E. Sanchez <small>Community First</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B	Oswald Feliz <small>People United</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
C	Elisa Crespo <small>Jobs &amp; Justice</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
D	Kenny G. Agosto <small>Empower People</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
E	Ischia J. Bravo <small>We Matter</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
F	Ariel Rivera-Diaz <small>Second Choice</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
G	Bernadette Ferrara <small>Fifteen Forward</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
H	Latchmi Devi Gopal <small>Go For The Bronx</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I	Jose A. Padilla Jr. <small>Safe &amp; Stable</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
J	Altagracia Soldevilla <small>People First</small>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in candidato por escrito		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



# Potential Ballot Marking Errors

- Do not give multiple candidates the same rank

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Do not rank a candidate more than once

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>





NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD



## Main takeaways for voters

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- ◆ You can still vote for just your first-choice candidate, however, **ranking other candidates does not harm your first choice.**
- ◆ If you rank multiple candidate **your vote will go toward your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th choice only if your top choice is eliminated**, giving you more say in who wins.



NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page, consisting of several overlapping geometric shapes in shades of blue, red, and black, forming an abstract arrow-like shape pointing towards the top right.

## Main takeaways for voters

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- ♦ You can rank up to five candidates, but you do not need to rank a total of 5.
- ♦ If you rank 5 candidates, five votes do not get counted. You always only have 1 active vote.



NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

A large, stylized arrow pointing upwards and to the right, composed of several overlapping geometric shapes in shades of blue, red, and grey.

## Ways RCV benefits voters

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1. Voters have more say in who gets elected
2. Candidates are more likely to appeal to a wider audience
3. Voters elect more diverse candidates



NYC Campaign Finance Board

- ◆ General voting information: [voting.nyc](#)
- ◆ RCV Resources page: [nycrcfb.info/rcvresources](#)
- ◆ RCV Trainings: [nycrcfb.info/rcvtrainings](#)
- ◆ Twitter, Facebook, Instagram: [@nycvotes](#)
- ◆ NYC Votes on [YouTube](#)



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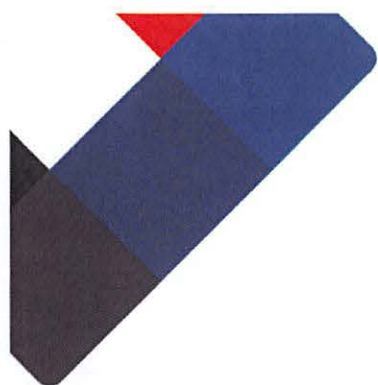
## Contact information

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**Eric Friedman, Assistant Executive Director for Public Affairs**

[efriedman@nyccfb.info](mailto:efriedman@nyccfb.info)

**NYC Votes:** [nycvotes@nyccfb.info](mailto:nycvotes@nyccfb.info)



NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# Open Discussion and Questions!



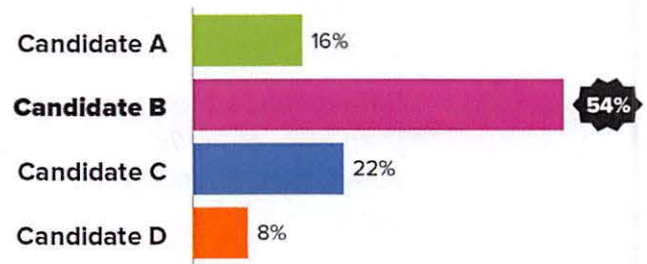
NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# How your vote is counted Round 1

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All first-choice votes are counted.

If a candidate receives more than 50% of first-choice votes, they win the election.







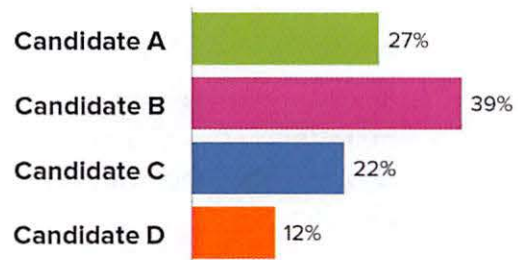
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# How your vote is counted Round 1

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All first-choice votes are counted.

If no candidate earns more than 50% of first-choice votes, then counting will continue in rounds.



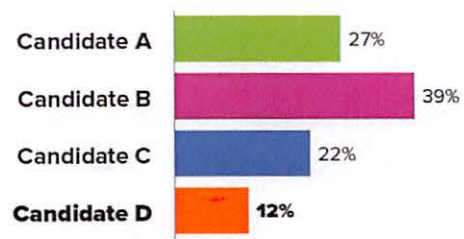


NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# How your vote is counted RCV Round 2

Each round, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



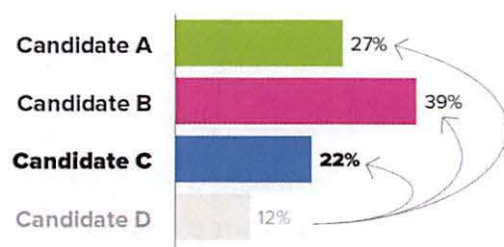


NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# How your vote is counted RCV Round 2

If your top-choice candidate is eliminated, your vote goes to the next highest ranked candidate on your ballot.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

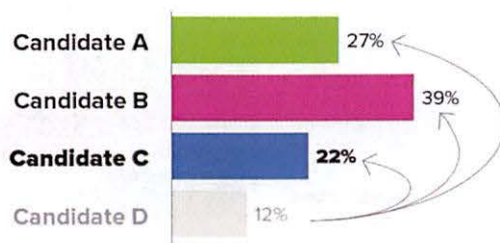




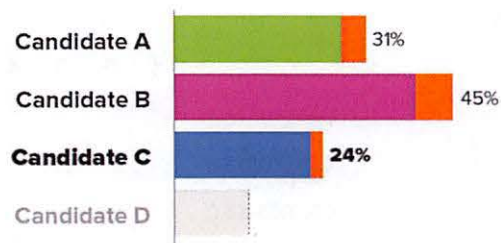
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# How your vote is counted RCV Round 2

## VOTE DISTRIBUTION



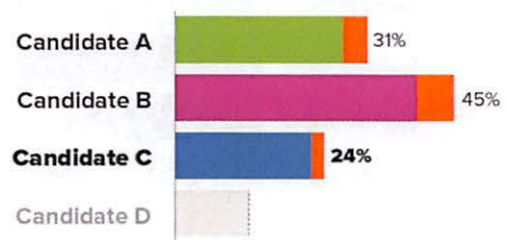
## NEW TOTALS



# How your vote is counted RCV Round 3

Each round, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



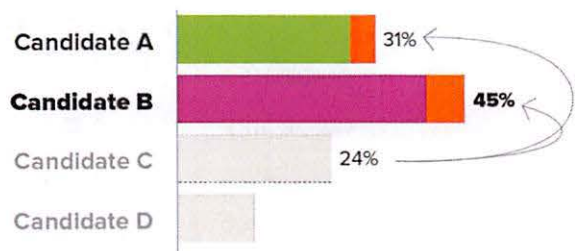


NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

# How your vote is counted RCV Round 3

If your top-choice candidate is eliminated, your vote goes to the next highest ranked candidate on your ballot.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>





# How your vote is counted RCV Final Round

This process continues until there are only 2 candidates left.

The candidate with the most votes wins!

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CANDIDATE D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>





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# Reasons to Rank



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A large, stylized arrow pointing downwards and to the right, composed of several overlapping geometric shapes in shades of blue, red, and black.


## Ways RCV benefits voters

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1. Voters have more say in who gets elected
2. Candidates are more likely to appeal to a wider audience
3. Voters elect more diverse candidates



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# You have more say in who gets elected

---

- *Even if your top choice does not win, you can still help choose who does*
- *You can vote for your top choice first, without worrying about who is likely to win*



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# Candidates are more likely to appeal to a wider audience

---

- *Candidates who are not your top choice still need your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th choice vote, leading them to appeal to you instead of attacking each other*
- *More civility and less negativity*



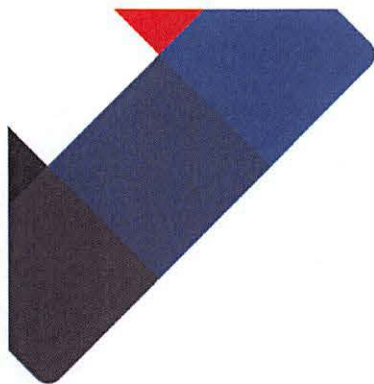
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# Voters elect more diverse candidates

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- *Elected officials are more representative of the communities they serve*
- *In cities with Ranked Choice Voting, more women candidates and women candidates of color get elected*



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# When will RCV be used?





NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

## Past 2021 Specials

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### Queens Council District 24 (February 2, 2021)

- ♦ Voters elected James F. Gennaro

### Queens Council District 31 (February 23, 2021)

- ♦ Awaiting election results





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# Future 2021 Specials

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## Bronx Council District 11

Bedford Park, Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Norwood, Van Cortlandt Village, Wakefield, Woodlawn

## Bronx Council District 15

Bedford Park, Fordham, Mount Hope, Bathgate, Belmont, East Tremont, West Farms, Van Nest, Allerton, Olinville

- ♦ March 23, 2021 (early voting March 13-21)
- ♦ *All registered voters in these districts*





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# Citywide Primary Elections

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**June 22, 2021 (early voting June 12 - 20)**

*All voters registered to a political party holding a primary*

- ♦ Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller
- ♦ 5 Borough President races
- ♦ 51 City Council races



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# Voting resources!

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## NYC Campaign Finance Board

- ♦ General voting information: [voting.nyc](https://voting.nyc.gov)
- ♦ RCV Resources page: [nyccfb.info/rcvresources](https://nyccfb.info/rcvresources)
- ♦ RCV Trainings: [nyccfb.info/rcvtrainings](https://nyccfb.info/rcvtrainings)
- ♦ Twitter, Facebook, Instagram: [@nycvotes](https://twitter.com/nycvotes)



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## Other voting resources

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### NYC Board of Elections

- ♦ RCV Video: <https://youtu.be/5VdJBo16fDM>
- ♦ Poll site locator: <https://findmypollsite.vote.nyc/>
- ♦ Twitter & Instagram: [@boenyc](#)

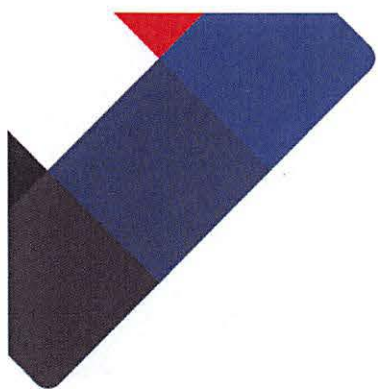
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**NYC Votes:** [nycvotes@nyccfb.info](mailto:nycvotes@nyccfb.info)



# **Open Discussion and Questions!**