

BILL DE BLASIO

1. What is your name?

Bill de Blasio

2. What office are you running for?

Mayor

3. What is your plan for preserving and adding additional units of affordable housing in New York City?

Affordable housing has to be a top priority if New York is going to be a City that has a place for everyone. It's also essential to growing our economy and our ability to continue to both keep and attract talented and ambitious people. So we have to use all the tools available to preserve existing affordable housing and develop more. That means making affordable housing an essential issue in the zoning and development process and finding ways to increase pension fund and private capital investment in affordable housing. We should also support mandatory inclusionary zoning as well as demand more on NYCHA (accelerate repairs, etc.) Sadly, over the past twelve years, Mayor Bloomberg has failed miserably to meet basic affordable housing needs, especially for families living in the outer-boroughs.

4. Do you support or oppose 421 tax abatements for development in buildings in already highly desirable neighborhoods?

No Response

5. As a Public Official, what actions would you take to promote the continuation and improvement of rent stabilization In New York City?

I strongly support the repeal of the Urstadt Law and vacancy decontrol.

6. How would you provide housing and mental health services to the homeless?

The city should offer integrated and comprehensive services that encompass mental health care into anti-homelessness efforts. My plan overall would focus on preventative measures to ensure that residents and tenants could stay in their homes to ensure they never fall into homelessness in the first place. Mayor Bloomberg's homeless policy has been a complete failure. NYC is now experiencing a record number of homeless residents due to his failed strategies.

7. What is your position on the leasing of NYCHA property to private developers?

I oppose the Bloomberg Infill plan to build luxury housing on public housing properties. This is a pure giveaway to wealthy elites. Any private development on NYCHA land must do the following: 1) increase affordable housing units; 2) steer revenue back into NYCHA system for repairs and maintenance; and 3) provide job

opportunities for local residents. There should also always be strong tenant involvement in the process and an overall focus on fairness treatments for tenants.

8. What is your position on the leasing of open space that is currently occupied by public schools to private developers?

My general view is that we should seek to preserve our public schools and focus resources on our students, not outside entities.

9. Do you support the continuation of mayoral control of schools?

Yes

10. Do you support or oppose the Mayor appointing a majority of the members on the Public Education Panel?

Support

11. Do you support or oppose the reappointment of Dennis Walcott as Chancellor?

Oppose

12. Do you support ending tenure protection for teachers?

No

13. Do you support or oppose a moratorium on school closings?

Support

14. Do you support or oppose the co-location of charter schools in public school buildings?

I support a moratorium on co-locations.

15. Do you support or oppose a moratorium on new charter schools?

No Response

16. Do you support or oppose giving local Community Education Councils greater power in determining use of school space?

Support

17. How can you use your office to encourage the use of renewable energy?

I believe we could do much more to retrofit public buildings, recycle, compost, and promote a broad green jobs agenda.

18. Are you in favor of closing the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant? If so, how will you use your office to support IP's closing?

I understand the significant concerns about Indian Point. However, we cannot allow an energy shortage that could result in blackouts or increases in our already high

electricity costs. We shouldn't shut down Indian Point immediately, but rather explore a decommissioning process that brings alternative energy online to ensure that NYC's power needs are met.

19. Under what conditions, if any, would you support hydraulic fracturing in New York State?

I support the two-year moratorium on fracking in New York State that recently passed the Assembly, and I hope the Senate will pass it too. Questions about health and environmental safety remain unanswered, and we can't afford to get this wrong.

20. Do you favor or oppose commercial rent control?

No Response

21. Do you support zoning regulations that discourage owners of commercial properties from renting to large banks and chain stores?

No Response

22. Do you support or oppose the leasing of public parks to raise revenue, such as private tennis courts in Central Park or private development of the Hudson River Park?

No Response

23. Do you think the power of eminent domain has been abused within the city? If so, what examples would you cite?

We must on guard against city abuses of eminent domain, and ensure that when used it is used wisely and judiciously.

24. Do you support a bill mandating a living wage for anyone who works under a contract with New York City?

Yes

25. How do you define a living wage in dollars?

\$11.50

26. Should the living wage be applied only to NYC contracts or should there be a City minimum wage tied to the cost of living in New York city?

There needs to be a continuous effort to lift wages for low-wage workers both inside and outside the City contracting process. City government should have more local control over wage laws.

27. Would you support the establishment of a City Department of Labor for complaints of violation of fair labor standards?

Yes

28. Do you believe there should be mandatory paid sick leave in New York City for all workers regardless of establishment size?

Yes

Yes. I was a major leader in the fight for paid sick leave – legislation originally sponsored by Council Member Gale Brewer with amendments by Council Member Dan Garodnick which were aimed at businesses with five employees or more. I'll continue fighting for paid sick leave for the over 300,000 New Yorkers who were left out of the compromise bill that was negotiated.

29. Under what circumstances, short of probable cause, should a police officer be able to stop and frisk someone?

Stop and frisk should only be applied to the pursuit of an identifiable suspect or person of interest.

30. Would you continue, change or end the stop and frisk policy of the police department?

Change stop and Frisk

I support serious reforms to the current stop and frisk policies. We need to bring down the number of stop and frisks across the city, the vast majority of which are targeting innocent New Yorkers and have the effect of worsening police-community relations at a time we need to be strengthening these relationships.

31. Is there something you can do to keep people from getting arrested when, while being searched, they are found to have small amounts of marijuana that would not have been a crime if the marijuana was not in public view?

Yes

I believe we should de-criminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana and refocus our priorities.

32. Who would you appoint or support as police commissioner?

I would not reappoint Commissioner Kelly. We need a new model for community policing, and that requires a new Commissioner.

33. What would you do to improve city mental health services?

The City must do more to emphasize and reprioritize mental health services.

34. Would you continue (support) Bloomberg's policy of increasing the number of bike lanes?

No Response

35. How would you protect transit fares?

We need to make sure our transit system remains efficient, affordable and reliable for NYC residents.

36. Do you support congestion pricing?

No

37. What, if anything, do you think should be done to New York City's campaign finance law?

New York City's campaign finance system is very strong. I support the changes made to mandate independent expenditure disclosure through charter revision. I believe that broader ethics reform is needed and I have proposed a plan.

38. Do you favor an increase in City income taxes for residents making more than \$250,000 per year?

Yes

39. Do you favor or oppose an increase in the city sales tax?

No Response

40. Would you support a transaction tax on Wall Street trades?

No Response

41. Do you think non-profits, including religious institutions, should be taxed when such institutions sell their property or air rights?

No

Pursuant to existing tax law, non-profit groups, including religious groups, should not be taxed for legitimate charitable work.

42. What kind of a commuter tax, if any, would you support?

I support reinstatement of the commuter tax.