



## 2013 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

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Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questions related to policy issues facing the City of New York that are of concern to Citizens Union and residents of the City. We plan to make public your responses to this questionnaire in our Voters Directory, on our website, and in other appropriate venues. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union will use to evaluate candidates who are running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the primary election and "Endorsed Candidates" for the general election.

If you seek our support, we would also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. We will not automatically schedule an interview with you if you return this questionnaire, as we prioritize competitive races and resources constrain us from evaluating all races. Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed. We thank you very much for your response.

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Candidate Name: EDE S FOX

Age: 42

Campaign Address: 732 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn New York 11238 \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Telephone Number: (646) 316-5477 Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Party Affiliation(s): Democratic Campaign Manager Name: David Caicedo \_\_\_\_\_

Website & Email: [www.edefox.com](http://www.edefox.com), edefox@gmail.com

Education: PhD Candidate, 2000; MA UCLA 1995; BA University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 1991-1993; Vassar College 1989-1991.

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Fulltime Candidate

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: Kings County Democratic Party Committee 2010-2013; President, Prospect Heights Democrats for Reform; Treasurer, Brooklyn Community Board 8; Chair of the Environmental/Sanitation Committee, Brooklyn Community Board 8.

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES  NO

*(Please note: Citizens Union can only grant its support to candidates we have interviewed. If you would like to be interviewed, please follow up with Citizens Union staff, as resources constrain us from interviewing every candidate.)*

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings?

YES  \_\_\_ NO

Signature of Candidate: Ede Fox      Date: July 8, 2013  
(Electronic signature)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ede S. Fox", written over a light gray rectangular background.A handwritten date "7/8/13" in blue ink, written over a light gray rectangular background.

**I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

**Please state your position on the following issues by indicating whether you support or oppose each. You may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.**

**VOTING AND ELECTIONS REFORM**

<p>1. What is your position with respect to eliminating party primaries and establishing a non-partisan election system in which all candidates and all voters participate in the first round and the top two candidates advance to the second round?</p>	<p>Support/<u>Oppose</u></p>
<p>2. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting for all citywide offices and for all special elections for city offices? (Int. No. 1066)</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>3. What is your position on creating a voluntary municipal poll worker program to supplement poll worker recruitment by district leaders? (Int. No. 721)</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>4. What is your position on requiring city agencies to report the number of applicants that they register to vote as required by current law (Int. No. 760)?</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>5. What is your position on transmitting electronically voter registration information collected by city agencies to the Board of Elections in the City of New York?</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>6. What is your position on requiring the Board of Elections to report performance metrics to the City Council that conform to the Mayor's Management Report? (Int. No. 778)</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>7. What is your position on modifying the City Charter to require that laws enacted by referendum only be changed through approval by the voters?</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>
<p>8. What is your position on expanding the Voter Guide published by the Campaign Finance Board to cover all races occurring in New York City, such as state and federal contests, and providing the opportunity for voters to receive the guide electronically rather than in print form? (Int. No. 769)</p>	<p><u>Support</u>/Oppose</p>

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM**

9. What is your position on eliminating matching funds for contributions bundled by lobbying organizations or lobbyists?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
10. What is your position on banning placement agents from bundling contributions for any elected official who influences the selection of pension investors?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
11. What is your position on prohibiting participants in the city’s campaign finance program from using public matching funds to purchase strategic campaign consulting services from firms that also provide lobbying services?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>

**CITY COUNCIL REFORM**

12. What is your position on creating a bill drafting service independent of the Speaker’s Office, similar to the New York State Legislature’s bill drafting commission?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
13. What is your position on the following proposals enabling Council committees to function more effectively and independently of the speaker :	
a. Should committee chairs have the ability to hire at least one committee staffer?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
b. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
c. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
d. Should the number of overall committees be reduced so members can participate more meaningfully in fewer issues?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
14. What is your position on greater disclosure of councilmembers’ outside income?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
15. What is your position on limiting stipends or “lulus” to only members holding majority or minority leadership positions?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
16. When the Quadrennial Compensation Commission is reconvened, what is your position on requiring that any future increase in councilmember compensation only apply prospectively to the following term?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>

17. What is your position on ensuring a more equitable and needs-based distribution of discretionary funding?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
18. What is your position on increasing transparency of discretionary funding by requiring the list of capital and expense funds and their sponsors be provided to councilmembers and the public three days in advance of any vote, and expanding the online searchable database of expense funds to include all capital fund recipients and applicants?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND OVERSIGHT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT**

19. What is your position on reducing the frequency of stop, question and frisks by conducting stops more judiciously?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
20. What is your position on establishing the Commission to Combat Police Corruption (CCPC) as a permanent commission in the City Charter while empowering the CCPC to issue subpoenas?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
21. What is your position on enhancing the Civilian Complaint Review Board's (CCRB) authority to initiate an investigation into reported or known incidents of police misconduct without receipt of a formal complaint?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
22. What is your position on granting the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) with the authority to prosecute officers found guilty of lying during CCRB investigations?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
23. What is your position on reinstating the zero tolerance penalty for false official statements by public officers?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>

**BUDGET REFORM**

24. What is your position on establishing independent budgeting for:	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
a. the borough presidents?	
b. Conflicts of Interest Board?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
c. the public advocate ?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
d. community boards?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>
25. What is your position on making the budget process more transparent by clearly defining units of appropriation and limiting their size?	<u>Support/Opnose</u>

26. What is your position on release of revenue projections (other than property taxes) prior to Council hearings on the Executive budget?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
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**LAND USE AND COMMUNITY BOARD REFORM**

27. What is your position on designating urban planners for use by community boards and requiring borough presidents report to the Council the manner in which they advertise and make community board appointments? (Int. No. 913)	<u>Support/Oppose</u>
28. What is your position on establishing a formal standardized and transparent process for community board appointments including written applications, interviews of candidates, and filling vacancies within 30 days?	<u>Support/Oppose</u>

**Additional Comments:**

I believe people are entitled to good government, strong dedicated representation and that politicians should be held accountable to work on behalf of the people. I co-founded Prospect Heights Democrats for Reform as a way to give our neighbors a new tool to hold politicians accountable. We started off by working to elect several of our neighbors to Brooklyn Democratic Party County Committee, and we were vocal in supporting more transparency. We have been active with the other clubs of the Brooklyn Reform Coalition, and we actively work to fight against a system that has produced so many elected officials leaving office in disgrace.

If elected, I promise that I'll work with developers and the City to create more affordable housing--- housing affordable to families earning \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year which is the median income of the people in my district. Housing must reflect what the community needs, not what will make someone else a huge profit.

I will work to bring light manufacturing and office space to this area to create jobs and business opportunities for our residents who want to work, shop and live in the same community. While working as a staffer for Council Woman Mark-Viverito, I worked with developers to build 1000 units of affordable housing in East Harlem, which bought jobs to the community, trained local workers and helped finance small businesses as well. We can do the same here in Brooklyn!

I am committed to working with entrepreneurs & small businesses to create a better business environment without the oppressive fines and penalties they often face today for minor violations.

I believe that quality public education is a right. I am committed to pushing the Department of Education to partner with parents to build the best schools possible, which means bringing together parents, principals and administrators. I promise to bring more resources into our schools so no principal has to choose between fixing a bathroom and setting up a computer lab. I promise that I will reach out to every school to ask them "what do you need to improve your school" and to regularly meet with parents in the district to hear their concerns.

**II. CANDIDATE ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Citizens Union is adding a new element to its evaluation of candidates running for office. As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, CU is interested in knowing your top five campaign promises you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position.

If elected, Citizens Union will use these promises to evaluate your performance while in office, as well as, to evaluate your candidacy in the future.

We thank you very much for your response. Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient.

### **TOP FIVE 2013 CAMPAIGN PROMISES**

1. Promote community oversight so that developers live up to their promises of affordable housing and other benefits. Developers like Forest City Ratner should not get a free pass.
2. Improve our public schools by increasing funding to our schools and working with the Department of Education to increase line items to their budget.
3. Grow the local economy both by supporting some of the programs sponsored by the Small Business agency and by fighting for a living wage for all New Yorkers.
4. Work with the MTA to improve public transportation in Brooklyn, especially bus for those areas of the borough that do not have limited subway service.
5. Fight the alienation of public lands and essential institutions. NYCHA, the Brooklyn Public Library and our park lands face unaccountable privatization and I will defend the public interest.

**Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee**  
via fax to 212.227.0345 or via email to [candidates@citizensunion.org](mailto:candidates@citizensunion.org)  
Call us at 212-227-0342 with any questions.