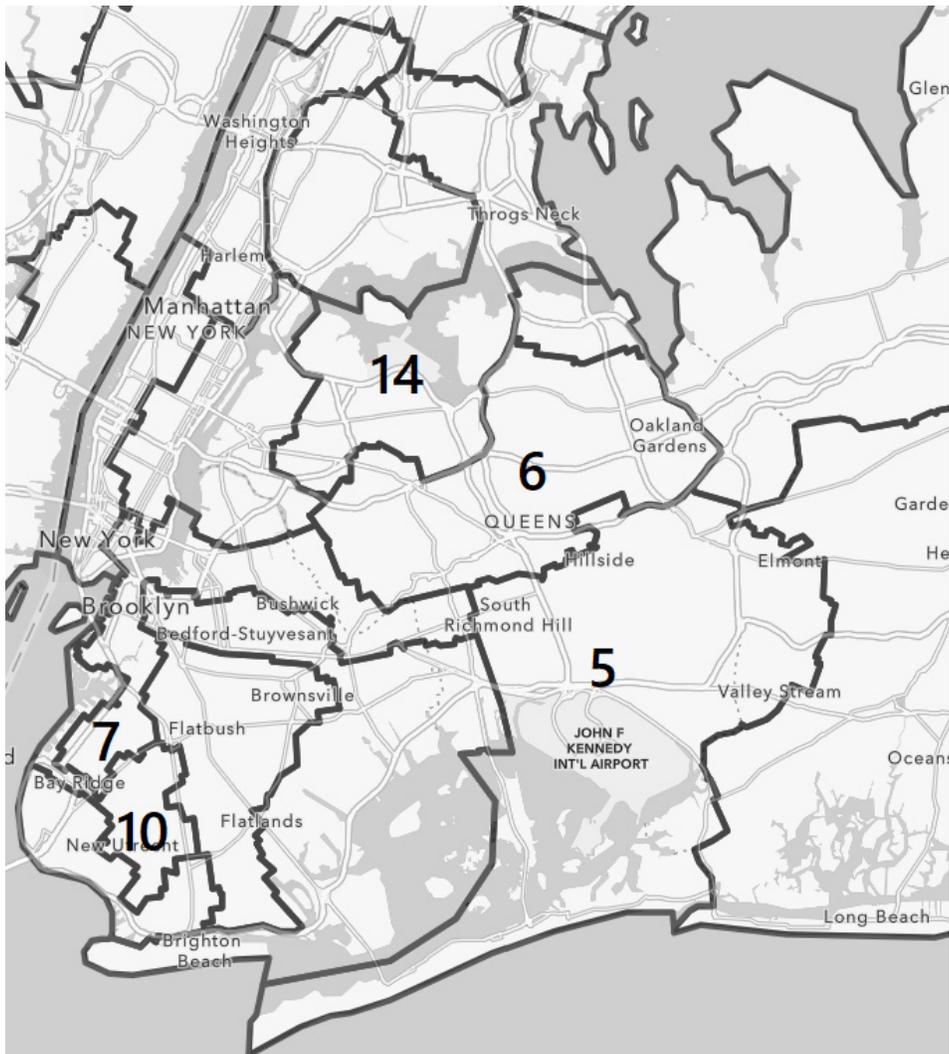


2020 NY CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY CANDIDATE SURVEY



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Dear Friend,

APA VOICE believes in building a nation, a New York City, and a community that welcomes all people, treats them with dignity, and provides a fair shot at the American Dream. The ongoing crises of the COVID-19 pandemic and state violence against Black Americans show how far we still have to go to make our vision a reality. For so many reasons, 2020 is our most important election year in a generation.

If you are a registered voter, we urge you to vote in upcoming elections safely, whether by absentee ballot or in-person. If you are a citizen and not yet registered to vote, the APA VOICE organizations below can help you do so. If you are not yet a citizen, the service providers below can help you start the process.

Becoming a citizen and exercising your right to vote is the most powerful way to participate in our democracy. We must vote for our children. We must vote for our neighbors. We must vote for ourselves, and for our shared future.

Sincerely,

APA VOICE

Naturalization Service Providers:

ASIAN AMERICANS FOR EQUALITY
212-979-8988
English, Mandarin, Cantonese

BANGLADESHI AMERICAN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH SERVICES
718-235-1700
English, Bangla, Hindi, Urdu

CHHAYA CDC
718-478-3848
English, Bangla, Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu

CHINESE-AMERICAN PLANNING COUNCIL
718-492-0409 (Brooklyn)
212-931-0030 (Manhattan)
718-358-8899 (Queens)
English, Mandarin, Cantonese

CHINESE PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
212-274-1891
English, Mandarin, Cantonese

KOREAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF
METROPOLITAN NEW YORK
718-939-6137
English, Korean

MINKWON CENTER FOR COMMUNITY
ACTION
718-460-5600
English, Korean, Mandarin

KEY INFO

June 13 ● Early Voting Begins

June 16 ● Deadline to Apply for Absentee Ballot

June 21 ● Early Voting Ends

June 22 ● Deadline to Mail Absentee Ballot

June 23 ○ **Primary Election Day**

October 24 ● Early Voting Begins

October 27 ● Deadline to Apply for Absentee Ballot

November 1 ● Early Voting Ends

November 2 ● Deadline to Mail Absentee Ballot

November 3 ○ **General Election Day**

DISCLAIMER

This voter guide is part of a campaign by APA VOICE: Voting and Organizing to Increase Civic Engagement. Our goal is to increase awareness and civic participation in the Asian Pacific American community. We are non-partisan and do not endorse any political party or candidate.

Are there elections on June 23? I've heard that New York's primary was cancelled.

Yes, elections are happening on June 23! The primary elections previously planned for Congress, state Assembly, and state Senate will be held. In addition, there will be a primary election for one city office: Queens Borough President. The vast majority of New York City neighborhoods will have at least one primary election on June 23.

New York's Democratic Presidential Primary is June 23.

How do I request an absentee (or mail-in) ballot?

The process is easier than it has ever been. This year, the Board of Elections is mailing every registered voter an absentee ballot application, which you can complete and return to request your absentee ballot. (The application sent to you by mail will include a postage-paid return envelope.)

The application will be mailed to the address listed in your voter registration. If you are away from your home, you can request that an absentee ballot be sent to your current location.

There are other easy ways to request an absentee ballot:

1. Online at nycabsentee.com
2. Email a completed [application](#) to AbsenteeJune2020@boe.nyc
3. Call 1-866-VOTE-NYC (1-866-868-3692) and request an absentee ballot
4. Mail a completed [application](#) to [your borough's BOE office](#)
5. Fax a completed [application](#) to 212-487-5349

You only need to request a ballot once, using one of these methods.

Can I still vote in person?

Yes. In-person voting is still available, both during the early voting period (June 13 - 21) and on Election Day (June 23). You can find your poll site (which may be different for early versus Election Day voting) using nyc.pollsitelocator.com. Ballot marking devices will be available at all poll sites and Board of Elections offices.

If you want to vote in person, we recommend voting early, if possible, since wait times are expected to be shorter and crowds to be smaller.

How can I find out if my registration is up to date?

The New York State Board of Elections has a useful web tool to check your voter registration status: voterlookup.elections.ny.gov. The tool will provide your current registered address, party affiliation, and your election districts.

Report any voting problems to (212) 966-5932 (Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund Multilingual Voter Hotline).

District 6

GRACE MENG

Democrat, Incumbent



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

I'm a proud cosponsor of the Medicare for All Act (H.R. 1384) and founding member of the Medicare for All Caucus. I also support public option, Medicare buy in, lowering Medicare age, and any proposal that will get us closer to universal, affordable health care. I fought for COVID-19 testing sites to be brought to my district, which has been the epicenter of the epicenter. I also helped bring federal funding for coronavirus response to Charles B. Wang Community Health Center in Queens, which needed the \$1.6 million to provide medical care and address staffing levels.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

I am working to make sure that the small businesses in my district, including minority-owned businesses, have access to the SBA's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). I led members of the NY Congressional Delegation in a letter to House leaders calling for the next relief bill to provide assistance for bodegas and ethnic grocery stores. In the HEROES Act, I fought to secure extensions of enhanced unemployment insurance, and for immigrants to receive stimulus payments using their ITIN. I also helped secure extension of work permits for immigrants, and expansion and increase in funding for SNAP.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

I helped introduce the Rent and Mortgage Cancellation Act, which would provide a nationwide cancellation of home mortgage payments and rents. I've introduced the Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act. This legislation would get those experiencing homelessness into shelters quickly and get those in shelters into safe, affordable housing. My bill would increase funding for tenant-based rental assistance (vouchers) so that all eligible households can access it. Communities of color are disproportionately affected by housing crises - my bill would help reach housing justice for all.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

We must work urgently to counteract the Trump administration's anti-immigrant policies, cruel separation of families at our borders, and work to protect DREAMers. I strongly support the DREAM Act and am a cosponsor of the Dream and Promise Act. I also introduced the Stop Cruelty to Migrant Children Act & No Public Charge Deportation Act. I visited McAllen Central Processing Center, where I saw children in cages and cried with mothers separated from their kids. I will continue to fight for migrants to be treated with dignity and respect, and that we protect the DACA recipients in our country.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

In the CARES Act, we passed \$4.1 billion for New York transit systems, especially the MTA. House Dems unveiled "Moving Forward" framework - a five-year \$760 billion infrastructure framework. It includes large investments in transit, highways, bridges, rail and airport and public safety communications. It addresses transportation congestion, clean energy, PFAS, and seeks to eliminate carbon emissions from transportation. We must provide reliable and affordable public transportation. I will continue to fight for grant and infrastructure programs to ensure access to public transportation for all.

District 6 SANDRA CHOI

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

Our community is home to the nation's most marginalized communities that face invisible barriers and discrimination in their everyday lives, including our healthcare system. We have the city's highest percentage of residents who have no health insurance and many more who are underinsured despite working in our society's dirtiest, dangerous and difficult jobs. Only a single payer healthcare system that provides universal healthcare coverage for every resident, including the undocumented population, will ensure that no one gets left behind in our nation's broken healthcare system.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

The demographics of our community demand inclusive and innovative economic reforms that incorporate the needs and pains of populations that are systemically left behind in the traditional economy, and who are oftentimes forced to participate in a shadow economy that leaves them financially vulnerable. We can champion reforms such as rewriting the rules to support true small businesses and invest in people through workforce development. We must also build stronger entrepreneurial ecosystems centered on language justice and support the unique needs of immigrant small business owners.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

NY-6 is dealing with a housing affordability crisis that becomes worse each day with rapidly accelerating gentrification and the displacement of long time residents who can no longer afford to stay in the communities in the neighborhoods they grew up in. We need to invest in upgrading existing public housing stock and expanding it, empower affordable housing development through LIHTCs and Community Land Trusts to develop truly affordable housing and advocate for the full passage of the Homes Guarantee. We support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments during the crisis.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

It's time that Congress have the political courage and pass comprehensive immigration reform that provides all undocumented Americans in our country a pathway to citizenship. The last time this country took bold action on this issue was more than three decades ago when I was only a year or two old. With ten percent of the residents in Queens undocumented and one in seven Asian Americans undocumented nationwide, we must intersect the needs and pains of this group in any legislation introduced in Congress. I also support measures that allow permanent residents to vote on all levels of election.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

Mobility is one area where I believe the private public sector partnerships can play a beneficiary role in helping communities address mobility issues by deploying innovative technologies and strategies to help close the access gap. Cities are piloting autonomous shuttles to help residents in transit deserts who do not have traditional vehicle ownership to get from point A to point B. We need to invest in strategies that promote less vehicle ownership, introduce clean (electric fueled) forms of transportation and mobility strategies that promote the safety of our pedestrians.

District 6

MELQUIADES

GAGARIN

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

I support Medicare for All. All people should be eligible for health services regardless of income, employment, or immigration status. I believe health care is a right, not a privilege for those who can afford it.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

The next stimulus payments should be \$2,000 and be distributed to all taxpaying immigrants and their children. For those without a tax number, we need to fund municipalities to ensure those communities receive financial assistance. We need to expand Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and implement the provision of grants to minority/immigrant-owned small businesses.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

I support canceling rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. In Congress, I will introduce legislation to create millions of new social housing units by 2050 and ensure there is an affordable housing guarantee. I am the only candidate refusing donations from real estate developers and lobbyists.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

I am a descendent of immigrants, and I understand that America can and must do better for immigrant communities. I will fight to secure DACA and DAPA, creating a path to citizenship for our DREAMer friends and neighbors. It's time to shut down detention centers and end private prison contracts that profit off of people hoping to build a better life.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

We need free public transportation in NYC and invest in improving services. So far, fare hikes have only made life harder for the millions of people who depend on public transportation to get to work and school. Instead of spending millions of dollars to enforce fare evasion, we should be investing in a fare-free system to make sure all New Yorkers can enjoy the greatest city in the world.

District 10

JERROLD NADLER

Democrat, Incumbent



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

COVID-19 has absolutely exacerbated the health disparities for undocumented immigrants, people of color, and low-income Americans that have been a serious, long-term health crisis in New York and around the country. I believe all people, regardless of immigration status, employment, or income should have access to affordable health care and services where they live. That is why I am a proud cosponsor of the Medicare for All of 2019, a founding Member of the Medicare for All caucus, and have fought for universal coverage and Medicare for All since coming to Congress.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

NYC's small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy. To address the unprecedented challenges facing small businesses impacted by the pandemic, Congress created the PPP Program and expanded the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program. Unfortunately, the administration did not implement these programs as Congress intended. In response, the House passed the Heroes Act that created a \$30 billion set aside specifically for community development corporations and institutions, and Minority Development Institutions to focus on lending to underserved communities. These fixes will strengthen the PPP Program, ensuring small businesses in desperate need of funding are able to stay afloat.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

Yes, I am a cosponsor of legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments during the COVID-19 crisis, and I support efforts to pass similar legislation at the state level. I have also cosponsored legislation to provide \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance to ensure renters can continue making payments, even when eviction moratoriums lift. Looking beyond COVID-19, I have advocated my entire career for affordable housing. At the federal level, I have led the effort every year to increase funding for Section 8 in appropriations bills and have been actively working with my New York colleagues to pass legislation that will finally address NYCHA's \$40 billion in capital needs.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

The Trump Administration has launched an unprecedented assault on the rights of immigrants. As Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, I am working to break down unnecessary and unfair obstacles to legal immigration, like massive visa processing delays and the morally repugnant public charge rule, as well as fighting to ensure protections for Dreamers. I have also helped lead the opposition to the Administration's unjust and inhumane policies, like dangerous conditions in immigration detention facilities, effectively destroying our asylum and refugee programs, the Muslim ban, and the cruel family separation policy. I will continue to use my position to fight for a just and humane immigration system.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

In addition to ensuring our public transit agencies have the funding they need to recover from the pandemic, Congress must take action to improve the reliability and accessibility of public transit in low-income communities. First and foremost, Congress must pass the Green New Deal, which will enhance transportation affordability and reliability, create new economic opportunities for residents, and invest in clean public transportation. In addition, we have to address the national transit maintenance backlog of nearly \$100 billion and modernize and expand our aging public transportation infrastructure.

District 10

LINDSEY BOYLAN

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

Lindsey supports Medicare for All. To address COVID, Lindsey called for free testing and healthcare coverage for coronavirus related illness, including mental illness - no questions asked. The NY Congressional Delegation must make sure we have the funds needed proportional to the number of people, 40% of cases, impacted by the virus. Lindsey supports immigrant-led community healthcare programs run by members of the community. This requires tailored outreach to immigrants to enroll them in services that best fit their needs, like healthcare coverage.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

Lindsey has experience in economic recovery as Deputy Secretary of Economic Development, appointed by the Governor where she invested in small businesses, and led relief efforts for NY in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

Lindsey has called for:

Small business relief

- Continuity grants at the federal level for unanticipated losses and major disruptions
- Capital Grants for Women and Minority-owned businesses
- Community Development Block Grant programs for vital services

Financial relief for all

- \$2K / month + \$500 / dependent
- Hazard pay
- Support for Seniors
- Paid Family Leave

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

Lindsey supports canceling rent and mortgage payments for the duration of COVID. The federal government failed to provide New Yorkers adequate relief.

Lindsey has experience in housing. She oversaw the NY housing portfolio and secured hundreds of millions of dollars for public housing after the federal government walked away.

- Housing Choice Voucher Program increases
- National Tenants' Rights
- Section 202 expansion for seniors
- 10 million new social homes built outside the private market
- Re-evaluation of 30% rent to income ratio
- Low-income housing credit protection
- Full funding of NYCHA

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

Immigration is personal for Lindsey. Her father is a first-generation American from Ireland and her husband is a first-generation American from Korea. Growing up near the Mexican border, Lindsey saw firsthand the flaws in our immigration system and interned at a family-run immigration law firm helping people facing deportation proceedings. Lindsey's top priorities for immigration reform are to abolish ICE, citizenship for Dreamers, a path to citizenship for asylum seekers, and creating guest worker programs that make it easier for people to be part of our economy and help families at home.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

Lindsey supports a Green New Deal, prioritizing projects and jobs neighborhoods that have been hit hardest by our dependency on fossil fuels. A top priority for Lindsey is to secure funding to invest in new infrastructure in isolated communities. She has called for increased spending to support the MTA - not just to modernize the subway but to also expand bus routes, bike safety, and access to ride sharing in areas taxis have avoided.

District 10

JONATHAN HERZOG

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

We need to pass Universal Healthcare and expand Medicare. Life expectancy in the U.S. has consistently declined for the past several years for the first time in a century, driven by “deaths of despair” - drug overdoses and suicides. We spend nearly double what other OECD countries do for our healthcare to worse results. Millions of Americans are uninsured; healthcare is the top cause of bankruptcy. With automation and artificial intelligence, tying healthcare to employment makes less and less sense. 47 percent of the country’s 12 million undocumented immigrants are uninsured.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

First and foremost, we need a Universal Basic Income now. That is, \$2,000 / month for every American adult and \$1,000 /mo. for children for the duration of the pandemic, as well as \$1,000/month for adults and \$500 for children in perpetuity. COVID-19 has killed more than 100,000 Americans and is causing a 9/11 death toll every single day. More than 40 million Americans are unemployed - we are entering a new Great Depression. Congress has been on recess. We need to wake up and bail out our people - beyond small business grants, unemployment and hazard pay - by passing a universal basic income.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

Yes, the federal government should fill the void for canceled payments. We should expand federal investment in affordable housing development. NIMBY (“not in my back yard”) policies and zoning laws have made the creation of affordable housing impossible in areas that are most in need of new housing, driving workers for those areas to multi-hour commutes. We should invest in public housing, relax zoning ordinances to increase the development of affordable housing, and encourage new innovative housing options like micro-apartments and communal living for high-density urban areas.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

We should provide a multi-year pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, provide a new tier of long-term permanent residency, and support the DREAM Act as part of comprehensive immigration reform. As the son of immigrants myself, I know how vital immigration is to cultural and economic dynamism in the United States. Almost half of Fortune 500 companies were founded by either immigrants or children of immigrants. And rates of business formation are much higher in immigrant communities. We have to preserve the United States’ role as a magnet for human capital for generations.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

I would help lead a multi-trillion dollar Great Rebuild in the wake of this new Great Depression, investing in modernizing our infrastructure, including our power plants, sewers, water systems, and critically, developing sustainable and accessible public transportation. We have to ease the transition to self-driving vehicles. We should explore innovative financing and development mechanisms such as a common ownership self-assessed tax, which would incentivize and promote affordable and accessible infrastructure development to promote reliable service and mitigate transportation deserts.

District 7

NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ

Democrat, Incumbent



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

I am a supporter of Medicare for All, which would cover all people regardless of immigration status so they can receive high-quality healthcare. During the COVID-19 pandemic, to increase access to both testing and healthcare, I believe that the government should cover all testing costs regardless of income, employment, or immigration status so that people can know if they have the illness without having to worry about the financial cost of getting the test.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

My district contains diverse communities including majority Asian neighborhoods like Chinatown in Downtown Manhattan. I believe that there should be several rounds of PPP loans disbursed to small businesses, regardless of their access to expensive lawyers, which many of these minority and immigrant-owned small businesses don't have. For the Asian population specifically, I believe the measures above combined with a strong outreach campaign to encourage visitors to visit these neighborhoods again and shop and dine there would be the best approach.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

I support legislation that would cancel rent and mortgage payments until the crisis has subsided. This will ensure that New Yorkers can stay in their homes not only for the duration of the crisis but so that they will not be saddled with huge payments once the initial crisis subsides.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

The asylum system, which as we've seen is being weaponized by the current administration, has been an issue well before Donald Trump became President. I have advocated for reforms to our asylum laws so that people who come here are treated humanely, and not be weaponized to deter others from trying to make the journey here for a better life. We also must make DACA a federal law so that President Trump and the GOP cannot use these children who have done nothing wrong as political bargaining chips.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

I have been an advocate against any increase in MTA fares because I know that the people who use the system the most are often the ones who can least afford increases in their fares. I've pushed for the introduction of not only more subway and bus lines to alleviate transportation deserts, but for increased service in some neighborhoods so that ridership demands are met.

District 7

PAPERBOY

PRINCE

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

I would make sure our immigrant population was aware that they would not be deported for accessing healthcare during the pandemic. I would make sure that access to healthcare is free.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

During my work with the Andrew Yang for President campaign I got to see how important it was that we protect the people and provide a safety net. Too often our representatives in congress find ways to bail out the banks and the large corporations but not the people and the small businesses. That's exactly why I created a plan to provide a basic income for every American over the age of 18 to receive \$2,000 a month. I also created a plan for a basic income for small businesses ensuring that they would have a consistent flow of seed money to be able to pay workers and generate more revenue.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

I would create new or refurbished housing for all. Everyone deserves a home and we have the space to house everyone. We also have the talented architects we need to come up with plans to build the necessary infrastructure. We just don't have the politicians that want to make housing for all a reality, so many, my opponent included, are bought out by big real estate so they have no interest in helping the people. Cancel Rent, Mortgage and all utilities until the crisis and its effects have passed.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

Our immigration application and intake system needs huge reform. We need better ways and more open ways to decide who can come to this country and for how long. We need to support those seeking refuge in the United States and truly make this a land of liberty and find more ways to support that instead of rolling those liberties backwards.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

I would democratize public transportation. Right now the budget is controlled by a select few yet the majority of us pay into our public transport system via taxes and fares. We need to have an open voting system online or even in person where regular citizens and MTA users can decide on the budget and give input on how to best maximize funds and resources instead of the select few who often leave out the low income and immigrant communities from the discussion.

District 14

ALEXANDRIA

OCASIO-CORTEZ

Democrat, Incumbent



Did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

District 14

MICHELLE CARUSO-CABRERA

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

On healthcare, my campaign's priority and my promise to the Bronx and Queens is ensuring we expand access to healthcare to ALL families. The federal government was wrong for trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). I want to protect the working people of the Bronx and Queens and secure their right to quality, affordable health care. We also need to ensure continued protections are in place for the most vulnerable among us who have preexisting conditions.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

The Asian community in the Bronx and Queens is vital to the diversity of our district. We need to actively work united with Asian Community Leaders to ensure there is no prejudice that harms their businesses. As the daughter and the granddaughter of immigrants, I understand the struggles families face. Their number one concern is putting food on the table. We must work with small minority/local businesses to make sure they get back on their feet, unlike AOC who shockingly suggested workers should not go back to work. AOC doesn't understand no work means no food on the table.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

First, we need to support Governor Cuomo and repeal the cap on state and local tax deductions (SALT). Trump's decision to cap SALT has hurt homeowners in the Bronx and Queens who long relied on the ability to deduct state and local taxes. My opponent AOC voted alongside Trump on this issue, it was political, it was wrong, and hurts homeowners. We cannot just cancel rent it would lead the Queens and Bronx economy into a death spiral. I stand with the actions by the Governor Cuomo, who has made it an executive order to ensure NO ONE will be evicted for not paying rent.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

Our Congressional District is one of the most diverse in the nation. We are African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans and a people of many other proud racial and ethnic descents. We are predominantly working people. We must address DACA. The Federal Government is wrong. We must find a pathway to citizenship for our DREAMers. I believe in the American dream. Our DREAMers deserve justice and have the right to the American Dream.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

I will be a vocal advocate for public transportation and affordable housing discussions involving new businesses and housing developers. When bringing new companies to the District we need to assess our needs. Transportation and housing are essential. Now is the time to reevaluate how we can combine commuter rail fare with the bus and subway. We need to see if it's feasible to charge one fare within the five boroughs. The Atlantic and City ticket programs that exist are some good first steps by our MTA but we need to find easy access without additional costs.

District 14

BADRUN

KHAN

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

Given the state of Congress right now, I would immediately call for a public option--no enrollment fees. Medicare for All is not something we can achieve right now, and we need urgently need for everyone to be covered. The government must intervene so that all COVID-19 related medical costs are covered for testing and treatment.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

I currently work at a nonprofit organization in the South Bronx that helps communities apply for and access grants for small businesses. As a congresswoman, I would call for the doubling of the amount in federal aid currently being doled out for all small businesses. the CARES Act is not enough. I would also work to ensure that the conditions set out by the loans effectively stimulate small businesses. There is also the issue of rent. Many small business owners do not have rent deferrals written into their contracts.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

For the immediate term, yes I support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments. Long term, I am pushing for a permanent universal basic income (UBI) for all New Yorkers. Our tax code is broken and changes need to be made via a VAT, which would not be regressive if coupled with a UBI. I'd also like to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit, and lower the income threshold for affordable housing applicants.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

The current administration has delayed the waiting period for green card holders, temporary workers, and students. These delays need to be eliminated, and all plans to raise application fees should be stopped. DREAMers need a quick and immediate pathway to citizenship. Unlike the current congresswoman in my district, I do not believe that abolishing ICE is the best answer. I believe we'll get better results by reforming ICE. The corruption, cronyism, and abuses of ICE will continue under other institutions if we do not get rid of the culture of impunity and xenophobia.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

Transportation access remains a problem in my community. Instead of just giving Amazon tax breaks during the negotiations of the HQ2 headquarters, I would have negotiated for them to invest in our bus and subway lines. A huge number of the residents in my district work in the service sector, and commute from Queens to Manhattan. The state needs to provide more funding for us to repair, build out, and ensure safety. Also, the MTA's Queens Bus Network redesign plan take a borough-wide perspective, but we need to make sure all Queens communities are connected efficiently first.

District 14

SAM SLOAN

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

By law, the doctors and hospitals cannot refuse treatment to anyone regardless of income, employment, or immigration status? So it is really only necessary to inform any person who fears they might be infected of this and to encourage anyone who fears they might be infected to seek treatment.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

It is fortunate that Asian Americans tend to be well off and well educated. Almost my entire family is half-Asian except for me. We have the same problems everyone else has with the virus and the riots and we are not asking for any special treatment.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

Governor Cuomo has declared that nobody can be evicted or have their home taken away from them during the COVID-19 pandemic. The courts are closed now so cases cannot proceed. The question is what happens after the pandemic is declared over. It must be remembered that many building owners are small business people who need that rental income to survive.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

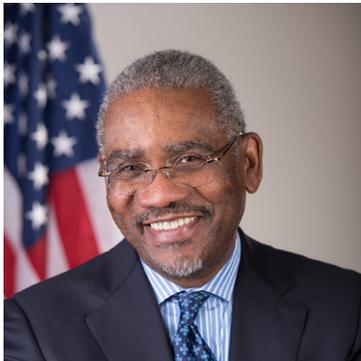
I support the DREAMers who were brought to America as children and grew up here. They should be given citizenship or a path to citizenship. In my immediate neighborhood there are a large number of people with unknown status of immigration. I know of cases of people who crossed the border with Mexico by foot and within less than two weeks were right here and working!!! I do not ask them how they got here. This is the paradise they were seeking.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

Sorry but I am not aware of cases of unreliable service and transportation deserts. When I lived in Brooklyn there was an unofficial ride service that went the whole length of Flatbush Avenue and it only cost 5 gourdes!!! The only problem was you had to be from Haiti or else the minibus would not stop for you. I had to find someone from Haiti and jump on the bus the same time that he did!

District 5 GREGORY MEEKS

Democrat, Incumbent



Did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

District 5

SHANIYAT

CHOWDHURY

Democrat, Challenger



Healthcare: Many New Yorkers cannot access health services due to their immigration status, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19. How would you ensure people receive needed healthcare regardless of income, employment, or immigration status?

My platform is fighting for Medicare for All. Everyone deserves access to healthcare, no questions asked. If elected to Congress I would use my power to vouch and propose legislation that ensures everyone will receive quality healthcare regardless of any barrier that they come across.

Economy: What actions would you take to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses? What are your plans to support recovery of the Asian population in your district?

In order to ensure economic recovery for minorities, immigrants, and minority/immigrant-owned small businesses I would not give any relief funding to Wall Street and corporations. Instead, all relief funding would go to such businesses aforementioned and I believe they should forgo taxes for this year in the next filing period. In terms of the Asian population in my district, it would especially benefit them because a lot of them own small businesses, and such plans would benefit them immensely.

Housing: What long term solutions would you implement to ensure New Yorkers can afford to live in communities they call home? For the immediate term, do you support legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis?

Long term solutions that I would implement in order to ensure New Yorkers can afford housing, is by my platform of a federal housing guarantee. In which it will provide permanent housing in place of shelters. For the immediate term, I believe we need to cancel rent and mortgages during the duration of the COVID-19 Crisis.

Immigration: From green card holders, to DREAMers, to temporary workers and students, millions of New Yorkers are directly affected by federal immigration policies. What aspect of our immigration system needs reform most urgently?

I believe that the aspect of our immigration system that needs reform most urgently is granting everyone a fair and equal hearing on their right to stay in this country. As we have seen with the Trump administration many individuals have been dehumanized and unable to have fair access in making their case. In order to reverse this and to make a system more equitable I believe in abolishing ICE and returning to the pre-2003 system of processing criminal and civil cases separately to ensure all people, regardless of citizenship, are treated with compassion and dignity.

Transportation: Low-income and immigrant communities rely on public transportation but remain isolated because of unreliable service and transportation deserts. How would you ensure public transportation remains affordable and meets increasing demand?

In order to ensure public transportation remains affordable and is able to meet increasing demand I would nationalize public transportation. By nationalizing it, it would heavily subsidize transportation and cut down costs for everyone, or it meets the bare minimum to operate so that it does not make profit off of people. By nationalizing the system, it would also direct government attention to areas most isolated and remain transportation deserts.