



Greenwich Village

SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

232 East 11th Street
New York, NY 10003

City Council District 2 Candidate Questionnaire

Please email the completed form or any questions to andrew@gvshp.org

No character/word limit

Candidate Name

1. Do you support the proposed rezoning of the University Place/Broadway and 3rd/4th Avenue Corridors put forward by GVSHP and City Councilmember Rosie Mendez which Mayor de Blasio and the Department of City Planning have thus far opposed? If not, why?

2. The City is proposing a Tech Hub for 124 East 14th Street. Whatever the merits of the proposed project, under current conditions it is extremely likely this project will accelerate the extension of "Silicon Alley" south from Union Square down to Astor Place, and through the University Place/Broadway/3rd Avenue/4th Avenue corridors, vastly increasing pressure for out-of-scale and commercial development in this largely residential area. Community groups and Councilmember Mendez have said that the City should be required to approve the proposed zoning protections for the University Place to 3rd Avenue corridors in order to get City Council approval for the Tech Hub. Would you be willing to use your leverage as a City Councilmember to condition your support for the Tech Hub upon the city approving zoning protections for the adjacent residential area? If not, why?

3. Do you support the Small Business Jobs Survival Act? Though the bill has support from a majority of City Councilmembers, it has never been given a hearing, much less a vote. If you support it, what would you do to help get the bill a hearing and vote? If you don't support it, why not?

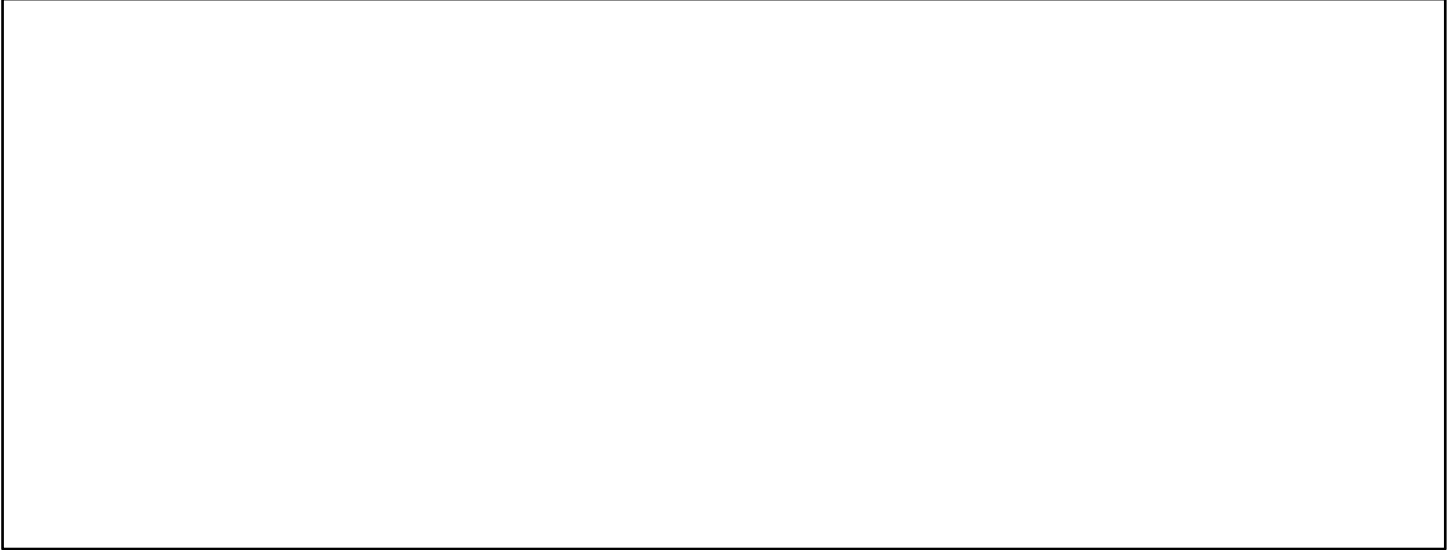
4. What other measures would you support to help small businesses survive in our neighborhood? Would you support a special zoning district for the East Village that limits the size of stores and the number or placement of chain stores?

5. Do you support having the former P.S. 64/Charas-El Bohio Cultural Center at 605 E. 9th Street returned to a true community use, rather than converted to a dorm, as the current owner/developer has sought to do? If so, given the owner's opposition and the City's resistance to taking a more active and helpful role, how would you achieve this?

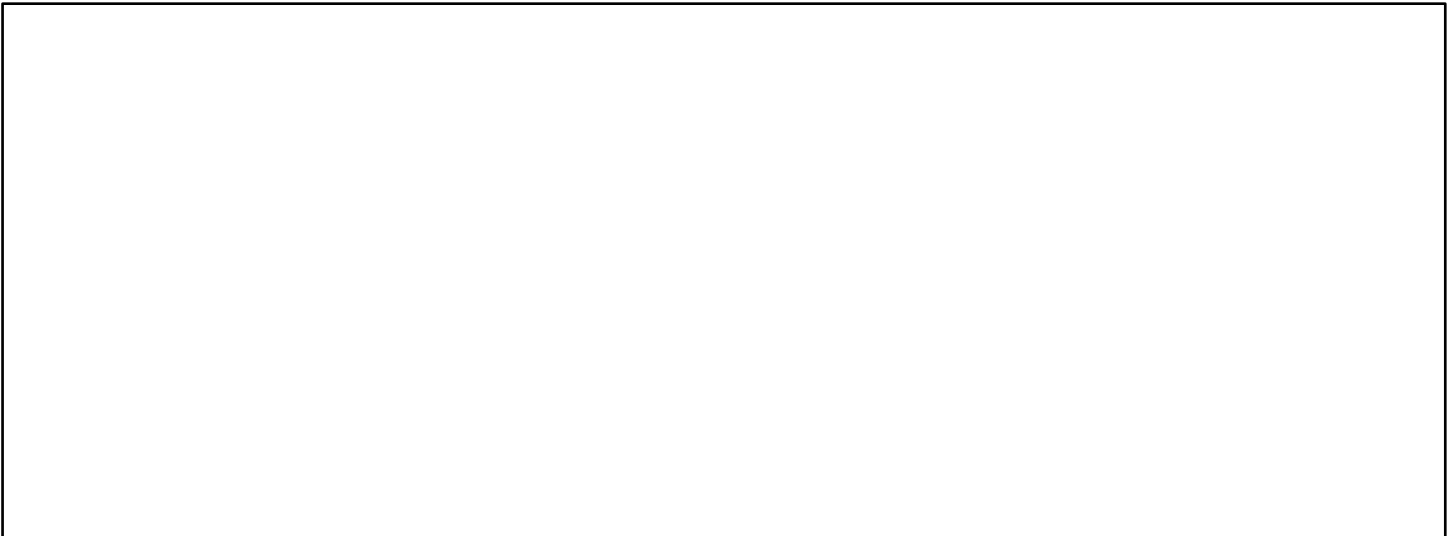
6. Many preservationists and New Yorkers feel that the Landmarks Preservation Commission has become increasingly lax in its regulation of historic districts and landmarked properties, in that it has allowed increasingly out-of-context changes to landmarked buildings and new construction within historic districts. Do you agree with this assessment, and if so, what would you do as Councilmember to help address this?

7. The Mayor has made clear that he is opposed to any rezoning of any area UNLESS it involves a very significant upzoning (increase in allowable size of development), EVEN if the proposed rezoning would introduce affordable housing incentives or requirements where none currently exist. What do you think of this? And if you are not in favor of the Mayor's position, what would you do about it?

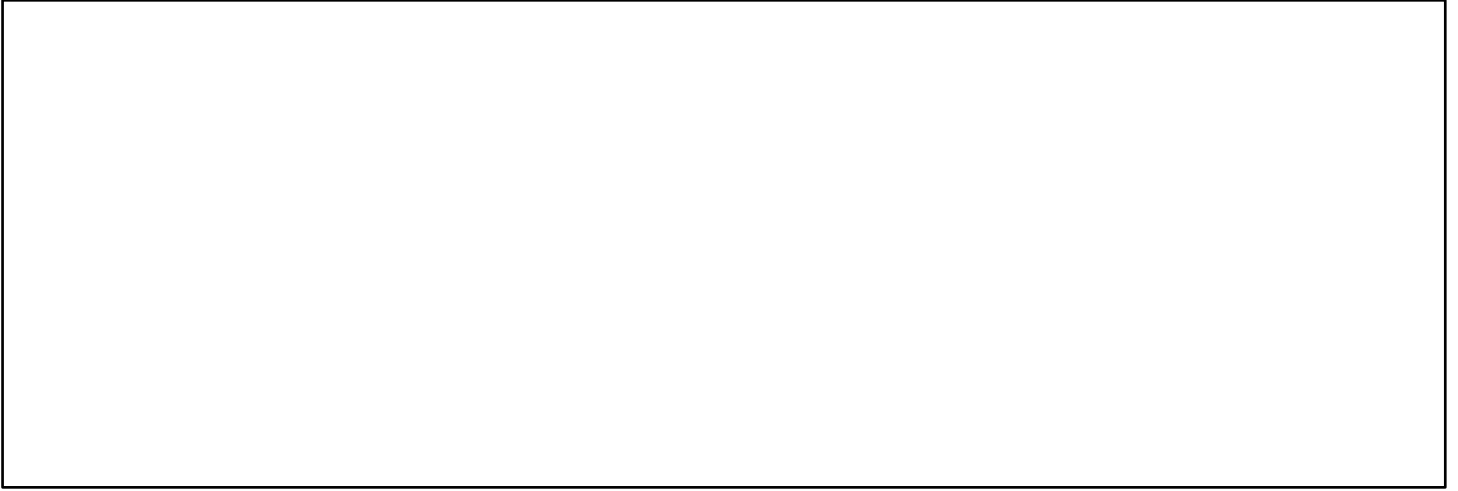
8. How would you work to reduce the inordinate influence of the real estate industry over policy in New York City and in city government?



9. Some, including the Real Estate Board of NY, have tried to make the argument that historic preservation and preserving and promoting affordability are incompatible. Do you agree or disagree with this perspective? Please explain why.



10. Where would preserving neighborhood scale, character, and historic resources fit into your priorities, and how would you go about achieving it? What obstacles or conflicts would you anticipate, and how would you deal with those?

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