

Jerry Iannace

2009 CANDIDATE SURVEY

What do you believe are the top priority park issues that need to be addressed in your district and citywide?

Securing Adequate Funding / Maintenance for Parks

a. Will you work towards securing long term funding for Parks?

Yes No

i. If so, would you consider exploring creative financial models such as Parks Improvement Districts (based on the BID model), tax increment financing (TIF), zoning benefits and public private partnerships to supplement maintenance and operating costs? YES. SEVERAL YEARS AGO I PROPOSED A SIMILAR VEHICLE TO FUND FT. TOTTEN PARK (CID) COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

b. Would you support dedicating revenue earned through park concessions to parks maintenance and operations?

Yes No

i. If so, would you also support revising the Major Concessions Rules to include all significant private uses on public property (including parks) to community/borough review?

Yes No

c. Will you support establishing the tracking of spending and staffing on a park by park basis?

Yes No

d. When a capital project is not fully funded will you support diversifying funding sources to ensure their completion? What would those sources be?

Yes No

e. What specific actions would you take to ensure that every park in every neighborhood has properly working facilities such as ball-fields, educational facilities, restrooms, etc?

I WOULD MANDATE ANNUAL PARK AUDITS + PUSH FOR FUNDS TO MAKE NECESSARY REPAIRS W/IN 1 YR.

i. Will you support a "fix it first" policy for funding capital projects, so that resources are allocated to existing projects in need of repair?

Yes No

f. Will you support adequate staffing and funding to ensure that new and existing parks stay in a "state of good repair"?

Yes No

i. What funding/programs would you use to increase the full-time parks maintenance staff? I WOULD ACTIVELY LOBBY FOR PID'S, TIF'S, COOPERATIONSHIP, FRANCHISE STATUS + OTHER FUNDING SOURCES TO SUPPLEMENT PARK BUDGET.

ii. What can be done to improve the baseline services, or maintenance of effort, in our parks to ensure that partnerships don't need to replace poor, existing services or neglected services such as bench and fountain repairs? CREATIVE FUNDING IDEAS MUST SUPPLEMENT + ENRICH EXISTING CITY & PARK BUDGETS NOT REPLACE THEM

iii. How would you fund the unique maintenance costs of waterfront parks (e.g. access, bulkheads, and piers)? I WOULD REQUIRE A PERCENTAGE OF ALL BOAT + FISHING LICENSES + LOW FEES TO BE DEDICATED FOR THIS.

g. Will you support park ratings by borough and community board in addition to the citywide level in the Mayor's Management Report?

Yes No

h. Will you support making the official Parks Department "property list" - that specifically delineates all 1,700 properties - available online?

Yes No

Protecting Parkland

a. Will you support more laws that require public notification and input when a park will be used for non-park purposes, to afford parks the protection they need from development or use by other agencies?

Yes No

i. How would you require that professional sports organizations assist in maintaining and operating public parks near their facilities?

I WOULD REQUIRE THAT ALL PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAM AGREEMENTS W/ THE CITY STIPULATE THAT A PERCENTAGE OF THEIR NET PROFITS BE REINVESTED IN MAINTAINING + OPERATING PARKS W/IN A 0.25(1) MILE RADIUS OF THE FACILITY.

Jerry Iannece

b. Will you work to strengthen parkland alienation regulation by requiring Environmental Impact Statements before parkland alienation bill is filed by municipality?

Yes No

i. How will you do this?

EXPLORE, LOBBY, DRAFT & SPONSOR LEGISLATION IN THIS AREA.

c. Will you support mitigation for taking of parkland and ensure replacement of lost parkland for the community?

Yes No

i. How will you do so? AS CHAIR OF LOCAL COMMUNITY BOARD I PRESIDED OVER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WHICH INCLUDED MITIGATION. MITIGATION SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED + BE PART OF ALL SCENARIOS.

d. How would you prevent "pay to play" situations from arising at public and amateur sports facilities?

e. Will you support legislation that requires regular NYPD reports to the City Council on crime in parks (i.e. Intro. 470)?

Yes No

f. Will you work towards making parkland part of the city's CompStat system?

Yes No

Expanding Park Use

a. Will you work toward creating, with significant community involvement, a comprehensive citywide master plan for parks and open spaces that will guide the overall acquisition, restoration, improvement, and maintenance of parks, natural areas, playgrounds and athletic facilities in the five boroughs?

Yes No

i. What is your vision for some of the new parks? THE FULL COMPLETION OF FT. TOTTEN PARK, SOFT/PASSIVE RECREATION OPEN UP SOUTHWEST SIDE OF OLD FRESHKILL AIRPORT, PARKLAND RAINWATER + URBAN CAVE.

ii. How would you develop it?

IMPLEMENT TIF'S, PID'S, COOPERATIONSHIPS + PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.

b. Will you support extending Resolution No. 1033 which calls for the continued protection of community gardens and the rights of the community and gardeners?

Yes No

c. What specific actions would you take to revitalize the recreational and amateur sports programs that have been decreased by this year's budget cuts?

d. What specific actions would you take to enable a much higher level of collaboration among the Parks Dept. and other city agencies on issues such as stormwater management, greenways, and economic development projects?

I WOULD LOBBY + USE THE COUNCIL'S POWER OF OVSIGHT TO REQUIRE GREATER INTRA DEPARTMENT COLLABORATION.

e. How will you ensure that public spaces created as amenities/mitigation for large scale economic development projects such as Atlantic Yards, Hudson Yards, and Manhattanville are truly open to the public?

I WOULD MAKE THEM AS PUBLIC PARKLAND +/OR HAVE THEM CONSECUTED FILED W/ SAID PROPERTY.

i. Do you support mapping such public spaces as parkland?

Yes No

National and Regional Parks

a. How will you support the creation of planned new regional waterfront parks like Fresh Kills, Hudson River Park, Governors Island and Brooklyn Bridge Park?

I WOULD CO-ORDINATE EFFORTS TO FORM A REGIONAL WATERFRONT AGENCY THAT WOULD BE CHARGED TO OVSERVE EXISTING PARKS + LOOK FOR ~~NEW~~ AREAS + WAYS TO EXPAND.

b. What are your plans to ensure that all citizens have equal access to these regional facilities?

ALL THESE FACILITIES WILL BE MAPPED AS PARKLAND + WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE

c. What steps would you take to promote the use of and access to our city's national parks at Gateway National Recreation Area and the other National Parks of NY Harbor?

I WOULD URGES THAT THE NEW REGIONAL WATERFRONT AGENCY TAKE STEPS TO REACH OUT + PUBLICIZE THESE PARKS + USE PUBLIC DOLLARS TO TRY TO GET SCHOOL TRIPS + TOURS.

Jerry Iannece

JERRY M. IANNECE
CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE - 19TH COUNCIL DISTRICT
 (College Point, Whitestone, Bayside, Flushing North, Douglaston, Little Neck)

Biography

JERRY IANNECE is a Democratic candidate for the 19th Council District seat in Northeast Queens. Jerry is the only candidate in the race who has both extensive governmental experience and a proven record of community activism and accomplishments.

JERRY IANNECE was born in 1959, the youngest of three (3) children, in Hells Kitchen, NYC, to immigrant parents from Italy. When his family moved to Astoria, Queens, he attended local Grammar and High Schools. While in High School, he played Varsity Baseball, was elected Vice-President of the National Honor Society and President of his School and Class in 1977. He graduated with honors in the top 2% of his class and won a Scholastic Scholarship to New York University.

While attending N.Y.U., the largest private university in the country, he founded the Italian American Students Organization, "AIUTO" - American Italian University Terimoto Organization, raised thousands of dollars for Avellino earthquake victims in 1979, was elected Vice President of the Pre Law Society and initiated an NYU Cultural Exchange Program with Italy. He graduated with honors in 3 ½ years with a Double Major (History/Political Science) Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1981.

Jerry went on to Law School, becoming the first child of immigrants from his parents' small town in Italy to do so. He worked his way through St. John's University School of Law as a waiter in a NYC Italian Restaurant. It was at St. John's Law that Jerry excelled at Trial work, winning virtually every trial competition he entered and finishing in the American Bar Association Finals on behalf of St. John's, defeating Columbia and Yale Law Schools along the way. He was elected President of the St. John's Law Student Bar Association in his final year (a position once held by Mario Cuomo), and his administration is still regarded as one of the most innovative and effective in the school history.

Upon graduation from Law School, he went to work as an **Assistant District Attorney** under District Attorney Mario Merola in the Bronx, quickly advancing and moving to a Trial Bureau. After trying numerous Major Felony cases, Jerry left the Bronx D.A.'s office and started his own Law Firm: Iannece & Calvacca, located in Flushing. He is admitted to practice in the NYS Bar, the Eastern and Southern District Federal Courts, the United States Second Circuit Court of Appeals and United States Supreme Court.

Jerry is married to his beautiful wife **LYNN CALVACCA IANNECE** (also an Attorney) and has two beautiful children; **VINCENT** (18); a Freshman at the University of Pittsburgh studying Pre Law and **ELENA** (14); an Honor Student at St Francis Prep.

Although excelling in education and employment, Jerry never strayed far from Community Service. In 1987 he was appointed Legal Counsel to the Federation of Italian American Organizations of Queens and was the driving force behind obtaining their Foundation and Tax Exempt Status. He further was called upon to revive the long dormant Queens Columbus Parade, and as its chairman, it quickly grew to the second largest in NYC, and has continuously marched for over two decades.

Jerry's enthusiasm and involvement was soon recognized beyond our Community. He was appointed by Borough President Claire Shulman to Community Board # 11 and was quickly chosen as its Zoning Chairman. He was elected President and Chairman of the Board of the Bayside Hills Civic Association in 1996, and was the driving force behind most of the accomplishments within that

Jerry Iannece

community. In 2002, Jerry was recognized by his peers for his leadership and numerous accomplishments and was elected Chairman of Community Board #11, (a position once held by Claire Shulman). In 2008, Jerry launched his own Cable Talk-Show entitled "What's the Story - Jerry?", a show dedicated to highlighting local civic activism, issues and accomplishments. Jerry further was and is on the Board of Directors of the Queens Civic Congress Foundation, the Queens Oratorio Society, Flushing Town Hall, and other altruistic local organizations.

Jerry Iannece's many community volunteer activities touch almost every quality of life issue in Northeast Queens. There has not been an issue and/or problem, over the last 15 years, that Jerry has not been part of the dialogue and/or solution thereon.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Jerry alerted the community to the dangerously low understaffing in our local Precinct & **FORCED** the NYPD to increase the numbers.

PARKS: Through Jerry's Leadership & on his watch, hundreds of **NEW** Park acres have been added for community use, Aurora & Alley Pond built, Oakland Ravine & Lake in the process of being refurbished & Fort Totten Park open to the public. Jerry further (pro bono) established the Friends of Ft Totten Park as a Tax Exempt Org.

ZONING: With local civic input, Jerry was one of the Leading Advocates to force the city to address the "McMansion" issue & skillfully lead the Community Board in understanding, modifying and properly & reasonably solving the re-zoning issue. Jerry is still pushing the city to re-zone Auburndale, Hollis Hills, Oakland Gardens & other areas of our community.

LIBRARIES: Jerry has initiated a creative plan and is spearheading the effort to expand the Little Neck/Douglaston Public Library.

SENIORS: Jerry is an attorney well versed in Elder Law & understands the needs of our Seniors. Jerry recently provided "FREE" legal services in establishing the Little Neck Senior Center as a Tax Exempt Organization.

QUALITY OF LIFE: Jerry was able to **FORCE** the NYS DOT to fund & build Sound Barriers along the LIE to protect homeowners from the crushing sounds of traffic. Jerry also lead the charge in establishing a "Quiet Zone" for the Little Neck LIRR Grade-Crossing & came up with an affordable immediate solution to provide desperately needed sound relief for the residents near the LIRR, but NYC bureaucrats would rather spend millions & argue for years before its done.

HEALTH: When the recent Flu Shot shortage arose, Jerry sprang into action, joined forces with local health care providers and city agencies, & set up a Free Annual Senior Flu Clinic.

FLOODING: When large parts of Bayside flooded, Jerry organized the community, lobbied local elected officials & **FORCED** the city to initiate the much acclaimed \$125 million "Oakland Ravine" Storm Water Project.

EDUCATION: Jerry lobbied & fought against the abolishment of our School Districts & actively looked for ways to increase the number of class seats, by initiating a campaign for the Department of Education to use "existing" Parochial Schools which recently closed down & convert them to public schools.

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Today, while maintaining a thriving law practice, a full community civic schedule, and being an active parent and husband, he finds time to coach Little League Baseball and Basketball, sponsor sports teams in the Bayside Little League, lecture students at Career Days and Forums, and provide free legal counsel and law related lectures to a host of Civic, Social, Political and Educational Organizations.

For his Leadership, Community Service, and Unselfish Dedication, Jerry has been honored by:

Federation of Italian American Organizations of Queens - 2000 Man of the Year Award
 Bayside YMCA - 2000 Outstanding Community Leader Award
 Qualietta Society - 1999 Man of the Year Award
 House for Bright & Gifted Children Inc. - 1997 Community Service Award
 Circolo Calabritto - Man of the Year Award 1998
 Community Board #11 - Outstanding Service Award 2007
 Little Neck Pines Civic Association - Friends of the Pines Award - 2006 & 2007
 East Bayside Homeowners Association - Community Service Award 2005
 Bayside Hills Civic Association - Man of the Year Award 2002

For his thoughtful and insightful Contributions and Accomplishments, here's what people are saying about Jerry:

TimesLedger - Editorial (3/8/07) - Thank You, Jerry. "...It will not be easy to fill Iannece's shoes. We trust that he will remain an active voice in the affairs of northeast Queens"

Gotham Gazette - Saving Oakland Lake (11/11/04) "...Jerry Iannece is a good example of the kind of person who can get things moving in New York City".

Newsday (2001 Election) "...Iannece's legal experience and community activism make him qualified. Iannece has the most innovative ideas for addressing the district's needs. Newsday endorses Iannece."

Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (2001 Election) - "... Your proven track record & commitment to law enforcement are well recognized...." PBA Endorses Iannece

Judge Judy Sheindlin (2001 Election) - "My husband & I have known Jerry for many years.... We know Jerry to be honest..... & to have a tremendous amount of integrity. As an Assistant District Attorney & in private practice, Jerry has always worked hard for justice. As Councilman Jerry will continue to fight hard for justice & to make our community a better place to live. That's why my husband & I are supporting Jerry Iannece. He is the best choice."

That's why **MOST** Civic & Political Leaders have **ALREADY** pledged their support for Jerry.

JERRY IANNECE can be reached at:

Iannece for City Council '09

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