



GENERAL INFORMATION

Candidate info

Name	Clarisa Alayeto
City Council District #	8
In which primary	Democratic

Campaign contact information

Website	clarisaforcouncil
Instagram	clarisforcouncil

INTRODUCTION

1. What are your top three campaign promises or goals, and what action will you take to achieve them if elected?

Promise 1: I will fight to preserve and expand affordable housing, push for stronger tenant protections, and hold NYCHA accountable for timely repairs and upgrades.

Promise 2: Health Equity: I'll work to close health gaps by increasing access to quality care, mental health services, and preventive programs, especially in underserved communities.

Promise 3: I'll prioritize safety by investing in community-based violence prevention, youth programs, and approaches that build trust and address root causes.

2. If elected, what is the first piece of legislation you would introduce? Why is that your top priority? If you are an incumbent, please also state what legislation you have passed which you are most proud of.

If elected, the first piece of legislation I would introduce is a Health Equity and Access Act—aimed at increasing funding for community-based health programs, expanding mobile clinics, and improving access to care for underserved neighborhoods.

This is my top priority because health is a human right, and too many of our neighbors are suffering or dying due to lack of access. As someone who leads on public health at the community board level, I've seen firsthand how these gaps impact families every day.

3. In your view, what are the major needs of your district's constituents?

The major needs in my district are affordable housing, access to quality healthcare, and real public safety. Residents are tired of crumbling NYCHA buildings, long wait times for medical care, and feeling unsafe in their own neighborhoods. They also want jobs, better schools, and leaders who actually listen and act. My campaign is rooted in addressing these needs with urgency, care, and accountability.

4. How long have you lived in the district in which you are running, and do you have any achievements or involvement in your neighborhood you are particularly proud of?

I was born in East Harlem and raised in the South Bronx, and I've lived in the district my entire life. I'm especially proud of founding a grassroots organization to end gun violence in public housing and launching a run/walk crew to promote health equity. As Chair of Bronx Community Board 1 and Co-Chair of the NYC Public Health Advisory Council, I've led efforts to uplift and protect our community through direct action and policy advocacy.

5. What experience have you had with good government and reform issues? (e.g., voting and election reform, campaign finance, ethics, police accountability, government transparency). If you've worked to advance these goals, we'd love to hear about it.

I've long advocated for transparency, accountability, and community-led governance. As Chair of Bronx Community Board 1, I pushed for clearer communication with constituents, greater board accountability, and equitable representation. I've also championed civic engagement, helping residents register to vote and understand their rights. My work has always centered community voice and justice, including pushing for greater police accountability and ethical leadership at all levels of government.

6. What do you think the role of the City Council is in city government this upcoming term?

This term, the City Council must be a bold, community-centered check on City Hall, crafting legislation that reflects the real needs of working-class New Yorkers. As someone who has led on housing, health, and

safety as Chair of Bronx Community Board 1, I know how urgent those needs are. From pushing NYCHA to respond to tenant complaints, to advancing public health initiatives like wellness fairs and safe spaces for youth, my work has always been about delivering for people who are too often left behind.

I'll bring that same approach to the Council, fighting for a budget that protects our most vulnerable, expanding access to essential services like public bathrooms and mental health care, and demanding transparency and accountability from every city agency. Our communities can't afford business as usual, we need leadership rooted in lived experience and action.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

7. Do you support moving New York City's elections from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years, and will you co-sponsor a Council Resolution supporting that measure?

Yes

Voter turnout in New York City elections is exceptionally low, as they are held “off-cycle” in odd-numbered years. To boost local voter turnout and reduce participation gaps, the Legislature passed and Governor Hochul signed a law that moves county and town elections to even-numbered years, and lawmakers are supporting a constitutional amendment that would do the same for city elections, including New York City's. Citizens Union is [leading a coalition of groups advocating](#) to move New York City's elections to even-numbered years, and the City Council is considering a [Resolution in support](#) of that shift.

8. The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) has been a source of frustration for voters and candidates for years. The City Council appoints NYC BOE members and has the power to appoint commissioners who are committed to reform, but the most recent commissioners have been appointed behind closed doors. Do you commit to request a public hearing for BOE nominees, and to only vote for individuals who are publicly committed to reducing party-based patronage and supporting open hiring practices?

Yes

9. Do you support maintaining the use of Ranked Choice Voting in New York City's elections?

Yes

Comments (optional)

While I support Rank Choice Voting leaders must do a better job to educate voters on RCV.

10. New York City is one of the few cities that maintains a closed primary system, in which only registered party members can vote in the primary election. Do you believe New York City should shift to a form of completely open primaries, allowing all registered voters to vote in one primary where the top two candidates, regardless of party, move on to the general election?

No

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

11. Individuals with business ties to city government and registered lobbyists can bypass their donation limits by “bundling” donations from other people. Do you support limiting bundling by people on the Doing Business with the City database?

No

12. Are you a supporter of the City's public campaign matching funds program, and do you commit to protecting the independence of the program and ensuring that the Campaign Finance Board has sufficient resources to run the program?

Yes

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

13. The recent pattern of indictments and resignations surrounding City Hall has exposed serious ethical problems in City Government. Please describe how you will maintain the highest ethical standards in office.

I’m not a career politician, I’m a lifelong community advocate who’s earned my neighbors’ trust through transparency, accountability, and action. I’ll maintain the highest ethical standards by keeping my door open to constituents, not special interests, and ensuring every decision is rooted in community need, not political gain. I’ll publicly disclose meetings with lobbyists, refuse contributions from developers with business before the city, and push for stronger oversight across all levels of city government. Integrity isn’t a slogan, it’s how I lead.

14. Incoming public servants must sever ties and divest from companies or other interests that have business dealings with the City, but they are not required to recuse themselves when working on matters involving their former business partners, clients, employer, etc. Do you support forbidding public servants to work on matters relating to their former business partners, clients, employers, and other interests for a set period of time?

Yes

15. Some campaign consultants also work as lobbyists. Do you support restricting campaign consultants from lobbying the candidates they served for two years after the candidate won elected office?

Yes

16. Do you support moving lobbying oversight and enforcement from the City Clerk’s Office to another agency charged with ethics issues, like the Conflicts of Interest Board?

Yes

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

17. Who do you think should have the final say on discipline in the New York Police Department? (i.e., Place the final decision with the Police Commissioner; the Civilian Complaint Review Board; the Mayor; the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety; or another individual or entity).

The final say on NYPD discipline should rest with an empowered and independent Civilian Complaint Review Board. True accountability requires that those most impacted by policing our communities have a real say in oversight. Leaving final decisions solely with the Police Commissioner or City Hall undermines trust and transparency. I support reforms that strengthen the CCRB’s authority, ensure timely investigations, and protect New Yorkers from abuse of power.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

18. The Mayor currently has the power to block charter revision ballot questions (proposed by the City Council, other charter commissions, and citizen petitions) by establishing their own Charter Revision Commission. Do you support removing this Mayoral power?

Yes

19. Do you support allowing bills with strong support to go through the committee process and be put to a vote on the floor without needing the permission of the speaker?

No

20. Please provide your views about the New York City Council's "advice and consent" powers. In what cases, if any, should a mayor need the Council's approval for an appointment of a high ranking Mayoral official, such as an agency commissioner?

The Council should have “advice and consent” powers for key Mayoral appointments, especially agency commissioners who directly impact people’s daily lives, like those leading NYCHA, NYPD, and the Department of Education. These roles carry too much influence to be filled without community input and oversight. Shared governance builds trust, ensures transparency, and makes city government more accountable to the people it serves, not just to City Hall.

ADDITIONAL INFO