



GENERAL INFORMATION

Candidate info

Name	Paul John Pogozeleski
City Council District #	30
In which primary	Democratic
Age	44
Education	High School / Some College
Current job, position, or occupation	Candidate / Logistics Consultant

Other positions or offices

President 2 Non Profits
Middle Village Property Owners and Residents Association
Middle Village Players Roller Hockey League

Chaplin VFW 551 Post

Previous jobs or positions

Owner Pogo Distribution Inc. (1999-2022)

Campaign contact information

Website	paul4nyc.org
X	paul4nyc
Instagram	paul4nyc
Facebook	paul4nyc

INTRODUCTION

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

Promise 1: Public Safety

Promise 2: Education Reforms

Promise 3: Increased Senior Services

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.

Small Business Survival Act

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

Public Safety, and a Bridged community lost during covid.

People need to feel safe patronizing their shopping districts and parks and communities will heal.

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 moved here in 2017 8 years in the district.

my achievements are starting a youth sports league, revitalizing a civic association and coordinating cleanup efforts with elected officials

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.

my experience is through my civic engagements bettering our community.

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

to turn this city around. we need to get back to basics, take care of our kids, seniors and least fortunate.

it's our job as elected officials to inspire our constituents through our actions

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?

No

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.

Comments (optional)

People need to be inspired by their candidates. the candidates need to do better.

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

Comments (optional)

there needs to be transparency in all levels of Government, The Government works for the people not the opposite.

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

No

Comments (optional)

I would like to see more studies on the benefits and negatives.

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

Comments (optional)

you should be registered to the party for a primary. it's a commitment from both the candidate and the constituents.

*** In the box below, you may provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to improve elections and voting in New York City.**

Let's get studies and talk with the constituents and make educated decisions that benefit the majority.

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?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Honesty, and Integrity are Key.

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

Comments (optional) This gave me the opportunity to compete.

*** In the box below, you may provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to improve New York City's campaign finance system.**

I would like to see the thresholds for local financing of the campaign carry more weight.
Right now a contribution anywhere in NYC carries the same weight as a donation from within district.

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.

Let's Lead by Example, as a candidate who seeks this position to benefit the entire community. I know my actions will resonate. If my district can become the standard through a selfless leader other districts will take notice and set the new standard of what an elected should be. Community 1st. My best friends, and my kids best friends live here, we will make sure to do better and give our kids a better place than we are inheriting. No more special interests.

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

Comments (optional) One can not serve 2 masters.

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

Comments (optional) How about restricting lobbyists from Running ;)

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

Comments (optional)

It's Time to put the constituents 1st.

*** In the box below, you may provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to improve ethics standards in New York City government.**

Setting a new standard will be tangible. People will take notice. The old saying is how was Rome Built ? Brick by Brick.
How do you move a mountain ? a shovel full at a time.

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).

I believe in the Chain of command. Final resolution if needed should be provided by our Mayor.

The Police are in a Thankless Position to Serve the Public and need assurances and protections. I believe in our 1st responders and will work tirelessly to increase the prevailing wage to provide our local enforcement agents to have the opportunity to live in the communities they serve.

*** In the box below, you may provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to improve police accountability in New York.**

I would like to expand the Auxiliary divisions, I think Police should serve a portion of time with our Auxiliary units before entering the force. Walking and Biking Districts prior to being placed in cars will humanize our Police to the Community.

This is something i have already worked closely with our 104th PCT on, hosting the Build the Block Community Outreach Events with our Police during our Civic meetings.

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

Comments (optional)

The Power of Our Government is in our founding documents. Bottom up not top down.

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?

Yes

Comments (optional)

this is an interesting question.

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?

I feel the checks and balances have been put in place for valid reasons. absolute power corrupts absolutely.

*** In the box below, you may provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to improve the system of checks and balances in New York.**

Within reason of keeping Government Fluid and Moving resources to the community and the constituents in need.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Please provide any other info you would like us to know about you and your candidacy.

I would appreciate and interview and your endorsement would actually move the needle for me as a Grassroots Candidate.

God Bless you and thank you for this Opportunity.

- I was hesitate to fill out a questionnaire, until Bob Grant from Citizens union told me i was worth investing time in. I appreciated this comment and it meant a lot to me.

I am in this race for the right reasons and hope that my responses articulate my commitment to the community over special interests.