

19th City Council District

Paul D. Graziano (D)

My name is Paul Graziano and I'm a Democratic candidate for the 19th Council District. As a native of North Flushing, I was very concerned with the state of my neighborhood when I came home from college in 1993. I took immediate action by founding several organizations in northeast Queens, including the North Flushing Civic Association, which are dedicated to protecting our communities from overdevelopment and improving city services. Consequently, for the past two decades I have worked with the homeowners and residents of our council district to halt the erosion of the high quality-of-life that we deserve. As the urban planning consultant to most of the civic associations in the 19th Council District as well as State Senator and former Councilmember Tony Avella — who has wholeheartedly endorsed my candidacy — I helped design the downzonings, which are now law, to stop overdevelopment in the 19th Council District, and co-authored the R2A "anti-McMansion" zone which has curbed construction of oversized single-family houses throughout northeast Queens. Some of my other priorities include making sure School Districts 25 and 26 remain the best in New York, bringing local control back to the parents and teachers of northeast Queens by abolishing the Department of Education; stopping the out-of-control property tax increases that have made our Council District the second highest taxed area of New York City while our services continue to erode; protecting our parks from commercialization and making sure they are appropriately funded; and landmarking Broadway-Flushing and our other historic neighborhoods to protect them for future generations to enjoy. I believe that in order to best serve the public, a high standard of ethics and integrity as well as a laser-like focus on the issues which affect our neighborhoods must be of paramount importance. Unlike most of my opponents, I have refused to take campaign contributions from developers, lobbyists, attorneys or any other special interest groups intent on influencing me for their own personal gain at the expense of our quality of life in northeast Queens. I'm Paul Graziano and I hope you'll consider supporting me for City Council in the Democratic Primary on September 10th and the General Election on November 5th.

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