



Name

Joyce Xie

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Sought (New York State)

Assembly

District Number

49

In which primary

Democratic

Age

32

Education

College Education

Current job, position, or occupation

District Leader and State Committee Member

Other positions or roles

-

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement

Community Education Council, Former Budget Director for Councilmember Susan Zhuang

Campaign Contact Information

Website

joycefornewyork.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/joycefornewyork

Instagram

www.instagram.com/joycefornewyork

Signature



GOALS AND PLANS

In addition to evaluating stances on the reform issues, Citizens Union considers the campaign goals articulated to voters, issues specific to the district, and the ability propose thoughtful solutions to represent constituents’ interests.

What are your top three campaign promises or goals, and what actions will you take to achieve

them if elected?

My three priorities are education, housing, and childcare.

On education, as a mother of three, I know what it means to depend on strong public schools. I'll fight for full and fair funding for our public schools, including Foundation Aid that actually reaches our neighborhood schools and not just parts of the city that get more attention. I support continued federal funding through Title II-A for teacher and school leader training and Title IV-A for safe, well-rounded learning environments, and I'll push to repeal charter facilities aid so public dollars go toward strengthening the schools most of our kids attend.

On housing, South Brooklyn is mostly homeowners, co-ops, and small landlords, not large rental towers, so I'll focus on what actually helps this district: expanding SCRIE and DRIE so seniors and neighbors with disabilities can age in place, protecting Mitchell-Lama and co-op affordability in Sunset Park, and supporting small property owners who are getting squeezed by rising costs and insurance. I'll also fight for the tenant protections our renters need without ignoring the homeowners who make up most of this district.

On childcare, my husband and I were restaurant workers, so I understand what unreliable or unaffordable care does to a family's schedule and budget. I'll push for statewide childcare investment and universal 3-K and Pre-K expansion that reaches South Brooklyn, along with higher wages for childcare workers.

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

I've lived in this district for over 15 years and raised my family here. I came to this country as an immigrant from China, and that experience shapes my passion for protecting and advocating for the immigrant communities that make up so much of this district.

I served as budget director and community liaison for Council Member Susan Zhuang, which gave me direct experience working through city budget priorities and handling constituent needs at the ground level. I've also served on the Community Education Council for School District 20, working with parents and educators on school safety and resources. When Gifted and Talented programs were eliminated in neighboring Districts 15 and 21, I helped mobilize local parents to protect the program here, since it's a real pipeline to specialized high schools for our kids.

I currently serve as a Democratic District Leader and State Committee Member, which has kept me directly connected to residents, small business owners, and community organizations across Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights, and Sunset Park.

I also worked in a restaurant myself, and my husband still does, so I understand the pressures working families in this district face firsthand. I've spent years showing up at senior centers, subway stops, and small businesses along 8th Avenue, and building relationships with people like Council Member Susan Zhuang, Assemblymembers Grace Lee and William Colton, local parents, and small business owners across the district.

What experience have you had, if any, with good government and reform issues? (e.g. voting and elections, campaign finance, ethics and anti-corruption, checks and balances, government transparency and oversight, police accountability). If you've worked to advance these goals, we'd love to hear about it.

As a Democratic District Leader and State Committee Member, I've been directly involved in how our local party functions, including how candidates get on the ballot and how decisions get made at the district level. That's given me a close look at how transparent local political processes can be, and it's part of why I care about making those processes more open and accountable to voters, not just to insiders.

As budget director and community liaison for Council Member Susan Zhuang, I worked directly with city budget processes and how public dollars were tracked and allocated in the district. That role required real transparency with constituents about where money was going and why.

I also served on the Community Education Council for School District 20, a public body responsible for oversight of our local schools, including budget and policy decisions affecting thousands of families.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

1. Do you support opening up New York City's closed primary system, allowing over 1 million unaffiliated voters that are currently locked out of the election to participate in the primary election?

Yes

Comments (optional)

I came to this country as an immigrant from China, and I know what it means to feel like the system wasn't built with you in mind. That's part of why I support opening New York City's primary system to a semi-open model, letting voters choose one primary to participate in each year.

Primary elections often decide who holds office across most of this city, but that's not the full story in our district. Assembly District 49 has high Democratic registration, yet a Republican has held this seat for years because turnout here has been so low. Right now, more than a million unaffiliated voters citywide, including many immigrants and first-generation New Yorkers who haven't registered with a party, are locked out of the primary process entirely. In a district like ours, where every vote in the general election matters, that exclusion has real consequences.

A semi-open primary would expand access and bring more people into the process without dismantling party structures. Every New Yorker, no matter where they started or what party they're registered with, deserves a real voice in choosing who represents them, and a more engaged electorate here is part of how we finally flip this seat

2. Will you oppose any attempt to permanently remove redistricting protections from the state constitution, including existing protections of minority voting rights, population equity, ban on political gerrymandering, and consideration of communities of interest?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Yes. I will oppose any attempt to permanently remove redistricting protections from the state constitution, including protections for minority voting rights, population equity, the ban on political gerrymandering, and consideration of communities of interest.

These protections exist to make sure district lines reflect actual communities, not the interests of whoever is in power. In a city as diverse as ours, and in a district like mine with large immigrant and Asian American populations, weakening these protections would make it easier to draw maps that dilute our voice rather than represent it.

3. Do you support reforming the process of filling vacancies in the state legislature by implementing nonpartisan special elections (like the system used in New York City) instead of giving party officials the power to decide who will run as the party nominee?

Yes

4. Do you support restructuring the New York City Board of Elections to make it more professionalized and transparent, and less dependent on political parties (S699 Krueger/A1852 Rozic)?

Yes

5. Do you oppose requiring registered voters to show ID to vote in New York State?

Yes

Comments (optional)

I know firsthand how many barriers already exist for people navigating unfamiliar systems, from language access to paperwork to simply knowing where to go. Too many New Yorkers, especially low-income residents, people of color, and immigrants like many in this district, don't have a driver's license or other state ID. Requiring one to vote would function as a barrier for exactly the communities who already face the most obstacles to participating.

My job should make sure that more people's voices, especially members of my community, are heard.

6. Do you support providing time extenders for polling place voting hours in cases where an emergency leads to voting being disrupted or shut down? (S4602A Gounardes/A5846A Gibbs)

Yes

7. Do you support the Democracy During Detention Act (S440 Myrie/A2121 Walker), which establishes the election infrastructure to make voting accessible for all those eligible to vote who are detained in jails?

Yes

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

8. Are you a public campaign finance participant? If not, please explain why.

Yes

9. Are you a supporter of the state’s public campaign matching funds program, and do you commit to ensuring the program is fully funded?

Yes

Comments (optional)

This program exists so campaigns are powered by regular people, not corporations and special interests, and so someone like me, without deep pockets or connections to big money, can still get on the ballot and compete. It matters just as much for the people giving as it does for candidates like me. A small donation from someone in my community carries real weight under this program, and that means their voice actually counts in shaping who represents them. I'll fight to keep this program fully funded so more candidates and more everyday New Yorkers have a real stake in our democracy.

10. Do you support requiring disclosure of a contributor's employer in campaign finance reports? (S1910 Rivera/A3092 Carroll)

Yes

11. Do you support requiring Independent Expenditure entities (Super PACs) to disclose their top three donors on ads, similar to the requirements under NYC law? (S8445 Fahy/A10097Solages)

Yes

12. Do you support applying lower contribution limits to lobbyists and people doing business with the state or seeking contracts from the state? New York City imposes lower contribution limits for registered lobbyists and individuals doing business with the City.

Yes

ETHICS

13. Do you support requiring lobbyists to report their campaign contributions and fundraising activity, as well as campaign consulting services they provide?

Yes

14. Do you support including lobbying regarding a nomination or confirmation of a nominee that requires Senate confirmation in lobbying reports? (S374 Gianaris/A7456 McDonald)

Yes

15. Do you support codifying sexual harassment as conduct that violates the public officers and employees code of ethics? (Gounardes S4197/Kelles A6201)

Yes

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

16. Do you support giving the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board access to certain sealed and confidential records in matters involving potential police discipline? (S4966 Bailey/A292 Cruz)

Yes

17. Do you support transferring disciplinary hearings involving police officers from the NYPD to the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)? (S3927 Myrie)

Yes

REVISING CITY CHARTERS

15. Do you support banning the establishment of “lame duck” charter revision commissions, established by mayors right before the end of their term? (S8934 Liu)

Yes

16. Do you support mandating that charter commissions conduct their process over a mandatory minimum timeline of 180 days before issuing recommended ballot questions to a city’s charter?

Yes

ADDITIONAL INFO

What else would you like us to know about yourself?

I came to this country as an immigrant from China, and I've spent the years since building a life here, first working in a restaurant, then raising three kids in this district, and now serving as a Democratic District Leader and State Committee Member. That background shapes how I see this campaign. This district is home to a large immigrant population and one of the most diverse communities in South Brooklyn, and I understand what it takes to navigate this city as an immigrant because I've lived it.

I've built my involvement in this community from the ground up: on the Community Education Council for School District 20, as budget director and community liaison for Council Member Susan Zhuang, and through years of showing up at senior centers, subway stops, and small businesses along 8th Avenue. I haven't held elected office before, but I've done the work that prepares someone for it, listening to residents, handling constituent problems directly, and building real relationships across Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights, and Sunset Park.

This district has high Democratic registration but low turnout, which is why a Republican has held this seat for years despite how this community actually leans. I'm running because I know this community, I've worked in it for over 15 years, and I'm ready to help finally flip this seat and give this district the representation and resources it deserves.