

Dan Cohen

Dear Three Parks Independent Democrats:

My name is Dan Cohen and I am running for City Council in the 7th District. I am writing to ask for your endorsement next week at the Three Parks general club meeting on November 11th.

Just this past October I turned 50, and for more than half that time – almost 30 years – I have been a member of Three Parks.

I was recruited to the club shortly after I graduated college by then-District Leader Phil Reed, who I had met on the street at a block party in 1992. I would subsequently become Phil's treasurer on his successful Council campaign and also served as President of Three Parks for five years. Ten years ago, the club supported me when I successfully won election to serve as Democratic State Committeeman for the 69th AD, a position I was re-elected to this year. Throughout the past 30 years I have connected with friends in the club as we celebrated our victories and mourned our losses, through storefronts, picnics and holiday parties. Through phone banks and postcards, letters and literature, palm cards and poll watching. Through it all.

For those of you that do not know me, I am a housing advocate with experience in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Having worked in affordable housing in New York City for over two decades, I have seen some of the positive

changes that can come from strong leaders who are dedicated to public service. In my role at the nonprofit Housing Partnership since 2014, I have helped create and preserve over 50,000 units of affordable housing. I am excited to have the opportunity to translate my leadership in this space to leadership at the City Council.

I am a native New Yorker and have lived in the district my entire life. I am a member of Community Board 9, President of the Valley Restoration Local Development Corporation, founder of Friends of Anibal Aviles Playground/Amigos del Parque de Anibal Aviles and on the board of Friends of Morningside Park. I am a proud NYC public-school graduate as well as current NYC public-school parent, and I serve on my son's school PTA.

There are many issues that our city and District 7 currently face. From fully funding our public schools to investing in COVID-19 impacted and minority and women-owned small businesses, I know there are pathways to make our community thrive. One major issue that is extremely urgent for our city is climate change. I hope to make not just climate change, but climate justice, a major part of my leadership at the City Council, and to make NYC the standard for the country.

Another issue that deeply matters to me is the pursuit of racial and LGBTQ+ justice. We must advocate for Black and trans lives and take policy steps that prove that New Yorkers know that Black Lives Matter. These issues – along with access to adequate healthcare and mental health services and reformation of our broken criminal justice system – are the core ideas of

my campaign. I believe that with this platform, I can make a difference in our district and in our city.

I know that the field for this race is deep. This is why I need to run a strong and organized campaign. This is also why I would be thrilled to have the endorsement of Three Parks.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope I earn your support next week.

Learn about me at www.Cohen2021.com

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