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**Contact:** [nyhtcmedia@gmail.com](mailto:nyhtcmedia@gmail.com)

## **HOTEL TRADES COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2017 NYC COUNCIL ENDORSEMENTS**

**NEW YORK** – The Hotel and Motel Trades Council announced today its endorsement of 24 candidates for New York City Council, including both incumbent Council Members and candidates for open Council seats.

“The Hotel Trades Council fights tirelessly to deliver good wages, benefits and strong workplace rights for our 35,000 members and to all of New York City's working families. We pour that same strength and energy into fighting to elect candidates who share our deep commitment to workers,” said **Peter Ward, President of the New York Hotel Trades Council**. “The New York City Council is unique in its ability to pass meaningful legislation that actually impacts the lives of hardworking women and men. We are proud to endorse this year's outstanding City Council candidates and will throw the full weight of our membership and political operation behind each of them so they can continue building on the current Council's record of fighting for the working people of New York City.”

### **HTC Endorsed Candidates:**

- District 1 - Margaret Chin
- District 2 - Carlina Rivera
- District 4 - Keith Powers
- District 6 - Helen Rosenthal
- District 8 - Diana Ayala
- District 9 - Bill Perkins
- District 12 - Andy King
- District 14 - Fernando Cabrera
- District 15 - Ritchie Torres
- District 17 - Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
- District 20 - Peter Koo
- District 21 - Francisco Moya
- District 26 - Jimmy Van Bramer
- District 30 - Elizabeth Crowley
- District 34 - Antonio Reynoso
- District 35 - Laurie Cumbo
- District 37 - Rafael Espinal
- District 38 - Carlos Menchaca
- District 40 - Mathieu Eugene
- District 41 - Alicka Ampry-Samuel
- District 43 - Justin Brannan
- District 47 - Mark Treyger
- District 48 - Chaim Deutsch
- District 49 - Deborah Rose

## **Candidate Statements:**

### **District 1 - Margaret Chin**

"I am honored to have the support of the 32,000 hardworking men and women of the Hotel and Motel Trades Council. I have fought hard to ensure that these New Yorkers, as well as thousands of others of our brother and sisters in labor, have access to good paying jobs in safe working conditions. I will continue to fight every single day to ensure that things only get better for working New Yorkers."

### **District 2 - Carlina Rivera**

"New York City is a great place to live, work, and visit, and that is due in large part to the men and women of the Hotels Trades Council," said Council Candidate Carlina Rivera. "HTC has always stood up for working people's rights and their members ensure our vital tourism economy continues to thrive and acts responsibly. I'm honored to have their endorsement."

### **District 4 - Keith Powers**

"It's an honor to receive the endorsement of the Hotel Trades Council," Powers said. "My district is home to many of the good paying jobs that have been created and protected through HTC's advocacy. I look forward to standing together to raise wages, create jobs, and ensure the fair treatment of working people."

### **District 6 - Helen Rosenthal**

"It is an honor to have the support of the hard-working women and men of the Hotel Trades Council. HTC is an organization that has proven successful fighting for women's equality in the workplace and worker's rights, as well as protecting New York's dwindling supply of affordable housing. As someone deeply committed to strengthening these protections at the City Council, I am grateful to have their meaningful support."

### **District 8 - Diana Ayala**

"Our city is in the midst of a housing crisis, and the scourge of illegal hotels is wreaking havoc on our already limited housing supply. I look forward to working side by side with the Hotel Trades Council to protect our diminishing housing supply and eradicate these dangerous illegal hotels."

### **District 9 - Bill Perkins**

"I'd like to thank the members of the Hotel Trades Council for their vital support of my candidacy and their vital contribution to the economy of New York City."

### **District 12 - Andy King**

"I am thrilled to have the endorsement of the hardworking men and women of the Hotel Trades Council," said Council Member Andy King, "HTC has been on the front lines fighting for worker rights, immigrant rights, and criminal justice reform and I look forward to continuing our work together in these battles and those that lie ahead."

**District 15 - Ritchie Torres**

"It is an honor to receive the endorsement of the Hotel Trades Council. We share the mission of protecting and expanding good-paying jobs for New Yorkers, and ensuring that the hotel industry continues to thrive. I look forward to a continued partnership to benefit communities across the City."

**District 17 - Rafael Salamanca Jr.**

"The Hotel Trades Council is a leader in the fight for good jobs with great pay and benefits that provide a path to the middle class for so many immigrant families across our city. I'm proud to accept their endorsement and look forward to continuing to fight alongside them for better opportunities for the working families of this city."

**District 20 - Peter Koo**

"I am excited to receive the support and endorsement of the Hotel Trades Council. HTC provides an opportunity for so many hardworking families in my district to achieve the American dream. I look forward to working with them to fight illegal hotels and protect the great jobs that allow families to reach the middle class."

**District 21 - Francisco Moya**

"It's an honor to receive the endorsement of the Hotel Trades Council," Moya said. "Our community is home to many immigrant families who first enter the labor force in sectors served by the Hotel Trades Council. Their tireless advocacy helps ensure these newest Americans, and all hotel sector workers, receive the fair treatment and excellent wages and benefits they deserve."

**District 30 - Elizabeth Crowley**

"I'm honored to have earned the support of the hardworking women and men of the Hotel Trades Council. HTC is at the forefront of growing the city's economy with good jobs and fair wages, as well as protecting the middle class housing Queens families need. I'm proud to stand with HTC and thank them for their support."

**District 34 - Antonio Reynoso**

"In the fights for affordable housing, immigrant rights, and criminal justice reform, I have always been able to count on the dedicated members of the Hotel Trades Council to lead the way," said Council Member Antonio Reynoso. "Being able to stand side by side with HTC to further our progressive values and vision is a privilege."

**District 35 - Laurie Cumbo**

"I am thrilled to receive the Hotel Trades Council endorsement. HTC members are integral to the success and stability of our communities here in Brooklyn, and the union continues to be a powerful force for social justice and progressive change in New York. I am also excited by the upcoming opening of the 65,000-square-foot new health center for union hotel workers in my 35th Council District that will serve a portion of the union's 35,000 members, along with their families. This new facility will serve as a

national model for equitable, convenient, and affordable healthcare for working class families."

**District 37 - Rafael Espinal**

"I'm proud to be endorsed by HTC, a leader in the fight to protect labor and the issues affecting all New Yorkers. I look forward to our continued partnership in creating a fairer and more inclusive New York City."

**District 38 - Carlos Menchaca**

"My time at Council has included some incredible victories and some very tough fights, but through it all, the men and women of the Hotel Trades Council have been inspiring, invaluable allies," said Council Member Carlos Menchaca. "From universal Pre-K to our fight for immigrant rights, HTC has been at the forefront of important wins for my community. I look forward to standing together for progressive victories in the coming years."

**District 40 - Mathieu Eugene**

"I am very grateful to receive the endorsement of the Hotel Trades Council, a strong union whose commitment to hardworking people I share. I would like to commend the union for all the wonderful work they have done to fight for the rights of people who work in our city's hotels, and I look forward to continuing to work with the union to fight for better lives for the hardworking people of New York City."

**District 43 - Justin Brannan**

"The Hotel Trades Council is the perfect example of what we need from organized labor at a time of unprecedented attacks on working men and women. Standing up for working families, providing a path to the middle class, and making our great city a little more fair and just in the process. For all those reasons, I'm proud to have the endorsement of HTC."

**District 47 - Mark Treyger**

"I am honored to receive the endorsement of the New York Hotel Trades Council. They are at the forefront of some of New York's most important campaigns for working people and their advocacy on behalf of good wages, protecting worker's rights, healthcare and workplace protection is vital. I look forward to partnering with HTC in the future to both build NYC's economy and strengthen the livelihood of our City's working families."

**District 49 - Deborah Rose**

"I am proud to be supported by the Hotel Trades Council for re-election to the City Council. I have made the creation of quality jobs in my district—that pay a living wage and have good benefits—a priority of mine since being elected. That is why I fought for, and won, 100% union jobs at the New York Wheel and Empire Outlets development, including at the new hotel that will be built there. Union jobs are the pathway to the

middle class and the economic vitality of our city, state and country, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Hotel Trades Union in my next term.”

The New York Hotel and Motel Trades Council, AFL-CIO, is the union for hotel and gaming workers in New York, representing 32,000 non-managerial employees working in all hotel departments at more than 300 hotels and other related. Representing, approximately 75% of the hotel industry within the five boroughs of New York City, HTC members come from many nations and backgrounds and speak more than 50 languages. HTC members enjoy the best union contract for hotel workers in the world, guaranteeing excellent wages, benefits, working conditions, and standards of fair treatment.