

How will you combat the influence of developers and their lobbyists on land-use decisions?

The city of New York is not controlled by New Yorkers. New York is controlled by landlords and developers, who bend and break the rules for their own profit and our loss.

New York's real estate laws are stacked against us—our community has no leverage and little input. As I discussed above, we need a council member who will work to reform how our city approaches development. We must create full disclosure and early alarms so our neighborhood can't be changed without our consent. I will also push for public review of any development that significantly increases the building density of any particular lot.

But this is also an ethics and campaign finance issue. I owe nothing to real estate developers, and have returned developer checks when they try to donate to my campaign. We need to get big money out of politics so we—the people—can reclaim our voice from the big special interests, of which big real estate is the biggest and the least concerned about our local needs.

