

## **Julio Pabón** Bronx Not For Sale

**Video Voter Guide** 

Council District 17 Special Election • www.nyccfb.info/voterguide

Hi, my name is Julio Pabon and I am running for the 17th district City Council. I have lived in the Bronx since I was a child. I came here from Puerto Rico with my father who was a migrant farmworker. When I was growing up the people would say the "Bronx is burning". It was a very impoverished area. However, as bad as it was then, it is actually worse today and that is why I felt compelled to run for office. I have assembled a team of dedicated people who want to work to improve our district. We have lots of ideas that can bring this community forward.

I have been a public school teacher and believe education is the number one reason why I was able to get myself out of poverty. I have raised three beautiful, educated children who are currently working in various fields around the country. I also have 7 wonderful grandchildren who are instilled with values of education. We need to increase investment in education. We spend over \$300,000 a year to put a child in prison yet we barely spend \$3,000 to educate our children. We have the money, we just need to spend it intelligently.

We also have a major gap in technology that is contributing to our decline. That is why I am proposing free Public-Wifi. We cannot deal with education inequality without dealing with technology disparities that exist in our community. The gaps in technology access has also resulted in lower employment opportunities for our elderly and younger adults.

We also have a severe homelessness problem in our district. I have several ideas including mandatory inclusion of affordable housing construction with market rate developments. We will also require an open bidding process for these contracts. Contractors must hire people from our district for the actual construction of the developments. This will also open up greater collaboration with our community for future employment related to these developments such as custodial positions to security guards and other opportunities.

We need elected officials that actually understand the issues of our community and are going to be strong advocates who will champion our causes. We need people who will actively fight to improve the conditions of our community and for creating a new Bronx. We have lots of ideas for change. You can find out more about our campaign at JulioPabon.com. I hope I get your vote on February 23, 2016! Thank you.

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