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**For Immediate Release**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NYC PARTNERS WITH HUNTER COLLEGE TO HOST  
CANDIDATE FORUM FOR DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCIL SEAT ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**

***School Overcrowding, District Rezoning Are Key Campaign Issues***

New York, NY, August 18, 2017 – The League of Women Voters of the City of New York will partner with Hunter College, under the auspices of the New York City Campaign Finance Board, to host a primary election debate for an open council seat in New York City Council District 4. The debate, moderated by WABC-TV news anchor Diana Williams, will feature the nine Democratic candidates who are running to replace term-limited Democratic Council Member Daniel Garodnick. The debate will be held on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Hunter College Danny Kaye Playhouse, 695 Park Avenue at 68<sup>th</sup> Street between Park and Lexington Avenues.

The candidates will be invited to address issues currently affecting the district, including school overcrowding and Midtown East rezoning, which will affect 78 blocks in the district. The candidates include Democrats Jeffrey Mailman, Keith Powers, Bessie Schachter, Martha Speranza, Rachel Honig, Vanessa Aronson, Maria Castro, Barry Shapiro and Alec Hartman.

“We are thrilled to partner with the League of Women Voters to bring this important primary debate to the Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College,” says Jennifer J. Raab, President of Hunter College. “By welcoming students and neighbors to hear from the candidates on the important issues at stake in this New York City Council 4th District race, we advance two strong Hunter traditions: community engagement and the open exchange of ideas.”

Catherine Gray, co-president of the League, says “The League of Women Voters of the City of New York encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is pleased to host a forum where voters can get to know the nine candidates and learn their positions on key issues affecting City Council District Four”.

“NYC Votes is committed to supporting the League of Women Voters of the City of New York in their work to raise awareness of local election and educate voters,” said Onida Coward Mayers, Director of Voter Assistance for the NYC Campaign Finance Board. “When we work together to increase participation in our elections, we build a brighter future for all New Yorkers.”

The forum is open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 pm. For further information, visit [www.lwvnyc.org](http://www.lwvnyc.org), visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVNYC/> and follow us on twitter at <https://twitter.com/LWVNYC>, or visit Hunter College at [www.hunter.cuny.edu/](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/).

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**About Hunter College:**

Hunter College, located in the heart of Manhattan, is the largest college in the City University of New York (CUNY) system. Founded in 1870, it is also one of the oldest public colleges in the country and famous for the diversity of its student body, which is as diverse as New York City itself.

Most Hunter students are the first in their families to attend college and many go on to top professional and graduate programs, winning Fulbright scholarships, Mellon fellowships, National Institutes of Health grants, and other competitive honors. More than 23,000 students currently attend Hunter, pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in more than 170 areas of study.

The 1,700 full- and part-time members of Hunter's faculty are unparalleled. They receive prestigious national grants, contribute to the world's leading academic journals, and play major roles in cutting-edge research. They are fighting cancer, formulating public policy, expanding our culture, enhancing technology, and more.

**About the League of Women Voters of the City of New York:**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization whose purpose is to promote informed and active citizen participation in government. It neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties. Membership is open to all women and men who subscribe to its purposes. The League is supported by membership dues and contributions from public-spirited individuals, businesses and organizations.