



## Get out the Vote for a Better New York For All Talking Points in Our Community and Houses of Worship for the General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017

1. Make sure that you have requested permission from the community organization or faith institution leadership to speak for a specified time on the importance of voting in the upcoming General Election. Your request should be to speak during the appropriate time of the service or other opportunities in your house of worship in the coming days and weeks leading up to the **General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017**.
2. Your message in your house of worship must be non-partisan pursuant to federal and campaign finance laws. This means that you can't urge worshipers to support a particular candidate. However, you can urge worshipers to vote in the General Election and you can provide non-partisan voter education information (See your DC 37 tool-kit for helpful information).
3. Remind your audience at a community event or congregation at a house of worship that there is also a referendum on the ballot for the Constitutional Convention to be convened. **You MUST turn the ballot over to view and vote on this referendum which is listed as New York Proposal 1, Constitutional Convention question on the ballot.** Please note that in non-religious/community settings you can advise the audience to Vote No for the Constitutional Convention referendum. In houses of worship we must be non-partisan which means that you can't advise congregants how to vote, but you can tell them how they will be affected (i.e., public employee pensions changed or eliminated, changes or elimination of funding for education, healthcare or social services). Please also distribute the Constitutional Convention flyer for community groups which is a part of your tool-kit.
4. Include your name and your connection as a member of the house of worship, your union and civil service job to connect with your fellow worshipers.
5. Keep your message clear and concise (3 to 5 minutes).
6. Describe in as much detail as you can —you want to paint the picture that resonates with your audience (i.e., connecting a parable such as the story of the Good Samaritan with protecting the right to vote; using our vote to elect candidates who support a vision of a Beloved Community for All that Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. fought for in his lifetime; providing affordable housing, quality public schools, addressing high unemployment, especially for men and youth of color, and providing adequate funding for decent jobs, protecting public services and dedicated civil servants and ending gun violence and racial profiling; civil rights student activists being attacked at marches and rallies in the South in fight for the right to vote.
7. Remember to include in your presentation that you will be available to answer questions worshipers have immediately following the service or meeting. Request permission from the house of worship leadership to share the DC 37 Helpful Hints for Voters brochure. Make sure you bring enough copies to distribute.
8. Remember to arrive on time and to thank the congregation and leadership for their time and attention.
9. Develop a message to your audience using the following: Describe the importance of the right to vote and how it impacts on our faith journey and call to service, our community, our family and our future. Describe what could happen in and around the community where your house of worship is located if we do not vote in the **General Election on November 7<sup>th</sup>**.
10. Include in the ASK: What do you want members of the congregation to do? Make it realistic and doable. Make sure it gets you the end result you desire. **Vote in the Primary Day and General Election on November 7<sup>th</sup> and get 10 people in your family or community to vote. Remember to turn the ballot over to Vote No for the Constitutional Convention which appears on the back of the ballot marked New York Proposal 1, Constitutional Convention question. Fellow worshipers should urge the ten people they ask to vote to also ask 10 additional people to vote in the upcoming General Election. This will create a multiplier effect to help us GET THE VOTE OUT.**

District Council 37, AFSCME, Henry Garrido, Executive Director. For more information email [laborfaithcomgroup@gmail.com](mailto:laborfaithcomgroup@gmail.com) or call the DC37 Political Action Department at 212-815-1550.