



Vote Ferrer For Mayor November 8th

The Organization of Staff Analysts' leadership endorsed Fernando Ferrer for Mayor months ago.

I have known Freddy since before he held any office at all. As he progressed from legislative assistant to District Leader to City Council member and Borough President, Fred was consistently a friend of the working men and women of the City of New York. He was accessible, informed, considerate and effective.

Freddy was especially of value to the Civil Service. His opponent gives him no credit for the turning around of the Bronx. Those of us who came from the Bronx in the 70's and 80's remember the arson that was wiping out housing wholesale.

"The Bronx is burning" was proclaimed by national commentators and neither Freddy's predecessor nor the Mayor had an answer. The answer, put forward and supported by Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, was to increase the number of Fire Marshals, a civil service specialty of firefighters trained to detect and investigate arson. The arsonists were caught and convicted. The burning of the Bronx to cash in on fire insurance ended.

Our current Mayor builds stadiums. Freddy saved affordable housing.

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Fred Ferrer managed budgets both as a Council leader and as a Borough President. His opponent also has managed a budget. When there was a cash shortfall in a bad year, Freddy worked out job sharing and voluntary furloughs. When our current Mayor claimed hardship, he laid off thirty analysts and three thousand other employees.

There was no need for those layoffs. The Mayor even offered to cancel the layoffs if the unions would agree to cut benefits for retirees or current civil servants or even future employees. No union agreed at that time, so he taught us a lesson and laid off workers.

Fernando Ferrer would ask Wall Street to help out a bit on the cost of running our City. His opponent has already made it clear that the savings have got to come from us. Our contract raises are below the rate of inflation, our benefits are being eroded and he insists we agree to even worse treatment for those who will follow after us.

Some of our members repeat the media refrain that the Mayor is a businessman, doing a good job. Well, he is, for the rich publishers and television station owners, for Wall Street, for those who need a new stadium, for real estate developers and all of the upper income business elite. He is not doing a good job for those of us who work for a living, trying to provide services for our fellow citizens. For us, he is a disaster and he wants four more years to exact still more give backs from us and our retired brethren.

Fernando Ferrer is a government worker who worked his way up from the entry professional level of civil servant to become the Democratic Party's candidate for Mayor. He is one of us, he cares about us, and he cares about the working folks of New York City. When we vote for Freddy Ferrer for Mayor on November 8th, we vote for ourselves, our spouses, our children and our City.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Croghan
Chairperson

