

## YOUTH-CENTERED POLICY MATRIX--ERIC ADAMS

**Eric Adams** currently serves as Brooklyn's 18th Borough president, and is the first person of color to fulfill that position. The South Jamaica, Queens native served as a NYPD officer for 22 years and within his career co-founded the 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement, an initiative to build relationships between racial minorities and law enforcement. He received his master's degree in public administration from Marist College, and is a graduate of New York City Technical College and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Adam's views vary on the political spectrum since he was once a registered Republican but is now running as a Democratic candidate for Mayor. He has been criticized for his stance on gun control since he claims to want to get guns off the streets, but shares that he carries a gun with him at all times. The Eric Adams campaign is pushing universal child care and a vision for a safe city by increasing the presence of law enforcement, and has since been endorsed by former U.S. representatives, New York state politicians, and New York City politicians.

YVote youth leaders Abeer, Angelina, Keyla, Madeline, Mia, and Muslimat assessed Candidate Adams with regard to how well his platform addresses policy recommendations developed in response to the Youth Ask Youth (YAY) Census 2020 with Y indicating that the candidate addresses the recommendation, N indicating that the candidate doesn't address it, and U indicating that the candidate's response is unclear, unaddressed, or incomplete. The statements shared through this Candidate Assessment Matrix are based on Eric Adams campaign website, public speaking events, and articles in Gotham Gazette, New York Magazine, New York Times, NY Daily News, Rolling Stone, and The City. For further information, contact [Sanda@yvoteny.org](mailto:Sanda@yvoteny.org)

### YOUR HOME & COMMUNITY

### YOUR SCHOOLS

#### Policy Recommendations

1. Expand Affordable Housing **Y**
2. Housing and Cash Transfer Programs for Homeless Youth **U**
3. Increase Funding for Sanitation **N**
4. Expand Participatory Budgeting Initiatives **U**
5. Divest and Reinvest Funds from NYPD **N**

1. Get Police out of Schools and Effective implementation of Restorative Justice Initiatives **N**
2. Expand Social-Emotional Learning and Increase Social Workers in Schools and Youth Programs **Y**
3. Teach Life Skills and Support "Civics for All" initiative **U**

**Candidate's Platform**

1. Repurpose city office buildings and hotels for affordable housing.
  - Up-zone wealthier areas where we can build far more affordable units
2. Improve rent subsidies to keep people from becoming homeless; reduce evictions.
3. N/A
4. Push measures towards more community driven policing, like letting community boards and precinct councils select who lead the local precincts.
5. He plans to **divert** \$500 million dollars from the NYPD's budget and put it towards crime prevention programs like the Crisis Management System : "Go back to your community, where there is real violence, and tell me you still want to defund the police." (Summer 2020)

1. Wants to increase the presence of police in schools
2. Wants to identify and support students with disabilities and other learning challenges.
  - Provide healthy eating options and social services directly in schools.
3. Wants to incorporate more culturally-aware curriculums

**YOUR POCKETS & FUTURE**

**YOUR HEALTH & RELATIONSHIPS**

**Policy Recommendations**

1. Increase Job Access for Young People, Expand SYEP and Support Multilingual and Undocumented Students **Y**  
Implement work-based learning opportunities **Y**
2. Provide Metrocards and other free transportation services **U**
3. Support youth to develop and own business cooperative that meet the needs identified by young people **U**

1. Extend flexibility and Increase funding for youth programs to meet community food needs **U**
2. Promote safe practices for socialization and exercise **Y**
3. Manageable workload and support for remote learning due to COVID-19 **Y**

**Candidate's Platform**

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1. Wants to incorporate more job training in high schools and match students with internships- SYEP all year around
2. Providing students with the chance to earn certifications in a wide variety of fields by increasing job training in high schools
3. Making permanent and expanding the Freedom Ticket program
4. Ease restrictions for communities to form new Business Improvement Districts

1. N/A
2. Increase COVID vaccination centers in lower income communities
3. Wants to become a major client for Apple or Google to give New York students access to updated technology for remote learning at a lower cost

### OVERVIEW OF STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

- Eric Adams' **weakest** area is home and community. His plans don't directly address the complexity of homelessness in New York so that underrepresented communities will be served. In addition to the fact that Adams plans don't align with the reforms that voters want to see as far as amplifying community voices, securing housing as a human right, and equitably reallocating state funds.
- Eric Adams' **strongest** area is pockets and the future. Adams plans create a clear vision for prioritizing economic wealth within the youth. His plans are informative enough to hold him accountable and lead towards tangible reform for New York City's economy.

### OUR ASSESSMENT

#### YOUR HOME & COMMUNITY

Eric Adams housing plan is focused on creating affordable housing by converting some of New York's current properties into housing units. As for safety, he's a strong advocate for a powerful police force that can be reformed through reconciling community relations.

#### YOUR SCHOOLS

Adams' education plan is to redesign the curriculum and support efforts for social-emotional learning. However, he's disregarding the very present issue between the school and prison pipeline by increasing school presence.

#### Your Pockets & Future

Eric Adams' plan for our futures is developing internship and job opportunities for youth and

#### Your health & Relationships

Eric Adams' has a COVID-19 recovery plan but doesn't address community issues regarding

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wants to make school curriculums more accommodating of life and career skills.

food insecurities.