

Rajiv Gowda is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the New York State Senate, District 23. His campaign website is [www.gowdaforsenate.com](http://www.gowdaforsenate.com).

I would like to begin by thanking the Staten Island Democratic Association. For nearly 60 years, this organization has been a champion of democratic ideals and a beacon for those who believe in the important role the public plays in government. My name is Rajiv Gowda and I am seeking the 2020 Democratic Party nomination for the 23<sup>rd</sup> New York State Senate District representing the North and East Shores of Staten Island and portions of Southern Brooklyn.

I am a former 1st Vice President of Local 375, D.C. 37, and a former delegate to both D.C. 37 and the Central Labor Council. With my history in Organized Labor and my experience building a family while working a union job, I know the importance of extending this same opportunity to as many New York workers as possible. As I have done for 20+ years of my life, I will continue to fight for union rights and the rights of our working class, for it is they who truly power the Empire State.

I am the former President of District 31, Community Educational Council. Staten Island is due millions of dollars for our schools, which can be used to improve the school grounds, for better equipment for all educational programs, to increase the wages of the teachers who mold our children, and to combat depression, bullying and violence.

I am a retired N.Y.C. engineer with nearly 30 years of experience and the former Chairman of the Transportation and Waterfront Committee of Community Board #1. I have the background to isolate the problems plaguing our communities and the experience to know how to best address them. These include confronting the increasing congestion in our neighborhoods and dealing with the B.Q.E.

I have lived on Staten Island for the last 25 years of my life. I know the issues that New Yorkers face on a daily basis, but even more specifically I know what is happening on our island.

Staten Island has high rates of autism and asthma. I will fight for aggressively improving the air quality so that all families who seek to raise their children here will be healthy.

Based on my vision, background and experience I believe I am the strongest candidate in this election. I humbly request the endorsement of the Staten Island Democratic Association.

May God bless Staten Island. May God bless the State of New York. And may God bless the United States of America.