

Comptroller Candidates:

David Yassky

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Positions on Addressing Critical AIDS Housing Issues

- Supports HASA for ALL (rental assistance for poor people with HIV regardless of health status)
- Supports proposed state legislation to cap rents of poor people with HIV in public housing at 30 percent of income.
- Would address HIV/AIDS Services Administration (HASA) rental assistance levels
- Pledges to address the city's dependence on single-room occupancy (SRO) housing and would assess all housing contracts with SRO providers.
- Advocates for strict enforcement of laws meant to prevent housing discrimination for those living with AIDS and HIV or who receive public assistance or disability income.
- Pledges to address housing needs for undocumented immigrants living with HIV/AIDS.

Positions on the Coordination and Monitoring of City AIDS Services

- Supports re-establishment of Mayoral Office of AIDS Policy
- Would establish a task force to address HIV/AIDS issues and concerns in order to guide future Comptroller's Office commissions and investigations related to HIV/AIDS.

Positions on Additional AIDS Services

- Would advocate for additional funding to expand access to care and treatment in the AIDS facility at Rikers Island.
- Supports the expansion of programming and funding for syringe-exchange programs.
- Would support public outreach and campaigns to increase HIV testing, for both general and neglected, targeted populations.

Other:

- Would end lag time between city contract awards and distribution of funding to help non-profit organizations better meet the needs of the community.
- Would propose expanding Comptroller's Office audit staff so that city agencies (such as the Department of Corrections) can get more direct help with management and improvement of programs and service delivery.

- Would diversify the city's pension funds by investing in the community to provide further resources for housing and services for people in need, including those with HIV/AIDS.

Notable quote: "I would use all the power available to the office of Comptroller to ensure that the SRO vendors in existence are maintaining humane conditions... And as long as there is a need for short-term or emergency housing, I would certainly recommend exploring community-based organizations as a far superior solution."