



2009 POST-ELECTION HEARINGS

PUBLIC FUNDS

Competitive races for public advocate and comptroller, and a greater number of candidates for City Council helped push the amount of public funds disbursed slightly higher than in 2005.

Public Funds Disbursed, 2005 – 2009

Office	2005		2009*		Difference
	Candidates	Payments	Candidates	Payments	
Mayor	4	\$10,017,875	1	\$3,265,062	-\$6,752,813
Public Advocate	3	\$2,685,001	4	\$5,971,165	\$3,286,164
Comptroller	0	\$0	4	\$5,284,761	\$5,284,761
Borough President	13	\$5,585,698	4	\$1,520,032	-\$4,065,666
City Council	84	\$6,581,160	124	\$11,263,713	\$4,682,553
Total	104	\$24,869,734	137	\$27,304,733	\$2,434,999

* through the final pre-election payment, October 29.

Maximum Public Funds, 2009 Elections

Mayor	Public Advocate	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
\$3,386,900	\$2,117,500	\$2,117,500	\$762,300	\$88,550

Thresholds to Qualify for Public Funds, 2009 Elections

	Mayor	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
Dollar Amount	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,000 – \$49,307*	\$5,000
Minimum Number of Contributors	1,000	500	100 borough residents	75 district residents

* For borough president, the threshold dollar amount is based upon the number of persons living in each borough. The dollar amount (based on the 2000 census) for each borough is: Bronx, \$26,653; Brooklyn, \$49,307; Manhattan, \$30,744; Queens, \$44,588; and Staten Island, \$10,000.

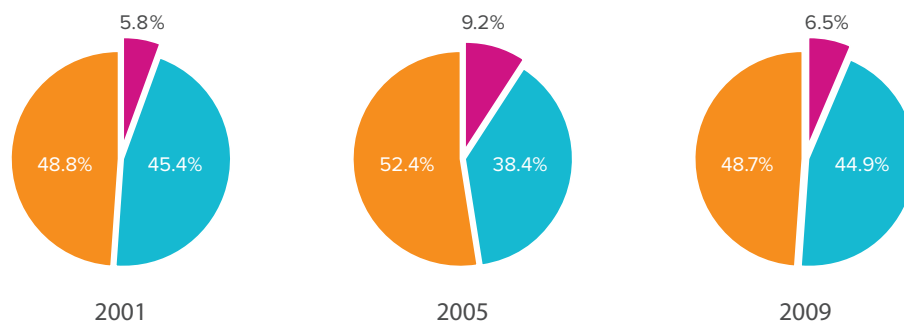
PUBLIC FUNDS

Public funds continue to make the New York City taxpayers, in aggregate, the largest special interest in City politics; 45 percent of candidates' resources come from the public investment in the political process.

Public Funds Compared with Other Sources of Campaign Funds, 2001 – 2009

	2001	2005	2009*
Public Funds	\$42,251,905	\$24,392,183	\$27,304,733
Contributions from Individuals (NYC)	\$30,226,614	\$22,628,867	\$20,731,126
Contributions from Individuals (outside NYC)	\$15,113,307	\$10,662,532	\$8,890,359
Contributions from Political Committees	\$2,602,285	\$2,839,733	\$2,421,595
Contributions from Business Entities	\$1,983,193	\$2,483,953	\$1,143,819
Contributions from Labor Unions	\$800,444	\$512,074	\$379,492

* 2009 data through October 23 filing.



SMALL DONORS

The new matching rate helped encourage candidates to bring more small donors into the political process, lowering the average contributions size across the board.

Small Contributions (\$250 or less) to Participating Candidates, 2005 – 2009

Election Cycle	Matching Rate	Contributions Less than \$250	Number of Small Donors	% of Small Donors	Average Contribution
2005	\$4 : \$1 (\$250)	\$7,024,347	66,516	73.9%	\$440.68
2009*	\$6 : \$1 (\$175)	\$6,695,935	76,798	79.2%	\$355.35

* 2009 data through October 23 filing.

Small Contributions (\$250 or less) to Participating City Council Candidate, 2005 – 2009

Election Cycle	Matching Rate	Contributions Less than \$250	Number of Small Donors	% of Small Donors	Average Contribution
2005	\$4 : \$1 (\$250)	\$3,140,030	33,498	82.6%	\$243.13
2009*	\$6 : \$1 (\$175)	\$3,937,017	50,388	87.2%	\$181.47

* 2009 data through October 23 filing.

PARTICIPATION

Overall participation in the Campaign Finance Program remained high; participation rates for the primaries equalled the highest they have ever been.

Campaign Finance Program Participation in Citywide Elections, 1997 – 2009

		PRIMARY ELECTIONS			GENERAL ELECTIONS			Participants Elected to Office
		participants on ballot	candidates on ballot	%	participants on ballot	candidates on ballot	%	
1997	Mayor	4	5	80%	4	6	67%	1
	Public Advocate	1	2	50%	3	5	60%	1
	Comptroller	-	-	-	3	5	60%	1
	Borough President	9	10	90%	9	19	47%	4
	City Council	70	88	80%	73	133	55%	36
	Total	84	105	80%	92	168	55%	43
2001	Mayor	8	10	80%	6	9	67%	0
	Public Advocate	7	7	100%	3	6	50%	1
	Comptroller	2	2	100%	2	4	50%	1
	Borough President	12	12	100%	15	22	68%	5
	City Council	193	208	93%	134	180	74%	47
	Total	222	239	93%	160	221	72%	54
2005	Mayor	4	6	67%	2	8	25%	0
	Public Advocate	5	6	83%	2	3	67%	1
	Comptroller	0	0	0%	1	4	25%	1
	Borough President	8	8	100%	10	15	67%	5
	City Council	79	91	87%	77	105	73%	46
	Total	96	111	86%	92	135	68%	53
2009	Mayor	2	3	67%	3	8	38%	0
	Public Advocate	5	5	100%	2	5	40%	1
	Comptroller	4	4	100%	3	5	60%	1
	Borough President	3	3	100%	10	13	77%	5
	City Council	127	137	93%	78	115	68%	49
	Total	141	152	93%	96	146	66%	56

PUBLIC FUNDS

Most candidates are meeting the threshold requirements to receive public funds, many by the first payment. Two out of five candidates for Council in the primaries qualified for the maximum payment.

Participating Candidates on the Primary Ballot Making Threshold, 2009 Primary Elections

Election Cycle	Participants on Ballot	Made Threshold		Made Threshold, 1st Payment	
		#	%	#	\$
2005	101	78	77.2%	53	52.5%
2009*	139	117	84.2%	89	64.0%

Participating City Council Candidates on Ballot Receiving Maximum Public Funds, 2009 Primary Elections

Election Cycle	Participants on Ballot	Candidates Receiving Maximum Public Funds*	
		%	#
2005	75	42.7%	32
2009*	127	40.2%	51

* candidates who received within \$500 of the maximum payment included.

NOMINAL OPPOSITION

Public funds to candidates who face nominal opposition can be limited, saving money for the taxpayers.

Caps on Public Funds Payments for Candidates Facing Nominal Opposition, 2009 Elections

Office	Until your opponent raises or spends 20 percent of the spending limit...	... you are limited to 25 percent of the maximum public funds payment.	Maximum public funds payment	Potential Savings (per Candidate)
Mayor	\$1,145,600	\$787,600	\$3,386,900	\$2,599,300
Public Advocate	\$716,200	\$492,488	\$2,117,500	\$1,625,012
Comptroller	\$716,200	\$492,488	\$2,117,500	\$1,625,012
Borough President	\$257,800	\$177,238	\$762,300	\$585,062
City Council	\$30,000	\$20,625	\$88,550	\$67,925

CANDIDATES FACING HIGH-SPENDING NON-PARTICIPANTS

The Program helps provide resources for participating candidates whose opponents have opted not to accept the spending limits associated with taking public funds.

Bonus Matching Rates, Maximum Payments, and Spending Limits for Participating Candidates Facing High-Spending Non-Participants, 2009 Elections

	Bonus "Trigger"	Matching Rate	Max Public Funds	Spending Limit
Mayor				
No Bonus	n/a	\$6.00 : \$1	\$3,386,900	\$6,158,000
Tier One	\$3,079,001	\$7.14 : \$1	\$4,105,333	\$9,237,000
Tier Two	\$18,474,001	\$8.57 : \$1	\$7,697,000	No limit
Public Advocate / Comptroller				
No Bonus	n/a	\$6.00 : \$1	\$2,117,500	\$3,850,000
Tier One	\$1,925,001	\$7.14 : \$1	\$2,566,667	\$5,775,000
Tier Two	\$11,550,001	\$8.57 : \$1	\$4,812,500	no limit
Borough President				
No Bonus	n/a	\$6.00 : \$1	\$762,300	\$1,386,000
Tier One	\$693,001	\$7.14 : \$1	\$924,000	\$2,079,000
Tier Two	\$4,158,001	\$8.57 : \$1	\$1,732,500	no limit
City Council				
No Bonus	n/a	\$6.00 : \$1	\$88,550	\$161,000
Tier One	\$80,001	\$7.14 : \$1	\$107,333	\$241,500
Tier Two	\$483,001	\$8.57 : \$1	\$201,250	no limit

DEBATE PROGRAM

Participating candidates for citywide office who meet the criteria for eligibility are required to take part in debates.

Money Raised and Spent to Determine Eligibility for First Debates, 2009 Elections

Mayor					
	Candidate	Party	Net Contributions	Net Expenditures	% of Vote
Primary (as of 8/10/09)	Bill Thompson	Democrat	\$3,916,696	\$2,976,601	70.2%
	Tony Avella	Democrat	\$275,842	\$237,741	21.4%
	Roland Rogers*†	Democrat	\$283	\$138	8.3%
* Non-participant. † Debate cancelled because only one candidate achieved criteria. ‡ Did not achieve eligibility criteria for debate.					

Money Raised and Spent to Determine Eligibility for First Debates, 2009 Elections (continued)

Mayor					
	Candidate	Party	Net Contributions	Net Expenditures	% of Vote
General (as of 9/28/09)	Michael Bloomberg	Republican	\$64,800,000	\$64,742,912	50.6%
	Bill Thompson	Democrat	\$4,127,976	\$3,831,004	46.0%
	Stephen Christopher**‡	Conservative	—	—	1.7%
	Billy Talen†	Green	\$44,223	\$63,416	0.8%
	Frances Villar**‡	PSL	\$8,388	\$6,801	0.3%
	Jimmy McMillan†	RTDH	\$0	\$0	0.2%
	Joseph Dobrian**‡	Libertarian	—	—	0.2%
	Daniel Fein**‡	SWP	—	—	0.1%
Public Advocate					
	Candidate	Party	Net Contributions	Net Expenditures	% of Vote
Primary (as of 8/10/09)	Eric Gioia	Democrat	\$2,024,496	\$1,131,132	18.4%
	Bill de Blasio	Democrat	\$1,433,794	\$1,317,987	32.6%
	Mark Green	Democrat	\$494,983	\$276,692	30.9%
	Norman Siegel	Democrat	\$294,133	\$261,883	14.3%
	Imtiaz Syed	Democrat	\$17,780	\$31,626	3.8%
General† (as of 10/19/09)	Bill de Blasio	Democrat	\$1,877,259	\$3,985,130	76.9%
	Alex Zablocki†	Republican	\$17,072	\$11,074	17.9%
	William Lee**‡	Conservative	—	—	3.6%
	Maura DeLuca**‡	SWP	—	—	0.9%
	Jim Lesczynski**‡	Libertarian	—	—	0.7%
Comptroller					
	Candidate	Party	Net Contributions	Net Expenditures	% of Vote
Primary (as of 8/10/09)	John Liu	Democrat	\$2,902,881	\$1,667,182	38.0%
	Melinda Katz	Democrat	\$2,408,965	\$1,496,761	20.4%
	David Weprin	Democrat	\$1,737,837	\$1,504,002	11.0%
	David Yassky	Democrat	\$1,728,294	\$1,233,336	30.5%
General (as of 9/28/09)	John Liu	Democrat	\$3,281,141	\$4,684,472	76.0%
	Salim Ejaz	RTDH	\$31,923	\$143,566	1.3%
	Joe Mendola†	Republican	\$20,223	\$17,235	19.3%
	Stuart Avrick**‡	Conservative	—	—	2.5%
	John Clifton**‡	Libertarian	—	—	1.0%
<p>* Non-participant. † Debate cancelled because only one candidate achieved criteria. ‡ Did not achieve eligibility criteria for debate.</p>					

DEBATE PROGRAM

The Debate Program helps provide voters with the information they need to make informed decisions at the polls.

2009 Debate Program Schedule

Mayor		
Democratic Primary Debate	NY1 News	Wednesday, August 26
Democratic Primary "Leading Contenders" Debate	WABC-TV	Wednesday, September 9
General Election Debate	NY1 News	Tuesday, October 13
General Election "Leading Contenders" Debate	WABC-TV	Tuesday, October 27
Public Advocate		
Democratic Primary Debate	WABC-TV	Sunday, August 30
Democratic Primary "Leading Contenders" Debate	NY1 News	Tuesday, September 8
Runoff Debate	NY1 News	Wednesday, September 23
Comptroller		
Democratic Primary Debate	WABC-TV	Sunday, August 23
Democratic Primary "Leading Contenders" Debate	NY1 News	Thursday, September 10
Runoff Debate	NY1 News	Thursday, September 24
General Election Debate	WABC-TV	Sunday, October 16