

Issue	McMahon (D)*	Grimm (R)
<p><u>Business Development:</u> What do you see as the top three priorities for business development and what will you do to promote these priorities?</p>	<p>1) Expand transportation capacity and access to mass transit -- Through my seat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I have worked to secure more than \$500 million in infrastructure investments for district transportation priorities, as well as expanded mass transit benefits and access. If elected I will continue to fight for a comprehensive Surface Transportation reauthorization bill to secure federal commitments that encourage long-term transportation planning and development here in Staten Island.</p> <p>2) Supporting small business job creation with access to capital and payroll tax cuts for hiring -- Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and Island job creation. I was proud to support the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act which provides small businesses with a 100% capital gains exclusion, larger SBA loans and a new \$30 billion fund to help small businesses obtain credit. Additionally, I was proud to support the Hiring Incentives to Resource Employment Act that gives small businesses a payroll tax cut for hiring new employees. I will continue to be a champion of our small businesses and will work to provide additional support to create jobs.</p> <p>3) Extending all 2001 and 2003 tax cuts until economy can recover, including keeping capital gains and dividend rates low and linked -- I have called for and will continue to fight to extend all 2001 and 2003 tax cuts until our economy has the chance to recover. I have also signed letters to House leadership urging them to maintain the current capital gains rates and dividends rates, and to keep the rates the same to encourage thoughtful investment and business decisions.</p>	<p>1) Cut taxes – I will garner support with my colleagues to cut excessive taxes on business.</p> <p>2) Remove bureaucratic red tape that prevents businesses from opening quickly.</p> <p>3) Reduce the amount of paperwork currently required of our small business to comply with state and federal mandates</p>
<p><u>Tax & Regulatory Burdens:</u> Federal taxes and regulations are a significant challenge to starting and growing a business. How would you make it easier to operate a business?</p>	<p>Our businesses need stability and certainty, particularly in this challenging economic time. That is why I support extending all 2001 and 2003 tax cuts until our economy has the chance to recover. In addition, we must work to reduce unnecessary regulations that hamper job growth, and make sure that programs designed to aid our small businesses operate efficiently. I was very involved in making sure that the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act works for New York and does not have unintended consequences on our financial markets that provide the lifeblood not only to our regional economy, but to businesses all across our nation. These efforts, and my support for small business tax breaks are party why the National Federation of Independent Businesses named me a "Guardian of Small Business" earlier this year.</p>	<p>This will be one of my top priorities in Washington, D.C. I will reduce the amount of unnecessary red tape and do a full review of the current regulatory scheme to ensure the burdensome/anti-business regulations are removed.</p>
<p><u>Industries of the Future:</u> What do you think are the industries of the future and what will you do to bring these businesses and jobs to New York and specifically to Staten Island?</p>	<p>Transportation access is key to accelerating development and use of the Staten Island corporate office park. I have long been an advocate for reactivating the North and West Shore Rail lines to provide direct access to the office park from the Ferry Terminal (I added a request to the Surface Transportation Bill for \$20 million to start this process). In addition, environmental sustainability and green technology are the industries of the future, and we should encourage green industries to locate in the office park. This one reason why I supported</p>	<p>Clean energy such as wind, solar, nuclear, bio-fuel, etc., as well as the technology sector are the businesses of the future. In order to bring these jobs to Staten Island, we must create an attractive business climate through incentives and tax credits.</p>

	<p>the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which provided \$30 billion for green technology infrastructure, and why I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 3919, the Clean Energy Business Zone Act.</p>	
<p><u>Transportation:</u> What will you do to curb congestion, fund mass transit and increase regional connectivity on Staten Island?</p>	<p>We need to expand existing capacity on our roadways and increase support for mass transit. That is why I worked to secure more than \$100 million in federal dollars to fund the reconfiguration of the Staten Island Expressway (including an expansion of the HOV/Bus lanes), secured more than \$215 million to repair the St. George Ferry Terminal bus ramps and the Ferry fleet, and millions more to expand park-and-rides on the South Shore. Going forward we need to reactivate the North and West Shore Rail lines for passenger service and create a rail link between Staten Island and the Hudson-Bergen light rail system over a new Bayonne Bridge. More resources should also be dedicated to expand fast ferry service from the South Shore to Manhattan.</p>	<p>We need to expand and modernize the connections to Staten Island (ie the Outerbridge and Goethals Bridge) as well as work to build a north shore rail line and increase commuter bus service and express ferries.</p>
<p><u>Maritime Industry:</u> The maritime industry is vital to Staten Island. What do you see as the biggest threat to our ports and maritime support services and what would you do to support them?</p>	<p>The biggest threat to our local maritime industry is the current limited air draft height under the Bayonne Bridge. If the Bayonne Bridge is not raised, our ports will not only lose shipping opportunities from Asia and cargo from the larger Panamax vessels, but we risk losing existing shipping contracts as well. Our maritime industry supports more than 230,000 jobs in the New York metro area. As Vice Chair of the Coast Guard and Maritime Subcommittee, I have worked to address the Bayonne issue and secure key federal support for our local shipping industry. I helped secure millions of dollars to help retrofit the 100 year old Caddell dry dock, and will continue to be an outspoken advocate for our maritime industry on streamlining liscencing and ballast water regulations. I also submitted a request to the Surface Transportation bill for \$125 million to start to raise the Bayonne Bridge, and have supported numerous requests to increase funds for channell dredging in New York harbor.</p>	<p>Terrorism is the biggest threat to our maritime industry. I will work with the Homeland Security Committee to ensure that our ports are safe, our transportation corridors are secure, and our waterways are the best protected in the nation.</p>
<p><u>Infrastructure:</u> Lack of adequate infrastructure, from telecommunications to water to energy, put Staten Island at a competitive disadvantage. What would you do to secure the funds necessary to improve our infrastructure?</p>	<p>Staten Island has made few major infrastructure investments since the construction of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, even as aging bridges, rail lines and roadways have continue to age and deteriorate as they accommodate more and more traffic. I have worked to secure hundreds of millions in federal support for local projects -- including Staten Island Expressway, the Ferry system, and the reconstruction of the SIR bridges. I also have urged the administration to advance a large scale Surface Transportation bill to address our transportation needs into the future. In addition, we need to be sure that our maritime industry has a port that is deep enough to encourage further development and growth, which is why I have continuously advocated for increased funding for channel dredging in New York Harbor. I also support, and will continue to support, efforts to create a smart grid and clean technology so Staten Island can compete for the jobs of the future.</p>	<p>I will work with the members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to develop an economic and reasonable energy infrastructure plan that takes advantage of Staten Island's prime location and market access to spur investment in critical infrastructure.</p>
<p><u>Positions:</u> 1. Find a solution to the height restriction of the Bayonne Bridge that maintains regional connectivity 2. Replace the Goethals Bridge</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose</p>

3. Increased lending to small businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
4. DISCLOSE Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose
5. Paycheck Fairness Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose
6. Eliminate Small Business Exemption in the Family Medical Leave Act	<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose

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