

## NYCD16-Indivisible Statement on Public Financing Commission

The lack of progress by the NYS Public Financing Commission has alarmed many in the pro-democracy movement, and the lack of transparency by the Commission only reinforces the view that decisions are being made behind closed doors. We continue to favor a program with the elements laid out by the Fair Elections Campaign:

- *Be a permanent program launched by January 2022*
- *Cover primary and general elections*
- *Include at least a 6-to-1 match on small donations made by in-state and in-district donors*
- *Significantly lower contribution limits for all candidates, to be no higher than the federal limits*
- *Ensure qualifying thresholds enable incumbents and challengers with grassroots support to participate*
- *Create an independent enforcement agency that oversees campaign finance law for all candidates.*

The Commission is falling well short of this standard based on its preliminary votes and discussions, including at its most recent meeting on October 22. The Commission must change course and create a strong program.

We are dismayed by the Commission's lack of transparency and progress towards a public financing system. We are also deeply disappointed that the Commissioners appointed by the Assembly have aligned with the Governor. We are urging them to follow the lead of the Senate-appointed Commissioners. That's how we'll get a good public financing system, and preserve the fusion voting system.