

Nicholas Viest
Chair

Latha Thompson
District Manager



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The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

November 22, 2013

Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007
Fax: 212-788-2989

RE: Street vendors and an integrated data tracking system

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At the November 20, 2013 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board 8, the following resolution regarding street vendors and an integrated data tracking system

WHEREAS legal street vendors have licenses that are on display and can be viewed by the police and the public, and
WHEREAS a cart permit is available for viewing by the police and the public, and
WHEREAS in accordance with current law, spaces for cart and permit numbers now appear on a ticket, and
WHEREAS this information improves the tracking capability of the NYPD or any enforcing agency, and
WHEREAS enforcing agencies have requested feed-back on the disposition of tickets they have written, and
WHEREAS comprehensive and inclusive feedback is not possible with the current, non-integrated tracking system, and
WHEREAS a comprehensive data base would supply consistency of information to all city agencies, and
WHEREAS a comprehensive data base would document repeat offenders, and
WHEREAS a comprehensive data base would provide accurate records of inspections and violations,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 asks that an integrated data tracking system be created to assist all city agencies in enforcement and feed-back for vendor compliance, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such a tracking system be linked to the judicial system so as to provide feedback to the NYPD and the other city agencies as to the adjudication of tickets issued.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 46 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

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RE: Street vendors and sanitation enforcement

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At the November 20, 2013 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board 8, the following resolution regarding street vendors and sanitation enforcement.

WHEREAS there is a New York City Sanitation garbage collection schedule for all buildings in the city and
WHEREAS there are regulations for street vendors which describe how they should dispose of their garbage, and
WHEREAS there are regulations for street vendors which require them to keep the street near their displays clean, and
WHEREAS there are regulations for street vendors which require them to return their garbage to the commissary daily for disposal, and
WHEREAS compliance with these regulations is routinely unenforced and enforcement is not as stringent for vendors as it is for the building owner who bears most of the responsibility, and
WHEREAS we have received numerous complaints from property owners about vendor debris, and
WHEREAS currently the building owner receives fines, because he is responsible for keeping his sidewalk clean up to 14 inches in to the street, and
WHEREAS the presence of vendors adds significant debris to a street and sidewalk,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 urges stronger and more consistent enforcement of existing vendor law with respect to sanitation, garbage collection and disposal.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 46 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest
Chair

Michele Birnbaum
Chair, Vendor Task Force Committee

Cc: Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jose Serrano, New York State Senator

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RE: Food vendor safety standards and inspections

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At the November 20, 2013 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board 8, the following resolution regarding food vendor safety standards and inspections.

WHEREAS the quality and safety of food being sold on the streets is of primary importance to all, and

WHEREAS the food sold on the street, whether cooked or uncooked, is governed by a set of safety rules, but is currently not subject to the same safety and sanitation standards as those required of their bricks and mortar counterparts, and

WHEREAS food vendors have an inadequate inspection schedule, not up to the same schedule as their bricks and mortar counterparts,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 asks that the same food safety standards and inspection schedules apply to food vendors as they do to their bricks and mortar counterparts.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 46 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest
Chair

Michele Birnbaum
Chair, Vendor Task Force Committee

Cc: Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jose Serrano, New York State Senator
Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senator
Hon. Micah Kellner, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Dan Quart, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Jessica Lappin, New York City Council Member
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, New York City Council Member
John J. Doherty, Commissioner, Department of Sanitation
Jonathan Mintz, Commissioner, Department of Consumer Affairs
Thomas Farley, Commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Department of Transportation
19th Precinct, NYPD