

Jacqueline Ludorf
Chair

Latha Thompson
District Manager



505 Park Avenue
Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail
www.cb8m.com – Website

The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

December 19, 2011

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

RE: Street Vendors within the Upper East Side

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At the December 14, 2011 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board 8, the following resolution regarding street vendors within the Upper East Side

WHEREAS street vendors continue to proliferate in Community Board 8,
WHEREAS this proliferation has led to over-crowded sidewalk conditions and unsanitary conditions,
WHEREAS many of the vendors are illegal or not in compliance with city regulations,
WHEREAS the Conditions Unit within the 19th Precinct does an admirable job enforcing vendor regulations,
WHEREAS the Conditions Unit operates from 6a – 4p Tuesday to Saturday,
WHEREAS enforcement is left to patrol officers between 4p – 6a and on Sundays and Mondays,
WHEREAS the NYPD resources have been stretched thin by these budget cuts,
WHEREAS patrol officers are not trained regarding vendor enforcement because of budget cuts,
WHEREAS midtown has a dedicated unit of the NYPD designed to enforce vendor regulations,
WHEREAS street vendor regulations have become increasingly difficult to enforce because of these fiscal restraints and the complexity of the laws that apply to vendors,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8 re affirms its resolutions of 2006 and 2009,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8 recommends that a separate Vendor Task Force, with a dedicated funding source under the command of the NYPD, be specifically trained and dedicated to enforcing vendor regulations.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 31 in favor, 7 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

WHEREAS street vendor regulations are increasingly difficult to enforce,
WHEREAS police officers not in the Conditions Unit are often not trained in specific vendor regulations,
WHEREAS vendor regulations require specific sizes for street furniture,
WHEREAS general merchandise vendors use varieties of different street furniture to sell their goods,
WHEREAS this furniture is often unattractive,
WHEREAS standardized furniture and signage would help enforcement easily identify non compliant furniture and illegal vendors,
WHEREAS standardized furniture and signage could be designed to be attractive,

WHEREAS standardized furniture and signage would help enforcement officers,
WHEREAS standardized furniture and signage would also help consumers identify vendors, to whom they direct their business,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8 recommends the city issue standardized street furniture and signage for use by vendors selling General Merchandise.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 21 in favor, 12 opposed, and 1 abstention.

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

Sincerely,



Jacqueline Ludorf
Chair



Nicholas Viest
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
Jonathan Mintz, Commissioner, Department of Consumer Affairs
Thomas Farley, Commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Department of Transportation
Inspector James Murtagh, Commanding Officer 19th Precinct