James G. Clynes Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

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March 20, 2017

Honorable Bill de Blasio Mayor of City of New York City Hall New York, NY 10007

RE: Street Vendor Locations

Dear Mayor Bill de Blasio:

At the March 15th, 2017 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board 8, the Board reviewed following resolution regarding street vendors and the formation of a city entity to address and assign locations for food and general merchandise street vendors:

WHEREAS, there is currently no protocol in the City of New York for assigning locations where a street vendor can do business, and

WHEREAS, Intro # 1303 is calling for an increase in the number of food vendor licenses that are issued each year to 630, 30 of which are for Veteran Vendors, in each of the years until 2025, and

WHEREAS, after this period of time, the cap may be removed on the recommendation of the Department of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, Community Board 8 has already commented on their objections to the increase in the number of licenses until other concerns, such as location and enforcement of existing vendor law are addressed, and

WHEREAS, neither this Intro nor any city entity addresses concerns about street vendor location, and WHEREAS, Community Board 8 has been receiving numerous complaints about the locations of street vendors, and

WHEREAS, clusters of street vendors cause pedestrian crowding and impede access to subway entrances, and

WHEREAS, customers of businesses with heavy foot traffic are impeded, and

WHEREAS, it would serve the business, residential and vendor community well to have assigned locations for vendors so that vendor clustering could be controlled, and

WHEREAS, vendors would not have to "fight" for their spot each day or remain on the street for 24 hours in order to hold their spot,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a city entity be formed to address and assign locations for food and general merchandise street vendors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such an entity have significant input from the Community Board and residents and businesses in the community.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

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

James G. Clynes

Chair

Mille Borkan JAB Marco Tamayo

Michele Birnbaum & Marco Tamayo

Co-Chairs, Vendor Task Force Committee

Cc: Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President
Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President
Honorable James Oddo, Staten Island Borough President
Honorable Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President
Honorable Melissa Mark-Viverito, NYC City Council Speaker, 8th Council District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District

Honorable Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District

Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District

Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District

Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member, 76th Assembly District

Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District Honorable Carolyn Maloney, US Representative, NY 14th District