

**Alida Camp**  
**Chair**

**Will Brightbill**  
**District Manager**



**The City of New York**  
**Community Board 8 Manhattan**

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February 20, 2020

Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Temporary President and Majority Leader  
New York State Senator, The New York State Senate  
188 State Street, Room 907, Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12247

**RE: Opposition to State Bill #6817**

Dear Majority Leader Cousins,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on February 19, 2020, the board **approved** the following resolution by a vote of 32 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

**Whereas:** State Senate Bill #6817 has standards that will be required of all local legislative bodies; and

**Whereas:** this bill would ultimately eliminate the cap on the number of street vendors, and

**Whereas:** there will be no location restrictions on street vending except if the location is directly related to objective health, safety or welfare concerns, and

**Whereas:** roaming street vendors will not be prohibited from selling food or merchandise in a park owned or operated by the city, and

**Whereas:** the tracking devices to be placed on all vending carts when the license comes up for renewal, will not be used to track vendor locations, and

**Whereas:** no tracking system has been put in place to track vendors' compliance with commissary use, and

**Whereas:** fines for vending without a license are as follows: A fine not exceeding \$250 for the first infraction, a fine not exceeding \$500 for a second violation within one year of the first violation, and upon proof of a valid permit, the fines set forth will be reduced or dismissed, and

**Whereas:** if a licensed street vendor has an infraction, the judge may take into consideration the vendor's ability to pay, and

**Whereas:** street vending infractions will not be punishable as an infraction or a misdemeanor, and may be resolved by completing community service in lieu of paying the total fine, or a judge may offer another remedy, and

**Whereas:** there is nothing in the bill that calls for a Vendor Enforcement Commission, and  
**Whereas:** there is nothing in the bill that asks for community involvement in vendor citing or enforcement, and

**Whereas:** this bill is sorely lacking in offering remedies for the quality of life concerns of the community, and

**Whereas:** this bill is contradictory to Community Board's past resolutions,

**Therefore Be It Resolved** that Community Board 8 is strongly opposed to the passing of State Bill 6817 as it is currently written, and

**Further Be It Resolved,** that Community Board 8 wishes for New York State lawmakers to seek input from the residential and business communities for improvements and revisions to this bill that would take all stakeholders in to consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Alida Camp  
Chair

  
Michele Birnbaum and Marco Tamayo  
Co-Chairs, Vendors Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District