

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

May 20, 2021

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

RE: Re-Opening our Senior Centers

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on May 19, 2021, the board **APPROVED** the following resolution by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 1 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has left many of our seniors in physical and emotional isolation;

WHEREAS, it has been projected that senior centers may open by July 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, seniors and staff are eager for centers to re-open because they provide emotional and medical health as well as meals, technological assistance, and other services; and

WHEREAS, New York City has a responsibility to re-open our senior centers safely and promptly and to restore these vital services and physical company to seniors after more than a year of isolation;

WHEREAS, our City's senior centers remain closed in stark contrast to other surrounding businesses;

WHEREAS, proposals to re-open our senior centers lack specificity in clear safety measures and official timelines;

WHEREAS, agencies know how to safely prepare their centers and have begun servicing them but will need time to implement any required changes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board 8 Manhattan calls on the relevant agencies and stake holders such as DFTA, DOHMH, NYCHA, Health + Hospitals to work with our senior centers directly as partners in creating the safety guidelines necessary to be able to open the centers as quickly as possible.

Please advise us on any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Chair

Rebecca Dangoor, Wilma Johnson, and Barbara Rudder

Rebecca Dangoor, Wilma Johnson, and Barbara Rudder
Co-Chairs, Health, Seniors, & Social Services Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Robert J. Rodriguez, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District