

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

January 19, 2022

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NY State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable Mayor Eric Adams
Mayor of New York City
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Chris Alexander
Executive Director
New York State OCM
1220 Washington Avenue
Harriman Campus, Building 9,
4th Floor
Albany, NY 12226

RE: Cannabis Establishments Without Licenses

Dear Governor Hochul, Mayor Adams, and Executive Director Alexander,

At the January 18, 2022, Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan, the board unanimously **approved** the following resolution by a vote of **45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause**:

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Marihuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA) is to promote public health, public safety, and social equity through creating a well-regulated marketplace for the cultivation, production, and retail of recreational cannabis for responsible consumption by those who are 21 years of age or older;

WHEREAS, a number of retail facilities have opened in the district which sell cannabis;

WHEREAS, such facilities operate without licenses or oversight from the OCM;

WHEREAS, the source and safety of the cannabis products sold by these facilities is unknown;

WHEREAS, the time, place, and manner of these facilities is often inappropriate for the district;

WHEREAS, the existence of such facilities undermines the viability of retailers established under the MRTA;

WHEREAS, CB8 passed a resolution in December 2022 stating: "Be it resolved that CB8 calls on the State of New York and/or New York City to immediately identify and empower an agency to oversee the aforementioned enforcement and shut down establishments operating illegally," but that such unlicensed retailers have continued to proliferate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City or the State shall impose significant fines on landlords who enter into leases with cannabis establishments that do not have a provisional, full, or CAURD license from the OCM.

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

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

Russell Squire
Chair

Abraham Salcedo

Abraham Salcedo
Chair, Street Life Committee

Rebecca Dangoor, Wilma Johnson, and Barbara Rudder

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

cc: Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District