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**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan  
Sanitation and Environment Committee  
Monday, April 29, 2024 – 6:30pm  
This meeting was conducted via Zoom**

*Please note: The resolution contained in the committee minutes is a recommendation submitted by the committee co-chairs to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolution is discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.*

**Resolutions for Approval:**

- Item 1
  - Food Scrap Collection at Green Markets (Unanimous Approval)
  - Funding of Local Compost Centers and Big Reuse (Unanimous Approval)

**Minutes**

**CB8 Attendance:** Lori Bores, Bradley Hershenson, Sahar Husain, Addeson Lehv and Barbara Rudder.

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 40

1. Importance of Composting on the Environment and Sanitation

Justin Green, Executive Director of Big Reuse, a non-profit whose mission is to fight climate change through community-based, zero waste initiatives, spoke to the Sanitation and Environment Committee about the effects of composting on our environment and cleanliness of our streets, the need to reinstate food scrap collection at green markets and keeping Big Reuse, a local composting center under the Queensboro bridge that services Roosevelt Island.

Composting reduces the amount of materials sent to incinerators in Newark that generates methane and to landfills trucked to the Midwest. Composted food scraps that are used to enrich the soil in our parks, gardens, tree beds, etc. are highly absorbent. Composting will be mandatory in our community when the City provides access to curbside bins. For now, the City has defunded collection at our green markets, at East 82nd and 92nd Streets, Lenox Hill Robbins Plaza, and Roosevelt Island and local composting centers such as Big Reuse that services Roosevelt Island and in addition will possibly be evicted from its current site.

When food scrap collection at green markets was funded, they generated a huge amount of composting. As an example, at the East 82nd Street greenmarket, 150,000 pounds of composting was returned to greening our community. To defund green markets food scrap collection program and local composting facilities is a backward move for climate control.

Resolution 1:

**WHEREAS:** Composting is a tool for climate control by providing rich, absorbent soil for use to green, and protect our community and;

**WHEREAS:** Green markets have successfully generated thousands of pounds of compost, and;

**WHEREAS:** New York City has not included funding in its budget for green market food waste collection, including four markets in Community Board 8 Manhattan, East 82nd and 92nd Streets, Lenox Hill Robbins Plaza and Roosevelt Island, and;

**WHEREAS:** The funds needed are an insignificant portion of the Sanitation Department's budget, therefore:  
**BE IT RESOLVED:** Community Board 8 Manhattan recommends the Mayor and City Council to reinstate monies in the FY25 budget for food scrap collection at green markets.

Approved: 4-0-0

For: Lori Bores, Sahar Husain, Addeson Lehv, Barbara Rudder

Resolution 2:

**WHEREAS:** Composting is key to reversing the effects of greenhouse gasses in our atmosphere, and;

**WHEREAS:** Local composting sites, such as Big Reuse, under the Queensboro bridge that services Roosevelt Island, convert food scraps into compost used for greening our community and;

**WHEREAS:** New York City has not included funding for local composting sites in its budget, which is a small percentage of the overall Sanitation budget, and;

**WHEREAS:** There's a possibility Big Reuse will be evicted from its current site, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Community Board 8 Manhattan recommends New York City to fund local compost centers in the FY25 budget, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that the City take actions to prevent the eviction of Big Reuse from its current location under the Queensboro bridge that services Roosevelt Island.

Approved: 4-0-0

For: Lori Bores, Sahar Husain, Addeson Lehv, Barbara Rudder

2. **Old Business** - None discussed.
3. **New Business** – None discussed

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20pm.

**Sahar Husain, Addeson Lehv, and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs**