Valerie S. Mason Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620 New York, N.Y. 10022-1106 (212) 758-4340 (212) 758-4616 (Fax) www.cb8m.com – Website info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

## The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan Sanitation and Environment Committee Joint with Transportation Committee Thursday, September 18, 2025 – 6:30 pm 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.

## **Resolution for Approval:**

Item 1: Resolution in support of increased efforts to remedy dog waste on the street.

## **Minutes**

CB8 Attendance: DJ Falkson, Bradley Hershenson, Sahar Husain, Craig Lader, and Addeson Lehv

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 17

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

## Item 1: Discussion about dog waste on the street and proposals to remedy the situation.

Danielle Avissar started the discussion with a brief presentation about her advocacy work related to dog waste. Her presentation and <u>petition</u> described both the scope of the dog waste issue in Community District 8 and the potential solutions to address the issue. She framed dog waste as a quality-of-life issue for the Upper East Side that impacts both the hygiene and overall cleanliness of the neighborhood.

Dog waste on streets poses health risks, including infections, parasites, allergies, and skin rashes, and can help spread harmful bacteria like Giardia, E. coli, Staph, Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter, and Helicobacter. These health concerns are exacerbated for high-risk groups like kids (through hand-to-mouth contamination or play in soiled areas), those who are frequently outdoors, and immunocompromised individuals. Furthermore, improperly disposed of dog waste aggravates the rodent issue in the district: indeed, certain nutrients in dog waste (such as fats and proteins) have been shown to attract rats and other pests. In light of the cleanliness and hygiene implications of improperly disposed dog waste for Community District 8, requiring proper disposal of dog waste is essential for reducing illnesses and keeping the neighborhood rodent-free.

Following the presentation, members of the public and the Board discussed the issue. Topics include: (1) the urgency of addressing the issue; (2) the need for increased education surrounding the need to curb one's dog; (3) the enforcement of existing dog waste rules, including through more robust penalties for improperly disposed dog waste; and (4) the value of having dog waste bags on trash cans in order to help remedy the issue.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Committee unanimously passed the following resolution to call on the city and state to increase efforts to remedy dog waste on the street.

**WHEREAS** New York City Council Member Julie Menin has supported dog waste disposal bags availability around garbage cans; and

**WHEREAS** dog waste on streets pose health risks, including infections, parasites, allergies, and skin rashes, and can help spread harmful bacteria Giardia, E. coli, Staph, Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter, Helicobacter; and

**WHEREAS** these health concerns are exacerbated for high-risk groups like children, those who are frequently outdoors, and immunocompromised individuals; and

WHEREAS improperly disposed dog waste may aggravate the rodent issue in the district because there are nutrients in dog waste that may attract rats and other pests; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** Community Board 8 Manhattan urges city and state representatives to pass legislation to install and refill dispensers on public litter baskets in city districts.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** Community Board 8 Manhattan urges city and state representatives to provide resources in the budget to the New York City Department of Transportation and New York City Sanitation Department to install and refill dispensers on public litter baskets in city neighborhoods. We also call on increased creative educational campaigns and enforcement of inflation-adjusted fines surrounding dog waste. We urge a cultural mindset that recognizes our shared responsibility to keep our neighborhood and city clean.

Approved: 5-0-0

For: DJ Falkson, Bradley Hershenson, Sahar Husain, Craig Lader, and Addeson Lehv

**Item 2: Old Business** - None discussed.

Item 3: New Business - None discussed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.

Sahar Husain and Addeson Lehv, Co-Chairs Craig Lader and Chuck Warren - Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee