

Brad Hoylman, *Chair*  
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*  
Alison Greenberg, *Second Vice Chair*  
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*  
Susan Kent, *Secretary*  
Keen Berger, *Assistant Secretary*

## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: [info@cb2manhattan.org](mailto:info@cb2manhattan.org)

Greenwich Village ♦ Little Italy ♦ SoHo ♦ NoHo ♦ Hudson Square ♦ Chinatown ♦ Gansevoort Market

April 9, 2012

Hon. Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor of the City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At its Full Board meeting March 22, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

### **RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE FINGERPINTING FOR IDENTIFICATION OF FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS**

**WHEREAS**, New York City's practice of requiring fingerprints from food stamp recipients is an overly intrusive, insensitive, and daunting process for recipients;

**WHEREAS**, the fear and resentment that this procedure inspires may serve to deter families in need of food from applying for this benefit, thereby denying access to this important source of food;

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo, Speaker Quinn, Senator Duane, Senator Squadron and Assembly Member Glick are opposed to this practice;

**WHEREAS**, only one other state — Arizona — requires fingerprints from food stamp recipients, and New York City is the only place in the state that continues to practice this policy;

**WHEREAS**, there are other satisfactory methods of identification that can be adopted by New York State, as they exist and throughout the nation;

**WHEREAS**, the office of the Mayor has said that the program would save five million dollars in fraud without making known and appropriately considering the cost — both monetary and emotional — associated with fingerprinting;

**WHEREAS**, it remains unclear what, if any, security precautions are being taken to ensure that information related to fingerprinting for the purpose of this public benefit is not shared with other agencies, including law enforcement;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 2, Manhattan, calls for an end to New York City's unnecessary and intrusive practice of requiring fingerprints from food stamp recipients.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 45 Board members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Lois Rakoff, Chair  
Social Services and Education  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

BH/gh

c: Hon. Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York  
Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker  
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member  
Jessica Silver, Manhattan Borough President's office  
Pauline Yu, Community Assistance Unit

Brad Hoylman, *Chair*  
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*  
Alison Greenberg, *Second Vice Chair*  
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*  
Susan Kent, *Secretary*  
Keen Berger, *Assistant Secretary*

## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: [info@cb2manhattan.org](mailto:info@cb2manhattan.org)

Greenwich Village ♦ Little Italy ♦ SoHo ♦ NoHo ♦ Hudson Square ♦ Chinatown ♦ Gansevoort Market

April 9, 2012

Hon. Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor of the City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, New York, 10007

Hon. Nirav R. Shah, M.P.H.,  
Commissioner  
New York State Department of Health  
Corning Tower  
Albany, New York, 12237

Hon. Seth Diamond,  
Commissioner  
Department of Homeless Services  
33 Beaver Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York, 10004

Dear Mayor Bloomberg, Commissioner Shah and Commissioner Diamond :

At its Full Board meeting March 22, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

### Resolution to Allow Food Donations to Agencies Serving the Homeless

Whereas the Bloomberg Administration, in conjunction with the Department of Health and the Department of Homeless Services, recently enacted a policy prohibiting food donations to all government run facilities that provide services to the City's homeless,

And Whereas this unnecessary and overreaching attempt to protect homeless people, by regulating what they are allowed to eat, will only result in further separating this segment of our population from the community at large,

And Whereas services for the homeless should be provided in ways that enable homeless people to still feel connected to their surrounding communities, and members of these communities should be encouraged to engage and interact with this vulnerable segment of the population rather than further stigmatizing them behind a bureaucracy that regiments them away from local, daily public life,

And Whereas homeless agencies are always in need of contributions of all types, including: financial donations, volunteer services, and goods, such as: furniture, clothing and food, and people should be encouraged, not forbidden to provide these contributions as much as they are able,

And Whereas these contributions benefit the givers as well as the receivers,

And Whereas the purported claim that donated food may be unsafe or unhealthy because agencies don't personally know the source of the donated food, is not a realistic fear, because most agencies and shelters do know the local caterers and religious establishments that regularly donate food to them, and also because donated food usually consists of surplus platters from newly catered events, which are fresh, whole and have never been opened ,

And Whereas a minimal list of sensible guidelines would be sufficient to help homeless agencies make safe and intelligent decisions about the donated food that they accept and serve, without having to disallow everything,

And Whereas people don't stop being members of our community just because unfortunate circumstances have caused them to become homeless,

And Whereas the current poor economy coupled with the booming Manhattan real estate market, places many local residents, who are renters, at risk for homelessness,

Therefore Be It Resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan urges our Mayor, the Department of Health, and the Department of Homeless Services to reverse its recent policy decision which forbids food donations to homeless agencies and replace it with a system of suggested guidelines that would assist agencies to make safe and sensible decisions about the food donations that they accept and serve.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 45 Board members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Lois Rakoff, Chair  
Social Services and Education  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

BH/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker  
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member  
Jessica Silver, Manhattan Borough President's office  
Pauline Yu, Community Assistance Unit

Brad Hoylman, *Chair*  
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*  
Alison Greenberg, *Second Vice Chair*  
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*  
Susan Kent, *Secretary*  
Keen Berger, *Assistant Secretary*

## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: [info@cb2manhattan.org](mailto:info@cb2manhattan.org)

Greenwich Village ♦ Little Italy ♦ SoHo ♦ NoHo ♦ Hudson Square ♦ Chinatown ♦ Gansevoort Market

April 9, 2012

Hon. Andrew Cuomo  
Governor of New York  
NYS Capital Building  
Albany, New York 12224

Hon. Sheldon Silver,  
Assemblymember  
Legislative Office Building 932  
Albany, New York 12248

Hon. Dean G. Skelos  
Majority Leader  
Legislative Office Building 909  
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Governor Cuomo, Assemblymember Silver and Majority Leader Skelos:

At its Full Board meeting March 22, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

### **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE**

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2012, the New York State Assembly called for an increase in the state minimum wage from \$7.25 per hour (or around \$15,000 a year for a full-time worker) to \$8.50, and an increase from \$5.00 per hour to \$5.86 per hour for tip workers in 2013, with future increases (or decreases) to the minimum wage indexed to inflation;

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut and Massachusetts recently increased their minimum wages to \$8.25 and \$8.00 per hour, respectively, and New Jersey's State Assembly Speaker is also pushing to raise that state's minimum was from \$7.25 to \$8.50 per hour;

**WHEREAS**, accounting for inflation, the state minimum wage is lower than it was thirty years ago and amounts to \$1.50 per hour less than it did in 1968;

**WHEREAS**, a worker laboring 40 hours per week and earning the federal minimum wage earns just under \$15,000 per year, which is below the poverty line for a family of two (currently at \$15,140);

**WHEREAS**, a study by the Center of Economic Policy Research on the wage and employment impact of rate increases in three cities (Santa Fe, San Francisco and Washington, DC) found little evidence that raising the minimum wage had any meaningful effect on employment in industries such as food services and retail trade;

**WHEREAS**, a national poll taken in June 2011 found that raising the minimum wage had significant bi-partisan support; voters supported raising the rate as a way to stimulate the economy by a three-to-one margin;

**WHEREAS**, a 2011 study by the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank and a 2009 study by the Economic Policy institute have shown that raising the minimum wage boosts consumer spending because low-wage workers spend their additional earnings in a manner that benefits the economy;

**WHEREAS**, New York has one of the largest disparities among the 50 states between the average wage and the minimum wage. As of May 2011, the average hourly wage rate for all employees on private payrolls in New York State was \$27 per hour; New York City's average hourly wage rate was \$31 per hour.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board No. 2, Manhattan, calls upon the State Legislature to pass and Governor Cuomo to sign an increase in the state minimum wage as outlined above.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Community Board No. 2, Manhattan calls upon City and State officials to consider and institute initiatives to mitigate the burden that the increase in minimum wage will have on small businesses, which are already facing significant increases in utility and other business costs.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 45 Board members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Lois Rakoff, Chair  
Social Services and Education  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

BH/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker  
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member  
Jessica Silver, Manhattan Borough President's office  
Pauline Yu, Community Assistance Unit