



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

3024 THIRD AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10455

(718) 585-7117 • Fax (718) 292-0558 • Email: BX01@CB.NYC.Gov

Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



VANESSA L. GIBSON
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

LARISA M. ALAYETO
CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

January 16th, 2025

Hon. Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Councilmember 17th District, The Bronx
1070 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10459

Hon. Diana Ayala
NYC Deputy Speaker/Councilmember 8th District, The Bronx
Bronx, NY 10454

Dear New York City Councilmembers:

Street vendors are an integral part of the fabric that makes the City of New York, from taco food trucks to the various fruits stands. Street vendors are essential to our city.

Community Board #1 serves a diverse community, many of which are low-income communities of color. The south Bronx has a history of welcoming migrants as they begin their journey in this country.

Currently, the way our city regulates street vendors often leaves many in the shadows, harassed, and unregulated, leaving them susceptible to exploitation and criminalization. These concerns may have long-term consequences. We need comprehensive reform to overhaul the dysfunctional status quo and protect community members dramatically.

As a result, we, the undersigned organizations, support the Street Vendor Reform Legislative Package, which includes the following four pieces of legislation with the following conditions that both increase the protection of our street vendors while balancing the needs of the overall community – in a regulated, predictable, enforceable way.

Access to Business Licensing – Councilmembers Pierina Sanchez and Amanda Farias (Int. 431) –

The proposed legislation would ensure business licensing and regulatory compliance of all mobile food and merchandise to maintain an orderly, regulated street vending system while creating economic opportunity for our City's smallest businesses.

This bill will gradually expand access to licenses and permits to all street vendors, and institute a more detailed, permissive governance regime that would bring street vending out of the shadows and into the formalized economy.

- *Community Board #1 supports this bill on the condition that after the 4-year period there is a reevaluation and validation on vendor licensing caps.*

Reduce Criminal Liability for General and Mobile Food Vendors – Councilmember Krishnan (Int. 47) – The proposed legislation would reduce the criminal liability on food and merchandise vending so that our city’s smallest businesses face civil, rather than criminal, summonses for time, place and manner violations.

- *Community Board #1 supports this bill and believes it should pass immediately as it is a priority for the city and its residents.*

Create a Division of Street Vendor Assistance Within NYC SBS – Public Advocate (Int. 408) – A local law to amend the New York City Charter to create a division within the Department of Small Business Services to assist street vendors and require the commissioner of small business services to update the department’s programs to facilitate services specifically for street vendor small business.

- *Community Board #1 supports this bill with the amendment that in its creation it seeks the actual expertise of current street vendors and/or organizations like Street Vendor Project that have years of experience working with street vendor business.*

Reform Public Siting – De La Rose (Int. 24) – Siting rules and regulations for licensed and permitted vendors are strictly enforced, noting the time, place and manner in which vendors must operate. The proposed legislation continues this tradition but amends the particular rule requiring vendors to place their carts or tables within 18 inches of the curb, as it creates a safety hazard, to allow for vending units to be placed within 2 feet from the curb. Where an obstruction prevents such placement, vending units to be placed as closed as possible to the obstruction provided the sidewalk is 12 feet or wider.

- *Community Board #1 supports this bill.*

These bills will end the unregulated, chaotic status quo that takes advantage of workers, customers and fellow small businesses. We urge you to support the Street Vendor Reform Package with our conditions and bring these critical pieces of legislation to fruition.

Sincerely,



Clarisa M. Alayeto
Chairperson



Dalourny Nemorin
Committee Chairperson

CC:

Pierina Sanchez, NYC Councilmember – District 14 Amanda Farias,

NYC Councilmember – District 18 Shekar Krishnan, NYC

Councilmember – District 25

Carmen De La Rosa, NYC Councilmember – District 10 Jumaane D.

Williams, NYC Public Advocate