

**Testimony of Assistant Commissioner Carlos A. Ortiz  
New York City Department of Consumer and Worker Protection**

**Before the Committee on  
Consumer & Worker Protection**

**Hearing on Street Vending in New York City**

**December 13, 2023**

***Introduction***

Good afternoon, Chair Velazquez, and members of the Committee on Consumer & Worker Protection. I am Carlos Ortiz, Assistant Commissioner of External Affairs at the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP). Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on issues related to street vending.

***General Vendors***

The Department of Consumer & Worker Protection issues General Vendor licenses to those who sell goods or services in a public place, such as the street or sidewalk. There are currently ~1900 licensed General Vendors. The number of licenses issued to non-veteran general vendors is capped at 853 licenses and the waiting list for non-veteran applicants is currently closed. License applications for General Vendors are available to veterans or the surviving spouses or domestic partners of a veteran.

Introduction 1162 provides amendments to general vendor and mobile food vendor regulations governing display and bookkeeping requirements. The Administration supports this legislation, which was also recommended by the Street Vendor Advisory Board (SVAB) convened pursuant to Local Law 18 of 2021.

***Conclusion***

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the committee on issues and legislation supporting some of our smallest small businesses. I welcome any questions you may have for further discussion.