

In Re Public Hearing NYC - Department of Small Business Services
April 28, 2026

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PUBLIC HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY
DEPARTMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES
PETITIONS FOR AGENCY RULE-MAKING

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Held Remotely
Via Microsoft Teams

DATE: April 28, 2026
TIME: 10:35 a.m.

REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING in the
above-referenced matter, held at the above-mentioned
time and location, before Sabrina Brown Stewart, a
Notary Public of the State of New York.

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

SHORMINA AHMED - Associate General Counsel, NYC DSBS

1 MS. AHMED: Good morning. Today is
2 April 28, 2026. The time is 10:35 a.m.
3 Welcome, and thank you for joining the
4 New York City Department of Small Business
5 Services Public Hearing. This is a public
6 hearing being held pursuant to the New York
7 City Administrative Procedure Act, also known
8 as CAPA.

9 My name is Shormina Ahmed. I am
10 associate general counsel of the New York
11 City Department of Small Business Services.
12 The purpose of this hearing is to receive
13 comments from the public on the proposed rule
14 regarding SBS's rule-making petition rule.
15 The proposed rule was published in the City
16 Record on March 19, 2026. The Department
17 disseminated a copy of the rules to
18 interested parties. The rules were also
19 posted on the SBS's website and the New York
20 City rules. The proposed rules were
21 certified by the New York City Law Department
22 and the Mayor's Office of Operation.

23 Section 1043 of the New York City
24 Charter permits any person to petition a city
25 agency to consider the adoption of any rule,

1 and it requires each agency to have a rule
2 for the procedure for submission,
3 consideration, and disposition of such
4 petitions. The proposed rule set forth the
5 procedure a petitioner must follow when
6 petitioning the Commission of Department of
7 Small Business Services to consider a new
8 rule. The proposed rule also establishes the
9 procedure DSBS must follow in considering and
10 responding to these petitions.

11 At this time, members of the public
12 will be given the opportunity to give their
13 testimony.

14 At this time, are there any members
15 from the public who wish to testify? You may
16 use the raise-your-hand feature to indicate
17 your interest to testify. Is there anyone
18 who would like to testify today? If you
19 would like to testify, you can use the
20 raise-your-hand function found in the top of
21 the Teams app. Is there anyone who wishes to
22 testify today?

23 (No response).

24 MS. AHMED: If you wish to testify,
25 your testimony should be three minutes.

1 Is there anyone that wishes to testify
2 this morning for this public hearing?

3 (No response).

4 MS. AHMED: I will keep the record open
5 till 11:00 a.m., in case anyone wishes to
6 testify or joins and would like to testify.
7 I'm just, again, indicating if anyone would
8 like to testify, you can unmute yourself, or
9 you can use the raise-your-hand function.
10 I'm going to go on mute.

11 (Whereupon, there was a pause in
12 the proceedings.)

13 MS. AHMED: Okay. The time is 10:45.
14 Is there anyone on the call that wishes to
15 testify, provide their testimony this morning
16 regarding SBS's rule for petitioning?

17 (No response).

18 MS. AHMED: Okay. The time is 10:55.
19 This is SBS's public hearing regarding
20 petitions for agency rule-making proposed
21 rule.

22 Is there anyone who wishes to testify?
23 Is there anyone on this call who wishes to
24 testify? If you would like to testify,
25 please unmute yourself or press the

1 raise-your-hand button.

2 (No response).

3 MS. AHMED: Are there any members of
4 the public who wish to testify during this
5 public hearing? You may do so. Your
6 testimony is limited to three minutes.

7 (No response).

8 MS. AHMED: Okay. As a reminder, if
9 you would like to submit written comments,
10 you can do so by 5:00 p.m. today. Again, as
11 a reminder, if you would like to submit
12 written comments, you can do so by 5:00 p.m.
13 today.

14 Okay. Is there anyone else that would
15 like to testify today?

16 (No response).

17 MS. AHMED: Noting I am not seeing any
18 response.

19 Okay. This concludes today's public
20 hearing. The time is 11:00 a.m. Thank you
21 for joining.

22 (TIME NOTED: 11:00 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

:SS

COUNTY OF QUEENS)

I, SABRINA BROWN STEWART, a Notary Public
within and for the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the witness whose examination is
hereinbefore set forth was duly sworn and that such
an examination is a true record of the testimony
given by such a witness.

I further certify that I am not related to
any of these parties to this action by blood or
marriage, and that I am not in any way interested in
the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
hand on this 17th day of May, 2026.

Sabrina Brown-Stewart
Sabrina Brown Stewart