

September 19, 2023

Dear Chair Garodnick:

The NYC Hospitality Alliance is a not-for-profit association representing thousands of restaurants, bars, and nightclubs across the five boroughs and we support Mayor Adams' Administration's citywide zoning text amendments in, City of Yes for Economic Opportunity.

In this letter, we write to support, in particular, the effort to remove the restrictions on dancing from zoning as the next step in righting a historical wrong following the repeal of the cabaret law, which was controversial, and its implementation and enforcement was racist and selective.

This is not Footloose, and the city of New York should not be telling businesses their customers can't dance, rather they should encourage self-expression through dance and support our small businesses, while implementing proper safety protocols and policies at our local venues.

We look forward to working with Mayor Adams' Administration, Director Garodnick of the Department of City Planning, the City Council, Community Boards, and other stakeholders to right this historical wrong, and get our city's groove on by modernizing regulations to support a more dynamic economy and free expression.

Additionally, we support other proposals in the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity that will modify antiquated regulations governing where certain types of businesses and uses may be located, to ensure that the city of New York evolves with the times and meets the needs and demands of an ever-evolving, dynamic, and innovative global city.

If you have questions, please contact me at arigie@thenycalliance.org

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Rigie
Executive Director
NYC Hospitality Alliance