

In Re Hearing NYC - Department of Small Business Services
January 6, 2022

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PUBLIC HEARING
REIMBURSEMENT OF OUTDOOR HEATING EXPENSES
FOR CERTAIN RESTAURANTS
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January 6, 2022
11:05 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING
Held via Webex

Reported By:
Stephanie O'Keefe

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APPEARANCES:

Leemor Rozen, Host

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MS. ROZEN: Good morning,
welcome to the New York City
Department of Small Business Services
virtual hearing, today's date is
January 6, 2022, the time is 11:05
a.m. This is a public hearing being
held pursuant to New York City
Administrative Procedure Act, also
known as CAPA.

My name is Leemore Rozen, and I
am an assistant general counsel here
at SBS. Present today are a number of
SBS staff members and members of the
public.

Today's hearing concerns a
proposed rule amendment to SBS's
COVID-19 grant program for small
businesses. The full text of the rule
proposal and a statement of the basis
and purpose was published in the City
Record on December 3, 2021, and on the
New York City Rules website. The
proposed rules were certified by the
New York City Law Department and the

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New York City's Mayor's Office of
Operations.

By way of background, the
federal American Rescue Plan Act, also
known as ARPA, of 2021 makes funds
available to state and local
governments to address the continued
impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The
ARPA Interim Final Rule specifically
cites tourism, travel, and hospitality
as sectors that would be appropriate
targets for loans and grants. DSBS is
proposing to promulgate an amendment
to Chapter 17 of Title 66 of the Rules
of the City of New York by adding a
reimbursement-based grant to fund
outdoor heating expenses for food
service establishments.

The new grant component will be
available to businesses that are
eligible for the NYC Small Business
COVID Recovery Grant Program, that
have revenue of up to \$1 million, and
that are participating in the Open

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Restaurants Program with sidewalk seating. Eligible businesses will need to show that they purchased and properly installed electric or natural gas fired outdoor heating units in order to receive the grant funds. The purpose of this grant is to encourage small businesses to continue providing outdoor dining options to customers during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to support these businesses by increasing revenue and reimbursing pandemic-related expenses.

At this time we will open the floor to give an opportunity to members of the public to testify. We will begin by unmuting those who have requested to testify, one at a time.

For those who wish to testify and did not sign up to do so prior to this hearing, please use the raise hand feature of Webex and we will add you to the list. If you dialed in, you can raise your hand by pressing

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star three.

We are going to begin now.

At this time, I do not see any
hands raised.

We will leave this hearing open
until 11:30 a.m. to give an
opportunity for other members of the
public who may be running late to join
us.

We will resume at 11:30 to close
the hearing if no one joins us prior
to that time.

Thank you.

(Whereupon, a brief recess was
taken; after which the proceedings
continued as follows.)

MS. ROZEN: I see someone logged
in under number 2149 star star star
star 09. If you can please identify
yourself.

I sent you a request to unmute.

MS. DELAROSA: Hi. This is
Valerie Delarosa. I just couldn't log
onto the Webex. The link on the

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website doesn't work, so I just dialed in.

MS. ROZEN: Okay. What is your name again?

MS. DELAROSA: Valerie Delarosa.

MS. ROZEN: Hi, Valerie. Did you want to testify?

MS. DELAROSA: No. I was just listening in.

MS. ROZEN: Okay. I did an introduction earlier for the rules, and we were just waiting to see if others wanted to login or are having issues, as you are, so.

MS. DELAROSA: -- the link on the website, and I have logged onto these before, but I couldn't figure out how to get to the thing to enter a number. But yeah, the link on the website did not work.

MS. ROZEN: On the SBS website?

MS. DELAROSA: On the Rules website with the link.

MS. ROZEN: Okay. It didn't

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work, okay. That's unfortunate. But you were able to log in through your phone, or --

MS. DELAROSA: Yes, my phone, yep, which is why I didn't join until now.

MS. ROZEN: Okay. Well, we're waiting for others so we'll see if anybody else wants to testify.

MS. DELAROSA: Okay. Thank you.

MS. ROZEN: Sure.

(Whereupon, a brief recess was taken; after which the proceedings continued as follows.)

MS. ROZEN: Okay, everybody, the time is now 11:30 a.m., seeing as no members of the public have joined us who wish to testify, we will conclude the hearing. However, if you would like to submit a comment in writing, you can still do so by 5:00 p.m. today, and we will review it.

Thank you everybody for joining.

(Time noted: 11:30 a.m.)

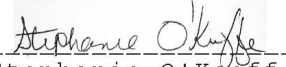
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss:
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

I, STEPHANIE O'KEEFFE, a Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of New York, do hereby certify that the within is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings taken on January 6, 2022.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of January, 2022.


Stephanie O'Keefe