



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

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District Manager

April 1, 2015

Resolution: Support of the Liquor License Application of FMFS of 125, LLC, d/b/a “Buffalo Wild Wings” located at 175 Lenox Avenue, New York, NY 10026.

WHEREAS, the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) has jurisdiction to issue on-premises licenses according to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws, and is responsible for enforcing those laws; and

WHEREAS, Manhattan Community Board 10 reviews all new applications and offers guidance to the SLA about the potential impact of a license on public safety and quality of life in our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Community Boards, as part of their due diligence process, review an applicant’s ownership and funding; floor plans of the proposed location, food and beverage to be served, operational aspects of the restaurant/bar or lounge, price points, employee hiring processes, employee wages and benefits, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, FMFS of 125, LLC is applying for a Liquor License for a new establishment to be known as “Buffalo Wild Wings” located at 2319 Frederick Douglass Blvd., New York, NY 10027 (between 124 - 125th Streets, west side); and

WHEREAS, several of the Applicant’s principals, including President & CEO James Bitzonis, and its attorney appeared before Community Board 10’s Economic Development Committee on March 12, 2015 and presented the following information:

1. The Applicant is a franchisee that operates 16 Buffalo Wild Wings restaurants in the New York metropolitan area. The principals include James Bitzonis, Dennis Mehiel, Michael Mehiel, Dennis Dorian, Kelly Mehiel, Evan Manes and Louis Capelli.
2. Applicant’s proposed new establishment will specialize in chicken wings, burgers, sandwiches, wraps, sides and salads. Food prices range between \$5.00 - \$20.00, with most items below \$10.00.
3. Applicant has obtained a 15-year lease for the premises.
4. The restaurant’s main floor will be approximately 4,000 square feet and a second floor will be 6,500 square feet. The restaurant will accommodate 381 patrons on the two floors combined.

5. The restaurant will be open seven days, from 11:00 am to midnight Sunday to Thursday and 11:00 am to 2:00 on Friday and Saturday.
6. The restaurant will not provide any live music or entertainment. There will be recorded background music and television.
7. The Applicant plans to employ 40 full-time and 130 part-time employees. The Applicant will provide medical, dental and vision coverage to employees who work over 30 hours per week. Hourly workers will be paid bonuses based on performance reviews.
8. The Applicant will work with NYC Workforce 1 to hire employees from the Community. Applicant has used Workforce 1 to hire 45 Harlem residents for its Times Square location, and it will fully staff its Harlem location in the same manner. The Applicant has a policy of promoting workers from within.
9. The Applicant will provide regular training in alcohol service and food service. Applicant regularly uses undercover test customers to monitor underage alcohol service.
10. The establishment will have handicapped and wheelchair accessible entryways, dining areas and bathrooms. An elevator will provide access to the second floor.
11. The Applicant submitted a Declaratory Ruling from the State Liquor Authority determining that the United House of Prayer for All People located across the street on Frederick Douglass Blvd. is not used exclusively as a Church and thus the application is not subject to the rule against full liquor licenses within 200 feet of a Church or school.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted letters of support from the 125th Street Business Improvement District, the Frederick Douglass Boulevard Alliance and the Aloft Hotel; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee voted 11-yes, 1-no, and 1-abstention to support this application;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on April 1, 2015, the Manhattan Borough Community Board 10 supports the Liquor License application of FMFS of 125 LLC with a vote of **33** in favor, **3** opposed and **0** abstention.