



Shahabuddeen A. Ally, Esq., Chairperson  
Ebonozor Smith, District Manager

## Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

530 West 166<sup>th</sup> St. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10032

Phone: (212) 568-8500, Fax: (212) 740-8197

Website: [www.nyc.gov/mcb12](http://www.nyc.gov/mcb12)

July 11, 2017

Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Bill de Blasio  
NYC Mayor  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

### **Re: Resolution to Governmental Agencies Requesting Approvals to Take into Consideration the Board's Legal Requirement for a Summer Recess.**

Dear Mayor de Blasio and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo:

At the General Meeting, Tuesday, June 27, 2017 Community Board 12 Manhattan, passed a resolution with a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention requesting that governmental agencies when requesting approvals take into consideration that community boards summer recess obligation pursuant to the NYC City Charter Chapter 70, Section 2800, h, and do not hold public meetings for review and lawful approvals with the exception of "reviewing the scope and design of a capital project" and/or an emergency or public safety condition within the district. The immediate agencies affected by this resolution are: **The NY State Liquor Authority, NYC City Planning, Housing Preservation and Development, NYC Economic Development Corp., Landmarks Preservation Commission, NYC Dept. of Transportation**

**Whereas**, Community Boards play a key role in the procedures whereby applications affecting various community functions are publicly reviewed.

**Whereas**, Legislation establishes mandated time frames within which application review must take place where the varying applications are concerned.

**Whereas**, The general practice of Community Board 12 of Manhattan and various other Community Boards is to not hold Committee/General Meetings beginning July 1st and doesn't reconvene until September 1st (may vary depending on the specific Community Board). Additionally, Board members expectation is that there would be no requirement to be present or available for meetings and therefore lends to the possibility that Quorum may not be met when and/if meetings are held during those months.

**Whereas**, Any meetings held with lack of Quorum would prevent the Community Board from conducting a vote.

**Whereas**, The decreased engagement by all Board Members during these months could result in inability to take appropriate action and/or advocate for our residents appropriately and therefore leaves the community at a disadvantage.

**Whereas**, The difference in the level of engagement of Board Members between September-June and during hiatus from July-August can result in an inequity to the benefit of entities submitting items to be reviewed during the summer.

Hon. Andrew Cuomo, Hon. Bill de Blasio,  
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**Whereas**, CB12 has had multiple instances where items have come for review during the summer; **now therefore** be it

**Resolved**, Community Board 12, Manhattan requests that **The NY State Liquor Authority, NYC City Planning, Housing Preservation and Development, NYC Economic Development Corp., Landmarks Preservation Commission, NYC Dept. of Transportation** and any others to change their procedures to reflect the fact that many Community Boards are on a NYC Charter mandated summer recess and avoid as reasonably as possible reviews and approvals during the months of July - August.

Sincerely,



Shanabuddin A. Ali, Esq.  
Chairperson

cc: Hon. Marco A. Carrion, CAU Commissioner  
Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate  
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Comptroller  
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman  
Hon. Marisol Alcantara, State Senator  
Hon. Vincent G. Bradley, Chairman NY SLA  
Hon. Greeley T. Ford, Commissioner  
Hon. Polly Trottenberg, DOT Commissioner  
Hon. Luis Sanchez, Manhattan Borough Comm.

Hon. Brian Benjamin, State Senator  
Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Jr., Assembly Member  
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa  
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member  
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member  
Maria Torres-Springer, HPD Commissioner  
Marisa Lago, Chair DPC  
James Patchett, President NYCEDC



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