



Katherine Diaz, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

530 West 166th St. Room 6-A, New York, NY 10032

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

Website: www.nyc.gov/mcb12

January 26, 2023

Hon. Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President
1 Centre Street, 19th Floor South
New York, NY 10007

RE: Resolution to form the CB12M Cannabis Taskforce.

Please be advised that Community Board 12 Manhattan at its General Meeting on Tuesday, January 24th, 2023, passed a resolution with a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0, not voting due to conflict, establishing a Cannabis Task Force.

Whereas, Community Board 12-Manhattan (CB12M) understands that the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA) must follow the state of New York State Administrative Procedure Act after each of the nine cannabis license types are released, we seek to have direct input into all matters that impact our community and constituents. CB12M is concerned with the incongruence that exists with Cannabis being classified as a Schedule 1 substance (due to the Controlled Substances Act 21 U.S.C. Section 801) prohibiting all forms of cannabis use, the use of "medical marijuana" as illegal under federal law even if permitted under state law; and

Whereas, this paradox impacts a substantial number of residents in CB12 district-wide, especially in Washington Heights and Inwood and other Communities Disproportionately Impacted, as defined in the MRTA, presently and historically irreparably affected by the prejudiced and harmful effects of "The War on Drugs", be it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee recommends that Community Board 12-Manhattan establish a Cannabis Task Force to develop recommendations for adoption by the full Board on how our body can input into the revision and roll-out of MRTA, independently and in conjunction with other community board Cannabis Task Forces, to keep intact the reparatory spirit of the law and the compassionate local activation of its legislation.

Sincerely,

Katherine Diaz
Chairperson

cc:

Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Brad Lander, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman
Hon. Cordell Cleare, State Senator

Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Alfred Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Manny De Los Santos, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member