



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**LOWELL D. KERN**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

June 10, 2020

Lorelei Salas  
Commissioner  
NYC Department of Consumer Affairs  
42 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

**Re: Open Streets for Dining and Food Vendors**

Dear Commissioner Salas,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at its June 3<sup>rd</sup> Full Board meeting, by a vote of 47 in favor, 2 against, 0 abstaining, and 0 present, not eligible, voted to recommend that specific provisions be adopted for food vendors to provide for an equitable and orderly allocation of public space while providing 12-ft of non-obstructed sidewalk space for pedestrians.

This recommendation goes hand in hand with our urging the City to temporarily allow restaurants and retailers impacted by store capacity limits to utilize roadway space for their operation, while complying with COVID-19 physical distancing requirements.

Food vendors (not food trucks) should be directed to set up their operations on side streets only, in the parking lane – not on the sidewalk – in a space located 20-ft to 50-ft from the limit of the pedestrian crossing. This would provide expanded space for vending while ensuring that restaurants, food vendors and pedestrians do not compete for roadway space.

Selling from the roadway is a long-standing request of the food vendors. While the City is letting everyone make use of the roadway, it only makes sense that vendors be allowed as well. This would accommodate vending and free up space on the narrow sidewalks in Midtown for pedestrian distancing where 12-ft is required.

Sincerely,



Lowell Kern  
Chair  
Manhattan Community  
Board 4



Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee



Dale Corvino  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

Cc: Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congressman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, U.S. Senator  
Hon. Richard Gottfried, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker  
Vicki Been, Deputy Mayor, Housing & Economic Development  
Laura Anglin, Deputy Mayor for Operations  
Ed Pincar, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, DOT  
Oxiris Barbot, Commissioner, DOHMH