



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JESSICA CHAIT
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

February 26th, 2024

Chris Alexander
Executive Director
NYS of Cannabis Management
Harriman State Office Building Campus 1220 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12207

Tremaine Wright
Chairwoman
Cannabis Control Board
Harriman State Office Building Campus 1220 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12207

RE: Cannabis Dispensary at 195 9th Avenue – Tray Leaf LLC

Dear Mr. Alexander and Ms. Wright,

Manhattan Community Board 4 ("MCB4") convened to review the application of TrayLeaf LLC (the "Applicant") for an Adult-Use Retail Dispensary at 195 9th Avenue, New York, NY 10011. After thorough deliberation, the board votes by 32 in favor, 1 against, 3 abstaining, and 0 present-not-eligible to recommend the denial of this application.

While recognizing the Applicant's interest in entering the cannabis market, MCB4 has identified significant concerns that have led to this decision:

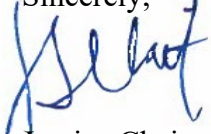
1. **Lack of Direct Communication:** Despite the Applicant's virtual presence via Zoom at our meetings, attempts to allow the Applicant to present during the community board meeting on Thursday, Jan 18, 2024, were unsuccessful due to unknown reasons. This failure has left several critical aspects of the application needing to be addressed.
2. **Need for Community Outreach:** The Applicant needs to demonstrate adequate efforts in community outreach. Notably, there was no information dissemination or signage as of the presentation day to inform the community about the proposed change from a convenience store to a cannabis retail establishment.
3. **Incomplete Application:** The application needed vital details, especially regarding the security plan, management of sidewalk traffic, and delivery operations. Furthermore, the Applicant's inexperience in cannabis retail casts doubt on their ability to manage such an enterprise competently.

4. **Community Opposition:** There have been letters of opposition from the community, including a member of the local block association speaking out against the application. This indicates significant community concerns that cannot be overlooked.

Given these issues, MCB4 is concerned about the Applicant's familiarity with OCM rules and regulations. We are highly skeptical that the Applicant can operate the proposed dispensary in a manner that is both responsible and adheres to legal standards. Consequently, MCB4 cannot endorse issuing a dispensary license for this location.

Thank you for considering our evaluation and recommendations regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair

Manhattan Community Board 4



Jesse Greenwald
Chair
Cannabis Task Force