



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JESSICA CHAIT
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

May 15, 2024

Hon. Kathy Hochul
Governor
Executive Chamber
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal
New York State Senate
322 Eighth Avenue
Suite 1700
New York, NY 10001

Hon. Tony Simone
State Assembly Member
214 W. 29th Street
Suite 1401
New York, NY 10001

Re: Budget allocations to combat illicit cannabis shops

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) has been on record raising concerns of the rise of illicit cannabis shops within our district and the inability to enact appropriate enforcement. These establishments are a risk to minors, the health and safety of cannabis consumers, while depriving the state of funding through taxations and also a general blight on our neighborhoods. We would like to thank our state representatives for advocating through the budget process for funds to combat the illegal market and provide the tools needed to help get the legal market back on track.¹

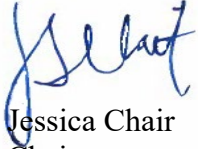
MCB4 is supportive of the final enacted budget which enables the following:

- Padlocking illicit storefronts
- Actions against landlords who fail to cooperate with Cannabis Law
- Expanding local authority
- Creating a statewide enforcement task force
- Granting New York City immediate enforcement powers

¹ MCB4, at its May 1st, 2024 full board meeting voted, by a vote of 37 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 1 Present Not Eligible, to approve this letter.

We look forward to continued support of our local electeds, enforcement agencies and the Office of Cannabis Management to reign in the illicit market in our community and provide the support required to enable legal businesses to succeed.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chair
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Delore Rubin
Chair
Cannabis Task Force