



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**JESSICA CHAIT**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

June 12, 2025

Felicia A. B. Reid  
Acting Executive Director  
NYS of Cannabis Management  
Harriman State Office Building Campus  
1220 Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12207

Jessica C. Garcia  
Chairwoman  
Cannabis Control Board  
Harriman State Office Building Campus  
1220 Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12207

RE: 722 10th Avenue (West 49/50 St)– City Dispensary – Proximity Relief Request

Dear Ms Reid and Ms. Garcia,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (“MCB4”), at its regular scheduled full board meeting voted, by a vote of 34 in support, 5 against, 4 abstaining, and 1 present-not-eligible, to recommend denial of Proximity Relief for City Dispensary at 722 10th Avenue New York, NY 10036 to open an Adult-Use Retail Dispensary.

City Dispensary, a social and economic equity applicant is 100 percent woman-owned by Su Li, who is a successful businesswoman in Queens, New York. Having been already granted a license, Ms. Li has been seeking an appropriate location for City Dispensary. The location in question, 722 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, was previously an illicit pot shop that

negatively impacted the community. The location is also within the regulated distance of 1000 from a now operating legal dispensary, NY Cannabis Co at 743 Ninth Avenue.

Ms. Li was previously approved by Manhattan Community Board 2 for a site, which was also subject to the 1000-foot rule.

MCB4 is denying the Proximity Relief request as the Board is on record opposed to the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) proposal in Subdivision (a) of section 119.4 to reduce proximity restrictions for retail dispensaries to 500 feet from 1000 feet. MCB4's view is the proposed OCM rule changes to reduce proximity restrictions risk oversaturating our district with cannabis-related businesses. Granting of Proximity Relief would be contradictory to that view.

Furthermore, the location in question is in close proximity to multiple schools, parks, family shelters and other social service providers. The previous operators of the illicit pot shop at that location had numerous reports of servicing minors. While the distances from the schools technically comply with OCM rules, the community has repeatedly expressed concerns about the potential negative influence of cannabis retail dispensaries to the aforementioned establishments.

MCB4 is sympathetic to Ms. Li's situation and urges OCM to devise a better system for applicants to move forward once granted a license.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4



Delores Rubin  
Chair  
Cannabis Task Force

cc: Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, State Senate  
Hon. Tony Simone, State Assembly  
City Dispensary