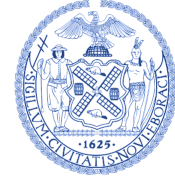


NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

KEITH POWERS



December 2021 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

Highlights

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the outdoor dining program allowed restaurants to generate much needed revenue and made it easier for New Yorkers to safely socialize. Now, the City Council is considering a permanent extension of that program. While I have been a strong supporter and advocate for outdoor dining, I want to make sure that a permanent program mitigates issues that have arisen, including sanitation, noise, and vacated structures.

One of the keys to the success of the outdoor dining program has been heating devices. Earlier this year, Mayor de Blasio banned the use of propane heaters. In response, Mayor-Elect Eric Adams and I sent a letter to the Mayor calling on him to support restaurants and diners by reinstating the use of these heaters. Last month, I also introduced legislation calling on the city to cease the ban.

Over the past year, the situation on 14th Street between 1st Avenue and Avenue A has significantly deteriorated. Many folks have reached out a number of times asking for a solution to the problem. Since 2018, I have convened meetings in City Hall, made site visits on the block with the Department of Homeless Services (DHS), the Sanitation Department (DSNY), the Police Department (NYPD), and other elected officials, spoken with local business owners, and have consistently been in touch with the de Blasio administration to urge for more action. After years of asking for more assistance from city agencies, the Mayor has directed the Citywide Cleanup Corps to work in the area twice a week - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Mayor's office is now working with the local NYPD precinct and the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection's new Street Vendor Enforcement Unit to address the quality of life challenges on the block.

I am proud to announce that curbside composting has returned to Community Board 6 beginning this week, on December 6th. While this is exciting news, my office still encourages folks to sign up if they have not already! Many buildings within Community Board 6 are not yet included in collection routes because they do not have enough folks signed up. If you have not signed up yourself, or know anyone who may be interested, you can sign up [here](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to my office.