

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

**KEITH POWERS**



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**January 2022 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6**

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**Highlights**

As we begin the new year, I am excited to announce that I have been elected as Majority Leader of the City Council. I look forward to continuing to serve our community in City Hall while supporting New Yorkers across all five boroughs. While we face many challenges in the months ahead, I am looking forward to working with the new Speaker and the new class of Council Members to deliver results for our community and the city.

As part of the recent East Midtown Rezoning, the City Council approved a number of new, historic rezonings in East Midtown, near Grand Central Station. These monumental projects will deliver tremendous benefits to our community and the entire city, including: historic upgrades at Grand Central, new entrances for East Side access, a \$38 million investment into the East Midtown Public Realm Improvement Fund to support the creation of much needed public space in the Grand Central area, and a new arts and culture programming space adjacent to Grand Central.

The pedestrianization of Rockefeller Center was a major success during the holiday season of 2019. This year, Borough President Brewer and I called on the city to close the streets around Rockefeller Center and Radio City Music Hall again, so that New Yorkers and tourists could more comfortably spend time there. The City approved the plan in December, making congested streets safer, more spacious, and even more inviting during the holiday season. I am very glad this initiative was brought back this year, particularly as our communities are still fighting a surge in the pandemic.

The City Council discretionary funding application for Fiscal Year 2023 is now open. Non-profit organizations are welcome to apply for funding through February 22, 2022. This is a way our office can support some of the local initiatives around the district and make a direct impact on the issues we face in our community. Please feel free to reach out to our office at [kpowers@council.nyc.gov](mailto:kpowers@council.nyc.gov), with any questions about the process.