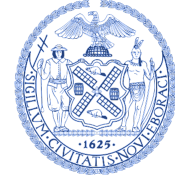


NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

KEITH POWERS



March 2022 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

Highlights

This past month, the City Council held a hearing on the outdoor dining program in New York City, including a zoning text amendment and legislation that would create regulations on a long-term program. On February 8, we held a hearing to consider both a zoning text amendment that will repeal the regulations that prevent outdoor dining from being allowed in the city—which had been suspended by an emergency order at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic—along with a new bill to establish the administrative code and rules for a permanent outdoor dining program going forward. Last Thursday, the City Council voted 43-6 to approve zoning changes that would allow outdoor dining to take place in parts of the city where sidewalk cafes have been previously prohibited. This was only the first step in creating the permanent outdoor dining program. As discussed throughout the hearing, the City Council is still working through the best way to implement the program under the new proposed law, Int. 0031-2022. We are considering all of the public comments that we have received and concerns raised by our constituents about issues of noise, sanitation, parking, and more. While I have always been a strong supporter of the outdoor dining program, I am committed to ensuring that it is well run, appropriately regulated, and works for all New Yorkers.

Opioid overdoses are the leading cause of accidental deaths in New York City, partially due to deadly substances like fentanyl and heroin spreading in our city's bars and clubs. This month, I introduced [life-saving legislation](#) with Council Member Chi Ossé that will create a program under the Department of Health for bars and nightlife establishments to receive opioid antagonist kits, training, and resources to prevent overdoses. Every overdose is preventable, and I'm proud to join my colleague in pushing on this important issue that will make our city safer.

My office is still soliciting ideas from constituents for projects our community wants to be funded. District 4 constituents can propose a capital project, which requires a minimum budget of \$50,000, for something that a City agency can build or improve in the district that will last for an extended period of time. Once a constituent proposes a project idea, my staff will check in with City agencies to see whether or not it is feasible to fund. If so, then I will designate funding to that agency for the capital project. If not, my staff will be happy to work with any one to figure how we can solve the problem at hand. I hope you will all consider submitting ideas to improve our community's parks, schools, libraries, and more. To submit a project, please fill out this [form](#) by March 18th.