



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
**JULIE MENIN**



## November 2022 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

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**1. New Litter Baskets for Community Board 6** – Julie has been working hard in recent months to address sanitation concerns for residents. Last week, she was thrilled to announce a major sanitation improvement for Community Board 6. Due to support from our office, 44 new litter baskets will be installed for every corner Julie represents within the Community District. These corners range from 54-59th Street on 2nd Ave, 1st Ave, and Sutton Place. Each corner now has received a new top-of-the-line gray DSNY baskets. These are a significant upgrade from the old and open-topped black wire baskets and are rodent-resistant. Julie worked with Sutton Area Community to finalize this and Sutton Area Community will continue supporting supplemental sanitation service in the wake of the replacement.

**2. Universal Child Care Bills Signed into Law** – Julie has been [working tirelessly to bring universal childcare to New York City](#) and make New York City the first in the country to offer true universal childcare. Today, Mayor Adams signed a package of bills that she introduced to make universal childcare in NYC a reality. Julie has prioritized this issue as it is one of gender equity and of economic development. She is ecstatic that the Council and Administration have taken action with this monumental legislative package.

These bills will be instrumental in addressing a system in crisis that is unaffordable and inaccessible. Currently childcare in the city costs on average over \$21,000 per year for infants below 18 months and \$16,000 for toddlers between 18 and 24 months, making it unaffordable for the vast majority of parents. Moreover, because of high childcare costs and lack of affordable options, it is estimated that 375,000 parents have left the workforce or downsized their jobs in NYC during the COVID-19 pandemic. This package of bills mandates that the city implement universal childcare, provides assistance to struggling providers through a fund and makes it easier to open new child care centers as well as creates an electronic and subsidy database.

**3. Participatory Budgeting** – After last year's Participatory Budgeting cycle was one of the most successful in the entire city with over 1,800 votes, Julie is thrilled to announce that participatory budgeting is running for a second year in a row. Currently, we are in the idea gathering stage for participatory budgeting and have a website for our district that is live. Constituents [can visit the website here](#) to submit their ideas for improvements to schools, parks, and many other parts of the community as we begin working to craft the ballot. Julie is excited to build upon the successful community engagement we saw last year and work with Community Board 6 to increase participation and highlight project ideas in the neighborhood.

**4. Small Business Legal Clinic** – Our office has been offering a free legal clinic for constituents since January partnering with CUNY Law to tackle many difficult cases. Julie is excited to announce that our office is now partnering with Brooklyn Legal Services on November 21st to host a clinic targeted to provide legal support to small businesses. This clinic will be offered as a hybrid. If you are interested in signing up, [please do so here](#) or email Harry Gale from our office (hgale@council.nyc.gov). Brooklyn Legal's Attorneys can assist with many issues ranging from commercial rent disputes to employment law questions and as the Council's Small Business Chair and Julie believes it's an important and useful resource for my office to be offering.

**5. Fresh Direct Delivery Practices** – Our office has received many constituent complaints regarding the problematic delivery practices of Fresh Direct trucks and the issues they cause. These trucks often double or triple park which causes safety risks for pedestrians, cyclists, and cars. They also use the city's sidewalks and streets as their own micro-distribution centers and cause environmental damage with idling. Julie is actively working on this issue from a variety of angles. Legislatively, she has introduced a bill to significantly raise the fines on idling trucks and is also working on other legislation to better regulate this. Our constituent service team is also working to flag problematic locations with Fresh Direct as they arise to ensure that trucks are not causing significant and consistent disruption at a given block. [At this link](#), you can see a letter Julie wrote to Fresh Direct executives asking them to change their problematic practices.