



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

## COUNCILWOMAN CARLINA RIVERA

### Manhattan Community Board 6 Report | February 2023

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**January 2023 Full Newsletter:** [bit.ly/3YbXxo4](https://bit.ly/3YbXxo4)

#### Highlights

##### **Taking Action Against the Proliferation of Unlicensed Smoke Shops**

In January Council Member Rivera joined a Council oversight hearing focused on the proliferation of unlicensed smoke shops and illicit sale of cannabis at shops through NYC. The New York City Sheriff shared that his office identified over 1,400 unlicensed locations involved in illegal smoke, vape, or cannabis activity, with more than 700 shops left for review. On February 7, Council Member Rivera joined District Attorney Bragg and Mayor Adams as they announced a joint effort to combat the proliferation of unlicensed smoke shops and dispensaries.

##### **Introduced Gun Buyback Legislation**

Guns continue to devastate communities, here in our neighborhoods and at nightclubs, schools, concerts, and more. True justice for the countless lives taken by gun violence requires transformational changes and sweeping legislation on the federal level, but there are important measures we can take at the local level. In partnership with Council Member Rafael Salamanca, who represents the South Bronx, Council Member Rivera introduced legislation to require the Police Department to establish a monthly gun buyback program, in coordination with community leadership.

##### **Oversight Hearing TGNCNBI Task Force Report**

Legislation from 2019 required Board of Correction to convene a Task Force on Issues Faced by TGNCNBI (transgender, non-confirming, non-binary, and intersex) People in Custody, which released its report in August 2022. In January, Council Member Rivera chaired an oversight hearing focused on this report and the conditions on Rikers for women and gender expansive people.

##### **The Year Ahead**

In last year's budget, Carlina allocated \$3.9 million to renovate Augustus St. Gaudens Playground on E 20th Street and 2nd Avenue. This playground serves several schools and many families in the neighborhood. The Parks Department is looking for input from community members on what they'd like to see in the playground and will hold a community scoping session on **Wednesday, February 15** at 6:00 p.m. on [Zoom](https://www.zoom.us/j/9191919191). Find more information and sign up to participate here: [www.nycgovparks.org/parks/augustus-st-gaudens-playground/events/2023/02/08/augustus-st-gaudens-playground-community-input-meeting](https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/augustus-st-gaudens-playground/events/2023/02/08/augustus-st-gaudens-playground-community-input-meeting)

**For The Latest Info, Visit Carlina on the Web:** [council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera](https://council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera)

**Need Help or Have Questions?** Call our District Office (254 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St.) at 212-677-1077

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