



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
250 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

GALE A. BREWER
COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 6

TEL: (212) 873-0282
GBREWER@COUNCIL.NYC.GOV

April 7, 2023

**Testimony before the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection
on the minimum pay rate for app-based restaurant delivery workers**

My name is Gale A Brewer. I am the Council Member for the 6th District, which encompasses most of the Upper West Side up to 108th Street west of Broadway, a part of Clinton (to West 54th Street) and all of Central Park.

Delivery workers, like all workers, deserve fair living wages to support themselves and their families. The average current hourly pay for Deliveristas in New York City is around \$11 an hour after expenses and including tips. The Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) should not have gone back on the \$24 an hour pay proposal late last year in favor of a \$19.96 hourly rate.

The methodology used to determine the lower rate, including the so-called “multi-apping” reduction, is cynical and flawed. The two year “phase-in” plan is without justification and amounts to a corporate giveaway. Further, by missing the deadline to enact the minimum pay law at the start of the year and continuing to delay the process, DCWP is hurting the very workers it is charged with protecting.

Los Deliveristas Unidos – a collective organized by the Worker’s Justice Project in 2020 to confront abuse and lack of regulation and raise the new industry’s labor standards – has been organizing and fighting for minimum pay for years. We cannot wait any longer for New York City to establish a minimum pay rate for delivery workers that reflects their hard work, the cost of mobility devices and ongoing maintenance, tax liabilities, and more.