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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
KEITH POWERS



Dear Neighbor:

During COVID-19, many small businesses are struggling with how to pay rent, compensate employees, and plan for the future.

Join me tomorrow, Tuesday, April 14 at 6:00 P.M. for an informative Small Business Town Hall, featuring NYC Small Business Services Commissioner Gregg Bishop and SBA New York District Director Beth Goldberg. This forum is targeted to small business owners to get guidance and resources in these uncertain times.

To [join the meeting](#), visit: keithpowers.nyc/townhall. Email questions in advance to kpowers@council.nyc.gov.

I look forward to connecting with small businesses tomorrow evening with the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, NYC Hospitality Alliance, business improvement districts, community groups, and more.

Please read on for additional updates and reach out to me at kpowers@council.nyc.gov or call 212-818-0580 with any needs and questions. I also encourage you to visit my [COVID-19 webpage](#) for further and ongoing information.

We are here to help.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Keith'.

Keith

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

KEITH POWERS**NYC** Small Business
Services

Small Business Town Hall

Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Get guidance and resources for your
small business during COVID-19

NYC | HOSPITALITY
ALLIANCE

COVID-19 News and Updates

Governor Cuomo has extended the PAUSE stay-at-home order of the closure of non-essential businesses and schools through April 29. Additionally, Mayor Bill de Blasio released new guidance regarding face coverings. When out in public, cover your nose and mouth to reduce the risk of transmission; the covering can be a scarf, bandana, or other face cloth of some kind. This does not replace social distancing. Surgical and N95 masks should continue to be preserved for healthcare workers and first responders. City Hall released an [FAQ](#) with more information.

New York City Public School Update

On April 11, Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza announced that New York City public school buildings would remain closed for the remainder of the school year, reopening in September. Remote learning will continue for the 2019-2020 school year. Read more from the [Department of Education](#).

Voting in the Primary Election on June 23

On April 8, Governor Cuomo announced that by executive order, all New Yorkers are able to vote absentee. In preparation for the upcoming June 23 primary, visit [Vote.nyc.gov](#) for an application. Primary and special elections will be held in New York for presidential, congressional, and state legislative offices on Tuesday, June 23. There is no need to go to the polls in-person.

Filing for Unemployment Insurance

The New York State Department of Labor has worked to improve the process for filing for unemployment, including instituting a call back system that allows you to apply online and have a representative get back to you within 72 hours. Apply on labor.ny.gov.

Parks and Playgrounds Update

In addition to playgrounds, the following facilities in city parks are now closed:

- Skate parks
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Handball courts
- Bocce courts
- Dog runs

Stay updated at nycgovparks.org.

Giving Back in our Communities

Last week, I volunteered with City Harvest to prepare and deliver food to New Yorkers in need throughout District 4. Organized with neighbors from Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village, we helped to package and deliver more than 700 shelf-stable meals and produce to residents in Stuyvesant Town, Kips Bay, the East Village, and the Lower East Side. [Check my website](#) or contact my office at kpowers@council.nyc.gov for additional ways to give back.



Reminder: Fill Out the 2020 Census + Sign Up for a Text-a-Thon on April 20

In these uncertain times, it is more important than ever to fill out the census -- it is also the easiest it has ever been. For the first time, you are able to fill out the 10-question form online at my2020census.gov. The census is a critical component in determining how much federal funding New York City receives, so it is imperative that all New Yorkers participate. Get involved to make sure New Yorkers are counted by [joining](#) a Neighborhood Organizing Census Committee to help safely get the word out in your community. If you are interested in participating in a Text-a-Thon on April 20, please email kpowers@council.nyc.gov. If you need resources to fill out the census, please contact my office and visit nyc.gov/census to learn more.



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