



April 1, 2022

Mayor Eric Adams
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Adams:

Thank you to your staff for joining us on a walkthrough of the corridor on E 14th Street and First Avenue on March 26, 2022. For months, the conditions along this street have troubled local business owners, parents, children, and the thousands of New Yorkers who frequent the area. Our offices have fielded countless concerns from constituents about individuals in need of social services, reports of drug use, and street vending that transpires in front of local transportation hubs, obstructed sidewalks, and unsanitary conditions on the block.

The ongoing situation is a reminder that our city government can and must do better to fulfill its most fundamental responsibility to its citizens by providing the essential services necessary for a higher quality of life for all. Parents must have the ability to walk their children to and from school unobstructed, and business owners must have the ability to run their business without deterrence from a perpetually populated sidewalk of vendors. In the face of challenge, the commitment by City agencies and volunteers to come together and clean up the streets, such as we witnessed on March 26, shows us the resiliency and exceptional nature of New Yorkers and the members of this community.

For years, our offices have sought remedies and assistance from Mayoral leadership to confront these multi-agency issues. We are grateful for the hard work that different agencies, outreach teams, and volunteers have dedicated to this location, but this moment demands a sustained and robust response from government. In March – joined by representatives from DCWP, DSNY, DHS/DSS, Community Boards 3 and 6, and the 9th Precinct – we spoke about several steps that must be taken in order to provide a sustainable and comprehensive plan to alleviate the conditions along the 14th Street corridor. We hope that witnessing the situation firsthand will inspire a strong commitment from the Mayor's office to work with us in seeing this solution through. Specifically, we are asking for you to immediately implement the following steps:

1. The creation of an interagency task force in order to coordinate action in the area.
2. Increase the frequency of City Cleanup Corps visits to improve sanitation in the area.
3. Increase the frequency of DHS street outreach visits to offer support services to individuals experiencing homelessness.
4. Increase the frequency of DCWP street vendor enforcement visits in the area to curb illegal vending.

5. Reinforce local waste bins and litter baskets so that they will stay upright even with applied force.
6. Multi-agency partnership to ensure unobstructed entrances to the L train and local bus stops.
7. Ongoing oversight from Mayor's office about progress and changing circumstances in the area.

With the Adams administration as our partner, we can create a sanitary and safe pathway at 14th Street and First Avenue while ensuring that the individuals who have been populating the streets receive the supportive services they need. As the weather warms, coordinated action becomes more and more urgent. We greatly appreciate your time and commitment, and look forward to our continued partnership. Thank you on behalf of all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,



Council Member Carlina Rivera
NYC Council Member, 2nd District



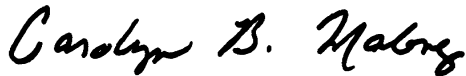
Keith Powers
NYC Council Member, 4th District



Brad Hoylman
NYS Senator, 27th District



Harvey Epstein
NYS Assembly Member, 74th District



Carolyn Maloney
US Representative, 12th District