

**2019 Annual Report Of The  
Food Service Establishment Advisory Board**

August 14, 2020

Pursuant to Local Law 91 of 2013, which created the Food Service Establishment Advisory Board (the "Board"), the members of the Board hereby submit their fifth Annual Report to The Mayor of the City of New York, the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Speaker of the New York City Council.

The Board would like to thank the staff of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") for their work in coordinating the meetings and their professionalism throughout.

- This report is made late due to the public health emergency. It is a reminder, however, of how devastated the restaurant and bar industry is in New York City. No one knows how many thousands of our neighborhood restaurants will never reopen or what reopening even means. The Advisory Board could and should play a key role during this pandemic in working with the Department to develop opening and operating guidelines for the hospitality industry. It will only be effective if it is a collaborative process.
- Although there is a problem of continued low attendance from Board Members, meetings should continue and are important and informative. New members should be appointed to fill vacancies.
- We are pleased to report that the Department has finally started the process to adopt the recommendations the Advisory Board passed two years ago.
- With regards to CBD, the Board played an instrumental role in suggesting how the Department responds to CBD violations. We appreciated their quick responsiveness once the issue was raised.
- The Department distributed the kids' meal FAQs and asked Board members to share it with others.

Once again, we urge that new members need to be appointed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Members of the Food Service Establishment Advisory Board*