



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND
Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

March 17, 2009

Christine Quinn
City Council Speaker
224 West 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Re: Calling for Coordinated City Inspections for New Businesses

Dear Speaker Quinn:

Manhattan Community Board 4 supports your call for coordinated City inspections for new businesses.

The goal of this initiative, part of your “Open for Business” plan announced in your State of the City address, will reduce the long wait times new business owners must face to complete inspections prior to opening.

In this challenging economic environment, Community Board 4 wants small businesses to open and thrive in our community. We believe the coordination of City inspections will not only reduce long wait times, but also reduce the start-up investment and preserve the working capital of small business owners. The cost of paying a commercial lease for months while waiting for City inspections can potentially put a small business out of business before it even opens its doors.

With angel and venture capital investors sitting on the sidelines, banks freezing much of their lending, and lines of credit being suspended, small business owners are under immense financial pressure. We believe our elected officials have an opportunity to ease this financial pressure, by streamlining the City inspection process.

Sincerely,

Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4

[signed 3/17/09]
Tony Juliano
Co-Chair
Small Business Taskforce

[signed 3/17/09]
John Owens
Co-Chair
Small Business Taskforce

cc: Mayor Bloomberg
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stinger
Congressman Jerrold Nadler
Robert Walsh, Commissioner of Small Business Services
Council Member Tom White

Council Member Gail Brewer
President of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Nancy Ploeger