

**Michael Blaise Backer Statement**  
**Before City Council Finance Committee**  
**April 16, 2015**

Good morning Chair Ferreras and members of the Finance Committee. I am Michael Blaise Backer, Deputy Commissioner of Neighborhood Development at the Department of Small Business Services (SBS). I am joined by the Executive Director of BID Program and Development, Kris Goddard.

As required by law, the Meatpacking Area Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Committee mailed the summary of the City Council Resolution to the following parties:

- each owner of real property within the proposed district at the address shown on the latest City assessment roll,
- such other persons as are registered with the City to receive tax bills concerning real property within the district, and
- tenants of each building within the proposed district.

In addition, SBS arranged for the publication of a copy of the summary of the resolution in the City Record.

We would like to report on the result of the objections filed with the City Clerk against the establishment of the proposed Meatpacking Area Business Improvement District (BID). At the conclusion of the objection period at 5:00 PM on April 10, 2015 and taking into consideration any objections postmarked by that date, only one objection was filed with the City Clerk. This one valid objection represents 0.01% of assessed value and 0.19% of the owners of all benefitted real property situated within the District.

This level of objection is within our acceptable threshold needed to advance the bill for a favorable consideration by the full City Council.

The Department of Small Business Services supports the establishment of the Meatpacking Area BID. In our judgment, the BID will improve quality of life and business conditions in the Meatpacking district, and lay the groundwork for further neighborhood development activities in the district and surrounding area.

At this time, we are happy to take any questions.

Thank you.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

*Appearance Card*

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor     in opposition

Date: 4-16-15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Blaise Backes Deputy Commissioner SBS

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

▶ *Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms* ◀