

**Emily Edwards Statement**  
**Before City Council Finance Committee**  
**June 8, 2023**

Good morning, Chair Brannan and members of the Finance Committee. I am Emily Edwards, Executive Director of the BID Program and Organizational Development at the New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS). I am joined by our Director of BID Development and Legislation, Leslie Velazquez.

Today, I would like to report on the result of any objections filed with the City Clerk against the extension of the Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) to form the consolidated Church Avenue/Flatbush Avenue BID.

As required by law, a summary of the City Council Resolution was mailed to the following parties:

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

Furthermore, SBS arranged for the publication of a copy of the summary of the Resolution at least once in the City Record.

At the conclusion of the objection period at 5:00 PM on May 27, 2023, and taking into consideration any objections postmarked by that date, no objections were filed with the City Clerk for properties 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 NYC Department of Small Business Services supports the extension of the Flatbush Avenue BID to create a single, unified district that will service the community. In our judgment, the proposed merger of two separate but adjacent BIDs into a singular unified BID will improve the quality and efficiency of business and public realm services in the Flatbush district and represents the conclusion of years of dedicated work by numerous stakeholders in service to this vibrant community.

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

Thank you.