



**An Open Letter about
Public Safety on 125th Street in the Borough of Manhattan
To
NYC Police Commissioner DERMOT SHEA
And
Mayor Bill deBlasio**

Dear Mr. Dermot Shea:

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

The 125th Street Business Improvement District applauds the work of the NYPD, its local precincts, borough level, and One Police Plaza, to develop the “125th Street Task Force Initiative”, a detailed plan to en-sure the safety and prosperity of 125th Street. The Task Force Initiative recognizes the need for a more sig-nificant presence of police officers on 125th Street – particularly at the corner of 125th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard.

For too long, the Harlem community has had to deal with increases in shoplifting, homelessness, mental health issues, illegal street vending activities, and oversaturation of facilities. The Task Force Initiative is much-needed by our residents, businesses, visitors, and tourists who live, visit, shop, and dine in Harlem.

The Task Force Initiative is a collaborative effort and community-based solution to the problems that have plagued our historic corridor. It provides detailed officer postings, including adding 32 foot patrols; four sergeants, and one Lieutenant to the 125th Street environs. The 125th Street BID fully supports this initia-tive, and we write at this time to request your endorsement. Your signature on the 125th Street Task Force Initiative is all that is needed to restore vitality to 125th Street and ensure a safe and prosperous holiday season and beyond.

Our Harlem community looks forward to your leadership.

Sincerely,

Mukaram Taheraly, Chairman
125th Street Business Improvement District