



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**  
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*Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President*

*Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member*

MS. EVONNE CAPERS  
Board Chairperson

MR. RAFAEL MOURE-PUNNETT  
District Manager

**Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Nicole Carter, Economic Development Committee Chairperson

The Economic Development Committee met on October 25, 2023 via Zoom Audio and Video Conference and in-person at the district office. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: John Barczak, Nicole Carter, Margarita Espinosa, Frank Franz, Magdamary Marcano, Jessii Parham, Rosa Peraza, Reggie Powell, Carmen Rivera, and Kristine Rivera.

The Economic Development Committee discussed the following information:

- **Informational presentation from Ariva**

The Economic Development Committee was informed that Ariva is a nonprofit organization that launched the Microentrepreneur Support Program in 2022 to offer small businesses start-up advice and one-on-one consultations to prospective entrepreneurs and current entrepreneurs in our district. The Microentrepreneur Support Program is based and managed by their West Farms site that is located at 1 West Farms Square, Bronx, New York 10458. Ariva also shared information about the services participants can access. Individuals can receive assistance building a business plan and social media presence, obtaining the necessary licenses, permits, and certifications for their business, registering and reporting sales tax, employer education, Trademarks, requesting an EIN or ITIN to report earnings, and accessing affordable loans and grants. They also offer free tax preparation, financial counseling, and assistance to apply for affordable housing through Housing Connect. The Economic Development Committee was also informed of the process to make referrals for individuals who seek assistance. To make a referral, one must provide the client's name, phone number, address, and e-mail address to an Ariva representative. Ariva serves all of the residents in New York City and operates at several sites across the boroughs.

- **Discussion on Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License Applications**

The Economic Development Committee discussed and reviewed the Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses for the following locations: 2375 Arthur Avenue, 757 East Tremont Avenue, 796 East Tremont Avenue, 2500 Arthur Avenue 2407 Arthur Avenue, and 2344 Arthur Avenue. After discussing and reviewing the applications, the Economic Development Committee will advise against the issuance of an Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License at all of the locations before the New York Office of Cannabis Management. A motion to issue letters opposing all sites was made by Reggie Powell and seconded by Jessii Parham, adopted with three votes in favor, one opposed, and six abstentions. In addition, District Manager Rafael Moure-Punnett informed the Economic Development Committee that the Cannabis Control Board will convene

to discuss how sales tax will be distributed to localities where Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licensees operate.