

# Recommendations provided for Dept. of Cultural Affairs Commissioner

We will vote to finalize 3 to 5 recommendations at meeting 2-6-17

Affordable Community Space		
1a	<b>Incubator space</b>	Facilitate affordable cultural space with potentially one large space with several venues like the Brooklyn Navy Yard.
1b	<b>Partner with underused spaces</b>	Develop partnerships with underused spaces for artists and musicians
Cabaret Law (Need Cabaret license if +3 people dancing)		
2a	<b>Repeal Cabaret Law</b>	Dept. of Cultural affairs should work with lawmakers to repeal the Cabaret Law. The law states that a business must have a cabaret license if, "three or more people are found dancing" in the establishment.
Data / Research		
3a	<b>Quantitative impact</b>	Gather data about spaces that doesn't currently exist to show impact on NYC
Funding		
4a	<b>Cultural handy people organization</b>	Create a public-private nonprofit sending handy people to cultural spaces. Create pool wherein cultural spaces pay minimum wage for services and City pays remainder for cost of handyperson. This is to defer cost of simple safety procedures that would otherwise not happen because of cost.
4b	<b>Fund for safety improvements</b>	The creation of funding and facilitation of in-kind opportunities for independent cultural spaces to make safety improvements in a reasonable and timely manner.
4c	<b>Youth arts programs</b>	More funding for youth programs (don't want to have to sell alcohol to be viable)
Help with Bureaucracy		
5a	<b>Independent task force</b>	The creation of an independent task force separate from the DOB/FDNY that can assist independent cultural spaces to identify improvements that need to be made and assist with permits. There needs to be confidentiality here to reduce fear of retaliation.
5b	<b>Liaisons of the Art (L.A. Cards)</b>	To assign authorization to few experienced community members, to act as Liaisons of the Art with the city. Similar to what Tara Mc Manus (The Floasis) had

		accomplished with the Fire Department to acquire fire safety training and fire safety cards to community members to act as local fire authorities. A Liaison of the Art badge will save the city money and frustration attempting to learn how each craft or cultural experience operates and will stand for those who struggle with bureaucracy.
Legal Assistance		
6a	<b>Legal consultant</b>	The creation of a liabilities and legalities consultant that can support and help independent cultural spaces understand and implement the nuances and complexities of insurance and liability so that spaces can remain legal, learn how to manage risk, and not be forced to close after liability related events.
<a href="#">Loft Law</a> (protect tenants in NYC who are illegally living in commercial or factory buildings plus rent stabilization)		
7a	<b>Outreach &amp; education</b>	Outreach about current New York Loft Law and deadline. Education - Workshops about how the Loft Law works and supporting artists in the process of legalizing their live-work space.
7b	<b>Remove deadline</b>	Remove application deadline currently set to June 26, 2017.
7c	<b>Remove new restrictions</b>	Remove Bloomberg's egregious Chapter 147 coverage exclusions. Exclusions which never existed in the first 28 years of the Loft Law and have since proven to be contrary to their intentions and an affront to public policy.
MARCH (Multi-Agency Response to Community Hotspots) program		
8a	<b>Disband</b>	DCLA should work with other agencies involved and Coalition to disband MARCH
8b	<b>Increased transparency</b>	Make info about MARCH more publicly accessible, and create alternative piecemeal methods to remedy noncompliant spaces. How do spaces avoid MARCH?
Permitting Changes		
9a	<b>New Certificate of Occupancy for mixed-use</b>	Create new Certificate of Occupancy under Industrial and Commercial zoned spaces specifically for public mixed-use live/work/exhibition space allowing for both residential, commercial space. If the space is safe for commercial, then by default it is safe for residential.
Real Time Info		
10a	<b>311 real time</b>	Auto text/email notification system for 311 complaints - keep places updated about noise complaints they are receiving

## FULL DETAILS

### Pathway to legalization venues and live/work spaces and fire safety

#### Help with Bureaucracy

- Hire people to help artists figure out **bureaucracy**
- Make **liquor license** and **assembly permit process easier**
  - Assembly permits require expensive architectural drawings - need access to inexpensive architects
- More **bilingual outreach** for help with bureaucracy
- The creation of an **independent task force** separate from the DOB/FDNY that can **assist independent cultural spaces to identify improvements** that need to be made. There needs to be confidentiality here to reduce fear of retaliation.
- Roving **Advisory Board** of city and volunteer subject matter **experts** that support the **evolution from DIY to fully legal space**.
- **Certification process** for those within the **network for fire safety**
- **Liaisons of the Art(L.A. Cards):** To assign authorization to few experienced community members, to act as Liaisons of the Art with the city. Similar in essence to what Tara Mc Manus(The Floasis) had accomplished with the Fire Department to acquire fire safety training and fire safety cards to community members to act as local fire authorities, this formula has proven to be trustworthy and safe. A Liaison of the Art badge will save the city money and frustration attempting to learn how each craft or cultural experience operates and will stand for those who struggle with bureaucracy. Most of the artists and non-alumnus culture creators need more human connection than more bureaucracy. Notwithstanding will give some power back to the people.

#### Funding for Safety Improvements

- The creation of funding and facilitation of in-kind opportunities for independent cultural spaces to make safety improvements in a reasonable and timely manner.
- Create a public-private nonprofit sending handy people to cultural spaces -**Cultural Handypeople organization** - create pool wherein cultural spaces pay minimum wage for services and City pays remainder for cost of handyperson. This is to defer cost of simple safety procedures that would otherwise not happen because of cost.

#### Legal Assistance

- The creation of a **liabilities** and **legalities consultant** that can support and help independent cultural spaces understand and implement the nuances and complexities of insurance and liability so that spaces can remain legal, learn how to manage risk, and not be forced to close after liability related events.

#### Real Time Info

- **Auto text/email notification system for 311 complaints** - keep places updated about complaints they are receiving

#### Permitting Changes

- Create new **Certificate of Occupancy** under Industrial and Commercial zoned spaces specifically for public **mixed-use live/work/exhibition** space allowing for both residential, commercial space. If the space is safe for commercial, then by default it is safe for residential.

#### Loft Law

- support and help to improve existing laws such as the **New York Loft Law** which is a tool to provide affordable and safe live-work spaces in New York.
  - **Remove application deadline** currently set to June 26, 2017.
  - Remove Bloomberg's egregious Chapter 147 coverage exclusions. Exclusions which never existed in the first 28 years of the Loft Law and have since proven to be contrary to their intentions and an affront to public policy.
  - Make Rent Milestones permanent
  - **Outreach** about current New York Loft Law
  - **Education** - Workshops about how the Loft Law works and supporting artists in the process of legalizing their live-work space.
  - **Advocacy**. Encouraging the NYC Loft Board to continue its history of public discourse. For 35 years monthly Loft Board meetings have been public, allowing members of the community to witness staff and board member's deliberations. For the past three years the meetings have been shared on Youtube in order to further public access. This information is vital to both tenants, landlords and lawyers to better understand how the Loft Board interprets the rules.
  - Funding to provide legal advice to those applying to be covered by the loft law.
  - Utilize and communicate about the **Loft Law deadline**

#### MARCH (Multi-Agency Response to Community Hotspots) program

- **Disband** - DCLA work with other agencies involved and Coalition to disband MARCH
- Make info about MARCH more publicly accessible, and create alternative piecemeal methods to remedy noncompliant spaces
  - How do spaces avoid MARCH?

#### Repeal Cabaret Law

#### Funding

##### Funding for Programs

- More funding for **youth programs** (don't want to have to sell alcohol to be viable)

#### Space

- Need for more **affordable community space**
  - Facilitate **partnerships** with **underused spaces** for artists and musicians
  - **Incubator space** - Could it be one large space with several venues like the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

### **Data / Research**

- **Gather data** about spaces that doesn't currently exist