



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

November 25, 2025

Dear Chair Powers and Members of the City Council:

On October 24, 2025, I submitted the names of several candidates to the City Council for advice and consent. These candidates, the majority of whom are candidates for reappointment and several of whom were originally appointed by prior administrations, are all dedicated public servants with decades of experience in their respective fields. Unfortunately, last week, the Speaker's staff began to contact the nominees to inform them that unless they withdrew their nominations, the City Council would vote to disapprove their appointments or reappointments regardless of the merits of their nominations. Fearing that their reputations would be tarnished, eight out of the ten candidates asked to withdraw their nominations.

Two candidates have asked to remain under consideration for the Board of Health—Dr. Dave Chokshi and Dr. Mitchell Katz—because they understand that a depleted Board of Health leaves the City vulnerable in the event of a public health emergency. I ask that the Council please consider these two outstanding public servants who saw our City through the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Chokshi will fill a crucial physician member vacancy that if not filled will leave the Board of Health only one member over quorum. Were a public health crisis to occur when one or more board members were out of town or otherwise unavailable, the City's emergency response would be crippled. Dr. Katz has once again stepped up for this City in agreeing to continue to serve on the Board of Health in addition to his role in leading the City's public hospital system. In acknowledgment of his past contributions and of the importance of his steady hand remaining on the Board, I believe it is imperative to have Dr. Katz serve another term on the Board of Health.

My only goal with these nominations is to leave the City in a better place. Although I will be leaving office at the end of this year, the work of the City continues, and the critical mission of the Board of Health will be imperiled unless the Council approves these nominations. Additionally, I note that my successor will continue to be able to nominate two new members to the Board as soon as he is sworn in, and I encourage the Council to consider his nominations with all due haste.

I urge you to put the City above politics, and to consider Dr. Dave Chokshi and Dr. Mitchell Katz for the Board of Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Adams".

Eric Adams
Mayor