



July 25, 2022

Dr. Ashwin Vasani  
Commissioner  
NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
42-09 28<sup>th</sup> Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Island City, NY 11101

Dear Commissioner Vasani:

We are grateful to the Department of Health and Mental Health for quickly administering the monkeypox vaccine doses it has received. The New York metro area has the largest LGBTQ+ population in the country and New York City has more cases of monkeypox than any jurisdiction in the nation. With demand exceeding supply, we are writing to request that New York City establish a waitlist for eligible people seeking a monkeypox vaccine.

Our offices have been contacted by many people who are desperate for a vaccine that requires quick-clicking and luck to obtain under the current appointment system. In addition, the appointment website has often crashed when a tranche of appointments has been released, which only adds to public uncertainty. We are sure you agree this is not acceptable.

A waitlist or pre-registration system similar to what has been established in Washington, DC would help to quell uncertainty and restore some order to a chaotic process. An individual would be contacted when an appointment becomes available and decide whether to accept or not. This would eliminate the reliance on technological savviness and would make the process more equitable.

In addition, we would like to see more public education, including how people can stay safe. We all want a more effective response to this public health epidemic. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard Gottfried  
Member of Assembly  
75<sup>th</sup> District



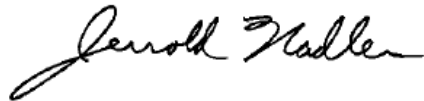
Brad Hoylman  
State Senator  
27<sup>th</sup> District



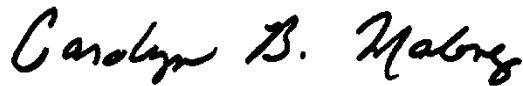
Erik Bottcher  
NYC Council Member  
3<sup>rd</sup> District



Mark Levine  
Borough President  
Manhattan



Jerry Nadler  
Member of Congress  
10<sup>th</sup> District



Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress  
12<sup>th</sup> District



Linda Rosenthal  
Member of Assembly  
67<sup>th</sup> District



Deborah Glick  
Member of Assembly  
66<sup>th</sup> District



Gale Brewer  
NYC Council Member  
6<sup>th</sup> District



Carlina Rivera  
NYC Council Member  
2<sup>nd</sup> District



Harvey Epstein  
Member of Assembly  
74<sup>th</sup> District