

Dear County Executive McCoy,

I am writing to you as the owner of Brown Bag Sub Shoppe located in the food court at Crossgates Mall. I, like many others, am a struggling small business owner in these uncertain times. Although I am very grateful for everything the governor has done up to this point to keep us safe, I also am struggling to understand how we are still unable to have even minimum seating allowed in a mall setting. Stand-alone restaurants are now allowed to have limited seating and this is severely deterring our ability to increase our business.

First, I'd like to thank you for your support in seeking State approval for us to re-open our business.

Please be aware, however, that the State's approval was only a partial solution. Because the mall's food court common seating area must remain closed, some of our usual customers are opting not to patronize our counters. In other cases, we have seen customers sitting on the floor, eating while walking and or using other surfaces to eat what they have bought.

There's really no need for this to be the case. Our seating areas could be operated at reduced capacity (50%), just like freestanding cafes and restaurants in our area and in the mall. In fact, the air quality at our food court is probably safer than most other food establishments, since the mall's HVAC system was upgraded to meet the State's new standards.

We are asking for the State to treat us fairly.

I hope you will support us in this effort.

David Cafarelli
Brown Bag Sub Shoppe
Crossgates Mall
cafmandoo@gmail.com
518-669-8332

CC: NYS Senator
NYS Assembly Member

Daniel Rozario Sbarra
Tony Chen China Max
Derrick Scott Taco Bell

Thomas Chen Cajun Cafe
Kayla McGraw Wendy's
Gerson Gerson
Charley's Philly Steak