A map of New York City showing the five boroughs. Brooklyn is highlighted in a dark purple color, while the other boroughs are in a light gray color. The map shows the outlines of the boroughs and the surrounding water bodies.

Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests

Fiscal Year
2022

Published by:

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February 2021

**Brooklyn
Community District
6**

INTRODUCTION

The annual Statements of Community District Needs (CD Needs Statements) and Community Board Budget Requests (Budget Requests) are Charter mandates that form an integral part of the City's budget process. Together, they are intended to support communities in their ongoing consultations with city agencies, elected officials and other key stakeholders and influence more informed decision making on a broad range of local planning and budget priorities. This report also provides a valuable public resource for neighborhood planning and research purposes, and may be used by a variety of audiences seeking information about New York City's diverse communities.

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report represents the Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from August to November, 2020.

Community boards may provide substantive supplemental information together with their Statements and Budget Requests. This supporting material can be accessed by clicking on the links provided in the document or by copying and pasting them into a web browser, such as Chrome, Safari or Firefox.

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:

CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov

This report is broadly structured as follows:

1. Overarching Community District Needs

Sections 1 – 4 provide an overview of the community district and the top three pressing issues affecting this district overall as identified by the community board. Any narrative provided by the board supporting their selection of their top three pressing issues is included.

2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

Section 5 is organized by seven distinct policy areas aligned with the service and program areas of city agencies. For each policy area, community boards selected the most important issue for their districts and could provide a supporting narrative. The policy area section also includes any agency-specific needs and a list of relevant budget requests submitted by the community board. If the community board submitted additional information outside of a specific policy area, it may be found in Section 6.

3. Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY22 budget cycle; one list for capital and another for expense budget requests. For each budget request, community boards were able to provide a priority number, explanation, location, and supporters. OMB remains the definitive source on budget requests submitted to city agencies.

Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2022. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

Budget Requests: Listed for informational purposes only. OMB remains the definitive source on budget requests and budget request responses.

Budget Priorities: Priority numbers apply to expense and capital Budget requests from all policy areas. A complete list of expense and capital budget requests by this Board sorted by priority can be found in Section 7 of this document.

Supporting Materials: Some community boards provided substantive supplemental information. This supportive material can be accessed by clicking on the links provided in the document or by copying and pasting the links provided in the Appendix into a browser.

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1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Address: 250 Baltic Street

Phone: (718) 643-3027

Email:

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

Chair: Peter D. Fleming

District Manager: Michael Racioppo

2. COMMUNITY DISTRICT PROFILE AND LAND USE MAP

For the most up-to-date information about your Community District's built environment, socioeconomic, and demographic conditions, please visit NYC Department of City Planning's Community District Profiles tool at communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov.

Brooklyn Community District 6 - Land Use

One & Two Family Buildings

MultiFamily Walkup Buildings

MultiFamily Elevator Buildings

Mixed Commercial/Residential Buildings

Commercial/Office Buildings

Industrial/Manufacturing

Transportation/Utility

Public Facilities & Institutions

Open Space

Parking Facilities

Vacant Land

All Others or No Data

Community Districts

0

1,250

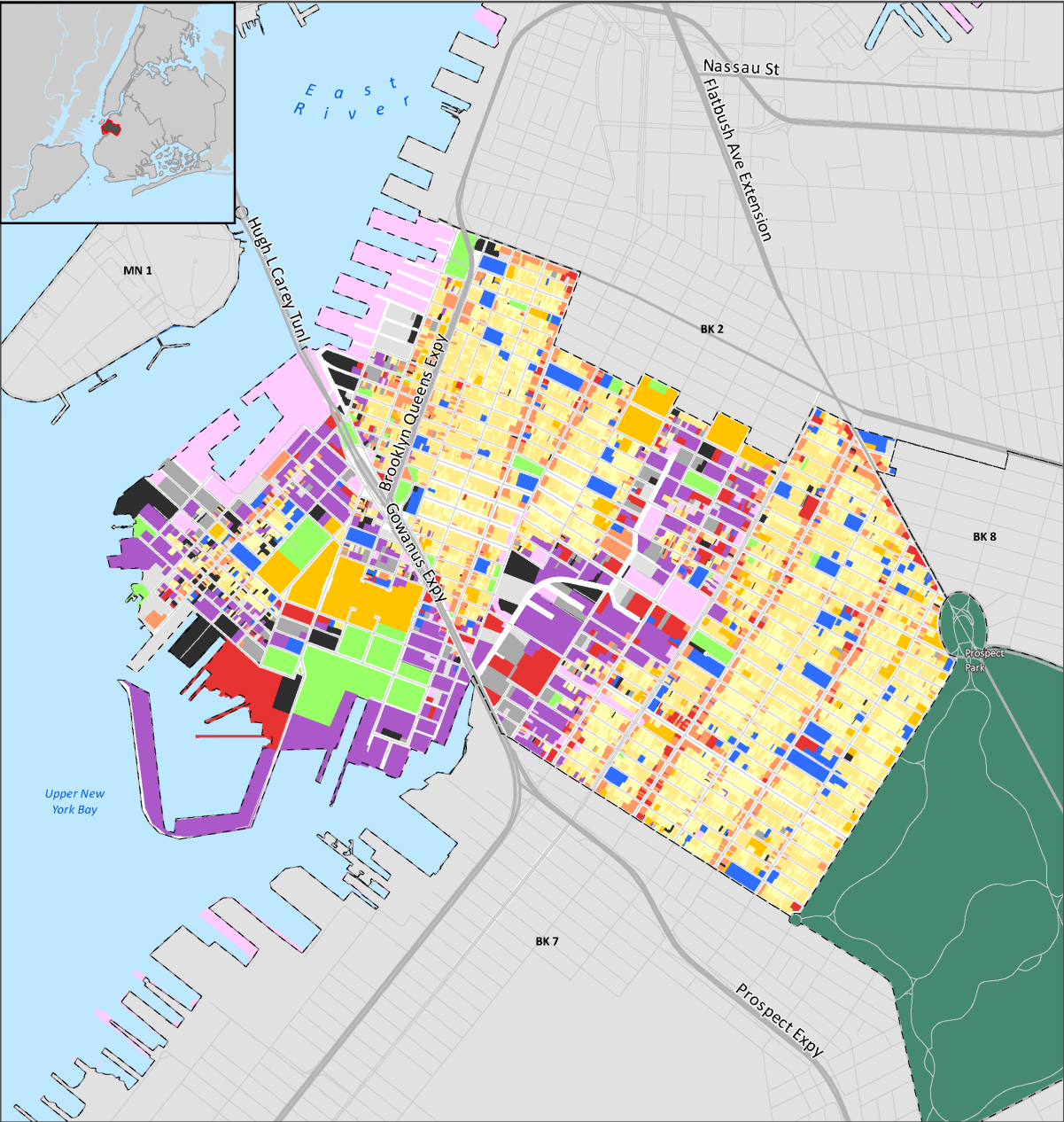
2,500

Feet

Source: MapPLUTO™ 20v7

BYTES of the Big Apple

Created January 2021



3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Brooklyn Community Board 6 represents the neighborhoods of Carroll Gardens/South Brooklyn, Cobble Hill, Columbia Waterfront, Gowanus, Park Slope and Red Hook. From the Buttermilk Channel to Prospect Park, 104,709 people (2010 Census figure) choose to make our district their home.

While economic, health and other indicators demonstrate that the district as a whole is well-off, the averages and medians hide the great disparities that exist across the district. Specific neighborhoods – notably NYCHA developments – have high poverty rates, high unemployment, low educational attainment, and substandard housing. For example, the median income in the district is about \$150,000, but the median income in Gowanus Houses is \$35,000 and the median income in Red Hook Houses is about \$13,000.

These issues are further exacerbated by the COVID pandemic – unemployment has increased, and few residents of NYCHA have the luxury to work from home. Rates of COVID are low in the district overall, but high in NYCHA developments. This mirrors many other health disparities.

The lack of affordable childcare options further contributes toward economic pressures and childhood development.

In such a high-rent set of neighborhoods, there is a great need for affordable housing at a range of income levels. Housing for seniors is a particular priority, as seniors on a fixed income are unable to stay in the neighborhoods they have called home, leading to significant displacement.

As Sandy demonstrated, we are a waterfront neighborhood with low-lying areas, and are vulnerable to climate change. While this affects all of us, storm surges have a disproportionate impact in Red Hook and the Gowanus.

Therefore, many of CB6's high-priority items are particularly focused on the needs of its most vulnerable residents.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Brooklyn Community Board 6

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Affordable housing

Market forces such as high rental rates, which particularly impact seniors on fixed incomes among others, often lead to displacement from our communities. We need to not only plan to keep our community at home, but we need to ensure that the support networks are in place to allow them to prosper in their home neighborhoods. This also means, regardless of any possible rezoning of Gowanus, that NYCHA properties are improved and maintained not just in this fiscal year but in perpetuity.

Economic development and recovery

Businesses need support to be viable, and residents need economic opportunities. Empty storefronts plague our community. We would like to see additional time and energy spent on coming up with solution that will enable our commercial strips and neighborhood-serving businesses to be viable. This also means that the City must focus on businesses in the IBZ – not only in Gowanus (in the context of rezoning), but also in the Red Hook IBZ and waterfront businesses. The complementary aspect is employment services so that residents -- particularly youth and unemployed residents of the NYCHA developments in Red Hook and Gowanus – can have employment pathways. This is particularly critical now because of unemployment and pressures related to COVID. The youth in NYCHA developments need opportunities for training, placement, internships and summer employment. NYCHA Red Hook residents are also far from the Workforce 1 site in downtown Brooklyn, necessitating more localized services in Red Hook.

Infrastructure resiliency

It is critical to invest in sustainable infrastructure in order to make our communities less vulnerable to climate risk and environmental hazards. Flooding, sewage overflow, and power outages are all becoming more frequent due to a lack of coastal hardening, inadequate stormwater management, and surging electricity demand. Two of the neighborhoods that make up our district are susceptible to extreme weather. Red Hook and Gowanus are within flood zones and we urge the city to determine a means to protect our citizenry, businesses and industrial community. Park Slope has an especially high peaking electrical load that burdens the grid in a district where brownouts and blackouts are already on the rise. In order to protect our community's most critical assets, we must expand local power generation with solar and energy storage systems, ensure that seniors are protected from power outages, and focus on strengthening infrastructure throughout any rezoning processes.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers

While the District has needs relative to the areas outlined in each of the eleven possible responses, the Department of City Planning's prompt allows for only one selection. As such, we have selected Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers because the most major needs among the other possible answers (Access to healthy food/life style programs; chronic disease prevention; environmental health issues; health facilities; infections disease prevention and management to include COVID-19; mental health programs and substance abuse treatment/prevention programs; programs, services of facilities for seniors; services for domestic violence victims) should, under any reasonable, rational definition of action to address Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers, be addressed as well.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

While we hope the COVID-19 pandemic will be waning by 2022, the fall 2020 wave shows that flexibility is essential in order to reach high-need areas as surges happen and positivity rates change. CB6 does not have a New York City Health + Hospitals facility and thus lacks access to H+H's rapid point-of-care testing. The only hospital within the district boundaries, Methodist, is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed. Mobile and pop-up units can be utilized for vaccinations, including seasonal flu shots; as such investments in such infrastructure has broader use. The loss of Long Island College Hospital has not been sufficiently addressed in the district.

Needs for Older NYs

There is a lack of facilities in the district that would allow some of the aging population to remain in their community as they continue to age and the district becomes more and more expensive to live in.

Needs for Homeless

While this Board has been in support of the Mayor's short term response to the homeless epidemic in the city, and believes strongly that we have a role to play in helping make sure the district houses its share of the unhoused population, clearly to project of renting hotel rooms for this population is not enough and more permanent facilities are needed. Beyond that, job training and placement programs to address the root issues for the unhoused population are lacking, and the few local resources available for this are typically non-profit in nature and lacking in critical funding, staffing, and programming.

Needs for Low Income NYs

New affordable housing, job training and placement programs, as well as much needed improvements to existing NYCHA properties and some mode of political infrastructure that can demand more accountability from NYCHA broadly.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/29	HHC	Provide a new or expanded health care facility	<i>Funds are requested for the purchase and deployment of more free mobile and pop-up testing and vaccination facilities. While we hope the COVID-19 pandemic will be waning by 2022, the fall 2020 wave shows that flexibility is essential in order to reach high-need areas as surges happen and positivity rates change. CB6 does not have a New York City Health + Hospitals facility and thus lacks access to H+H's rapid point-of-care testing. The only hospital within the district boundaries, Methodist, is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed. Additionally, mobile and pop-up units can be utilized for vaccinations, including seasonal flu shots, so that investments in such infrastructure has broader use.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/23	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program	<i>Sufficient funding is requested to increase baseline operating budget allocations in existing senior centers. At a minimum, additional funding is sought to help keep pace with cost of living increases which over time take more and more resources away from the base operating budgets from programming and salary monies. Effectively, by not providing for regular, modest increases the senior centers' budgets are being decreased over time as basic costs only go up. This need is especially pressing with an aging population, as more and more "baby boomers" will be placing increasing demands on these facilities, which is anticipated to increase in the near future.</i>	

9/23	HHC	Other health care facilities requests	<i>Funds are requested to conduct an outreach & co-design process with community members, including NYCHA residents, to design a new community health facility and services in Red Hook. These gatherings should build on existing work by community health network organizers and build consciousness and trust around city agencies and health resources.</i>
17/23	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the hire of additional Health/Pest Control Inspectors for initial field evaluations and compliance inspections. At least one inspector per Community Board ought to be assigned to eliminate bottlenecks in Pest Control servicing, ensure that annual inspections of Health- Licensed facilities can occur, improve agency's productivity and reduce response times for complaint investigation.</i>
18/23	HRA	Other domestic violence services requests	<i>Additional funding is requested to expand the spectrum of services that provide assistance to victims of domestic violence - from counseling to protection to shelter - in order to ensure that adequate resources exist to help this vulnerable population in need. Outreach and promotional materials are needed to reach the population, provide them with convenient access to services and help educate communities on the importance of these services to remove any fear and stigma that may be attached to these facilities.</i>
23/23	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	<i>Funds are requested for free in-home asthma consultation services for NYCHA residents. There are high rates of asthma due to ongoing mold issues in Red Hook houses, and asthma consultation services (such as those provided by AirNYC) can significantly improve health outcomes for children and adults suffering from housing-induced asthma.</i>

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Schools and educational facilities (Maintenance)

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the desperate need to modernize ventilation in all of the City's school buildings.

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

CB6 has historically high income inequality, which can often hide the needs of low-income youth behind unrepresentative averages. As the pandemic closed schools and asked parents to fill the gaps, low-income children in our district have borne the brunt of this exacerbated inequality, with many students experiencing [food insecurity](#) and [unsafe living situations](#). We urge SCA to fund ventilation and outdoor infrastructure so public schools can operate more safely during public health crises. In the meantime, we urge DOE to continue to fund school meal programs, with pickup options if schools are closed, and high-speed internet access and computing devices for students who must learn from home and lack these essential resources. With [8% of CB6 residents under the age of 5](#) (a significantly higher rate than NYC as a whole), day care is an economic issue: parents without access to affordable day care for their children cannot work. We urge DOH to fund affordable day-care options, of which there are only 3 in our district. Finally, the pandemic has caused cuts to youth employment and after-school programs, jeopardizing students' ability to build skills and bounce back after schools reopen. We urge DYCD to re-fund SYEP programs and increase funding to other youth-centered community building initiatives in our district.

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

See needs for Youth Education.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/29	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Funds are requested to upgrade ventilation and/or outdoor classroom facilities for schools in the district. Adequate ventilation is essential to keeping schools safely open during a pandemic. It also contributes to the district's climate resiliency goals. In addition, schools have been creative with creating outdoor classroom space with sunshades, tents and rain covers during the pandemic. As climate change causes more extreme weather events, this need for flexible classroom space will likely intensify.</i>	
4/29	DOE	Other capital budget request for DOE	<i>Funds are requested for high quality home internet and computing devices for public school students. With so many public spaces closed during the pandemic, students without wifi or a decent computer at home have very few options to attend class and do their homework, exacerbating pre-existing inequalities and denying students a basic right. This has hit students who live in unstable housing the hardest. This program should fund high quality internet at home for students who currently lack access, via hotspots or wired service according to student need, and should fund sufficiently powerful computers for students to attend class via video and to do schoolwork.</i>	
15/29	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 321 gymnasium at 180 7th Avenue in Park Slope. The poor acoustics in the gymnasium prevents it from being effectively used a multi-purpose space in a school that is historically crowded and in need of additional space. A relatively small project to soundproof the gymnasium would enhance school space utilization, making it more suitable for a wider variety of uses.</i>	

29/29	SCA	Renovate other site component	<i>Funds in the amount of at least \$150,000 are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 39 cafeteria at 417 6th Avenue in Park Slope. The tiny cave-like basement cafeteria is the largest open space in the school. The low tin roof and cement walls do little to absorb the loud whir of giant freezers or the noise of the fans used to cool the space due to the lack of air conditioning and window space. When you add more than 350 students during lunchtime the sounds reverberate around the room. The noise drowns out any conversations happening at the tables. By adding wall & ceiling mounted sound panels, extraneous noise will be lessened to manageable levels.</i>
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Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/23	DOE	Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	<i>Funds are requested to expand access to free and low-cost day care services within CB6. There are only 3 child care facilities that take city vouchers within CB6. This is a critical economic issue: parents without access to affordable, high-quality, accessible day care for their children cannot work. Funding should increase the number of child care facilities in CB6 that accept vouchers, increase the amount of the vouchers, and make vouchers or other city-funded daycare options available to more residents.</i>	
10/23	DOE	Other educational programs requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to ensure that every school in the Brooklyn Community Board 6 community district has an anti-bullying program that fits into DOE's Respect for All rubric and that resources are available to all of the students, staff and parents.</i>	

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Traffic violations and enforcement

The District desperately needs better traffic enforcement and signage, particularly for the heavy volume of truck traffic that exists in the district and will only increase the pending operations of last-mile warehouses in Red Hook and the temporary closing of the BQE.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

Traffic enforcement is critical throughout the district. Trucks find their ways onto the more residential streets in the district more and more frequently as the years pass, coming off of extremely busy thoroughfares like Atlantic Avenue and 4th Avenue. Signage and enforcement are desperately needed throughout the district to protect pedestrians and bicyclists. This is especially true for Red Hook, where a number of last-mile warehouses are beginning or planning to begin operation.

Needs for Emergency Services

The lack of traffic enforcement, signage, and modern traffic design leaves our district's streets overcrowded with large vehicles, making emergency response extremely slow in the most residential of our neighborhoods, which also happens to be the oldest of our neighborhoods.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
21/29	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition of radar speed signs to provide advisories to motorists in areas where speeding is suspected or confirmed. Radar Speed Signs can provide a constant monitoring presence to help raise awareness and act as a potential deterrent. Compliance with the City's new 25MPH speed limit relies on an enforcement presence which, at best, can be challenging given limitations of manpower and competing deployment priorities; to some degree these signs can help augment these limitations.</i>	
24/29	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition and deployment of Variable Message Boards (VMBs), at least one per precinct, to be used to advise the public of upcoming street closures, events, alerts and other vital information that would enhance public safety and preparedness. The strategic placement of VMBs can provide important directions, reduce traffic congestion, and otherwise assist NYPD in messaging information to the public. Precinct Commanders should have the flexibility to deploy VMBs as needed and in response to ongoing changing conditions within the precinct.</i>	
CS	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to equip every firehouse with an emergency generator to ensure continuous electrical supply. Firehouses serve as cooling stations during heat emergencies and, in general, serve the public as a critical local public safety facility for emergency and medical services. Maintaining electrical supply is essential both from an operational standpoint and to maintain a high degree of public confidence in the department's ability to provide a safe haven during times of crisis. We lost service to one of our firehouses in Red Hook during Hurricane Sandy, and would suggest that this site become an immediate priority.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
12/23	NYPD	Other NYPD programs requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to provide for a substantial increase in dedicated Truck Enforcement Program personnel to meet the overwhelming demand in our community for aggressive truck enforcement. Adherence to Truck Routes is necessary to reduce conflicts with, and impact on residential safety and quality of life. To protect and preserve public safety, effective enforcement is needed to combat pervasive and dangerous violations. Clear, publicly visible truck route signage is also requested to help enforce these routes.</i>	

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency.

Other

The neighborhoods of Red Hook, Gowanus, and Columbia Waterfront are in danger of experiencing the impacts of expected sea level rise in the coming decades. This becomes especially critical as the proposed Gowanus Rezoning calls for tens of thousands of new domiciles within a few blocks of the Gowanus Canal. The City is in desperate need of short, medium, and long-term resilience plans to protect these vulnerable communities from the potentially devastating effects of climate change.

Community District Needs Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency.

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

Many sections of the BKCB-6 map are low-lying and experience frequent flooding during heavy rains and storms. This is especially true in Gowanus and Red Hook, neighborhoods for which the City appears to lack any interest in developing a long-term sustainability plan despite its interest in increasing housing and jobs in these neighborhoods.

Needs for Sanitation Services

Schools and institutions should be provided with more regular sanitation services such as garbage and recycling pick-up, and DSNY should work with these institutions on placement of containerized storage for waste. With plans to make the Gowanus neighborhood much more residential, DSNY needs to be prepared to offer more and better litter basket collection to the neighborhood.

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
27/29	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the relocation of BK2 District Sanitation Garage and Broom Garage into the Community Board 2 district to comply with coterminality requirements of the Charter. In the interim, we encourage the department to explore alternatives at the current garage location at 127 2nd Avenue including the reconstruction of the existing garage (addition of a story?) to fully accommodate all fleet vehicles and equipment off the street and sidewalk and under one roof.</i>	
CS	DEP	Other capital budget request for DEP	<i>DEP: Sufficient funds are requested for the area wide installation of green infrastructure including, but not limited to, bioswales, offline retention capacities, rain barrels, pervious surface treatments, and other best management practices, to aggressively prevent storm water from entering into the sewer system. Reduction of storm water entry into the system is necessary to reduce the amount of Combined Sewer Overflow events that occur, particularly within the Gowanus watershed area.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/23	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore the frequency of litter basket service to a minimum of two collections per day, especially on weekends, along busy commercial corridors such as Van Brunt Street, Columbia Street, Court Street, Smith Street, 5th Avenue, 7th Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue. Overflowing litter baskets create additional work for the department in discretionary cleaning, contributes to the clogging of catch basins, and results in the unfair issuance of summonses to victims of the strewn litter. Litter on commercial strips negatively contributes to the consumer's shopping experience, detracts from the residents' quality of life, and forces the businesses to shoulder the burden for the City after the mess.</i>	

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Affordable housing creation

Market Forces often cause people to have to leave their homes and move farther and farther out. We need to not only plan to keep our community at home, but we need to ensure that the support networks are in place to allow them to prosper in their home neighborhoods. This also means, regardless of any possible rezoning of Gowanus, that NYCHA properties are improved and maintained not just in this fiscal year but in perpetuity.

Community District Needs Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Needs for Land Use

More affordable housing, preservation of existing affordable housing, and zoning and regulation that will improve the existing plague of vacant storefronts along our commercial corridors and allow for a diversity of establishments.

Needs for Housing

Housing affordability and a sufficient housing supply is crucial to the health of the City. New York City's Housing Plan has not kept pace with housing demand, increased jobs and employment numbers. Recent data, even accounting for Covid, still shows that the housing market is strong and has softened only at the very top margins. CB6 recognizes the current dire need for affordable housing within New York City and that this City can and must do much more to expand affordable housing options that allow more residents to share the positive attributes of the district and help to create a more equitable city. CB6 has urged the City to take strong measures to generate more affordable housing through new construction and regulatory changes in CB6 and city-wide. We would like to see the City maximize the number and affordability levels of new housing development, particularly in any new rezoned areas. CB6 residents should have protections from displacement and cost of living burdens, due to increased property values in new development areas, and district wide. The preservation and enhancement of NYCHA properties is imperative, and the City needs to do all it can to update and maintain NYCHA properties to serve a critical segment of the City's residents.

Needs for Economic Development

There are two facets to Community District 6's economic development needs: Invest in Businesses and Invest in People

1) Invest in Businesses:

- Small businesses -- including retail and industrial/manufacturing -- need support to be viable. Empty storefronts plague our community -- DCP's pre-COVID report, "Assessing Storefront Vacancy in NYC," characterized Park Slope and Cobble Hill in its "medium/high vacancy rate" category, and we have seen newly vacant storefronts increase since COVID. The district is also heavily reliant on restaurants, which makes the district even more vulnerable to closures and occupancy caps due to the pandemic. According to an analysis reported in The Patch in October 2020, "The number of empty storefronts on Park Slope's Fifth Avenue more than doubled this year, bringing its vacancy rate to a decade-long high." (<https://patch.com/new-york/parkslope/coronavirus-crisis-doubles-empty-stores-park-slope-main-street>). We would like to see additional time and energy spent on coming up with solutions that will enable our commercial strips and neighborhood-serving businesses to be viable.
- This also means that the City must focus on businesses in manufacturing zones. This has been clearly stated as a priority within the Gowanus rezoning plans, but it also applies to Red Hook's industrial areas, including the IBZ and waterfront businesses. These businesses typically offer better

pay than retail, and have more advancement opportunities. The City must invest time and resources in the industrial and manufacturing sector/

2) Invest in People

- Residents -- particularly youth and unemployed residents of the NYCHA developments in Red Hook and Gowanus – need employment pathways. Unemployment was already high before the pandemic, and it has gotten worse. Youth have few employment pathways, as the Summer Youth Employment Program was almost eliminated last year, and it has become nearly impossible to obtain internships and entry-level jobs. Youth in NYCHA developments who need opportunities for training, placement, internships, summer employment and career support.
 - NYCHA Red Hook residents are also far from the Workforce 1 site in downtown Brooklyn, necessitating more localized workforce services in Red Hook
 - We continue to want to see expansion of commercial corridor BIDs and increased technical assistance, as the BID model has proven to be a great success and is important during the pandemic (<https://commercialobserver.com/2020/05/in-the-wake-of-covid-19-new-yorks-bids-help-keep-their-neighborhoods-thriving/>). We also would like to see the City be proactive in exploring the formation of an Industrial BID (IBID) or other mechanisms to provide greater support to industrial businesses, including basic services and long-term investments in infrastructure that will support growth in local business districts and access to the districts extensive waterfront.
 - Finally, it is essential to ensure that families have adequate affordable childcare so that parents can obtain and sustain employment.
-

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/29	SBS	Other capital budget request for SBS	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition (if necessary), design and construction of a Red Hook workforce development center. Red Hook has seen the creation of hundreds of new jobs in the last few years from large-scale retail development, introduction of tourism-related industries, and induced commercial development. Its residential population is in need of a local job center where employment training, recruiting and referral services can be offered in addition to courses that promote local entrepreneurship, and generally support the development of the local workforce preparing them for jobs. Because of its geographic isolation and transportation hurdles, Red Hook residents cannot easily access services in Downtown Brooklyn.</i>	
6/29	NYCHA	Other public housing upgrades or renovations requests	<i>Funds are requested to eliminate mold and other infrastructure problems in NYCHA buildings in CB6. NYCHA buildings in Red Hook were built in the 1930s and have had dangerous mold and infrastructure problems for years, which are only increasing with climate change. While we understand NYCHA is operating without the full funding it deserves, we want to reinforce that the declining quality of NYCHA housing in our district is threatening the health of our community members, adding extra respiratory risk to the most COVID-vulnerable among us who live in high-density housing.</i>	
7/29	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	<i>Funds are requested to improve outdoor public space and mitigate urban heat island effects at Red Hook Houses to compensate for the 457 trees, 14 water sprinkler systems and many community spaces eliminated as part of FEMA construction work. The heat generated by these removals has created dangerous health conditions for residents, especially young children and older residents. Specific remediation should be determined in consultation with residents but this may include replanting trees, installing new benches, soil testing and drainage study, and/or new outdoor recreation facilities.</i>	

18/29	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the planning, site selection/acquisition, development and construction of affordable senior housing in the Carroll Gardens section of our district.</i>
25/29	EDC	Make infrastructure investments that will support growth in local business districts	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the planning and construction of a cross harbor freight tunnel to link New York and New Jersey by rail to 1) provide for the efficient movement of bulk goods through the region, 2) reduce the amount of truck traffic with its corresponding impacts on traffic volumes, air quality, public safety, etc., and 3) expand opportunities for economic growth in the region. Transportation is one of the most significant obstacles to growth in the region, as our bridges, tunnels and highways experience on a daily basis. Without taking advantage of the area's features - its waterfront and untapped rail potential - further economic growth in the region is threatened. Replacing truck use by rail and barge options should be our top priority. (REQUEST IS FOR PANYNJ!)</i>
CS	EDC	Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a maritime cultural use at the Atlantic Basin, as we previously suggested, discussed and promised by EDC during and since the development of their Piers 6-12 study for the Brooklyn Waterfront. Many years have lapsed since the study, yet there is no cultural use in place despite the agency's commitments to the community. Funds are needed to provide suitable docking facilities, upland connections and necessary infrastructure (electrical, water, sewage, etc.) to support such a use.</i>
CS	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a redesign and rehabilitation of the existing Wyckoff Gardens Community Center to allow for a more efficient and effective use of the space. Modernization should include but not be limited to such items as improved security system, new lighting/electrical systems, HVAC/plumbing upgrades, painting and masonry. A solar energy system should also be added to the rooftop as a sustainability and resiliency measure to enable the center to remain powered in the event of electrical grid disruption or failure.</i>

Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/23	SBS	Other workforce development requests	<i>To combat high levels of unemployment, particularly in our Gowanus and Red Hook neighborhoods, coupled with significant Federal changes in the existing public assistance programs, additional focus must be placed on preparing persons for work and expanding work opportunities. Given the far- reaching impact of unemployment and its undesirable effects on health, education and social welfare, it is imperative that front-end investment in human capital occur to ensure local economic utility.</i>	
4/23	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Funds are requested to increase the capacity of NYCHA direct-entry union training programs. Membership in a union is a prerequisite for NYCHA residents to participate in the city's new community hiring program. The current program is extremely successful but its capacity is only 100 residents. Building extra capacity would unlock the life-changing benefits of this program for CB6 NYCHA residents.</i>	
13/23	SBS	Other expense budget request for SBS	<i>SBS: Sufficient funds are requested to support existing and enable additional groups to embark on feasibility studies and supportive planning activities to move toward the formation of additional Business Improvement Districts (BID) in appropriate commercial and industrial areas. BIDs are proven to be an asset for the City insofar as they provide needed administrative infrastructure designed to support local commerce at the neighborhood level. Furthermore, the expansion of BIDs from the traditional commercial into the industrial sector will enable the City to better protect the fragile manufacturing sector, which often produces higher wage paying jobs, with specialty skills, and reduces the cost of goods in the City by making us less reliant on imports.</i>	

14/23	NYCHA	Other housing support requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the expansion of NYCHA Maintenance personnel staff, perhaps through the creation of an in-house training program that would take employable NYCHA residents and train them in the skilled trades in an apprenticeship program and workforce development initiative. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates could be placed in maintenance and construction positions in the private market through the NYCHA- REES program.</i>
20/23	EDC	Other expense budget request for EDC	<i>EDC: Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition, planning and construction of a district wide tourism center, perhaps located at the Red Hook Cruise Ship Terminal, to provide a focal point for the growing tourism industry in our district. Such features as our historic brownstone residential communities (Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill and Park Slope), Columbia Street, Gowanus and Red Hook waterfront features, Prospect Park, and other local points-of-attraction, are growing in popularity as tourists are flocking more and more to our district. A tourism center that would highlight the cultural, shopping, restaurants and other features of the district will help ensure that marketing and promotion of the district's amenities were fully leveraged.</i>
21/23	SBS	Other business regulatory assistance requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to hire additional Waterfront Enforcement Division personnel, currently 6 persons citywide, to ensure that adequate coverage of the City's 578 miles of waterfront will be preserved and protected. Waterfront Enforcement Division personnel are responsible for enforcing the City's building code for waterfront properties, some of the most valuable and sensitive properties in the City. This would be a good way to reverse the trend of neglect suffered by the City's lack of waterfront development policies over the past few decades, and signify a commitment to the renewed importance of the City's waterfront as an asset and resource to draw from.</i>

TRANSPORTATION

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Pedestrian safety (safer crossings, sidewalk management, Open Streets, etc.)

The District's many major thoroughfares often lack clear sight-lines for pedestrians as they cross the street, an issue exacerbated by the ever-escalating traffic density that pushes vehicles onto our more residential streets, as well. Bicycle infrastructure also needs to be updated and hardened on our streets.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

Roadway design that will improve pedestrian and cyclist safety are high priorities, including the implementation of curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks, and enhancement and connection of the bike lane network. Traffic congestion is a problem on many district streets, exacerbated by enormous growth in home delivery of goods, which can be improved with implementation of commercial and residential loading zones and better freight management. A comprehensive traffic study is necessary to address exploding growth in last-mile delivery facilities in Red Hook.

Needs for Transit Services

Subway accessibility is a key issue for residents of CB6, as no stations within the district are currently served by elevators. The district also lacks east-west bus service, and there is widespread support to reactivate and enhance the B71 route, which was discontinued in 2010. The district also suffers from slow bus speeds, and would benefit from implementation of transit-signal priority and other enhancements.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/29	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the identification, design, and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Smith-9th Street subway station, which happens to be the highest elevated public transit point in the entire world. Despite a recent comprehensive station rehabilitation, escalators at this station are still prone to frequent service disruptions which not only inconveniences riders but makes station access impossible for physically-challenged individuals. This station is also the only subway stop nearest to the Red Hook community, a neighborhood woefully under-served by transportation options.</i>	
8/29	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Sufficient funding is requested for the design and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Grand Army Plaza subway station, which is not only an important intermodal transfer within the transit system but also provides primary access to a number of Brooklyn's most visited cultural institutions--such as the Grand Army Plaza, Prospect Park, and the Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch--and is a gateway to the Flatbush Avenue and Park Slope commercial corridors.</i>	
9/29	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a comprehensive redesign and reconstruction of this subway station to include a mezzanine arcade that would convert the underutilized underground space as a commercial area offering small shops - ideally tenanted by local entrepreneurs and independent business owners - with goods and services targeted to the patrons who routinely utilize this subway station, specifically, local residents, employees of NY Methodist Hospital, students at John Jay Educational Campus, and other employers/employees and visitors to the neighborhood. The station should also be retrofit with handicapped access points. This project would also provide a new revenue stream for NYC Transit and promote a more active use of this space.</i>	

13/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the reconstruction of Court Street from Atlantic to Hamilton Avenues with historic amenities. Preliminary Design Investigation to ascertain the condition of the infrastructure along the project limits. Relocate all utility service boxes below ground, repair/replace missing curb sections, reset curb elevations, repair concrete bus pads and repair defective sidewalk conditions. Use granite curb, bluestone or pigmented concrete sidewalks, historic replica street hardware including street lights, poles-in-ground, fire alarm boxes and hydrants. Also, the inclusion of appropriate traffic calming devices such as, but not limited to, neck downs, bus bulbs, etc. as called for in the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming project.</i>
14/29	DOT	Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	<i>Sufficient funds should be allocated toward the inclusion of special treatment street resurfacing work in the department's development of future contract work to incorporate the restoration, preservation and maintenance of cobblestone streets. This construction material serves as a traffic calming device, is far more durable than commonly used asphalt material, is a signature characteristic of streets in our Red Hook community and enhances the historic integrity of the community.</i>
17/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to remediate the problems associated with the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Trench running through our district parallel to Hicks Street. The BQE Trench inhibits local access and mobility between the Columbia Waterfront, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill neighborhoods. The concentration of traffic flowing through the trench creates vibrations, noise, odors and other air emissions that impact the residential communities adjacent to the trench. The trench provides opportunities to create new open space and expand resiliency measures (photovoltaics, storm water capture/diversion, etc.). Building on the momentum of a prior study's findings, remedies and opportunities must now be considered, funded and constructed.</i>

19/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the construction of traffic safety median islands in the Furman-Atlantic-Columbia transition area, the approach to Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6 public park, and area growing in popularity and increasingly traveled by pedestrians and recreation users. Prior to the opening of Pier 6, this area was generally unused by pedestrians and was almost exclusively a southbound route used by commuters seeking to avoid the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway. Now, with the opening of Pier 6 and the two-way conversion of Furman Street, vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns have completely altered the use and complexion of this bustling area. Immediate in-house improvements have done a lot to improve safety, at the cost of aesthetics.</i>
20/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the full installation of all terracotta street name and historic district maps/narrative signage in the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill and Park Slope Historic Districts. New signage is especially needed in Park Slope with the approved expansion of the Park Slope Historic District in 2012.</i>
22/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a replacement of the existing standard-issue cobra head street lights with appropriate historic replica street lights in the neighborhoods of Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens. Currently, only Atlantic Avenue, Clinton Street and Smith Street in these neighborhoods have such amenities. The balance of the neighborhood's street lights should be replaced to enhance and restore the historic integrity of these landmark districts and historically-sensitive areas.</i>
23/29	DOT	Repair or construct new curbs or pedestrian ramps	<i>In addition to the regular cement sidewalk replacement activity, we request that the department broaden its scope to include the option of restoring by contract those sidewalks which include special treatments, notably bluestone material. Not only is bluestone a more durable material with significantly longer life expectancy, it also serves to enhance the historic integrity and value of the community. Many property owners are willing to pay the extra cost to have this option, especially given the City's ability to leverage lower cost through bulk contracting.</i>

26/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition, mapping, design and construction of a new City street which would extend Conover Street northward from Pioneer Street to Hamilton Avenue in Red Hook. This new street will not only provide additional capacity to handle the new traffic volumes destined for the cruise ship terminal under construction at Pier 12, but will also provide an alternative for the relocation of the Van Brunt Street leg of the City's local Truck Route network in Red Hook. It will ensure that the local street grid is not only not negatively impacted by the cruise terminal traffic but that it will benefit from relieving Van Brunt Street of trucks and removing the existing conflict by directing trucks closer to the industrial section of the neighborhood.</i>
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>

CS	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	<i>In conjunction with the city's infrastructure work being planned under HWK700B, sufficient funds are requested to undertake the design investigation and construction of appropriate amenities and traffic calming devices to facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians and traffic. Such amenities could include, but not be limited to, the reintroduction of cobblestone treatments, historic lighting, granite curbs, etc. The scope of the existing street reconstruction project should be expanded to include a full electrical upgrade for all of Red Hook with the goal of burying the vulnerable, above-ground electrical lines and ensuring that the grid is modern and able to withstand future events like Hurricane Sandy which plunged the area into darkness for months.</i>
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of new traffic medians on 4th Avenue between Pacific Street and 8th Streets that would improve pedestrian and vehicular safety along this busy traffic corridor. New medians would include protected pedestrian refuge areas and raised, planted medians with irrigation systems, that would prevent unsafe and unpredictable pedestrian behavior which occurs frequently and is likely a contributing cause to high accident rates along the corridor.</i>
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Funds in the amount of \$26,300,000 are requested to undertake a reconstruction of the Union Street Bridge (HBK1213), a double-leaf Scherzer Bascule bridge which spans the Gowanus Canal. This bridge received a FAIR rating yet is one of the few east-west connectors that provide access and mobility throughout our district. It is a vital corridor that links our waterfront to inland points. Deferred public investment increases the vulnerability of this structure as unanticipated structural failures may occur, resulting in increased cost and time of repair and unwarranted impacts on the surrounding community. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.</i>

CS	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a full rehabilitation of the 3rd Street Bridge (HBKC068), a double-leaf Bascule Bridge spanning the Gowanus Canal, to improve long- term viability of the structure. For the sake of access and mobility through the district, there are only a handful of east-west connectors that span the Gowanus Canal, on which the community is wholly reliant. Deferred investment increases the likelihood of structural failures, more costly repairs, and longer periods of disruption and inconvenience to the community when the bridge is out of service. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.</i>
CS	NYCTA	Other transit infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the installation of cellular/Wi-Fi service in subways systems as a way of improving public safety by increasing channels of communication between riders and emergency service providers in the event that emergency assistance is needed.</i>

Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/23	DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for restoration of full- time (non-seasonal) work gangs to respond to year- round routine maintenance calls for potholes and street depressions. There has been a noticeable decrease in productivity and increase in response times in this area attributable to significant loss of manpower. There has also been a significant delay in pothole response times during the winter-spring transition which could be remedied by maintaining more year-round personnel to respond to complaints.</i>	

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Most Important Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Other

While the Parks within the District have some needs that fall within any reasonable understanding of the fourteen possible responses provided by the Department of City Planning, we have selected "Other" because foundational issue that undergirds the needs we have in each of these categories is the City's austerity relative to the needs of the community.

Community District Needs Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Needs for Parks

The Park department has responsibility for maintaining an ever expanding collection of parks and properties including pocket gardens, GreenStreets, Bioswales, and our street trees. They are expected to do this with a much reduced and declining percentage of the NYC budget. They are unable to hire and train permanent staff and must rely on temporary workfare recipients for much of their work. Most of our parks are just barely maintained and shabby compared to the Parks I have seen in Europe. It just comes down to pride of place and proper funding.

Needs for Cultural Services

No comments

Needs for Library Services

Both the Carroll Gardens and Park Slope branches of the Brooklyn Public Library are in need of various capital improvements, and as is the case with all other public buildings in the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ventilation systems in all of the District's library buildings should be reassessed and replaced if need be.

Needs for Community Boards

Community Boards have seen their responsibilities expand rapidly over the last decade, all without any update to their funding or staffing capacity. In just the last few years, District Office staff have been newly tasked with digital timesheet entry and confirmation and learning multiple purchase order and inventory programs, both projects that used to be handled by the Borough President's office. Additionally, District Office staff are now responsible for major digital projects, such as this District Needs and Capital/Expense Budget Priorities. All of this while the Boards themselves will start to lean on the District Office staff more than ever with the advent of Board Member term limits. To say that Community Board funding should be maintained at its current level is an especially gracious understatement.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
10/29	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a comprehensive facility rehabilitation project for the Red Hook Recreation Center. Scope of work to include at a minimum upgraded programming space for users, office space for department personnel (i.e., painting, electrical, windows, lighting, etc.), perimeter improvements and outfitting with new recreation and office equipment to support both users and staff. It is essential that increasing demands for local recreational opportunities be met within the neighborhood as transportation options available within the neighborhood limit the extent to which local residents can take advantage of facilities in other neighborhoods.</i>	
11/29	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>A total of \$6.35M is requested for infrastructure upgrades to the Carroll Gardens branch library, to specifically include exterior renovation and windows (\$1.0M), new boiler (\$750k), interior renovation (\$3.0M), new furniture & equipment (\$750k), and safety and security enhancements (\$250k). The Carroll Gardens branch is an unrenovated, heavily-utilized Carnegie branch. The building's critical infrastructure needs to be upgraded.</i>	
12/29	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a window replacement project for 250 Baltic Street in the Cobble Hill Historic District. This 1936 building still has the original single-paned and uninsulated windows making them highly inefficient energy-wasting devices which negatively contribute to the building tenants' comfort and safety. Modern, energy- efficient windows appropriately designed to area's historic district would go a long way toward reducing heating and cooling costs, improving safety, and creating a vastly improved work environment for the State, City and non-profit entities that occupy the space in this City- owned building. While the City-State have talked about changing ownership status of this building for more than a decade, it will crumble</i>	

16/29	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Funds in the amount of \$3.0M are requested for the design and construction of roof and restoration of skylights (\$1.0M) and exterior renovations (\$2.0M) for the Park Slope branch library. The Park Slope library was recently reopened after an extensive interior renovation. This heavily-utilized branch and beloved community institution is one of the three landmarked Carnegie branches in the BPL system. A total exterior renovation would include brick work, refurbished wrought-iron fencing, stonework/repair of concrete entrance stairs, improved signage, landscaping, and sidewalk repair work.</i>
28/29	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a new park--Columbia Waterfront Park--on the City-owned properties along the westside of Columbia Street between Kane and Degraw Streets. These properties are currently in the Department of Transportation's portfolio but they have agreed to release them for the development of a future park to be built there. Much work has already gone into conceptualizing a park use of the space which, with an adequate budget, can be easily adapted into designs and construction plans.</i>
CS	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a series of Capital improvements to Prospect Park including, but not limited to: Lakeside Project (\$9 mil additional), Long Meadow ball fields (\$1.2 mil), lighting at Grand Army Plaza and the arch at Grand Army Plaza, and a continuation of traffic improvements at the Grand Army Plaza circle.</i>

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/23	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Maintenance personnel to provide for vital maintenance and report of Parks facilities. With the added supervisory role Parks Maintenance workers perform through the departmental use of JTP and other volunteer workers, more staff are needed to continue to fulfill the traditional roles and tasks performed by Parks Maintenance staff.</i>	

6/23	OMB	Provide more community board staff	<i>Funding in the amount of \$450,000 is requested in order for Community Boards to fulfill their Charter mandated roles to plan and advocate for neighborhood needs. An increase in funds will be used to fund the hiring of a full-time urban planner, to keep pace with cost of living adjustments which have never been applied to Community Boards, to upgrade complaint systems software which was previously supplied and supported by prior Administrations and to expand District Office functionality with the purchase of additional equipment and supplies. Increases to budget due to collective bargaining agreements and maintaining the budget at its current level do not address this request; both are effectively negative responses which should trigger a separate letter explaining the agency's position.</i>
11/23	DPR	Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers	<i>Funds are requested for upgrades including resumption of the compost program at Red Hook Community Farms, a youth-led food justice program. Since curbside composting programs were cut due to the pandemic, the most-asked question at the farm has been "Are you all accepting food scraps for composting?" Red Hook has no farmer's market and so no access to even private food-scrap composting operations. As such, all food scraps are going to landfills (a city-wide increase of 100 million pounds / year) - food scraps that could instead be used to create rich compost at a local site that already has capacity and expertise, and increase community cohesion, youth empowerment to boot.</i>
15/23	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Recreation personnel to increase the inventory and range of recreation options available particularly to our teenage youth population. With fewer part-time job opportunities and shrinking afterschool programs we are looking to increase the number of constructive options for this population to keep them engaged in productive, supervised activities.</i>

16/23	DPR	Other street trees and forestry services requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to hire additional Parks Forestry personnel to regularly address pruning and stump removal to maintain the health and safety of our communities. While the city allocates sufficient money for the continuous planting of new trees increasing the City's inventory of street trees, particularly with the aggressive Million Trees Initiative, corresponding increases in the Parks Forestry Division are a necessary accompaniment to ensure that sufficient resources are available for ongoing maintenance needs.</i>
22/23	DPR	New equipment for maintenance	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to ensure the timely replacement of fleet vehicles used in the service of our public parks properties including collection vehicles, repair vehicles, enforcement patrol vehicles, pickup trucks, etc.</i>

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Other Capital Requests

The Community Board did not submit any Budget Requests in this category.

Other Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
19/23	LPC	Other expense budget request for LPC	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to provide for the hire of additional LPC inspection and enforcement personnel to address complaint investigations, improve upon agency response times to requested inspections, and foster a global atmosphere of increased compliance with landmark regulations. Given the expansion of the role of the agency through the broadening of their enforcement powers to include the issuance of civil penalties, an accompanying increase of personnel is necessary to carry out the agency's additional enforcement mandates.</i>	

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

Capital Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/29	HHC	Provide a new or expanded health care facility	<i>Funds are requested for the purchase and deployment of more free mobile and pop-up testing and vaccination facilities. While we hope the COVID-19 pandemic will be waning by 2022, the fall 2020 wave shows that flexibility is essential in order to reach high-need areas as surges happen and positivity rates change. CB6 does not have a New York City Health + Hospitals facility and thus lacks access to H+H's rapid point-of-care testing. The only hospital within the district boundaries, Methodist, is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed. Additionally, mobile and pop-up units can be utilized for vaccinations, including seasonal flu shots, so that investments in such infrastructure has broader use.</i>	
2/29	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Funds are requested to upgrade ventilation and/or outdoor classroom facilities for schools in the district. Adequate ventilation is essential to keeping schools safely open during a pandemic. It also contributes to the district's climate resiliency goals. In addition, schools have been creative with creating outdoor classroom space with sunshades, tents and rain covers during the pandemic. As climate change causes more extreme weather events, this need for flexible classroom space will likely intensify.</i>	
3/29	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the identification, design, and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Smith-9th Street subway station, which happens to be the highest elevated public transit point in the entire world. Despite a recent comprehensive station rehabilitation, escalators at this station are still prone to frequent service disruptions which not only inconveniences riders but makes station access impossible for physically-challenged individuals. This station is also the only subway stop nearest to the Red Hook community, a neighborhood woefully under-served by transportation options.</i>	

4/29	DOE	Other capital budget request for DOE	<i>Funds are requested for high quality home internet and computing devices for public school students. With so many public spaces closed during the pandemic, students without wifi or a decent computer at home have very few options to attend class and do their homework, exacerbating pre-existing inequalities and denying students a basic right. This has hit students who live in unstable housing the hardest. This program should fund high quality internet at home for students who currently lack access, via hotspots or wired service according to student need, and should fund sufficiently powerful computers for students to attend class via video and to do schoolwork.</i>
5/29	SBS	Other capital budget request for SBS	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition (if necessary), design and construction of a Red Hook workforce development center. Red Hook has seen the creation of hundreds of new jobs in the last few years from large-scale retail development, introduction of tourism-related industries, and induced commercial development. Its residential population is in need of a local job center where employment training, recruiting and referral services can be offered in addition to courses that promote local entrepreneurship, and generally support the development of the local workforce preparing them for jobs. Because of its geographic isolation and transportation hurdles, Red Hook residents cannot easily access services in Downtown Brooklyn.</i>
6/29	NYCHA	Other public housing upgrades or renovations requests	<i>Funds are requested to eliminate mold and other infrastructure problems in NYCHA buildings in CB6. NYCHA buildings in Red Hook were built in the 1930s and have had dangerous mold and infrastructure problems for years, which are only increasing with climate change. While we understand NYCHA is operating without the full funding it deserves, we want to reinforce that the declining quality of NYCHA housing in our district is threatening the health of our community members, adding extra respiratory risk to the most COVID-vulnerable among us who live in high-density housing.</i>

7/29	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	<i>Funds are requested to improve outdoor public space and mitigate urban heat island effects at Red Hook Houses to compensate for the 457 trees, 14 water sprinkler systems and many community spaces eliminated as part of FEMA construction work. The heat generated by these removals has created dangerous health conditions for residents, especially young children and older residents. Specific remediation should be determined in consultation with residents but this may include replanting trees, installing new benches, soil testing and drainage study, and/or new outdoor recreation facilities.</i>
8/29	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Sufficient funding is requested for the design and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Grand Army Plaza subway station, which is not only an important intermodal transfer within the transit system but also provides primary access to a number of Brooklyn's most visited cultural institutions--such as the Grand Army Plaza, Prospect Park, and the Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch--and is a gateway to the Flatbush Avenue and Park Slope commercial corridors.</i>
9/29	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a comprehensive redesign and reconstruction of this subway station to include a mezzanine arcade that would convert the underutilized underground space as a commercial area offering small shops - ideally tenanted by local entrepreneurs and independent business owners - with goods and services targeted to the patrons who routinely utilize this subway station, specifically, local residents, employees of NY Methodist Hospital, students at John Jay Educational Campus, and other employers/employees and visitors to the neighborhood. The station should also be retrofit with handicapped access points. This project would also provide a new revenue stream for NYC Transit and promote a more active use of this space.</i>

10/29	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a comprehensive facility rehabilitation project for the Red Hook Recreation Center. Scope of work to include at a minimum upgraded programming space for users, office space for department personnel (i.e., painting, electrical, windows, lighting, etc.), perimeter improvements and outfitting with new recreation and office equipment to support both users and staff. It is essential that increasing demands for local recreational opportunities be met within the neighborhood as transportation options available within the neighborhood limit the extent to which local residents can take advantage of facilities in other neighborhoods.</i>
11/29	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>A total of \$6.35M is requested for infrastructure upgrades to the Carroll Gardens branch library, to specifically include exterior renovation and windows (\$1.0M), new boiler (\$750k), interior renovation (\$3.0M), new furniture & equipment (\$750k), and safety and security enhancements (\$250k). The Carroll Gardens branch is an unrenovated, heavily-utilized Carnegie branch. The building's critical infrastructure needs to be upgraded.</i>
12/29	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a window replacement project for 250 Baltic Street in the Cobble Hill Historic District. This 1936 building still has the original single-paned and uninsulated windows making them highly inefficient energy-wasting devices which negatively contribute to the building tenants' comfort and safety. Modern, energy- efficient windows appropriately designed to area's historic district would go a long way toward reducing heating and cooling costs, improving safety, and creating a vastly improved work environment for the State, City and non-profit entities that occupy the space in this City- owned building. While the City-State have talked about changing ownership status of this building for more than a decade, it will crumble</i>

13/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the reconstruction of Court Street from Atlantic to Hamilton Avenues with historic amenities. Preliminary Design Investigation to ascertain the condition of the infrastructure along the project limits. Relocate all utility service boxes below ground, repair/replace missing curb sections, reset curb elevations, repair concrete bus pads and repair defective sidewalk conditions. Use granite curb, bluestone or pigmented concrete sidewalks, historic replica street hardware including street lights, poles-in-ground, fire alarm boxes and hydrants. Also, the inclusion of appropriate traffic calming devices such as, but not limited to, neck downs, bus bulbs, etc. as called for in the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming project.</i>
14/29	DOT	Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	<i>Sufficient funds should be allocated toward the inclusion of special treatment street resurfacing work in the department's development of future contract work to incorporate the restoration, preservation and maintenance of cobblestone streets. This construction material serves as a traffic calming device, is far more durable than commonly used asphalt material, is a signature characteristic of streets in our Red Hook community and enhances the historic integrity of the community.</i>
15/29	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 321 gymnasium at 180 7th Avenue in Park Slope. The poor acoustics in the gymnasium prevents it from being effectively used a multi-purpose space in a school that is historically crowded and in need of additional space. A relatively small project to soundproof the gymnasium would enhance school space utilization, making it more suitable for a wider variety of uses.</i>

16/29	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Funds in the amount of \$3.0M are requested for the design and construction of roof and restoration of skylights (\$1.0M) and exterior renovations (\$2.0M) for the Park Slope branch library. The Park Slope library was recently reopened after an extensive interior renovation. This heavily-utilized branch and beloved community institution is one of the three landmarked Carnegie branches in the BPL system. A total exterior renovation would include brick work, refurbished wrought-iron fencing, stonework/repair of concrete entrance stairs, improved signage, landscaping, and sidewalk repair work.</i>
17/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to remediate the problems associated with the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Trench running through our district parallel to Hicks Street. The BQE Trench inhibits local access and mobility between the Columbia Waterfront, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill neighborhoods. The concentration of traffic flowing through the trench creates vibrations, noise, odors and other air emissions that impact the residential communities adjacent to the trench. The trench provides opportunities to create new open space and expand resiliency measures (photovoltaics, storm water capture/diversion, etc.). Building on the momentum of a prior study's findings, remedies and opportunities must now be considered, funded and constructed.</i>
18/29	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the planning, site selection/acquisition, development and construction of affordable senior housing in the Carroll Gardens section of our district.</i>

19/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the construction of traffic safety median islands in the Furman-Atlantic-Columbia transition area, the approach to Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6 public park, and area growing in popularity and increasingly traveled by pedestrians and recreation users. Prior to the opening of Pier 6, this area was generally unused by pedestrians and was almost exclusively a southbound route used by commuters seeking to avoid the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway. Now, with the opening of Pier 6 and the two-way conversion of Furman Street, vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns have completely altered the use and complexion of this bustling area. Immediate in-house improvements have done a lot to improve safety, at the cost of aesthetics.</i>
20/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the full installation of all terracotta street name and historic district maps/narrative signage in the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill and Park Slope Historic Districts. New signage is especially needed in Park Slope with the approved expansion of the Park Slope Historic District in 2012.</i>
21/29	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition of radar speed signs to provide advisories to motorists in areas where speeding is suspected or confirmed. Radar Speed Signs can provide a constant monitoring presence to help raise awareness and act as a potential deterrent. Compliance with the City's new 25MPH speed limit relies on an enforcement presence which, at best, can be challenging given limitations of manpower and competing deployment priorities; to some degree these signs can help augment these limitations.</i>
22/29	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a replacement of the existing standard-issue cobra head street lights with appropriate historic replica street lights in the neighborhoods of Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens. Currently, only Atlantic Avenue, Clinton Street and Smith Street in these neighborhoods have such amenities. The balance of the neighborhood's street lights should be replaced to enhance and restore the historic integrity of these landmark districts and historically-sensitive areas.</i>

23/29	DOT	Repair or construct new curbs or pedestrian ramps	<i>In addition to the regular cement sidewalk replacement activity, we request that the department broaden its scope to include the option of restoring by contract those sidewalks which include special treatments, notably bluestone material. Not only is bluestone a more durable material with significantly longer life expectancy, it also serves to enhance the historic integrity and value of the community. Many property owners are willing to pay the extra cost to have this option, especially given the City's ability to leverage lower cost through bulk contracting.</i>
24/29	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition and deployment of Variable Message Boards (VMBs), at least one per precinct, to be used to advise the public of upcoming street closures, events, alerts and other vital information that would enhance public safety and preparedness. The strategic placement of VMBs can provide important directions, reduce traffic congestion, and otherwise assist NYPD in messaging information to the public. Precinct Commanders should have the flexibility to deploy VMBs as needed and in response to ongoing changing conditions within the precinct.</i>
25/29	EDC	Make infrastructure investments that will support growth in local business districts	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the planning and construction of a cross harbor freight tunnel to link New York and New Jersey by rail to 1) provide for the efficient movement of bulk goods through the region, 2) reduce the amount of truck traffic with its corresponding impacts on traffic volumes, air quality, public safety, etc., and 3) expand opportunities for economic growth in the region. Transportation is one of the most significant obstacles to growth in the region, as our bridges, tunnels and highways experience on a daily basis. Without taking advantage of the area's features - its waterfront and untapped rail potential - further economic growth in the region is threatened. Replacing truck use by rail and barge options should be our top priority. (REQUEST IS FOR PANYNJ!)</i>

26/29	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition, mapping, design and construction of a new City street which would extend Conover Street northward from Pioneer Street to Hamilton Avenue in Red Hook. This new street will not only provide additional capacity to handle the new traffic volumes destined for the cruise ship terminal under construction at Pier 12, but will also provide an alternative for the relocation of the Van Brunt Street leg of the City's local Truck Route network in Red Hook. It will ensure that the local street grid is not only not negatively impacted by the cruise terminal traffic but that it will benefit from relieving Van Brunt Street of trucks and removing the existing conflict by directing trucks closer to the industrial section of the neighborhood.</i>
27/29	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the relocation of BK2 District Sanitation Garage and Broom Garage into the Community Board 2 district to comply with coterminality requirements of the Charter. In the interim, we encourage the department to explore alternatives at the current garage location at 127 2nd Avenue including the reconstruction of the existing garage (addition of a story?) to fully accommodate all fleet vehicles and equipment off the street and sidewalk and under one roof.</i>
28/29	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a new park--Columbia Waterfront Park--on the City-owned properties along the westside of Columbia Street between Kane and Degraw Streets. These properties are currently in the Department of Transportation's portfolio but they have agreed to release them for the development of a future park to be built there. Much work has already gone into conceptualizing a park use of the space which, with an adequate budget, can be easily adapted into designs and construction plans.</i>

29/29	SCA	Renovate other site component	<i>Funds in the amount of at least \$150,000 are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 39 cafeteria at 417 6th Avenue in Park Slope. The tiny cave-like basement cafeteria is the largest open space in the school. The low tin roof and cement walls do little to absorb the loud whir of giant freezers or the noise of the fans used to cool the space due to the lack of air conditioning and window space. When you add more than 350 students during lunchtime the sounds reverberate around the room. The noise drowns out any conversations happening at the tables. By adding wall & ceiling mounted sound panels, extraneous noise will be lessened to manageable levels.</i>
CS	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to equip every firehouse with an emergency generator to ensure continuous electrical supply. Firehouses serve as cooling stations during heat emergencies and, in general, serve the public as a critical local public safety facility for emergency and medical services. Maintaining electrical supply is essential both from an operational standpoint and to maintain a high degree of public confidence in the department's ability to provide a safe haven during times of crisis. We lost service to one of our firehouses in Red Hook during Hurricane Sandy, and would suggest that this site become an immediate priority.</i>
CS	EDC	Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a maritime cultural use at the Atlantic Basin, as we previously suggested, discussed and promised by EDC during and since the development of their Piers 6-12 study for the Brooklyn Waterfront. Many years have lapsed since the study, yet there is no cultural use in place despite the agency's commitments to the community. Funds are needed to provide suitable docking facilities, upland connections and necessary infrastructure (electrical, water, sewage, etc.) to support such a use.</i>

CS	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a redesign and rehabilitation of the existing Wyckoff Gardens Community Center to allow for a more efficient and effective use of the space. Modernization should include but not be limited to such items as improved security system, new lighting/electrical systems, HVAC/plumbing upgrades, painting and masonry. A solar energy system should also be added to the rooftop as a sustainability and resiliency measure to enable the center to remain powered in the event of electrical grid disruption or failure.</i>
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>
CS	DEP	Other capital budget request for DEP	<i>DEP: Sufficient funds are requested for the area wide installation of green infrastructure including, but not limited to, bioswales, offline retention capacities, rain barrels, pervious surface treatments, and other best management practices, to aggressively prevent storm water from entering into the sewer system. Reduction of storm water entry into the system is necessary to reduce the amount of Combined Sewer Overflow events that occur, particularly within the Gowanus watershed area.</i>

CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>
CS	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	<i>In conjunction with the city's infrastructure work being planned under HWK700B, sufficient funds are requested to undertake the design investigation and construction of appropriate amenities and traffic calming devices to facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians and traffic. Such amenities could include, but not be limited to, the reintroduction of cobblestone treatments, historic lighting, granite curbs, etc. The scope of the existing street reconstruction project should be expanded to include a full electrical upgrade for all of Red Hook with the goal of burying the vulnerable, above-ground electrical lines and ensuring that the grid is modern and able to withstand future events like Hurricane Sandy which plunged the area into darkness for months.</i>
CS	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a series of Capital improvements to Prospect Park including, but not limited to: Lakeside Project (\$9 mil additional), Long Meadow ball fields (\$1.2 mil), lighting at Grand Army Plaza and the arch at Grand Army Plaza, and a continuation of traffic improvements at the Grand Army Plaza circle.</i>

CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of new traffic medians on 4th Avenue between Pacific Street and 8th Streets that would improve pedestrian and vehicular safety along this busy traffic corridor. New medians would include protected pedestrian refuge areas and raised, planted medians with irrigation systems, that would prevent unsafe and unpredictable pedestrian behavior which occurs frequently and is likely a contributing cause to high accident rates along the corridor.</i>
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Funds in the amount of \$26,300,000 are requested to undertake a reconstruction of the Union Street Bridge (HBK1213), a double-leaf Scherzer Bascule bridge which spans the Gowanus Canal. This bridge received a FAIR rating yet is one of the few east-west connectors that provide access and mobility throughout our district. It is a vital corridor that links our waterfront to inland points. Deferred public investment increases the vulnerability of this structure as unanticipated structural failures may occur, resulting in increased cost and time of repair and unwarranted impacts on the surrounding community. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.</i>
CS	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a full rehabilitation of the 3rd Street Bridge (HBKC068), a double-leaf Bascule Bridge spanning the Gowanus Canal, to improve long- term viability of the structure. For the sake of access and mobility through the district, there are only a handful of east-west connectors that span the Gowanus Canal, on which the community is wholly reliant. Deferred investment increases the likelihood of structural failures, more costly repairs, and longer periods of disruption and inconvenience to the community when the bridge is out of service. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.</i>

CS

NYCTA

**Other transit
infrastructure
requests**

Sufficient funds are requested for the installation of cellular/Wi-Fi service in subways systems as a way of improving public safety by increasing channels of communication between riders and emergency service providers in the event that emergency assistance is needed.

Expense Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/23	DOE	Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	<i>Funds are requested to expand access to free and low-cost day care services within CB6. There are only 3 child care facilities that take city vouchers within CB6. This is a critical economic issue: parents without access to affordable, high-quality, accessible day care for their children cannot work. Funding should increase the number of child care facilities in CB6 that accept vouchers, increase the amount of the vouchers, and make vouchers or other city-funded daycare options available to more residents.</i>	
2/23	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program	<i>Sufficient funding is requested to increase baseline operating budget allocations in existing senior centers. At a minimum, additional funding is sought to help keep pace with cost of living increases which over time take more and more resources away from the base operating budgets from programming and salary monies. Effectively, by not providing for regular, modest increases the senior centers' budgets are being decreased over time as basic costs only go up. This need is especially pressing with an aging population, as more and more "baby boomers" will be placing increasing demands on these facilities, which is anticipated to increase in the near future.</i>	
3/23	SBS	Other workforce development requests	<i>To combat high levels of unemployment, particularly in our Gowanus and Red Hook neighborhoods, coupled with significant Federal changes in the existing public assistance programs, additional focus must be placed on preparing persons for work and expanding work opportunities. Given the far-reaching impact of unemployment and its undesirable effects on health, education and social welfare, it is imperative that front-end investment in human capital occur to ensure local economic utility.</i>	

4/23	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Funds are requested to increase the capacity of NYCHA direct-entry union training programs. Membership in a union is a prerequisite for NYCHA residents to participate in the city's new community hiring program. The current program is extremely successful but its capacity is only 100 residents. Building extra capacity would unlock the life-changing benefits of this program for CB6 NYCHA residents.</i>
5/23	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Maintenance personnel to provide for vital maintenance and report of Parks facilities. With the added supervisory role Parks Maintenance workers perform through the departmental use of JTP and other volunteer workers, more staff are needed to continue to fulfill the traditional roles and tasks performed by Parks Maintenance staff.</i>
6/23	OMB	Provide more community board staff	<i>Funding in the amount of \$450,000 is requested in order for Community Boards to fulfill their Charter mandated roles to plan and advocate for neighborhood needs. An increase in funds will be used to fund the hiring of a full-time urban planner, to keep pace with cost of living adjustments which have never been applied to Community Boards, to upgrade complaint systems software which was previously supplied and supported by prior Administrations and to expand District Office functionality with the purchase of additional equipment and supplies. Increases to budget due to collective bargaining agreements and maintaining the budget at its current level do not address this request; both are effectively negative responses which should trigger a separate letter explaining the agency's position.</i>

7/23	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore the frequency of litter basket service to a minimum of two collections per day, especially on weekends, along busy commercial corridors such as Van Brunt Street, Columbia Street, Court Street, Smith Street, 5th Avenue, 7th Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue. Overflowing litter baskets create additional work for the department in discretionary cleaning, contributes to the clogging of catch basins, and results in the unfair issuance of summonses to victims of the strewn litter. Litter on commercial strips negatively contributes to the consumer's shopping experience, detracts from the residents' quality of life, and forces the businesses to shoulder the burden for the City after the mess.</i>
8/23	DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for restoration of full- time (non-seasonal) work gangs to respond to year- round routine maintenance calls for potholes and street depressions. There has been a noticeable decrease in productivity and increase in response times in this area attributable to significant loss of manpower. There has also been a significant delay in pothole response times during the winter-spring transition which could be remedied by maintaining more year-round personnel to respond to complaints.</i>
9/23	HHC	Other health care facilities requests	<i>Funds are requested to conduct an outreach & co-design process with community members, including NYCHA residents, to design a new community health facility and services in Red Hook. These gatherings should build on existing work by community health network organizers and build consciousness and trust around city agencies and health resources.</i>
10/23	DOE	Other educational programs requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to ensure that every school in the Brooklyn Community Board 6 community district has an anti-bullying program that fits into DOE's Respect for All rubric and that resources are available to all of the students, staff and parents.</i>

11/23	DPR	Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers	<i>Funds are requested for upgrades including resumption of the compost program at Red Hook Community Farms, a youth-led food justice program. Since curbside composting programs were cut due to the pandemic, the most-asked question at the farm has been “Are you all accepting food scraps for composting?” Red Hook has no farmer’s market and so no access to even private food-scrap composting operations. As such, all food scraps are going to landfills (a city-wide increase of 100 million pounds / year) - food scraps that could instead be used to create rich compost at a local site that already has capacity and expertise, and increase community cohesion, youth empowerment to boot.</i>
12/23	NYPD	Other NYPD programs requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to provide for a substantial increase in dedicated Truck Enforcement Program personnel to meet the overwhelming demand in our community for aggressive truck enforcement. Adherence to Truck Routes is necessary to reduce conflicts with, and impact on residential safety and quality of life. To protect and preserve public safety, effective enforcement is needed to combat pervasive and dangerous violations. Clear, publicly visible truck route signage is also requested to help enforce these routes.</i>
13/23	SBS	Other expense budget request for SBS	<i>SBS: Sufficient funds are requested to support existing and enable additional groups to embark on feasibility studies and supportive planning activities to move toward the formation of additional Business Improvement Districts (BID) in appropriate commercial and industrial areas. BIDs are proven to be an asset for the City insofar as they provide needed administrative infrastructure designed to support local commerce at the neighborhood level. Furthermore, the expansion of BIDs from the traditional commercial into the industrial sector will enable the City to better protect the fragile manufacturing sector, which often produces higher wage paying jobs, with specialty skills, and reduces the cost of goods in the City by making us less reliant on imports.</i>

14/23	NYCHA	Other housing support requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the expansion of NYCHA Maintenance personnel staff, perhaps through the creation of an in-house training program that would take employable NYCHA residents and train them in the skilled trades in an apprenticeship program and workforce development initiative. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates could be placed in maintenance and construction positions in the private market through the NYCHA- REES program.</i>
15/23	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Recreation personnel to increase the inventory and range of recreation options available particularly to our teenage youth population. With fewer part-time job opportunities and shrinking afterschool programs we are looking to increase the number of constructive options for this population to keep them engaged in productive, supervised activities.</i>
16/23	DPR	Other street trees and forestry services requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to hire additional Parks Forestry personnel to regularly address pruning and stump removal to maintain the health and safety of our communities. While the city allocates sufficient money for the continuous planting of new trees increasing the City's inventory of street trees, particularly with the aggressive Million Trees Initiative, corresponding increases in the Parks Forestry Division are a necessary accompaniment to ensure that sufficient resources are available for ongoing maintenance needs.</i>
17/23	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the hire of additional Health/Pest Control Inspectors for initial field evaluations and compliance inspections. At least one inspector per Community Board ought to be assigned to eliminate bottlenecks in Pest Control servicing, ensure that annual inspections of Health- Licensed facilities can occur, improve agency's productivity and reduce response times for complaint investigation.</i>

18/23	HRA	Other domestic violence services requests	<i>Additional funding is requested to expand the spectrum of services that provide assistance to victims of domestic violence - from counseling to protection to shelter - in order to ensure that adequate resources exist to help this vulnerable population in need. Outreach and promotional materials are needed to reach the population, provide them with convenient access to services and help educate communities on the importance of these services to remove any fear and stigma that may be attached to these facilities.</i>
19/23	LPC	Other expense budget request for LPC	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to provide for the hire of additional LPC inspection and enforcement personnel to address complaint investigations, improve upon agency response times to requested inspections, and foster a global atmosphere of increased compliance with landmark regulations. Given the expansion of the role of the agency through the broadening of their enforcement powers to include the issuance of civil penalties, an accompanying increase of personnel is necessary to carry out the agency's additional enforcement mandates.</i>
20/23	EDC	Other expense budget request for EDC	<i>EDC: Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition, planning and construction of a district wide tourism center, perhaps located at the Red Hook Cruise Ship Terminal, to provide a focal point for the growing tourism industry in our district. Such features as our historic brownstone residential communities (Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill and Park Slope), Columbia Street, Gowanus and Red Hook waterfront features, Prospect Park, and other local points-of-attraction, are growing in popularity as tourists are flocking more and more to our district. A tourism center that would highlight the cultural, shopping, restaurants and other features of the district will help ensure that marketing and promotion of the district's amenities were fully leveraged.</i>

21/23	SBS	Other business regulatory assistance requests	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to hire additional Waterfront Enforcement Division personnel, currently 6 persons citywide, to ensure that adequate coverage of the City's 578 miles of waterfront will be preserved and protected. Waterfront Enforcement Division personnel are responsible for enforcing the City's building code for waterfront properties, some of the most valuable and sensitive properties in the City. This would be a good way to reverse the trend of neglect suffered by the City's lack of waterfront development policies over the past few decades, and signify a commitment to the renewed importance of the City's waterfront as an asset and resource to draw from.</i>
22/23	DPR	New equipment for maintenance	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to ensure the timely replacement of fleet vehicles used in the service of our public parks properties including collection vehicles, repair vehicles, enforcement patrol vehicles, pickup trucks, etc.</i>
23/23	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	<i>Funds are requested for free in-home asthma consultation services for NYCHA residents. There are high rates of asthma due to ongoing mold issues in Red Hook houses, and asthma consultation services (such as those provided by AirNYC) can significantly improve health outcomes for children and adults suffering from housing-induced asthma.</i>