

***Statements of Community
District Needs
and
Community Board
Budget Requests***

Fiscal Year
2022

**Manhattan
Community District
11**

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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

Manhattan Community Board 11

Address: 1664 Park Avenue
Phone: (212) 831-8929
Email:
Website: www.cb11m.org

Chair: Nilsa Orama
District Manager: Angel Mescain

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.

Manhattan Community District 11 - 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

1,200

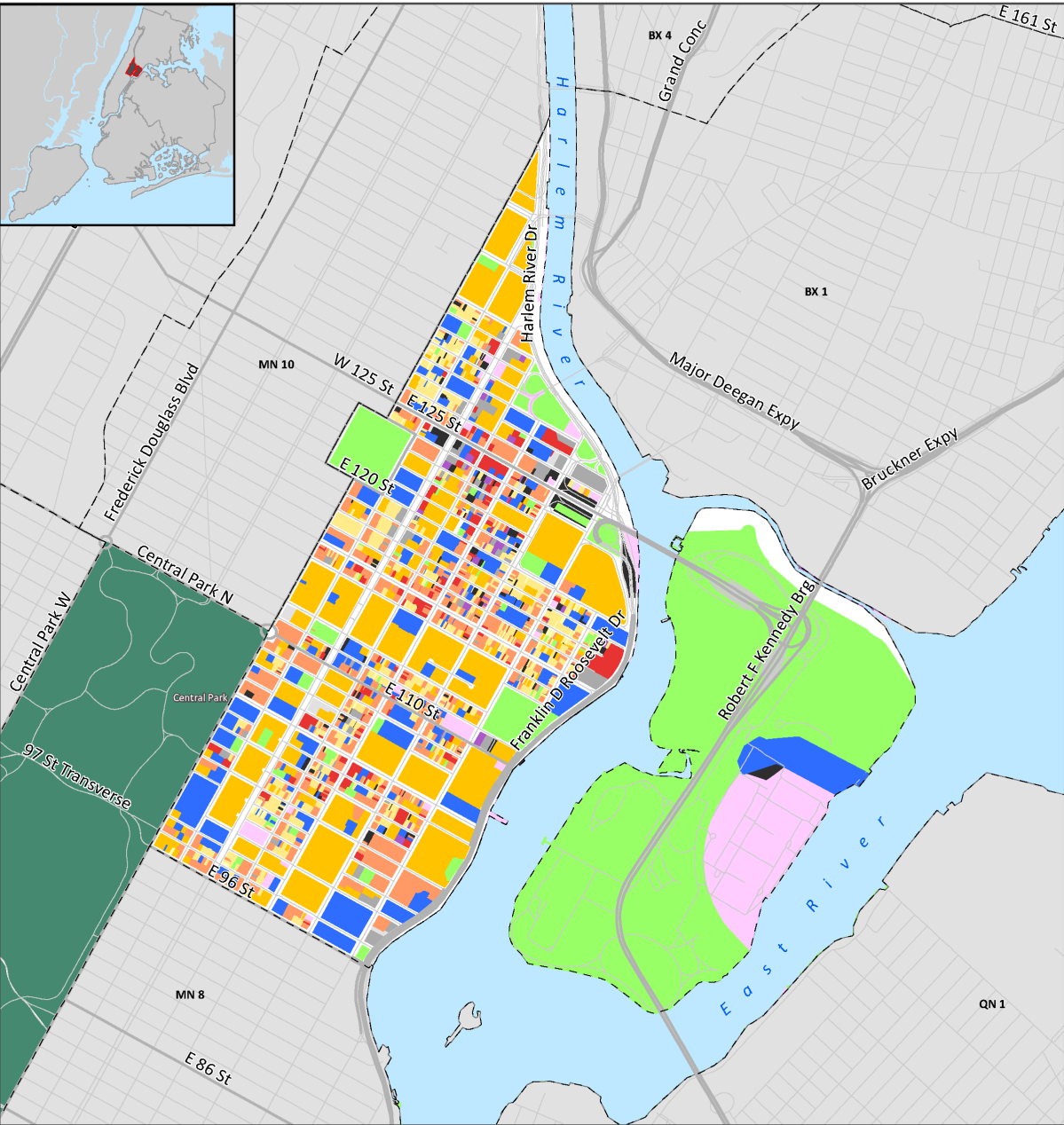
2,400

Feet

Source: MapPLUTO™ 20v7

BYTES of the Big Apple

Created January 2021



3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Current residents frequently express concerns about gentrification and the loss of affordable housing, as well as the loss of the local culture. Preservation of existing affordable and public housing, as well as construction of new, deeply affordable housing, including opportunities for affordable homeownership, are incredibly important to ensure that current residents are able to continue to live in East Harlem even as new residents move in. Anti-tenant harassment, code enforcement and rent burden alleviation programs should all be key pieces of the anti-displacement programs that are initiated in East Harlem. Senior citizens, many of whom are on fixed incomes, are especially in need of permanently affordable housing so that they can age in place.

According to the 2014-18 American Community Survey, the median household income in East Harlem is \$33,564 which is significantly lower than the median NYC median household income of \$64,162--and less than half of the median household income in Manhattan--\$82,459. Of the 102,464 residents aged 16 and older in East Harlem, 5.3% are unemployed and 41.2% are not in the labor force. These numbers do not reflect the increase in unemployment after the state-wide shutdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The shutdown, albeit an appropriate and necessary response to this crisis, has resulted in mass layoffs for over 900,000 New Yorkers. Nearly 29.2% of family incomes are below the Federal poverty line; the percentages are even higher for youth and seniors (47.61% and 34.1% respectively). These statistics show a community that is in need of quality education and local hiring initiatives to increase economic development and employment. Programs to help residents become self-sufficient, rather than dependent on government assistance, will make East Harlem a more prosperous and vibrant community.

The City must also focus attention and funding on improving the quality of life in East Harlem. Existing green spaces should be improved and accessible to all. Health programs and initiatives to encourage healthy eating, exercise and balanced mental health should be affordable and available without stigma. Quality schools and early childhood education are keys to lifting young people out of poverty. Affordable and convenient adult education programs are equally important to help adults adapt to changes in industries and job opportunities. Reducing crime, especially around NYCHA developments and other more volatile areas of the district ensures that residents feel safe to go around the neighborhood. Targeted initiatives along the 125th Street corridor to provide outreach services to the homeless, mentally ill and those living with drug addictions should continue to be funded and expanded to serve other vulnerable areas within East Harlem.

Community District 11 carries more than its fair share of treatment centers, support facilities and homeless shelters. The concentration of these facilities continues to place an undue burden on our community, creating challenges to the quality of life of our residents and the viability of commercial establishments along corridors such as 125th Street, 116th Street, 110th Street, 106th Street, Lexington Avenue, Third Avenue and Second Avenue. Sadly, our residents are daily faced with groups of individuals actively using drugs in parks and playgrounds throughout the district; discarded hypodermic needles litter playground equipment and green areas in our parks and several of our public housing campuses. Despite repeated attempts to find relief, we continue to see an increase in treatment services and shelters beds opening or expanding in our community. The City must prioritize the deconcentration of these uses in our community and endeavor to abide by the Fair Share Criteria "with due regard for the social and economic impacts of such facilities upon the areas surrounding the sites". Further, the City must prioritize ensuring the safety and security of residents enjoying public spaces such as parks and playgrounds.

Transportation within and through East Harlem also needs to be improved. The Second Avenue Subway work north of 96th Street needs to commence as soon as possible, as the community is only served by the severely overcrowded Lexington Avenue line. Buses are frequently delayed due to the congestion in Midtown, especially near the Queensboro Bridge, which leaves many senior citizens and others without reliable transportation. It is important to promote walkability by addressing lighting, safety, and streetscape design, and organization traffic pattern scheduling especially under the Park Avenue viaduct, as well as biking to decrease traffic congestion and promote exercise.

Overall, the health and vitality of East Harlem is improving, but it is still far from the averages for other Manhattan and New York City neighborhoods. Given the pressures on current infrastructure and systems inherent with an increase in population, it is imperative that the City meaningfully invest in our community. By meeting the budget priorities and policy recommendations laid out in this document, city agencies can improve conditions for the existing residents while ensuring that the community is prepared for future changes.

Gun violence has continued to be an issue with upticks in shootings throughout 2020. The effectiveness of anti-violence efforts such as violence interrupter programs appear to be hamstrung by persistent underfunding. The Police Department has suggested that efforts to combat youth and gang-related violence must be funded to contain a dedicated and thorough social media observation component.

The City must prioritize the completion of its East Harlem Rezoning Points of Agreements commitments including the development of affordable housing on publicly owned sites including the East Harlem Multi-Service Center, the NYPD 25th Precinct parking lot, and the Department of Sanitation's Lot Cleaning Unit parking lot. Additionally, if the City determines that development at the site of the Urban Assembly School complex is not feasible, it must work with the community board to identify an alternative site or sites with equal development potential. The siting, funding and development of a new consolidated M11 garage is also a high priority for our board as is the development of affordable housing on the site that M11 garage currently occupies on 99th Street.

Given that CB11 East Harlem has been one of the hardest hit communities in the island of Manhattan, it stands to reason that our community should be prioritized for funding in the coming fiscal year. If there are cuts to be had, communities like ours should not bear the brunt of this fiscal crisis as we bore (and continue to bear) the brunt of this public health crisis.

The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the need to protect and expand the City's social safety net. However, the FY21 Adopted Budget did not accurately reflect the additional resources and investment required to maintain core services essential to New Yorkers, nor did it appropriately address projected COVID-19 related expenses that residents, service providers, and Council Members have identified as mandatory priorities for districts to ensure that our city's most vulnerable can maintain their health, housing, access to food, and their dignity during these uncertain times. Currently, no new funding or baseline changes were made to the city's social safety net programs despite a demonstrated increase in the need for these services.

As of September 2020, the death rate of East Harlem residents is 35% higher than the rest of New York City according to [data](#) released by the city's Health Department. Beyond the direct health impact of the pandemic, a much larger group of vulnerable East Harlem residents and small business owners are economically devastated by job loss and the elimination of their primary income, while others have seen their lifetime savings drained by unpredictable markets and fraudulent electronic/telephonic scams leaving them unable to afford even basic food, housing and healthcare. Redlining and systemic racism have forced deep economic and health disparities upon the residents of CD11 leaving them vulnerable to direct and indirect harm. The most vulnerable are those living on the cusp as well as below the poverty line including the elderly, at risk and unemployed youth, those with existing illness, and families/individuals residing in public housing. Despite the fiscal crisis, the City must prioritize its resources in a targeted manner to support the most vulnerable among us and invest in the protection and expansion of the social safety net services that so many of our residents depend upon.

Resources must be provided to ensure adequate test and tracing in East Harlem, the scientific research required for a medical industry approved vaccine for COVID-19, distribution of appropriate PPP, outreach and education. In addition, resources needed by vulnerable East Harlem residents include healthy, culturally, and religiously appropriate emergency food supplies; health services; unemployment benefits; and rent and/or mortgage relief for both residential and commercial leases for small businesses and MWBEs.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Manhattan Community Board 11

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Affordable housing

As the cost of housing continues to rise throughout New York City, the residents of neighborhoods such as East Harlem face an ever-increasing rent burden (38.3% of East Harlem households spend 35% or more of their income on rent) and the threat of displacement. With new market-rate residential developments rising with increasing regularity in our community, rents have risen to levels outside the reach of our existing residents. Those residing in rent-regulated affordable housing are often faced with deteriorating housing conditions left unaddressed by unscrupulous landlords seeking to displace them in order to deregulate those units and charge market rates. Public housing, an affordable housing lifeline for so many East Harlemites continues to suffer from neglect and lack of necessary repairs. As a result, the quality and quantity of existing affordable housing in our community continues to be negatively impacted. Mayor De Blasio's Housing New York plan, which aims to build or preserve hundreds of thousands of affordable housing units throughout our city, holds the promise of delivering a significant number of new or newly rehabilitated affordable units to our neighborhood. While we have been pleased that the definition of affordable has begun to take into account and better reflect local neighborhood median incomes, there is much more to be done in that regard as it is those earning the lowest incomes that are at most risk of displacement. We expect that any residential development on property wholly publicly-owned will be 100% affordable and contain a representative percentage of units for those households earning 30% of area median income. Similarly, any developments including any publicly owned property must include affordable units that prioritize reflecting our local neighborhood median income. Developers of any residential properties must work with the community board and local stakeholders to thoroughly market the availability of all residential units in their project.

Land use trends (zoning, development, neighborhood preservation, etc.)

Our neighborhood has seen change throughout its history but it has always maintained its working-class identity and culture. This is no less true today when so many not only identify with their community and home but demand that it be preserved for future generations. Unguarded neighborhood change brought on by rapid redevelopment and displacement threatens to undermine neighborhood character and the communities' sense of place. The people of the community determine its character and uniqueness but these aspects of a community can be stripped away if careful thought is not given to how change is planned for. We are proud to be East Harlem and we wish to maintain the existing character of our community. Thus we demand that the City and any new neighbors work to understand who we are, how we live, and what is unique and important about the people of East Harlem and become stakeholders with us in preserving this beloved community. Preservation includes affordable housing, food and entertainment as well as the built form and our treasured community landmarks, parks, building, houses of worship, and institutions, etc.

Unemployment

As our national economy continues to evolve, it creates challenges for those currently lacking the education (28.6% of East Harlem residents age 25 and over have earned a bachelor's degree), training and/or experience to compete in our ever-changing job market. This is particularly true in communities like ours where educational achievement and access to training and employment opportunities can often be a challenge. Too often available employment opportunities are entry level in the service sector. The City must prioritize enhancing job training opportunities in East Harlem which target living wages, career paths and the evolving job market. We look forward to the new satellite Workforce I Center in East Harlem but the City must also partner with local schools and workforce development organizations to help set our local youth on training and career paths that will help them be more competitive in the job market.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Manhattan Community Board 11

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs

The high density of mental health programs, substance abuse centers, and homeless shelters located in CD11 has created a major regional services hub, bringing thousands of New Yorkers from outside our community into CD11. The oversaturation of programs and services located in CD11 has created a strain on resources across our community and contributed to a range of quality of life challenges and public safety concerns with severe impacts for our residents. From the proliferation of discarded hypodermic needles in our parks and streets; to the public urination and defecation; to illegal drug dealing as well as petty crimes near our schools, transportation hubs and in front of our small businesses; to the growing homeless encampments; and the M35 bus which delivers temporary shelter residents without any means of structured activity on to 125th and Lexington. Data from the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services shows that 75% of their clients receiving services in our community reside outside of CD11. According to 2018 data from OASAS Data Warehouse, over 12% of all New York City's Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) are located in CD11. Furthermore, an examination of the zip code data included in admissions to East Harlem OTPs shows that 84% of these clients commute to CD11 for treatment. Individuals should be treated where they reside and not be required to travel to East Harlem for treatment. The aforementioned oversaturation is the direct result of discriminatory practices that place "undesirable" social services in communities of color, often with little notice and no way for the residents to hold the decision makers or operating organizations accountable. This discriminatory practice must stop and all responsible city and state agencies must consider "Fair Share" requirements, as developed by the 1989 New York City Charter Revision Commission, when choosing where to site such facilities. The state should provide community scale social services in districts to serve local residents in need near where they reside. Additional chemical dependency facilities or homeless shelters should not be sited or expanded in CD11. To ensure all districts receive their fair share of social services centers, (1) NYS should mandate that preventive and treatment programs track and make public the percentage of clients who reside within as well as outside of the district and measure the effectiveness of programs with metrics such as recidivism; and (2) implement checks and balances so that OASAS program can no longer have unilateral rights to approve addiction treatment programs that oversaturate communities of color; and (3) if the capacity of existing programs is not reduced, CD11 residents should be compensated for the social impacts caused by these programs. For example, tax revenue derived from the Hudson Yards development can be diverted to pay for the social services actually needed and requested by CD11 residents such as affordable housing.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the issue of health inequity that is systematically entrenched in East Harlem. According to the 2015 Summary of vital Statistics for the City of New York, "Upper East Siders enjoy the highest life expectancy in the city—85.9 years—while directly to the north in East Harlem, the life expectancy is only 77.3." This inequity is unacceptable. According to the 2018 Community Health Profile report, East Harlem's premature mortality rate (death before age 65) is 70% higher than NYC, driven by higher death rates due to cancer, heart disease, HIV, accidents and drug-related death. Relative to the five wealthiest neighborhoods, 42% of deaths could have been averted in East Harlem. The asthma emergency department visit rate among children ages 5 to 17 in East Harlem is [1.6] times more than the citywide rate, (580 vs 223 per 10,000 children). According to the 2018 Community Health Profile report, "Many childhood asthma emergency department visits could be prevented by reducing the presence of pests, mold, other asthma triggers..." According to the 2018 Community Health Profile, "resources and opportunities are at the root of good health. These include secure jobs with benefits, well-maintained and

affordable housing, safe neighborhoods with clean parks, accessible transportation, healthy and affordable food, and quality education and health care”. In East Harlem, a significant portion of our vulnerable residents lack such resources.

Federal initiatives to expand health care to the uninsured must be supported locally through the equitable distribution of health insurance navigator programs to reduce the high number of uninsured residents. According to the 2018 Community Health Profile, “in East Harlem, 12% of adults are uninsured and 14% report going without needed medicare care in the past 12 months...” DOHMH and Health and Hospitals should work to promote greater use of primary care physicians and expand the availability of urgent care programs to reduce the strain on local emergency rooms and decrease the number of avoidable hospital visits. The East and Central Harlem Health Insurance Assistance Demonstration Project assists NYCHA residents with insurance navigation and health services follow-up in order to increase the number of persons enrolled in insured health plans. This project is currently in four developments in CD11 and should be expanded to serve all NYCHA residents.

Additional funding should be targeted to expand existing community-based, peer-led preventive interventions to promote weight loss and prevent diabetes, which have already produced effective results. DOE should devote more resources to develop physical education programs for all local schools and expand organized athletics. It is recommended that HPD and NYCHA host a series of workshops to educate tenants and landlords on the various indoor triggers for asthma and how they can be mitigated, including pest control. Funding should be immediately increased for pest extermination and mold remediation services throughout NYCHA developments. Funding should be allocated towards education and awareness for children and families suffering from the symptoms of illness that can directly and/or indirectly traced to their public housing.

Needs for Older NYs

There are an estimated 15,643 residents of East Harlem over the age of 65 or 12.45% of the community’s population, and 30.6 percent of local seniors live below the poverty line compared to 16 percent city-wide. In addition, seniors in East Harlem also face high rates of social isolation, and have many concerns about safety in the community, which compounds the isolation issue. Almost 32 percent of seniors are mobility-impaired as compared to 26.5 percent citywide; in-home delivery of services are critical and senior facilities and programs need to be accessible to those with mobility concerns. There is also tremendous need for culturally appropriate, bilingual social work and case management; increased access to dietary and religiously appropriate food options through meals on wheels and other services; and the need to expand home check in and home healthcare hours so those who are too afraid to leave their apartments for wellness visits during the pandemic have the proper and food they need.

It is well-known that HIV/AIDS is a pervasive issue in East Harlem, but senior citizens are an overlooked population when it comes to addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic. One in every six new HIV diagnoses in the United States occurs in a person over the age of 50. Data from the NYS Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program show that people 60 and older had the highest rate of any age group for concurrent new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in New York City in 2013. This indicates that senior citizens are not getting tested early enough for HIV. East Harlem has a very high death rate from HIV/AIDS, and more targeted interventions and campaigns are needed to address this issue. Senior centers and assisted care facilities should be educating their residents about safe sexual practices to reduce the risk of infection.

We call upon all agencies to prioritize healthcare and human services across CD11 as our community continues to be disproportionately impacted by this pandemic and our residents cannot survive any further service decreases or budget cuts of our safety net services.

Needs for Homeless

Citywide, more low-income and supportive housing should be constructed for the homeless population. In any Mandatory Inclusionary Housing zoning changes and NYCHA infill projects, a percentage of units should be set aside for those currently in the shelter population. The federal, state and city governments should provide tax credits and other incentives to encourage developers to allocate units to lower-income, homeless populations. Legal aid, continued rent stabilization, and new housing construction that is affordable to low-income residents are all crucial measures to reduce the rate of residents becoming homeless. An additional problem related to the homeless population are synthetic cannabinoids commonly

known as K2. Overdoses and arrests have dropped dramatically since city legislation was passed to criminalize the sale of this dangerous drug. Efforts to reduce the use of synthetic cannabinoids, as well as to connect those using the drug with housing and other services, should continue to be funded.

Needs for Low Income NYs

Residents - especially those who lost their jobs or were furloughed due to the pandemic; youth who were not able to access previously scheduled summer youth employment opportunities, after school or educational programs, access job placement or job training programs, and adult education programs due the budget cuts; seniors who are homebound and/or which live with pre-existing conditions; and families living at or below the poverty line - are at risk. The high unemployment rate and lack of well-paying jobs directly contribute to every other economic and social problem in East Harlem. In addition, funding should support programs with the goal of eliminating generational dependency on government benefits to break the cycle of poverty.

The most vulnerable residents in East Harlem are those severely at risk of homelessness. Current homeless shelters that serve local residents have dilapidated infrastructure and fail to provide safe accommodations free of pest, rodents, mold and violence.

With hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers experiencing loss of income as well as documented delays in the processing of unemployment benefits, it is imperative that NYC funding and staffing for HRA/DOHMH/H+H/DFTA/DHS and related agency programs -- including cash assistance, rental assistance, emergency food assistance, healthcare assistance, programs for undocumented immigrants, support services for seniors and families at or below the poverty level, eviction prevention programs and legal services, improved shelter infrastructure, and access to covid testing -- be increased as they are vital.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
26/26	DOHMH	Other capital budget request for DOHMH	<i>Increase personnel for needle pick up on 110th, 111th, and 125th streets. Needle pick up must also occur near Clinton Houses, Marcus Garvey Park, and Ronald McNair Park.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/49	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	<i>CD11 ranks first in the city for psychiatric hospitalizations (2,016 per 100,000 adults). Funding from the new ThriveNYC initiative should be targeted to improve programming in East Harlem. Supportive programs should be developed and better targeted to particular populations to encourage people to reach out and get help before needing hospitalization so that their mental health needs can be positively managed. Programs should annually assess and evaluate to provide assistance with jobs, housing, education, medical issues, and any other needs that this vulnerable population may have.</i>	
10/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Funding is needed to expand services to our multicultural community of low income and below federal poverty level seniors.</i>	
20/49	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Provide funding for proactive measures to mitigate rodent population in public housing, empty lots, construction areas, and train stations where rats establish colonies.</i>	
22/49	DFTA	Increase case management capacity	<i>Provide funding for more caseworkers.</i>	
23/49	DFTA	Allocate funds for outreach services to homebound older adults and for programs that allow the elderly to age in place	<i>Provide funding to ensure faster service for seniors transitioning from hospital/rehab to home.</i>	

26/49	DOHMH	Provide more information and services related to STIs, HIV/AIDS, and family planning	<i>East Harlem residents are more than three times as likely to die from HIV/AIDS as the average NYC resident. Sex education services should be provided, especially among vulnerable populations, and access to HIV preventative drugs should be easy and affordable to all.</i>
27/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to expand hours of home care provided to insure fewer re-hospitalizations</i>
34/49	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	<i>Explore alternative interventions for homelessness and substance abuse in parks, including Marcus Garvey Park and Randall's Island. For example, contracting local community-based organizations to station a trained mental health worker in Marcus Garvey Park to provide assistance when necessary.</i>
42/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to expand Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly hours of home care.</i>
43/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to hire more Spanish speaking home care workers are needed in the community.</i>

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Manhattan Community Board 11

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Educational attainment

Educational attainment in East Harlem begins to fall behind as early as nursery and preschool (East Harlem Neighborhood Plan, p 45). While there are 7,003 children under the age of 5 years in East Harlem, only 23 percent (1,607) are enrolled in nursery school or preschool (2014-2018 ACS). Pre-K and daycare programs can increase their impact by partnering with existing community-based organizations. These partnerships can provide a greater breadth of programs and strengthen the neighborhood network. Pre-K, daycare and afterschool programs also have gaps in their services. The hours of the facilities sometimes do not reflect the needs of those who use them, and there is a need for more programs to serve families with infants and toddlers (EHNP). According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 28.6% of residents 25 years and over do not have a high school diploma or the equivalent, while 31.4% have earned a bachelor's degree or higher. These rates differ significantly from Manhattan's overall rates for less than a high school degree and higher education attainment (13.01% and 60.8% percent respectively). This low rate of educational attainment contributes to a cycle of unemployment and poverty that becomes increasingly difficult to change with each generation. Moreover, Students in East Harlem struggle academically and the results impact their futures. Only 40.5% of students in East Harlem are performing at grade level in English language arts (4th grade), and only 33.7% of students are performing at grade level in math (4th grade) (DOE, 2018). The Department of Education should continue to expand its focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and include more arts, music, culture, local history, special education programs, financial education and vocational training. Considering East Harlem's diversity in population, it's important that East Harlem schools place "culturally responsive-sustaining education (CR-SE)" at the center. CR-SE embraces students' identities, placing aspects of their race, social class, gender, language, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, or ability at the center of their education. According to DOE, students that learn using CR-SE are more active in class, achieve higher grades, and graduate more often. Additionally, DOE should also expand bilingual education and English as a Second Language programs since 37% of children aged 5 to 17 speak a language other than English at home (ACS 2019 1-year Estimate).

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

School facilities face significant capital and capacity limitations, which can lead to overcrowding and increased competition between schools for resources. The Department of City Planning, the Department of Education, Administration for Children's Services, and School Construction Authority to adequately project the impacts of new development on school seat requirements and establish opportunities for new early childhood education and school facilities to be built in the base of new developments. Approaches for making student projections should include detailed analysis, such as the clear definition of school building capacities based on current surveys. Require coordination around and appropriate timing of development of school facilities as units are developed.

DOE and SCA continue to make important upgrades and advancements to facilities in the district, but more remains to be done. Some Pre-K, daycare and after-school program facilities need repairs, while others lack access to a diversity of spaces for different types of activities. Common needs include access to outdoor and recreational spaces, and more spaces for flexible uses like music, art and libraries. A survey of principals conducted as part of the 2016 East Harlem Neighborhood Plan found that the top three capital needs of District 4's public schools are: technological upgrades, playground redevelopments and auditorium upgrades, and the top three service needs are: social-emotional services, academic remediation and literacy programs (EHNP, pg 47).

Community-based organizations, select local schools, and the DOE should create a forum for local schools to collaborate and share best practices to encourage improvement at underperforming schools. The DOE should also provide targeted assistance and resources, with greater accountability, to underperforming schools. If after sufficient opportunity and resources, schools continue to underperform, DOE must focus efforts on more substantial intervention strategies. Future schools should be structured as

Community Schools in order to provide wrap-around services to students and their families. In a community with so many needs and challenges, schools can and should be as comprehensive in the services they offer as possible. This will help to balance out disparities that negatively affect academic performance/attainment.

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

East Harlem's youth face many challenges, and additional services and supports are needed, via schools, afterschool programs, and community organizations, to help vulnerable children excel at school and gain social skills. Youth, aged 0- 18, make up 20.4% of East Harlem's population (ACS 2014-2018). A disproportionate amount of youth in East Harlem live in poverty, with 47.6% of residents under the age of 18 live below the poverty level (ACS 2014-2018). Of the 13,427 East Harlem families with children under the age of 18 years, 66% are headed by an individual with no spouse present (ACS 2014-2018).

East Harlem youth face safety concerns due to the high rates of violence and gang activity, especially in public housing. To address the unique challenges associated with the youth population in East Harlem, the community and City must work together to improve after-school programs, provide opportunities for youth employment, increase extracurricular educational services and curb youth violence. Job and other activity programs specifically geared toward youth should target public housing developments and other areas with high gang activity to offer an alternative. DYCD should expand after-school and evening programming, provide viable alternatives to at-risk youth and target older teenage students with evening recreational activities. There is a lack of physical spaces for youth to spend constructive and safe time in during after-school hours, weekends and summertime. Specific recommendations from the community include a movie theater, outdoor theater, recreation/cultural center, YMCA, dance space, bookstore, and teen-friendly nightlife. Developers should be incentivized to work with nonprofits to build these needed facilities and provide programming.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/26	SCA	Provide technology upgrade	<i>Remote learning has created a significant technology need for schools across East Harlem and New York City. Funding should be allocated to ensure each school has access to the laptops, ipads, and tablets needed to effectively implement remote-learning models. Attached are the technology needs for District 4 schools.</i>	
12/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Upgrade the wiring at P.S. 146 Ann M. Short. The wiring in the building is the original (1965). Currently, the wiring accommodates 2400 amps, however the building needs to accommodate 4200-4500 amps in order to sustain all technology , modern equipment, refrigeration (kitchen) and AC's.</i>	421 1 Avenue, Manhattan, New York, NY
14/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Upgrade the bathrooms at The Lexington Academy located at 131 East 104th Street.</i>	131 East 104 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
20/26	SCA	Renovate other site component	<i>Upgrade the Peter Minuit Playground to include a comfort station and new state of the art playground equipment.</i>	East 108 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/49	DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	<i>The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the need to meaningfully engage our youth and support working parents. Increase the amount of after school program seats in East Harlem, especially for older youths.</i>	
6/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	<i>Restore full funding to allow for Summer Youth Employment Program. Additionally, increase the number of Work, Learn & Grow program slots in order to increase the reach of DYCD throughout the school year.</i>	

9/49	DOE	Assign more teaching staff	<i>COVID-19 has drastically changed the learning landscape in East Harlem and across New York City. The impacts of COVID-19 on learning are disproportionately felt by students in communities like East Harlem. Funding should be allocated for additional teachers to support remote and hybrid learning models.</i>
13/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) services	<i>The impacts of COVID-19 and remote learning are disproportionately felt by students who speak another language at home. Funding should be allocated to enhance ESOL services during this time of hybrid and remote learning.</i>
14/49	DOE	Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	<i>All signs point toward better outcomes for students and teachers when there is greater access to mental health care providers on-site at schools. Funding should be allocated for more mental health and social workers in East Harlem schools.</i>
19/49	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth	<i>The youth in East Harlem are especially vulnerable to crime and violence. Funding should be allocated to enhance services that both prevent youth violence and provide an alternative to incarceration.</i>
24/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the out-of-school youth program for job training and employment services	<i>According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 28.6% of residents 25 years and over do not have a high school diploma or the equivalent. East Harlem's low rate of educational attainment contributes to a cycle of unemployment and poverty that becomes increasingly difficult to change with each generation. Funding should be allocated to expand the out of school youth program for job training and employment services to help mitigate the impacts of low educational attainment and help individuals without a degree find jobs that pay a living wage.</i>
28/49	DOE	Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material	<i>Provide more PPE, hand sanitizer, thermometers, plexiglass, and other materials to help ensure social distancing and the safe return of staff and students in school buildings.</i>

40/49	DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	<i>In lieu of the administration's push for PreK for All, there is a gap of service during the hours between the end of the school day and 5:00 PM. Expand Child Care, Head Start Programs, and 3K and Pre-K for All programs to cover after-school hours and support working parents.</i>
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PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Manhattan Community Board 11

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Youth crime

The crime rate citywide and in East Harlem has decreased over the past two decades thanks to the hard work of law enforcement and communities working together. However, pockets of violent crime still exist. Compared with the citywide rate, East Harlem has a significantly higher rate for non-fatal assault hospitalizations with 130 per 100,000 residents annually-- more than double NYC's and Manhattan's rates (Community Health Profile 2018). Moreover, there is a growing trend of youth violence in East Harlem, particularly related to the gangs and crews in public housing. Ongoing turf wars and revenge killings have cost many youth their lives and caused other residents to feel unsafe and isolated. According to CompStat 2.0, major crimes related to public housing in the NYPD 23rd Precinct are up 7.5% Year-to-Date in October 2020 compared to October 2019. There have been 42 shooting incidents combined between the 23rd and 25th Precincts in October 2020's Year-to-Date, compared to 2019's 33 shooting incidents. In September 2020, we collected public input from 77 residents through a District Needs Assessment Survey. Although respondents were generally concerned about crime in East Harlem, they overwhelmingly expressed concern about police-community relations and indicated that they'd like other services to be bolstered as alternatives to policing, including after-school programs and services for mental health & substance abuse. Rather than increasing funding for NYPD patrol and enforcement, resources should be funneled toward improving the socioeconomic determinants of crime -- particularly educational attainment, unemployment, and poverty. Programming for high-risk youth and their families should be expanded throughout the district and should include late-night and weekend programming. Offerings should be diverse and reflected of community input and should include options for the families of high-risk youth. Jefferson Recreation Center and Johnson and Corsi Houses' community centers should be used as pilot programs for expanded and diversified activities (EHNP p.113).

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

Residents need to feel safe in their neighborhood, both to allow for enhanced quality of life and to act as "eyes on the street" and deter crime. Lighting should be improved in several locations, including Marcus Garvey Park, Jefferson Park, the East River Esplanade, under the Park Avenue viaduct and along commercial corridors (EHNP p. 114). According to input from the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan, the potential for strong collaboration between the police and local groups exists, but more extensive neighborhood-specific training, deeper local partnerships and increased community policing approaches are needed in order to make efforts work properly. Many individuals in East Harlem have a negative view of the police and law enforcement needs to continue to work to rebuild trust within the community.

Many NYCHA developments have their own gangs or crews, and the violence associated with these groups has left too many members of the community dead, and others afraid to accidentally encroach on a crew's turf. Our youth need to be exposed to after-school and job training programs as viable alternatives to joining a crew. Local organizations that offer these resources should be supported.

Domestic violence outreach should improve to help connect victims to legal representation, counseling, housing, and job/educational assistance.

Finally, the incarceration rate in East Harlem is the fifth highest in the city and more than three times higher than the citywide rate. 302 out of every 100,000 adults in East Harlem are in jail, and this high rate has a devastating effect on their individual futures, as well as the larger community. Mayor de Blasio has made great strides to reduce arrests for low-level offenses, end stop, and frisk policies and is now working to end youth solitary confinement on Riker's Island, but there is still more to do to change the inequity of the criminal justice system.

Our district is among two participating in the Diversion Center pilot program that aims to connect individuals who have committed low-level offenses with mental health, shelter, and other social services rather than incarceration. In the spirit of the ongoing national conversation on necessary police reform, the

City should aim to establish a citywide crisis intervention program with a dedicated emergency call number for responses to mental health crisis, which pairs “peers” with lived mental health experience and emergency medical technicians, to de-escalate mental health crises. Such a program would relieve the police department of responding to such cases for which they are not trained and do not require a law enforcement engagement. That said, all police officers must be trained on how to deal with a mental health crisis when a law enforcement is required so they can better assist those who may require psychiatric help rather than incarceration.

Needs for Emergency Services

No comments

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
24/26	FDNY	Other capital budget request for FDNY	<i>Provide additional funding for a Fire Safety Education unit to service East Harlem. The Fire Safety Education Unit is specially trained to conduct public education and community outreach. Studies show that the decrease in death due to fires is directly correlated with strong public education programs.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
44/49	FDNY	Expand funding for fire prevention and life safety initiatives	<i>Provide additional funding to continue FDNY's "Get Alarmed" program. \$1 million for 63,000 alarms to be installed and/or given away.</i>	

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Manhattan Community Board 11

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

Cleanliness/trash collection

During the COVID-19 pandemic, residents have reported an increase in garbage littered along East Harlem streets. Bins are overflowing and lacking consistent service. In order to address the issue of cleanliness, DSNY alongside the Community Board should work together to identify problem intersections and introduce corner bins to each identified problem area. Moreover, DSNY should increase the frequency of litter basket collection along major corridors, including East 125th Street and East 116th Street. Additionally, there should be a campaign, led by the Department of Sanitation, consisting of community workshops, advertisements and public service announcements in community relevant languages to reach the population of East Harlem to educate the community on the importance of keeping the streets clean. This can help mitigate the sanitary issues of East Harlem, as well as bring awareness to the quality of life issues created by littering.

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

As described by the Building Healthy Communities initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, your zip code can play a significant role in determining your life expectancy. East Harlem is experiencing numerous ongoing environmental concerns that are negatively affecting citizens today and will affect their health and wellbeing well into the future. Community Board 11 seeks to assist in identifying and addressing these interrelated concerns as the main issue relating to core infrastructure, city services and resiliency. The environmental concerns most pressing to the livelihood of our community include air quality and pollution.

According to the Community District 11 Community Health Profile 2018 released by DOHMH, the asthma hospitalization rate in East Harlem is among the highest of all neighborhoods in New York City. The number of adults with asthma is 60 percent higher than the NYC average and the hospitalization rate is 200 percent higher than the NYC average. Among East Harlem's children, the hospitalization rate for asthma attacks is more than two times the city average. Many pollutants within East Harlem, such as the two sanitation garages, proximity to the FDR Drive and other large highways and a lack of green spaces, contribute to high levels of particulate matter in the air. In order to address the issues of dangerous levels of pollution and to provide adequately safe air quality in our community, Community Board 11 requires a consolidated sanitation facility, as well as funding to conduct air quality assessments to ensure that our neighborhoods are protected from ongoing new construction as well as existing pollutants within our community.

Additionally, the impacts of climate change and severe weather are paramount concerns for Community District 11. East Harlem suffered severe flooding during Hurricane Sandy, and the vast majority of CD11 lies in an evacuation zone, with many large public housing complexes located in Zone 1-- the most vulnerable area. The low elevation and proximity to the East River, combined with a large number of public housing residents and seniors in the community creates a potentially dangerous situation when another storm strikes. Funding should be allocated for the implementation of A Vision Plan for a Resilient East Harlem and for both hard and soft infrastructure to protect the shoreline and prepare residents for future disasters. This should include living shorelines (oyster beds, marshes, berms), floodgates, community education around emergency preparedness and block/building watches to ensure vulnerable residents are taken care of.

Needs for Sanitation Services

Manhattan Community District 11 hosts three Department of Sanitation facilities. The Manhattan District 11 garage is currently located on 99th Street and First Avenue and will be relocated temporarily to a surface parking lot located on 128th Street between Second Avenue and Third Avenue. The temporary M11 garage will be located adjacent to an elementary school, a heavily utilized public park, and a newly opened cancer treatment facility. The Manhattan District 10 garage which serves Central Harlem is located

at 132nd Street and Park Avenue, just five blocks from the new M11 garage. Because of the poor condition of the M10 garage building most of the sanitation equipment is parked in the street and under the Metro-North railroad viaduct. The Manhattan Lot Cleaning Unit currently utilizes a surface parking lot on 123rd Street between Lexington Avenue and Third Avenue. While this lot is intended to be used for official DSNY equipment, it is evident that it is instead very often used to park personal vehicles. This site was identified in the 2017 East Harlem Rezoning Points of Agreement for the development of affordable housing and is a high priority for our board.

Community Board 11 opposed the temporary relocation of the M11 garage to 128th Street in part because it would result in three surface level open-air sanitation garages located within ten blocks of each other within our community.

To resolve this underserved burden on our community and direct violation of the City's Fair Share Mandate, CB11 proposed funding be allocated for the construction of a new state of the art consolidated facility to house the M11 and M10 garages. This request was incorporated in the 2016 East Harlem Neighborhood Plan and the subsequent 2017 East Harlem Rezoning Points of Agreement (POA) which states that the City would "working with community stakeholders, plan for the development of an enclosed consolidated DSNY sanitation facility for M10 and M11, which meets LEED gold standards". The POA also states that "DSNY will immediately begin planning for a permanent, long-term facility to serve District 11 sanitation needs, which includes the following goals:

- explore options for a permanent consolidated facility that could house multiple garages, including: District 11, District 10, District 9, and/or the Manhattan Lot Cleaning Unit;
 - assess suitable sites for the permanent facility that will serve residents for the next 100 years. Explore all City-owned sites and appropriate privately-owned sites in Manhattan Community Boards 9, 10, and 11, as well as potential acquisition of the entire Block 1792.
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Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/26	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	<i>Build a permanent, state-of-the-art dual district sanitation garage to service Manhattan Community Districts 10 and 11. The new building should meet or exceed LEED Gold standards and be equipped with the most advanced indoor air filtration systems and zero emissions sanitation trucks.</i>	
11/26	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	<i>The East River Esplanade serves as a natural barrier against flooding, as well as a place for community enjoyment and exercise, but at this time there are a number of areas along the East River waterfront that deteriorating. Multiple segments along the Esplanade are slated for repairs in the upcoming years. DEP should evaluate the East River Esplanade and work alongside NYC Parks and EDC to incorporate green infrastructure along the length of the waterfront.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
29/49	DSNY	Provide more on-street trash cans and recycling containers	<i>Funding should be allocated to provide more on street big belly trash cans to reduce the occurrence of overflowing corner bins and garbage on the street.</i>	
30/49	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	<i>Sanitation services are severely lacking in East Harlem. Residents report that bins are overflowing, and that streets are littered with garbage. Funding should be allocated to increase the frequency of litter basket collection along major corridors, including East 125th, 116th and 110th Streets.</i>	East 125 Street 1 Avenue Madison Avenue
46/49	DSNY	Increase vacant lot cleaning	<i>East Harlem has multiple vacant lots pending development that have become illegal dumping sites. Funding should be allocated to increase vacant lot cleaning to discourage illegal dumping and prevent the accumulation of garbage.</i>	

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Manhattan Community Board 11

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

Affordable housing preservation

CD11's housing stock is largely subsidized, rent-stabilized or public housing; only 22% of units are currently unregulated. Data provided by the Regional Plan Association projects that 4,230 subsidized and rent-stabilized units are at risk over the next 15 years due to expiring affordability programs. This, combined with the pressures on regulated housing due to increased development in the area, makes affordable housing programs the top concern in CD11. The East Harlem Neighborhood Plan estimated "affordable housing need" in CD11 as 12,000 households. Ours is one of only four districts in Manhattan that saw a net increase in stabilized units in the period of 2007-2020. It did this by gaining over 6,000 new units while losing 4,300 units over the same period. Data suggests that efforts of CB11 to attract new housing that would be affordable and stabilized has been beneficial to the community in terms of the supply of such units in the aggregate. However, the mounting pressures of rising rents, landlord harassment, and stagnant wages continue to demand the production and preservation of affordable housing in order to forestall wider residential displacement, particularly for low and extremely-low income households. NYCHA operates more than 15,000 apartments across 21 developments in CD11, one of the largest concentrations of public housing in New York City. Public housing accounts for more than one-third of CD11's rental apartments, and remains an affordable housing lifeline for so many. NYCHA has experienced unprecedented disinvestment and deprioritization by federal, state and city agencies for generations. With over \$32 billion in capital needs citywide, NYCHA residents suffer from collective neglect and lack of necessary repairs impacting their housing security. Further, the defunding of public housing has manifested short and long term impacts on the integrity of NYCHA's building stock and the health and safety of their residents. It is critical that the city, along with the state and federal government, prioritize and properly invest the necessary funds in public housing. Finally, in order to facilitate the creation of affordable housing, the number one need identified by our 2021 public input survey, our CB and our broader community need to understand their role in the land use review process. When private developers and DCP do not adequately engage community in land use decisions, dissent and apathy can foment based on a lack of information, or lack of time to digest information. This can put the creation of affordable housing at risk. As the pandemic has forced all public meetings digital, the challenges to engaging community in land use decisions, particularly our elderly and often most engaged members, has only heightened. CB11 needs the resources to educate our community on how to engage with the new digital ULURP process and make their voices heard in the process of affordable housing creation for CD11.

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

Needs for Land Use

As unemployment skyrockets through the #COVID19 pandemic, East Harlem residents face ever-increasing rents and displacement pressures. With a median income of \$33,564 (2014-18 American Community Survey), the housing market was already out of reach for most East Harlemites (pre-COVID19). It is imperative that the City prioritize policies and programs that ensure existing affordable housing units are preserved, and that new affordable units are developed that reflect the income levels of this community. The City must prioritize the completion of East Harlem Rezoning Points of Agreements commitments and develop affordable housing on city-owned sites including the East Harlem Multi-Service Center, the 25th Precinct parking lot at 119th Street and the lot being utilized by the Department of Sanitation's Lot Cleaning Unit at 123rd Street.

Though large swaths of the district were rezoned as a result of the 2017 East Harlem Neighborhood Rezoning, we encourage the Department of City Planning to reopen and expand the rezoning area, as requested in the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan and consider expanding Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) to cover First Avenue. Fine-grained zoning changes should be made throughout the community that both facilitate the development of housing affordable to existing community residents, as well as incentivizing nonresidential development.

While Mandatory Inclusionary Housing will be triggered in any new residential development taking advantage of the increased density, MIH does not go far enough to address the need for housing that is truly affordable to East Harlem residents. We call upon HPD and HDC to identify and commit additional funding sources to provide both (a) capital subsidies to reduce construction costs and (b) ongoing rental subsidies to both extend the term of affordability for affordable units in mixed-income buildings and to enable deeper levels of affordability, including 10-15% of area median income, while still allowing for a diversity of income. We further ask that the City identify significant additional subsidies to allow for affordable homeownership opportunities and to provide a deeper level of affordability in new development, both on City-owned and privately-owned property.

In June 2019, CB11 adopted a resolution detailing its Affordable Housing Development Guidelines, which should be utilized by City Agencies and developers to design proposals that fit the housing needs of our district. CB11 resolved that Development on Publicly Owned Sites should target 100% rent and income-restricted development with deep affordability and at a variety of low- and moderate-income rent levels in perpetuity where units are targeted 20% Extremely Low-Income, 20% Very Low-Income, 20% Low-Income, 20% Moderate-Income, and 20% Middle-Income. Further, development on Privately Owned Sites seeking a zoning change, should include at least 30% of the residential units affordable at an average of 60% AMI in perpetuity. Thirdly, Condominium or Cooperative Development Developers are encouraged to construct affordable condominiums or cooperatives to provide homeownership opportunities to local residents. Housing proposals that integrate both affordable homeownership and rental units are also encouraged. All condominium or cooperative units should be affordable to low-moderate- and middle-income households earning between 80% and 130% of AMI.

Supporting Materials: Manhattan Community Board 11 Affordable Housing Development Guidelines; East Harlem Neighborhood Plan

Needs for Housing

East Harlem has a high need for affordable housing, both preserved in existing buildings and included in new construction. As more development comes to East Harlem and rising rents elevate the frequency of displacement pressures for low-income tenants, it is vital that they are made aware of their rights as tenants and have access to free legal services to protect themselves and their homes from unscrupulous landlords and developers. The City is moving in the right direction by expanding funding for the representation of tenants, but current legal aid funding must be extended beyond its current three-year term. Additionally, the idea of an anti-harassment/anti-eviction district similar to the Special Clinton District should be studied to add an extra level of protection for East Harlem tenants. Current residents should be better prepared for affordable housing lotteries as well. Housing preparedness clinics should be held regularly, and developers should be required to hire a third-party organization to conduct credit counseling and marketing.

Not only do most East Harlem residents live at or below 30% of AMI, but there is also a substantial number of those individuals who require supportive housing. There is an ongoing need in our community to preserve and develop affordable supportive housing for our seniors, veterans, disabled, and homeless populations as well as individuals living with substance use disorders and those of our neighbors returning to the community after incarceration.

Any proposals for either infill development or PACT conversions on NYCHA properties must be considered in consultation with the residents, the community board, and the elected officials that represent the affected developments.

Needs for Economic Development

An unemployment rate of 5.3percent does not effectively communicate the challenge of underemployment paired with unaffordable housing in East Harlem. Nearly 40% of residents spend more than 30% of their monthly gross income on rent (ACS 2014-2018). The lack of well-paying jobs directly contributes to other economic and social problems in East Harlem. According to the 2014-2018 ACS survey, the annual median household income in East Harlem was \$33,564 which is significantly lower than the median NYC median household income of \$64,162--and less than half of the median household income in Manhattan--\$82,459. Some areas of East Harlem are even more distressed; the two census tracts, 192 and 194, that make up Wagner Houses have median incomes of \$19,962 and \$21,379, respectively. Of the 102,464

residents aged 16 and older in East Harlem, 5.3% are unemployed and 41.2% are not in the labor force. Nearly 29.2% of family incomes are below the Federal poverty line; the percentages are even higher for youth and seniors (47.61% and 34.1% respectively).

With so many East Harlem residents out of the labor force and receiving various forms of public assistance, all levels of government must refocus their approach from poverty maintenance to poverty alleviation. Workforce development programs must be targeted to the most vulnerable residents, such as the homeless, mentally handicapped, youth, women, and the formerly incarcerated. This effort must include innovation and a focus on alternative methods of alleviation - a focus on small business creation, locally grown entrepreneurs, and skills enhancement. In support of the many East Harlem households headed by single mothers, programs for these efforts in increased education and job-readiness, must include access to low-cost and free child care.

As our city and state move away from policies that have contributed to mass incarceration, it is necessary to support and expand programs that meaningfully assist individuals with a history with the criminal justice system successfully reintegrate into the workforce. Paired with social services that aid this population with re-entry, the opportunity to find meaningful and dependable means of income is vital to successful re-entry and reducing recidivism. These are our family members and neighbors; it is incumbent upon our community, service providers, and our government to aid to the extent possible in their successful reintegration.

Local hiring, including building projects, retail, foodservice, and offices, has to be supported and encouraged. This can be accomplished by providing funding for a local workforce development provider that identifies, screens, and refers to local residents to appropriate employers. Labor unions should also build pre-apprenticeship programs and work to ensure apprentices are moving up through the system to earn a living wage.

Overall economic activity must be increased in the community to bring more businesses, commercial activity and employment opportunity to key commercial corridors including 125th Street, 116th Street, 106th Street, Third Avenue, Second Avenue and First Avenue. Similarly, opportunities to bring economic activity to Park Avenue and Madison Avenue should be pursued. Support for small business enterprises must be encouraged and supported. The Department of Small Business Services must continue to provide assistance to local merchant organizations, including Uptown Grand Central, and local providers of business support services, including the Business Development Center at Union Settlement.

Supporting Materials: East Harlem Commercial Districts Needs Assessment

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/26	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Provide funding for the development of affordable housing at deeper levels of affordability targeting households living under 30% of AMI, the developmentally disabled, those living with mental illness and homeless veterans.</i>	
2/26	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	<i>There remain many vacant properties or under-utilized residential buildings in East Harlem. It is imperative that the community, elected leaders and HPD work collaboratively to create the necessary incentive(s) for private property owners to upgrade and maintain their properties for active residential use. Newly developed or rehabilitated apartment buildings must include a balance of mixed-income units that also include a percentage of units for low and extremely-low income households.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/49	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Due to the rising unemployment among the community, support is needed to motivate and mobilize job seekers towards certification/technical training programs and enhancement of occupational skills. Provide funding for more workforce development programs. This is all in effort to stimulate the East Harlem workforce and economy.</i>	
7/49	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Hire additional permanent inspectors to monitor building complaints.</i>	
8/49	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Due to the rising unemployment among the community, job seekers are searching for stable pay and our East Harlem workforce development must address the need for local employment and training organizations in collaboration with SBS and EDC by connecting local residents with employment opportunities in growing industries. SBS must increase funding for training vouchers that will benefit residents looking for higher incomes.</i>	

11/49	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide more funding for tenant harassment units.</i>
12/49	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Increase funding for specialized enforcement programs, such as the Alternative Enforcement Program, The Program Preservation Program, Underlying Conditions Program, and the Anti-Harassment Unit and inspections to correct code violations.</i>
15/49	SBS	Assist with on-site business compliance with City regulations	<i>Given the enormous pressure and obligation to abide by COVID 19 safety regulations, city agencies must prioritize having this information readily available to local merchants so that they are educated on current and changing agency regulations to assist business owners in unfairly placed fines and inadequate treatment from city agency inspectors.</i>
16/49	NYCHA	Other public housing maintenance, staffing and management requests	<i>Provide funding for the purchase of additional services vans with additional computers, tablets, and supporting supplies, which may aid residents with annual online recertifications and maintenance requests and other limitations due to COVID - 19.</i>
25/49	SBS	Support local CBO's efforts to provide or expand district marketing, branding, and promotion	<i>A continuous maintenance for the preservation of East Harlem's authenticity as a historical landmark needs to be maintained amidst the economic downturn resulting from the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, which has already further impoverished our community. Funding for the Avenue NYC program should continue for existing place-making and tourism efforts.</i>
32/49	DCP	Increased community board training, including on core land use process and practices	<i>Provide funding for digital ULURP trainings, as well as outreach to promote the new trainings in East Harlem. These trainings would educate the community on how to engage with the new digital ULURP process and make their voices heard in the land use development process, including affordable housing creation, for East Harlem.</i>
36/49	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	<i>EDC, in collaboration with SBS, should implement incentives to attract growing industries to East Harlem, especially businesses that are STEM related, thereby providing additional career opportunities for local residents.</i>

41/49	SBS	Support local, long-standing businesses	<i>Due to the extraordinary circumstances caused by the COVID 19 pandemic, funding is needed, as well as the collaboration with MTA, DSNY and DOT to protect the interest of long standing local businesses to ensure customer accessibility to all places of business on the Second Avenue Subway Phase II outreach and response.</i>
49/49	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide funding to hire an Assistant Director for the Office of the Tenant Advocate. The focus of this office must prioritize areas across the city that have been rezoned including East Harlem.</i>

TRANSPORTATION

Manhattan Community Board 11

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Bus service and quality (frequency, access, crowding, etc.)

Bus service within and throughout East Harlem needs improvement, particularly in terms of reliability. Traffic along the 125th Street corridor causes delays in bus service, which often results in multiple busses arriving at stops at the same time and causing further congestion at major intersections. The bus lines along Madison and Fifth Avenues are often delayed and overcrowded due to congestion below 60th Street. Thankfully, the Bronx Bus Redesign will implement changes to bus lines along 125th Street that will ultimately reduce congestion and improve bus service. NYC Transit should work with the community board to ensure that service along 125th Street improves. Additionally, DOT should work alongside the community board to identify solutions to delays along North/South bus lines ahead of the Manhattan Bus Redesign. Specifically, NYC Transit should consider improving the M1 bus line by changing the route to originate north of the Queensboro Bridge, so that commuters in East Harlem are not impacted by the congestion downtown.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

Per suggestions in the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan, a multi-modal transportation hub should be built that connects the Second Avenue Subway, the 125th Street Metro-North Station and the Lexington Avenue lines, as well as taxi services, bus routes, and CitiBikes. The MTA and DOT must work to improve conditions around the 125th Street Metro North Station, including the installation of better lighting, pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection, and renovation/utilization/removal of the old comfort station on the south side of 125th Street across from the Metro North Station. Additionally, Phase 2 of the Second Avenue Subway project must commence, as East Harlem is currently only serviced by the severely overcrowded Lexington Avenue lines. The Lexington Avenue trains are some of the most delayed in the city, and the MTA and NYC Transit need to continue to work to minimize delays that negatively impact riders.

Several bridges and heavily traveled commuter corridors are adjacent to or pass through East Harlem, including the Triboro/RFK Bridge, Willis Avenue Bridge, Third Avenue Bridge, Madison Avenue Bridge, the Harlem River Drive/ FDR Drive, and several popular avenues and cross streets (with most AM and PM commuter vehicles not originating from this community). Heavy vehicle traffic has a negative impact on pedestrian safety at several key intersections and it causes issues of reliability of NYC Transit bus lines. DOT should conduct studies of the entire 125th Street corridor, as well as Third Avenue between East 97th and 125th Streets, in order to develop recommendations to improve vehicular traffic flow and pedestrian safety taking into consideration East Harlem's aging and vulnerable populations. Additionally, NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) must continue to install pedestrian crossing signals with countdown timers at all East Harlem intersections.

Moreover, the impact of vehicular traffic and congestion in East Harlem has no doubt contributed to particulate matter in the air that triggers asthma. The Department of Transportation's efforts to encourage alternative modes of transit into and around New York City must be supported. The further disruption to right of way caused by major construction in the district should be considered an opportunity to reconstruct with vast, comprehensive and integrated improvements -- including the integration of green infrastructure - that have the capacity to affect the community's health, vitality and wellbeing.

Lastly, now that congestion pricing will be implemented below 60th Street, it's pertinent that New York City Council, with the support from the Department of Transportation, implement a residential parking permit system in East Harlem to accommodate local residents and ensure commuters don't park on local streets.

Needs for Transit Services

The MTA and NYC Transit need to continue to work to minimize delays along the Lexington Avenue train lines that negatively impact riders. The buslines along Madison and Fifth Avenues, as mentioned above, must be improved and made more dependable.

The Community Board also requests that NYC Transit increase rides per day and ridership hours for Student Metrocards. Specifically, Transit should fund up to five (5) rides per day between 5:30 AM until 10:00 PM, including weekends and summer months. This would allow youth to attend and participate in extracurricular school activities and/or work activities.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/26	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>The MTA and City must work aggressively with Federal partners to secure funding for Phase 2 of the Second Avenue Subway in order to ease congestion on the Lexington Avenue lines, and provide an alternative to often unreliable bus lines.</i>	East 125 Street Lexington Avenue Lexington Avenue
8/26	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Subway stations in East Harlem need to be more accessible for those with disabilities and/or mobility impairment. Funding should be allocated to make the 110th and 116th Street stations accessible.</i>	
18/26	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	<i>NYC DOT should provide improved street lighting along 104th, 105th and 117th Streets between Park Avenue and Lexington Avenue; and 126th Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue. On streets where a thick tree canopy obscures the effectiveness of traditional street lights, DOT should install lights that hang below the level of the tree canopy.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
17/49	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	<i>The most inconsistent bus lines along Madison and Fifth Avenues, particularly the M1, must be improved and made more dependable. NYC Transit must consider changing these routes to originate north of the 59th Street Bridge.</i>	
31/49	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	<i>Excessive vehicular traffic has created safety problems at key intersections throughout the community. The DOT should conduct engineering studies of the major commercial corridors, 125th and 116th Streets, Second Avenue at 110th and 11th Streets, 106th Street from Park Avenue to First Avenue, and a Complete Street along Second Avenue from 96th Street to 128th Street, considering both traffic and parking, with the goal of improving pedestrian safety and easing vehicular congestion.</i>	

38/49	NYCTA	Improve subway station or train cleanliness, safety and maintenance	<i>Provide additional funding to increase maintenance and cleaning services at the 110th Street, 116th Street and 125th Street subway stations.</i>
48/49	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	<i>Provide funding to study the feasibility of establishing a residential parking permit program in East Harlem.</i>

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Manhattan Community Board 11

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

Park care and maintenance

The East River Esplanade serves as a natural barrier against flooding, as well as a place for community enjoyment and exercise, but at this time there are a number of areas along the East River waterfront that are quickly deteriorating. More specifically, the underlying structural supports are in great need of repair, and will only continue to deteriorate and pose a significant danger to our residents. In order to address the issues of crumbling protective infrastructure, Community Board 11 requires a new assessment of the bulkheads, piers, and sea walls along the East River esplanade, a strategy to repair these elements of our waterfront and funding to restore these areas into much needed vibrant public spaces for our residents. Funding should be prioritized to assess the overall needs and provide repairs, including those necessary to make Pier 107 fully functional again. Additionally, the Parks Department's expense budget was cut by 14%, or \$84 million, in FY2021 due to COVID-19. The most significant cut was to the seasonal budget, which resulted in the loss of 1700 workers that clean city parks during the heavy summer season. As a result, NYC Parks is unable to meet the demands of East Harlem's parks. Full funding must be restored to ensure that our parks remain clean, properly maintained, and welcoming to visitors. Harlem River Park, Each One Teach One, Lincoln Playground, and Marcus Garvey Park, in particular, would benefit from greater sanitation services to address their rodent and trash problems.

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

Needs for Parks

In December 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio and the former City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito committed \$101 million towards the Harlem Greenway Link as part of the approved rezoning of East Harlem. The Harlem Greenway Link will create seven acres of waterfront parkland between 125th and 132nd Streets for East Harlem residents and visitors to enjoy. NYC Parks should ensure that a playground and comfort station is included in the design for the Harlem Greenway Link. Moreover, Community Board 11 maintains the position that the park AND pathway at the Harlem Greenway Link should be named Richard Toussaint Park to celebrate Mr. Toussaint's advocacy for this project.

Safety in East Harlem's parks is a paramount concern. Solutions suggested include increased lighting, surveillance cameras, and services to combat homelessness and substance abuse. A few of the parks in East Harlem -- including Ronald McNair Park, Harlem River Park, and Marcus Garvey Park -- have been identified as hotbeds for illicit activity and discarded needles. NYC Parks should partner with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Social Services, and non-profit organizations to provide more services for individuals in crisis.

Needs for Cultural Services

Funding is critical to both the preservation and exploration of arts and culture programming and necessary in order to promote the foundations that provide such programming for the benefit of the East Harlem community and NYC at large. Some of the specific needs of local cultural institutions are: The Julia de Burgos Cultural Center and other smaller-scale institutions need to be considered for inclusion in the Cultural Institutions Group to make it eligible for significant capital and operating support from the City. Funding and support need to be provided for the revitalization of the historic La Marqueta, which would act as a catalyst to attract new businesses and vibrancy to the Park Avenue corridor. The newly formed Friends of La Marqueta, which includes board participation, will provide a local governance structure for the revitalized market. The Board welcomes more arts/cultural service organizations to enhance, educate and expand public interest in the arts and culture of East Harlem. A campaign to bring these entities and artists to East Harlem will solidify our community commitment to the important place our culture has in New York City and re-establish our commitment to the arts. Once established, and representative of a cross-section of the East Harlem community, this organization should work to develop a comprehensive art and cultural strategic master plan for the community. Given the seating capacities of East Harlem's

many theaters, NYC & Company should work with local artists and theater owners to promote East Harlem as an Off-Broadway site both for East Harlem's artists and other aspiring artists. This would be one step towards boosting tourism and bringing much-needed capital into East Harlem.

Needs for Library Services

East Harlem's libraries are heavily used by the local community and are especially valuable to low-income residents who may not be able to afford to purchase books. In addition to books, they offer computer and language classes that are incredibly valuable and should be expanded to reach as many residents as possible. We encourage the overall budget for the New York Public Library to be increased so that libraries can maintain weekend hours and continue to expand their collections, programming, and staffing. Specifically, in East Harlem, funding should be allocated for computers and computer literacy classes and to renovate the Aguilar Library building exterior and windows.

Needs for Community Boards

The operating budget for community boards should be increased to reflect the vital role they play in planning and quality of life advocacy for neighborhoods all across the city. However, they are hampered in their ability to effectively advocate for residents by ever smaller budgets. Increasing the budget would allow additional staff to be hired and result in an overall increase in the quality of responses and services that the community board provides. Additional funding is especially necessary now given the many demands placed on boards regarding zoning changes and housing developments. Funding would also be used for technological upgrades, such as new computers and GIS licensing, translation services, improved outreach to constituents, and continual professional development for staff. Board offices must be housed in city-owned facilities that provide the necessary office space for staff and but also meeting areas to accommodate public meetings. Additionally, community boards require the use of community meeting spaces capable of seating up to 200 people for our monthly full board meetings. Since many of our community-based service institutions face similar problems in arranging usable facilities for their functions, these board meeting spaces would also serve as a general community center open to the public and specialized programming. We urge our officials to consider possible existing or new, permanent sites that can satisfy these needs so that the board can carry out our duties effectively and provide a welcoming community facility for local groups and our constituents.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>The East Harlem Esplanade is slowly deteriorating and falling into the East/Harlem River and needs major infrastructure improvements to rebuild or reinforce the super-structure underneath the parkland and the FDR Drive. Immediate repairs are needed to ensure the health and safety of visitors. While majority of the repairs are funded, the Esplanade at East 111th Street is partially closed and in need of funding for repairs. DOT and the Parks Department should work collaboratively to achieve this goal.</i>	
5/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>In December 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio and the former City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito committed \$101 million towards the Harlem Greenway Link as part of the approved rezoning of East Harlem. The Harlem Greenway Link will create seven acres of waterfront parkland between 125th and 132nd Streets for East Harlem residents and visitors to enjoy. NYC Parks should ensure that a playground and comfort station is included in the design for the Harlem Greenway Link. If further funding is needed to meet these demands, NYC Parks should provide an estimate and any extra funding. Lastly, Community Board 11 maintains the position that the park AND pathway at the Harlem Greenway Link should be named Richard Toussaint Park to celebrate Mr. Toussaint's advocacy for this project.</i>	90-98 EAST 132 STREET
9/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Provide funding for the construction of a comfort station at Thomas Jefferson Park. Thomas Jefferson Park recently received funding for improvements; while the design of the renovated playground reserves space for a comfort station, the existing funding for improvements does not account for the comfort station.</i>	
10/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Fund the replacement of the 107th Street Pier to allow it to be safely utilized by the community. Approximately \$28 million is needed to completely rebuild the Pier.</i>	

13/26	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Funding for the renovation of the 125th Street Library branch is needed in order to address targeted upgrades, such as heating, cooling systems, new roof, windows and doors. Upgrades to the fire alarm, security systems and surveillance, ADA compliance and elevator replacements are needed as well. Given the current circumstances that generate enormous social stigma against those effected by COVID19, this is essential for the recreation and mobility of the local residents and the enhancement of community development.</i>	
15/26	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Aguilar Library will continue to be the main public space for community residents to seek library services during the ongoing renovation of the 125th Street Library. Therefore, it must be ensured that all patrons have accessibility to the facilities by the adjunction of an accessibility ramp for ADA compliance. In addition, keeping in mind a COVID 19 conscious plan of action in executing the renovation. The estimated cost for this work is \$397,000.</i>	
16/26	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	<i>Funding should be allocated to install more lighting inside Marcus Garvey Park to increase the park's safety.</i>	Mt Morris Park West, Manhattan, New York, NY
17/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>With the rehabilitation of the Fire Watchtower in Marcus Garvey Park complete, funding must now be allocated for the reconstruction of the Acropolis, paths, staircases and walls leading up it. NYC Parks estimates that the rehabilitation will cost about \$19.6 million.</i>	
19/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Replace the synthetic turf field at Eugene McCabe Playground using natural materials (coconut and sand) using the internal budgeting and staffing in the same manner as the quickly replaced Lion's Gate soccer field in Sara D. Roosevelt Park. NYC Parks estimates that the improvements will cost about \$1.5 million.</i>	
21/26	DPR	Improve access to a building in a park	<i>Provide funding to make the comfort station at P.S. 155 Playground ADA compliant.</i>	East 117 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY

22/26	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	<i>Funding should be allocated to renovate the back fence at Harlem Art Park.</i>	East 120 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
23/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Funding should be allocated to provide park upgrades and a comfort station at Peter Minuit Playground (108th Street & Park Avenue). NYC Parks and Department of Education should work together to ensure this project is completed in a timely manner.</i>	East 108 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
25/26	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	<i>Funding should be allocated to replace the copper pipes and valves for the onsite water system in Harlem River Park (135-139th Streets).</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/49	OMB	Other community board facilities and staff requests	<i>Provide funding for baseline Increase the PS and OTPS budgets of Community Boards to support the vital role they play in planning and quality of life advocacy for their communities. Increasing the budget would allow additional staff to be hired and result in an overall increase in the quality of responses and services that the community board provides.</i>	
18/49	DPR	Other park programming requests	<i>Budget cuts to NYC Parks due to COVID-19 resulted in 1,700 seasonal staffers that help clean parks during the busy summer season. Restore full funding for the Department of Parks and Recreation seasonal budget. Parks in East Harlem need to be cleaned and maintained more frequently. Garbage is littered throughout parks and creates an unpleasant experience for visitors.</i>	
21/49	NYPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	<i>The social impact caused by COVID 19 in our community requires expansion of availability of library operating hours to 7 days a week as well as supportive community resources.</i>	

33/49	DPR	Other park programming requests	<i>Green Thumb needs additional funding to properly execute its oversight role and ensure that community gardens are open to the public. Additional outreach coordinators should be hired to help support existing gardens.</i>
35/49	DCLA	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	<i>The Department of Cultural Affairs should provide seed funding for the creation of an arts/cultural service organization in East Harlem. In collaboration with The Department of Cultural Affairs, we must continue funding the development of the art and culture of East Harlem, especially in wake of the reopening of our local businesses. This is imperative for the enhancement of our community.</i>
37/49	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	<i>Currently there are two gardeners servicing Manhattan Community District 11: one for Marcus Garvey and one for Thomas Jefferson. There is also a temporary floating gardener that will be removed from our district soon. We need additional permanent gardeners to service East Harlem parks.</i>
39/49	DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	<i>Provide funding to expand the Community Parks Initiative.</i>
45/49	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Additional NYC Forestry staff should be hired to maintain the street trees. Funding should also be directed to Trees NY.</i>
47/49	DPR	Plant new street trees	<i>In order to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, East Harlem needs more trees to absorb carbon and release oxygen. Funding should be allocated to plant new street trees across East Harlem.</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
4/49	MOCJ	Other expense budget request for MOCJ	<i>Provide funding for an expansion of the Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety to cover all NYCHA developments in East Harlem.</i>	

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

Capital Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/26	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Provide funding for the development of affordable housing at deeper levels of affordability targeting households living under 30% of AMI, the developmentally disabled, those living with mental illness and homeless veterans.</i>	
2/26	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	<i>There remain many vacant properties or under-utilized residential buildings in East Harlem. It is imperative that the community, elected leaders and HPD work collaboratively to create the necessary incentive(s) for private property owners to upgrade and maintain their properties for active residential use. Newly developed or rehabilitated apartment buildings must include a balance of mixed-income units that also include a percentage of units for low and extremely-low income households.</i>	
3/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>The East Harlem Esplanade is slowly deteriorating and falling into the East/Harlem River and needs major infrastructure improvements to rebuild or reinforce the super-structure underneath the parkland and the FDR Drive. Immediate repairs are needed to ensure the health and safety of visitors. While majority of the repairs are funded, the Esplanade at East 111th Street is partially closed and in need of funding for repairs. DOT and the Parks Department should work collaboratively to achieve this goal.</i>	
4/26	SCA	Provide technology upgrade	<i>Remote learning has created a significant technology need for schools across East Harlem and New York City. Funding should be allocated to ensure each school has access to the laptops, ipads, and tablets needed to effectively implement remote-learning models. Attached are the technology needs for District 4 schools.</i>	

5/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>In December 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio and the former City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito committed \$101 million towards the Harlem Greenway Link as part of the approved rezoning of East Harlem. The Harlem Greenway Link will create seven acres of waterfront parkland between 125th and 132nd Streets for East Harlem residents and visitors to enjoy. NYC Parks should ensure that a playground and comfort station is included in the design for the Harlem Greenway Link. If further funding is needed to meet these demands, NYC Parks should provide an estimate and any extra funding. Lastly, Community Board 11 maintains the position that the park AND pathway at the Harlem Greenway Link should be named Richard Toussaint Park to celebrate Mr. Toussaint's advocacy for this project.</i>	90-98 EAST 132 STREET
6/26	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>The MTA and City must work aggressively with Federal partners to secure funding for Phase 2 of the Second Avenue Subway in order to ease congestion on the Lexington Avenue lines, and provide an alternative to often unreliable bus lines.</i>	East 125 Street Lexington Avenue Lexington Avenue
7/26	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	<i>Build a permanent, state-of-the-art dual district sanitation garage to service Manhattan Community Districts 10 and 11. The new building should meet or exceed LEED Gold standards and be equipped with the most advanced indoor air filtration systems and zero emissions sanitation trucks.</i>	
8/26	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Subway stations in East Harlem need to be more accessible for those with disabilities and/or mobility impairment. Funding should be allocated to make the 110th and 116th Street stations accessible.</i>	
9/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Provide funding for the construction of a comfort station at Thomas Jefferson Park. Thomas Jefferson Park recently received funding for improvements; while the design of the renovated playground reserves space for a comfort station, the existing funding for improvements does not account for the comfort station.</i>	

10/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Fund the replacement of the 107th Street Pier to allow it to be safely utilized by the community. Approximately \$28 million is needed to completely rebuild the Pier.</i>	
11/26	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	<i>The East River Esplanade serves as a natural barrier against flooding, as well as a place for community enjoyment and exercise, but at this time there are a number of areas along the East River waterfront that deteriorating. Multiple segments along the Esplanade are slated for repairs in the upcoming years. DEP should evaluate the East River Esplanade and work alongside NYC Parks and EDC to incorporate green infrastructure along the length of the waterfront.</i>	
12/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Upgrade the wiring at P.S. 146 Ann M. Short. The wiring in the building is the original (1965). Currently, the wiring accommodates 2400 amps, however the building needs to accommodate 4200-4500 amps in order to sustain all technology , modern equipment, refrigeration (kitchen) and AC's.</i>	421 1 Avenue, Manhattan, New York, NY
13/26	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Funding for the renovation of the 125th Street Library branch is needed in order to address targeted upgrades, such as heating, cooling systems, new roof, windows and doors. Upgrades to the fire alarm, security systems and surveillance, ADA compliance and elevator replacements are needed as well. Given the current circumstances that generate enormous social stigma against those effected by COVID19, this is essential for the recreation and mobility of the local residents and the enhancement of community development.</i>	
14/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>Upgrade the bathrooms at The Lexington Academy located at 131 East 104th Street.</i>	131 East 104 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY

15/26	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Aguilar Library will continue to be the main public space for community residents to seek library services during the ongoing renovation of the 125th Street Library. Therefore, it must be ensured that all patrons have accessibility to the facilities by the adjunction of an accessibility ramp for ADA compliance. In addition, keeping in mind a COVID 19 conscious plan of action in executing the renovation. The estimated cost for this work is \$397,000.</i>	
16/26	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	<i>Funding should be allocated to install more lighting inside Marcus Garvey Park to increase the park's safety.</i>	Mt Morris Park West, Manhattan, New York, NY
17/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>With the rehabilitation of the Fire Watchtower in Marcus Garvey Park complete, funding must now be allocated for the reconstruction of the Acropolis, paths, staircases and walls leading up it. NYC Parks estimates that the rehabilitation will cost about \$19.6 million.</i>	
18/26	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	<i>NYC DOT should provide improved street lighting along 104th, 105th and 117th Streets between Park Avenue and Lexington Avenue; and 126th Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue. On streets where a thick tree canopy obscures the effectiveness of tradition street lights, DOT should install lights that hang below the level of the tree canopy.</i>	
19/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Replace the synthetic turf field at Eugene McCabe Playground using natural materials (coconut and sand) using the internal budgeting and staffing in the same manner as the quickly replaced Lion's Gate soccer field in Sara D. Roosevelt Park. NYC Parks estimates that the improvements will cost about \$1.5 million.</i>	
20/26	SCA	Renovate other site component	<i>Upgrade the Peter Minuit Playground to include a comfort station and new state of the art playground equipment.</i>	East 108 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
21/26	DPR	Improve access to a building in a park	<i>Provide funding to make the comfort station at P.S. 155 Playground ADA compliant.</i>	East 117 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY

22/26	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	<i>Funding should be allocated to renovate the back fence at Harlem Art Park.</i>	East 120 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
23/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>Funding should be allocated to provide park upgrades and a comfort station at Peter Minuit Playground (108th Street & Park Avenue). NYC Parks and Department of Education should work together to ensure this project is completed in a timely manner.</i>	East 108 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY
24/26	FDNY	Other capital budget request for FDNY	<i>Provide additional funding for a Fire Safety Education unit to service East Harlem. The Fire Safety Education Unit is specially trained to conduct public education and community outreach. Studies show that the decrease in death due to fires is directly correlated with strong public education programs.</i>	
25/26	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	<i>Funding should be allocated to replace the copper pipes and valves for the onsite water system in Harlem River Park (135-139th Streets).</i>	
26/26	DOHMH	Other capital budget request for DOHMH	<i>Increase personnel for needle pick up on 110th, 111th, and 125th streets. Needle pick up must also occur near Clinton Houses, Marcus Garvey Park, and Ronald McNair Park.</i>	

Expense Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/49	DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	<i>The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the need to meaningfully engage our youth and support working parents. Increase the amount of after school program seats in East Harlem, especially for older youths.</i>	
2/49	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	<i>CD11 ranks first in the city for psychiatric hospitalizations (2,016 per 100,000 adults). Funding from the new ThriveNYC initiative should be targeted to improve programming in East Harlem. Supportive programs should be developed and better targeted to particular populations to encourage people to reach out and get help before needing hospitalization so that their mental health needs can be positively managed. Programs should annually assess and evaluate to provide assistance with jobs, housing, education, medical issues, and any other needs that this vulnerable population may have.</i>	
3/49	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Due to the rising unemployment among the community, support is needed to motivate and mobilize job seekers towards certification/technical training programs and enhancement of occupational skills. Provide funding for more workforce development programs. This is all in effort to stimulate the East Harlem workforce and economy.</i>	
4/49	MOCJ	Other expense budget request for MOCJ	<i>Provide funding for an expansion of the Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety to cover all NYCHA developments in East Harlem.</i>	
5/49	OMB	Other community board facilities and staff requests	<i>Provide funding for baseline Increase the PS and OTPS budgets of Community Boards to support the vital role they play in planning and quality of life advocacy for their communities. Increasing the budget would allow additional staff to be hired and result in an overall increase in the quality of responses and services that the community board provides.</i>	
6/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	<i>Restore full funding to allow for Summer Youth Employment Program. Additionally, increase the number of Work, Learn & Grow program slots in order to increase the reach of DYCD throughout the school year.</i>	

7/49	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Hire additional permanent inspectors to monitor building complaints.</i>
8/49	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	<i>Due to the rising unemployment among the community, job seekers are searching for stable pay and our East Harlem workforce development must address the need for local employment and training organizations in collaboration with SBS and EDC by connecting local residents with employment opportunities in growing industries. SBS must increase funding for training vouchers that will benefit residents looking for higher incomes.</i>
9/49	DOE	Assign more teaching staff	<i>COVID-19 has drastically changed the learning landscape in East Harlem and across New York City. The impacts of COVID-19 on learning are disproportionately felt by students in communities like East Harlem. Funding should be allocated for additional teachers to support remote and hybrid learning models.</i>
10/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Funding is needed to expand services to our multicultural community of low income and below federal poverty level seniors.</i>
11/49	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide more funding for tenant harrassment units.</i>
12/49	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Increase funding for specialized enforcement programs, such as the Alternative Enforcement Program, The Program Preservation Program, Underlying Conditions Program, and the Anti-Harrassment Unit and inspections to correct code violations.</i>
13/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) services	<i>The impacts of COVID-19 and remote learning are disproportionately felt by students who speak another language at home. Funding should be allocated to enhance ESOL services during this time of hybrid and remote learning.</i>
14/49	DOE	Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	<i>All signs point toward better outcomes for students and teachers when there is greater access to mental health care providers on-site at schools. Funding should be allocated for more mental health and social workers in East Harlem schools.</i>

15/49	SBS	Assist with on-site business compliance with City regulations	<i>Given the enormous pressure and obligation to abide by COVID 19 safety regulations, city agencies must prioritize having this information readily available to local merchants so that they are educated on current and changing agency regulations to assist business owners in unfairly placed fines and inadequate treatment from city agency inspectors.</i>
16/49	NYCHA	Other public housing maintenance, staffing and management requests	<i>Provide funding for the purchase of additional services vans with additional computers, tablets, and supporting supplies, which may aid residents with annual online recertifications and maintenance requests and other limitations due to COVID - 19.</i>
17/49	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	<i>The most inconsistent bus lines along Madison and Fifth Avenues, particularly the M1, must be improved and made more dependable. NYC Transit must consider changing these routes to originate north of the 59th Street Bridge.</i>
18/49	DPR	Other park programming requests	<i>Budget cuts to NYC Parks due to COVID-19 resulted in 1,700 seasonal staffers that help clean parks during the busy summer season. Restore full funding for the Department of Parks and Recreation seasonal budget. Parks in East Harlem need to be cleaned and maintained more frequently. Garbage is littered throughout parks and creates an unpleasant experience for visitors.</i>
19/49	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth	<i>The youth in East Harlem are especially vulnerable to crime and violence. Funding should be allocated to enhance services that both prevent youth violence and provide an alternative to incarceration.</i>
20/49	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Provide funding for proactive measures to mitigate rodent population in public housing, empty lots, construction areas, and train stations where rats establish colonies.</i>
21/49	NYPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	<i>The social impact caused by COVID 19 in our community requires expansion of availability of library operating hours to 7 days a week as well as supportive community resources.</i>

22/49	DFTA	Increase case management capacity	<i>Provide funding for more caseworkers.</i>
23/49	DFTA	Allocate funds for outreach services to homebound older adults and for programs that allow the elderly to age in place	<i>Provide funding to ensure faster service for seniors transitioning from hospital/rehab to home.</i>
24/49	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the out-of-school youth program for job training and employment services	<i>According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 28.6% of residents 25 years and over do not have a high school diploma or the equivalent. East Harlem's low rate of educational attainment contributes to a cycle of unemployment and poverty that becomes increasingly difficult to change with each generation. Funding should be allocated to expand the out of school youth program for job training and employment services to help mitigate the impacts of low educational attainment and help individuals without a degree find jobs that pay a living wage.</i>
25/49	SBS	Support local CBO's efforts to provide or expand district marketing, branding, and promotion	<i>A continuous maintenance for the preservation of East Harlem's authenticity as a historical landmark needs to be maintained amidst the economic downturn resulting from the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, which has already further impoverished our community. Funding for the Avenue NYC program should continue for existing place-making and tourism efforts.</i>
26/49	DOHMH	Provide more information and services related to STIs, HIV/AIDS, and family planning	<i>East Harlem residents are more than three times as likely to die from HIV/AIDS as the average NYC resident. Sex education services should be provided, especially among vulnerable populations, and access to HIV preventative drugs should be easy and affordable to all.</i>
27/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to expand hours of home care provided to insure fewer re-hospitalizations</i>
28/49	DOE	Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material	<i>Provide more PPE, hand sanitizer, thermometers, plexiglass, and other materials to help ensure social distancing and the safe return of staff and students in school buildings.</i>

29/49	DSNY	Provide more on-street trash cans and recycling containers	<i>Funding should be allocated to provide more on street big belly trash cans to reduce the occurrence of overflowing corner bins and garbage on the street.</i>	
30/49	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	<i>Sanitation services are severely lacking in East Harlem. Residents report that bins are overflowing, and that streets are littered with garbage. Funding should be allocated to increase the frequency of litter basket collection along major corridors, including East 125th, 116th and 110th Streets.</i>	East 125 Street 1 Avenue Madison Avenue
31/49	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	<i>Excessive vehicular traffic has created safety problems at key intersections throughout the community. The DOT should conduct engineering studies of the major commercial corridors, 125th and 116th Streets, Second Avenue at 110th and 11th Streets, 106th Street from Park Avenue to First Avenue, and a Complete Street along Second Avenue from 96th Street to 128th Street, considering both traffic and parking, with the goal of improving pedestrian safety and easing vehicular congestion.</i>	
32/49	DCP	Increased community board training, including on core land use process and practices	<i>Provide funding for digital ULURP trainings, as well as outreach to promote the new trainings in East Harlem. These trainings would educate the community on how to engage with the new digital ULURP process and make their voices heard in the land use development process, including affordable housing creation, for East Harlem.</i>	
33/49	DPR	Other park programming requests	<i>Green Thumb needs additional funding to properly execute its oversight role and ensure that community gardens are open to the public. Additional outreach coordinators should be hired to help support existing gardens.</i>	
34/49	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	<i>Explore alternative interventions for homelessness and substance abuse in parks, including Marcus Garvey Park and Randall's Island. For example, contracting local community-based organizations to station a trained mental health worker in Marcus Garvey Park to provide assistance when necessary.</i>	

35/49	DCLA	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	<i>The Department of Cultural Affairs should provide seed funding for the creation of an arts/cultural service organization in East Harlem. In collaboration with The Department of Cultural Affairs, we must continue funding the development of the art and culture of East Harlem, especially in wake of the reopening of our local businesses. This is imperative for the enhancement of our community.</i>
36/49	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	<i>EDC, in collaboration with SBS, should implement incentives to attract growing industries to East Harlem, especially businesses that are STEM related, thereby providing additional career opportunities for local residents.</i>
37/49	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	<i>Currently there are two gardeners servicing Manhattan Community District 11: one for Marcus Garvey and one for Thomas Jefferson. There is also a temporary floating gardener that will be removed from our district soon. We need additional permanent gardeners to service East Harlem parks.</i>
38/49	NYCTA	Improve subway station or train cleanliness, safety and maintenance	<i>Provide additional funding to increase maintenance and cleaning services at the 110th Street, 116th Street and 125th Street subway stations.</i>
39/49	DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	<i>Provide funding to expand the Community Parks Initiative.</i>
40/49	DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	<i>In lieu of the administration's push for PreK for All, there is a gap of service during the hours between the end of the school day and 5:00 PM. Expand Child Care, Head Start Programs, and 3K and Pre-K for All programs to cover after-school hours and support working parents.</i>
41/49	SBS	Support local, long-standing businesses	<i>Due to the extraordinary circumstances caused by the COVID 19 pandemic, funding is needed, as well as the collaboration with MTA, DSNY and DOT to protect the interest of long standing local businesses to ensure customer accessibility to all places of business on the Second Avenue Subway Phase II outreach and response.</i>

42/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to expand Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly hours of home care.</i>
43/49	DFTA	Enhance home care services	<i>Provide funding to hire more Spanish speaking home care workers are needed in the community.</i>
44/49	FDNY	Expand funding for fire prevention and life safety initiatives	<i>Provide additional funding to continue FDNY's "Get Alarmed" program. \$1 million for 63,000 alarms to be installed and/or given away.</i>
45/49	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Additional NYC Forestry staff should be hired to maintain the street trees. Funding should also be directed to Trees NY.</i>
46/49	DSNY	Increase vacant lot cleaning	<i>East Harlem has multiple vacant lots pending development that have become illegal dumping sites. Funding should be allocated to increase vacant lot cleaning to discourage illegal dumping and prevent the accumulation of garbage.</i>
47/49	DPR	Plant new street trees	<i>In order to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, East Harlem needs more trees to absorb carbon and release oxygen. Funding should be allocated to plant new street trees across East Harlem.</i>
48/49	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	<i>Provide funding to study the feasibility of establishing a residential parking permit program in East Harlem.</i>
49/49	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide funding to hire an Assistant Director for the Office of the Tenant Advocate. The focus of this office must prioritize areas across the city that have been rezoned including East Harlem.</i>