

Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests

Fiscal Year
2020



**Brooklyn
Community District
4**

Published by:

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PLANNING

February 2019

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 Brooklyn Community Board 4's *Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020*. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from June to November 2018.

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:

a) 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.

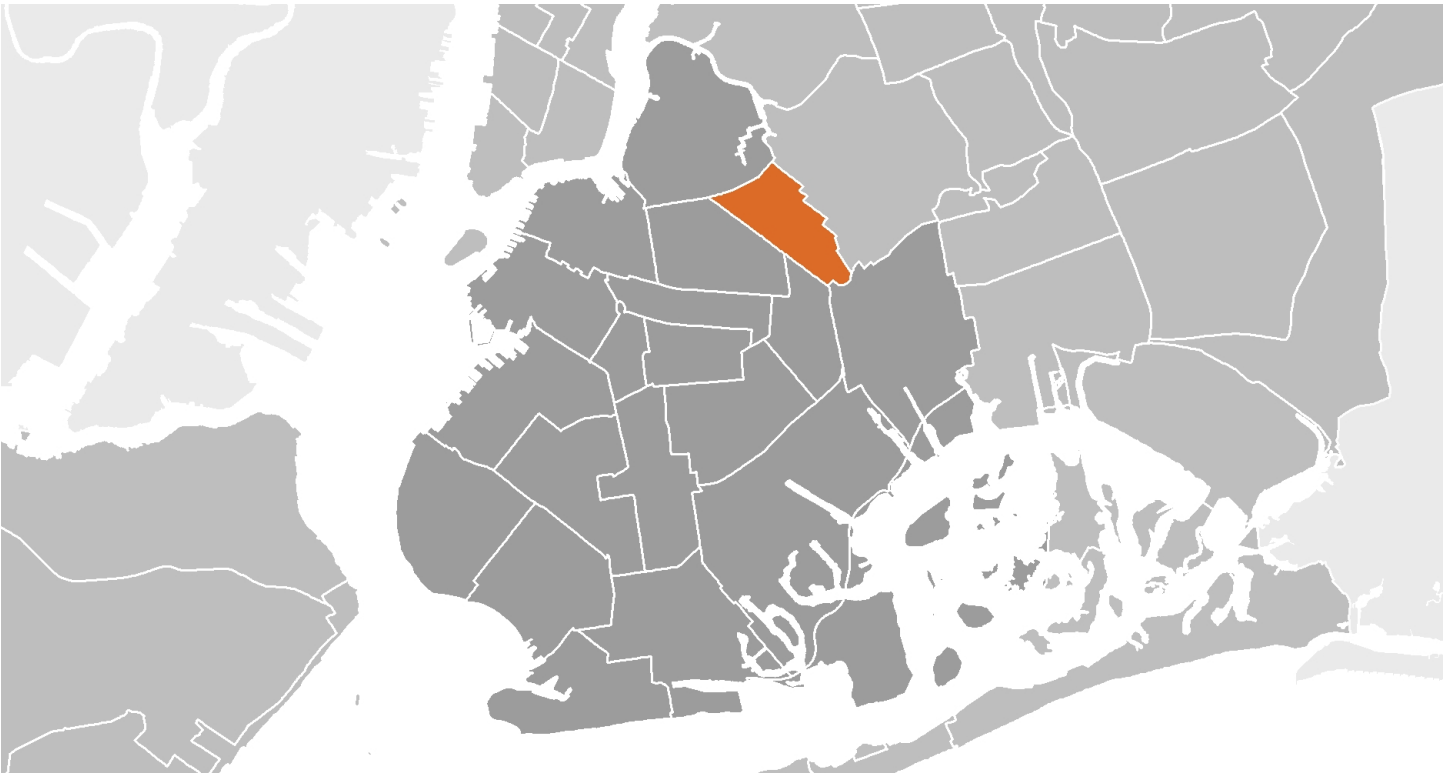
b) Policy Area - Specific District Needs

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.

c) Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY20 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.

Brooklyn Community Board 4



Statements of Community District Needs

and

Community Board Budget Requests

for

Brooklyn Community District 4 Fiscal Year 2020

Published by the Department of City Planning
February 2019

Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of Brooklyn Community Board 4 for Fiscal Year 2020. 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.

LETTER FROM THE COMMUNITY BOARD

THE CITY OF
NEW YORK



BUSHWICK

ELECTED OFFICIALS

HON. ERIC ADAMS
Borough President

HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO
34th Council District

HON. RAFAEL ESPINAL
37th Council District

OFFICERS

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Robert Camacho - Chairperson
Celestina Leon - District Manager

October 17, 2018

Dear Bushwick Community,

The time has come again for Brooklyn Community Board 4 to reconvene and discuss the Community Board budget requests for the neighborhood in Fiscal Year 2020.

This report provides a breakdown of the different sections that constitute our annual Community District Needs Statement and the corresponding Budget Requests, including both Capital and Expense budget priorities for Bushwick. This annual process continues to endeavor to encompass the needs of the entire district. The feedback and input of board members and the community at large throughout the year give shape to the most pressing issues in the neighborhood. The following five items were identified as the greatest capital needs for fiscal year 2020:

- 1) Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households
- 2) Provide more housing for seniors and other special needs households (supportive housing)
- 3) Upgrade the DeKalb Avenue L Station to include an elevator
- 4) Upgrade the Wilson Avenue L Station to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train
- 5) Provide, expand, enhance funding for Early Learn and Head Start programs

Despite a substantial increase in development and establishment of new amenities, more resources are needed to meet fundamental community needs. In addition to the items listed above, barriers to quality medical services, limited access to fresh, affordable food, and a rapidly changing economic landscape present challenges that must be overcome to improve the overall health of the community. We remain thankful to Mayor de Blasio and his administration, including our city agency partners for providing the necessary support and investment to resolve these issues. We are also grateful for the determination of all our elected officials that continue to secure funding to meet the needs of the neighborhood.

It is our hope that you find the contents of this report useful and they encourage you to get more involved. Our collective voices are required to advocate for our diverse community needs. Brooklyn Community Board 4 continues to advocate for projects and resources that improve the quality of life for all residents.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us in the office at (718) 628-8400 or via email at bk04@cb.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Camacho
Chairperson

Celestina Leon
District Manager

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1. Community Board Information

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Address: 1420 Bushwick Avenue, 370

Phone: 718 628-8400

Email: BK04@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb4

Chair: Mr. Robert Camacho

District Manager: Ms. Celestina Leon

Community Board Officers:

Mr. Willie Morales, Community Associate

Mrs. Sharon Fludd, Community Associate

2. Community District Profile

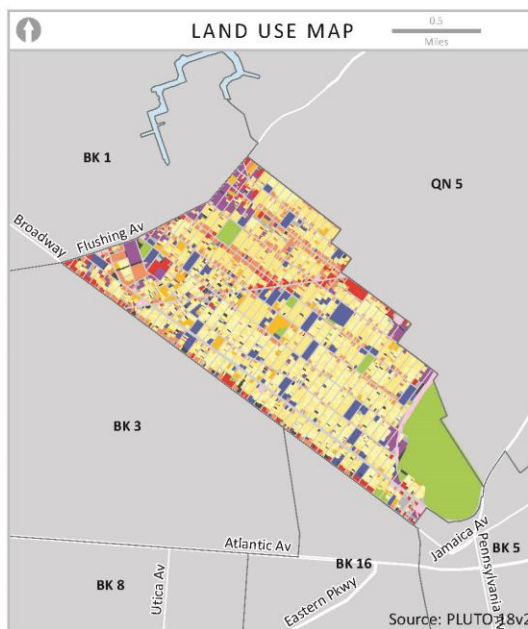
Visit the Community District Profiles to view data, maps, and other resources describing New York City's 59 community districts at: <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/>

Brooklyn Community District 4



Neighborhoods¹: Bushwick

POPULATION & DENSITY		
2000 ²	2010 ³	2000-2010
104,358	112,634	+8%
2012-2016 Estimate ⁴		135,837
Square Miles		2
Population Density		56,317/sq mi



COMMUNITY BOARD PERSPECTIVES

Top 3 pressing issues identified by Brooklyn Community Board 4 in 2018:

1. Affordable housing
2. Health care services
3. Youth and children's services

To learn more, please read Brooklyn CD 4's Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2020.

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyn4
Email: bk04@cb.nyc.gov

Land Use Category	# Lots	% Lot Area
1 & 2 Family Bldgs	4,083	20%
Multifamily Walk-up	4,603	29%
Multifamily Elevator	91	3%
Mixed Use	1,158	8%
Commercial	226	4%
Industrial	172	5%
Transportation/Utility	34	1%
Public/Institutional	186	8%
Open Space	102	16%
Parking	261	2%
Vacant	250	2%
Other	70	1%

Click here for a more detailed land use map of Brooklyn CD 4

A Snapshot of Key Community Indicators

COMMUNITY ASSETS ⁵	
Public Schools	51
Public Libraries	2
Hospitals and Clinics	14
Parks	14
Click to visit the NYC Facilities Explorer	

RENT BURDEN ^{4, 6}	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
49%	46%
of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent	NYC
	45%

ACCESS TO PARKS ⁷	
Brooklyn CD 4	Citywide Target
88%	85%
of residents live within walking distance of a park or open space	

MEAN COMMUTE TO WORK ^{4, 8}	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
40	42 minutes
minutes	NYC
	40 minutes

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY ⁴	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
30%	23%
of residents 5 years or older have limited English proficiency	NYC
	23%

CRIME RATE ⁹	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
14.1	11.3
major felonies were reported per 1,000 residents in 2016	NYC
	11.8

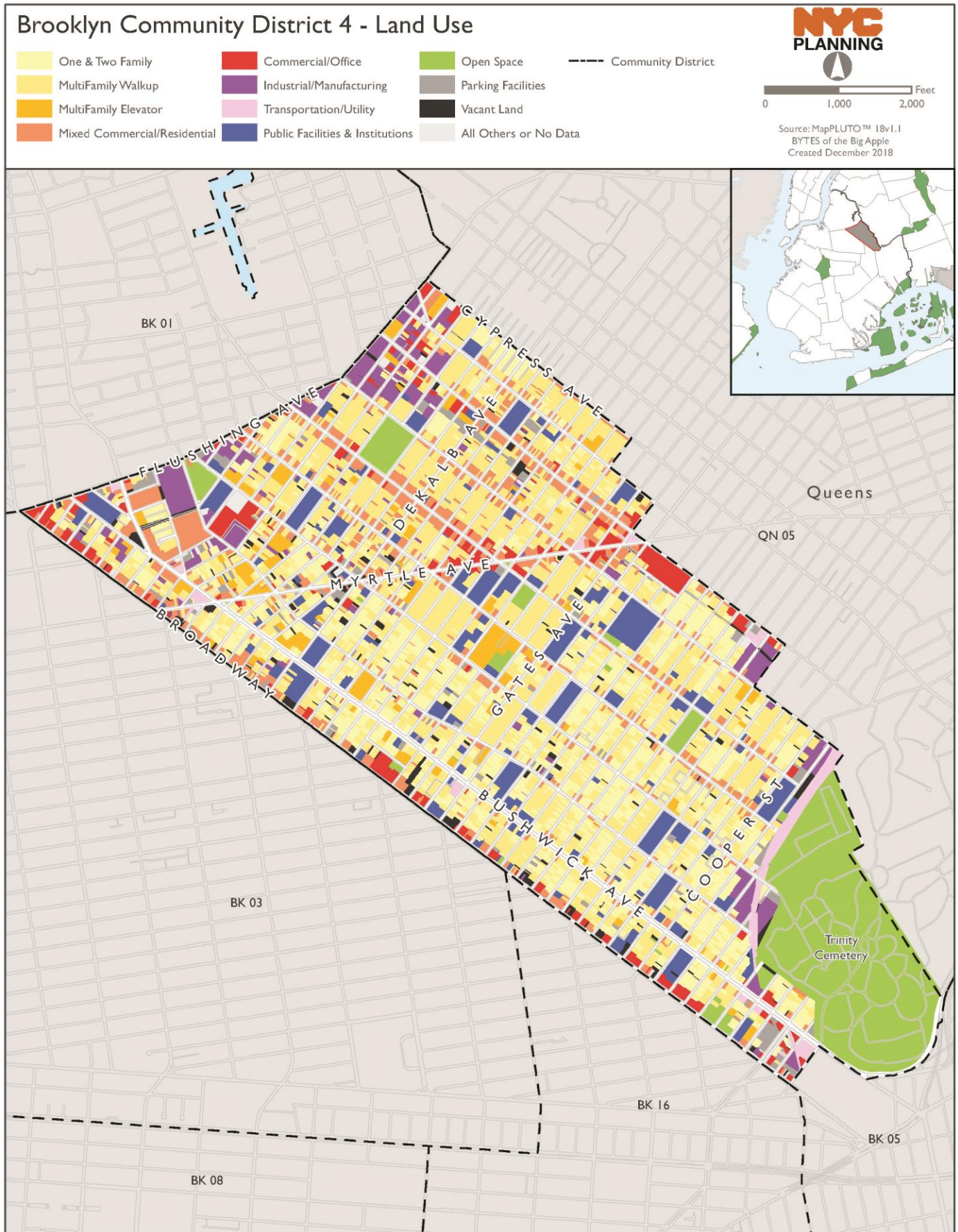
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ^{4, 10}	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
24%	34%
of residents 25 years or older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher	NYC
	36%

UNEMPLOYMENT ^{4, 10}	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
8.8%	5.7%
of the civilian labor force was unemployed on average from 2012 to 2016	NYC
	5.5%

NYCgov POVERTY MEASURE ¹¹	
Brooklyn CD 4	Brooklyn
25%	22%
of residents have incomes below the NYCgov poverty threshold. See the federal poverty rate here.	NYC
	20%

¹Neighborhoods may be in multiple districts. Names and boundaries are not officially designated. ²2000 US Census; ³2010 US Census; ⁴American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates, calculated for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs). PUMAs are geographic approximations of community districts. ⁵NYC Dept of City Planning Facilities Database (2017); ⁶Differences of less than 3 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ⁷NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (2016). DPR considers walking distance to be 1/4 mile for parks less than 6 acres, and 1/2 mile for larger parks and pools. ⁸Differences of less than 2 minutes are not statistically meaningful. ⁹NYPD CompStat, Historic Complaint Data (2017); ¹⁰Differences of less than 2 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ¹¹2011-2015 NYCgov Poverty Measure by PUMA. This metric from the Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity accounts for NYC's high cost of housing, as well as other costs of living and anti-poverty benefits.

2. Community District Land Use



3. Overview of Community District

Community District #4 includes all of the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bushwick from Broadway on the west, Flushing Avenue on the north, the Queens Borough line and Vermont Avenue on the east, as well as by Highland Avenue on the south. Currently, the neighborhood is experiencing rapid change due to gentrification. This has led to a shift in population size, demographics, and land-use along with an ever-changing economic landscape. Most notable is the sharp increase in rents, which has made it challenging and, in some cases, impossible for many long-standing residents to remain in their apartments or within the neighborhood as a whole. Unscrupulous and negligent property owners have taken advantage of the the current housing climate by illegally forcing residents out of apartments by any means necessary; some with the intention of selling the building and/or to raise the rents far beyond means of low and moderate income families that have considered the neighborhood their home for generations.

The senior citizen population has also experienced extreme challenges in terms of remaining in their homes or finding new places to live. Many seniors have been displaced from the neighborhood due to the limited housing options and long senior housing waiting lists. The availability of adequate living quarters for seniors has not kept pace with the development of market-rate and luxury homes in the neighborhood.

Additionally, statistics have shown that major health risks remain prevalent within the neighborhood for illnesses, diseases, and chronic conditions, such as heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and obesity.

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Brooklyn Community Board 4 are:

- *Affordable housing*
- *Health care services*
- *Youth and children's services*

Since 2013, when the board's Housing and Land Use Committee drafted a letter to local elected officials, a comprehensive and collaborative effort has been underway to simultaneously address neighborhood preservation and the creation of affordable housing along with various community needs. This work and the resulting recommendations have become known as the Bushwick Community Plan. The process, a partnership between city agencies, local stakeholders, and residents, recently released their recommendations to the public in September 2018 after experiencing initial community push back during one of the community board's public hearings. The main source of contention is centered around land use and the uncertainty of the results of the primarily community-driven process.

Furthermore, the majority of Bushwick remains blanketed by the R6 zoning designation, which allows developers to construct buildings and other edifices as-of-right that are typically non-conforming in height and non-contextual to other buildings in the area. The rents in these buildings are typically priced at the market rate, even when the developer seeks city subsidies due to broad regulations. The majority of the new housing created in the neighborhood is out of reach for longtime residents due to extraordinarily rents and or units that don't meet their household's needs.

The construction boom and desirability of the neighborhood's location near transit rich options has ultimately led to a sharp decline in affordability. Area residents and families are faced with doubling up to cover the cost of rental apartments and there is a noticeable increase in transient, apartment-sharing residences. Another relevant issue is the demolition of potential landmark properties. These properties typically sit on larger than average-sized lots and are being purchased for redevelopment to make way for new and taller buildings with smaller units that are typically unaffordable, as well.

Affordable housing remains one of the greatest needs of the community. Only a small number of buildings in the district are rent-stabilized and are subject to aggressive harassment tactics, as some landlords attempt to achieve vacancy decontrol. Additionally, the current Area Median Income (AMI) far exceeds the average income of Bushwick households, which encompass a range of extremely low to moderate income. The word affordable has become a trigger within the community, resulting often in the response for whom? Unless developers take a community approach to their projects, their buildings often exclude low and extremely low income families in Bushwick. All types of households continue to pay over fifty percent of their income in rent.

Awareness of and access to quality medical services is another key issue within the neighborhood. Based on the recent Community Health Profile, Bushwick residents are more at-risk of developing chronic conditions, such as diabetes, asthma, and high blood pressure over the course of their lifetime than in other areas in the city. The majority of which are easily preventable by leading an active lifestyle and incorporating fresh, nutrient dense food into a regular diet. Many residents resort to visiting local hospitals for basic care and services due to various barriers and limited access to primary care. This often leads to longer wait times and costly medical bills. Non-English speakers also face barriers to communication, which can lead to further complications that are entirely avoidable with culturally sensitive translation services at the necessary capacity.

Additionally, youth and children's services are fundamental components within a vibrant community that at their best complement and enhance education. Without adequate programming and in equal part outreach for enrollment, youth are left without the building blocks needed to cultivate the skills to achieve gainful employment and/or higher education, specifically within emerging industry sectors such as technology, small business entrepreneurship, and media/entertainment. Over the past several decades, youth and the district as a whole have suffered from the loss of after-school programs and a lack of funding for poor performing schools. Beyond Charter and other private schools, which offer students and parents educational and extracurricular alternatives, additional investment is needed to fund diverse, public programming for all youth.



Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Access to healthy food and lifestyle programs

Many households in the neighborhood are vulnerable to the ongoing changes spurred by gentrification. The majority of Bushwick residents rely on low to moderate income to support themselves and/or their families. There is also a large Latino immigrant population that includes a high percentage of non-English speakers or speak English as a second language. Deeply affordable housing remains a prevalent concern, as families spend the majority of their income on housing costs. Additionally, residents of multiple dwellings are plagued with issues resulting from years of disrepair and the general negligence of the landlord. Residents are also subjected to an increase in various forms of harassment with the ultimate goal of vacating buildings and raising rents. All of these factors greatly affect the health of the entire family, as they lose a primary means of stability. Apart from the impact of the housing crisis, Bushwick remains underserved when it comes to accessing fresh and affordable food. Just as housing creates stability for the entire family, food plays the central role in their and/or an individual's ability to live and lead a healthy lifestyle. The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has included Bushwick in studies and reports demonstrating the need for new grocery stores, funding for initiatives, such as Shop Healthy NYC, and local farmers markets. In order to make healthier choices and thrive, access to fresh, quality food at affordable prices remains a priority, as does holding the supermarkets within the district accountable for their products and selection.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

Community Board 4 is grateful for the work and support of our partners at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and Woodhull Hospital, as well as, the local community based organizations and other service providers taking the lead to address systemic health disparities. It remains vital to continue and enhance the education/outreach efforts that help connect community members to the resources they need to lead healthy lives. Additionally, an increase in neighborhood construction in response to aging infrastructure and new housing developments have further exacerbated issues with rodents. The staging conditions at these locations and sites have become havens for the rodent population and require a multi-agency approach to curb and address breeding grounds before they impact neighboring properties and the general public.

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Programming for Older New Yorkers

Community Board 4 has historically prioritized requests for funding services for seniors. As the general population lives longer additional services are needed to meet the increasing population and ever-changing needs. Many are faced with declining mental and physical health, resulting from, but not limited to loneliness, abandonment, and other health-care issues. Seniors property owners are often the most vulnerable when it comes to issues such as deed fraud, home repairs, and maintenance services, as some do not have access to professional advocates and rely on a fixed income. Fortunately, programming and initiatives for the issues described above exist and should regularly promoted through strategic partnerships with facilities for seniors and other local community partners.

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Services for the Homeless

Households across the city have been affected by the housing crisis. Longtime Bushwick residents, in particular, continue to face the consistent pressures of rent increases and poor building maintenance. A record number of families are now living in city shelters and often end up far from home. Single adults are faced with the harrowing choice of street homeless or an uncertain shelter environment that may worsen their overall circumstances. Regular street outreach and strategic community collaborations are necessary to reach homeless and at-risk populations.



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/24	DOHMH	Other animal and pest control requests	Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat the rodent issue in Bushwick.	Community Wide
8/24	DHS	Expand street outreach	Increase street outreach and support community partnerships at intersections that regularly draw a large homeless and/or at-risk populations, such as, but not limited to the Myrtle-Broadway intersection.	Community Wide
16/24	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

After school programs

There are wide variety of issues and barriers facing youth in Bushwick. As a component of lifelong growth and development, the educational welfare of each child impacts their future opportunities. Diverse after school programming is currently one of the greatest district needs. All youth need access to the quality and dynamic programming that provide transferable life skills. The elementary school age population in particular needs additional options, especially in public schools that are competing with private and charter schools that typically have enhanced resources at their disposal. Additionally, young adults ages 14 through 21, just beginning to navigate their way in life, often face challenges securing sustainable employment or pursuing a career in emerging sectors, which aren't readily accessible. A collaborative multi-agency and community approach is needed to invite youth to the table and shape these conversations.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

Community Board 4 continues to work with Community Education Council 32 and the leadership of all our local schools, learning centers, and community institutions that provide educational services to advocate for the needs of the community. We are appreciative of all efforts to invest in the renovation and upgrading of schools. Given the evolving educational atmosphere and society at large, all students and youth in Bushwick need equitable access to quality learning equipment and materials necessary for them to build the skills they need to thrive in the modern world.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/15	DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	Establish additional Early Learn Centers and Pre-K for All programs within the neighborhood. Consider existing childcare centers as potential host sites. Capital funding is needed for renovation and/or new construction of facilities capable of responding to this request. As the population within the district continues to grow, planning for childcare facilities to meet those needs is essential.	Community Wide

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
9/24	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	Additional programming for this population is required, especially for youth enrolled in public schools. Parents have limited options within the district and are often drawn to schools that offer a full day of learning and after school programming.	Community Wide



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Other/Aging Infrastructure and Buildings

Many buildings within the district are burdened by outdated energy systems, low-grade and/or illegal renovations, and in some cases the property owner's negligence in general. These buildings are highly susceptible to electrical and other kinds of fires, which often end up impacting the neighboring properties, as well. Additional educational outreach and programming is needed to provide property owners and tenants accurate information to stay safe and prevent fires.

Community District Needs Related to Policing and Crime

Community Board 4 continues to work with the 83rd Precinct, Community and Clergy Councils, and residents to help address the safety needs of the neighborhood. Recent statistics show crime as a whole is down city-wide and within Bushwick however, it still remains a stark reality of city life. We look forward to advocating in partnership for the resources needed to address the most common public safety issues in the neighborhood, such as burglaries and grand larceny.

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/24	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	Increase Manpower at the 83rd Precinct, Public Service Area 3, and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.	Community Wide
3/24	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	A staff increase in Fire Marshals will improve their ability to investigate and respond to fires, as well as, meet the growing need for inspections of new businesses; establishments that plan to serve liquor in particular.	Community Wide
6/24	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	Provide equipment needed by FDNY personnel including, but not limited to, generators, printers for the firehouses, Level A Hazmat Suits, and new defibrillator batteries.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Cleanliness/trash collection

Inconsistent garbage disposal practices and illegal dumping continue to plague the community. This impacts the not only the quality of life in the neighborhood, but also general public safety. Chronic illegal dumping conditions lead to go-to spots for dumping and also provide breeding grounds for rodents/other small animals. The Department of Sanitation Brooklyn 4 Garage remains an excellent partner in responding to these and all sanitation issues, as they arise, with the intention of curbing their frequency and the ultimate goal of prevention. Additionally, educational outreach is needed within the district to prepare residents for various DSNY initiatives, such as the Curbside Organics Collection program.

Community District Needs Related to Sanitation Services

Neglected vacant lots full of garbage and abandoned vehicles were historically a major issue in Bushwick and remain an issue, although to a lesser degree today. During the 70s and 80s, the board's Sanitation Committee was one of the three largest committees. Presently, there are fewer lots however, garbage and debris from abandoned properties, new construction, and illegal dumping have become a regular and unsightly occurrence. All residents in proximity to the sites typically experience an abundance of related quality of life and public safety issues. Community Board 4 is grateful for the support and efficiency of the local Brooklyn 4 Garage in addressing these issues.

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
11/24	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	Reinstate 5 day per week garbage collection at neighborhood institutions and community facilities, including, but not limited to schools, early learn centers/pre-K programs, and senior citizen centers. All of the above offer daily meals for breakfast & lunch, generating a high volume of garbage in designated locations that contribute to the low scorecard rating.	Community Wide
12/24	DEP	Clean catch basins	Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system.	Community Wide
15/24	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and other property owners.	Community Wide
18/24	DSNY	Other enforcement requests	Post "Clean-Up After Dog" Signs throughout the district starting with community facilities, such as school, senior centers, and community centers. Negligent and/or uninformed pet owner's leaving behind their pet's waste is a chronic issue in the neighborhood. This can quickly lead to a host of public health issues and adversely impacts the quality of life in general.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Affordable housing preservation

Affordable housing remains one of the greatest district needs. Tenants in both rent-regulated and unregulated buildings are being targeted via various forms of harassment to accommodate landlords who intend to sell their building or charge higher rents to new tenants. Truly affordable housing is vital for all household types, including seniors, individuals, families, and those in need of supportive housing. Community Board 4 continues to advocate for the creation of deeply affordable housing, although we simultaneously recognize the need to preserve the longstanding rent-stabilized and preexisting affordable housing in the neighborhood. Assertive action is required to inform the public and protect housing that currently meets the needs of the community.

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/15	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Strongly encourage private developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible and especially for projects on city-owned land. Currently, the majority of new rental apartments are not affordable for residents. This includes the majority of the housing that has been labelled affordable based on the Area Median Income (AMI). Many neighborhood residents continue to struggle in their search to find housing they can afford.	Community Wide
2/15	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless	Truly affordable housing for all remains a city-wide crisis however, seniors and other at-risk populations are among the most vulnerable. Given the long waiting lists and general shortage in senior and supportive housing, increased development and/or inclusion of these projects should be encouraged along with with feedback from the Community Board.	Community Wide
CS	EDC	Make infrastructure investments that will support growth in local business districts	The primary commercial corridors in Bushwick include Broadway, Myrtle, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. Given the high volume of traffic on these avenues, investment in the infrastructure will improve overall transit safety, the quality of life for all residents and visitors, and provide a solid foundation to support a vibrant and dynamic commercial sector.	Community Wide
CS	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	Major commercial corridors, such as Broadway, Myrtle, and Wyckoff are in need of investment to revitalize and restore them to their optimal capacity. This should be accomplished through joint efforts between local merchants associations, general stakeholders, and the residents that are in most cases the primary consumers for the businesses. Improvements can include funding for signage, street furniture, and other design elements.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Housing, Economic Development and Land Use



Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/24	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	Hire code enforcement inspectors. Additional Inspectors are needed to respond to a high volume of complaints within the district. Inspectors should be trained to recognize chronic building negligence.	Community Wide
5/24	DOB	Expand code enforcement	Provide funding for additional building inspectors to respond to code violations. A high volume of building construction and alterations occurs throughout the district in many cases illegally/without the proper permits. Additional inspectors will assist in addressing this issue.	Community Wide
17/24	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	Establish an incubator within the district to spur economic growth and support current/emerging entrepreneurs.	Community Wide
19/24	EDC	Expand graffiti removal services on private sites	Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal. Currently, there are a limited amount of programs and supplies within the community that provide this service. Often this results in longer than average wait times to resolve the issue, which generally leads to worsening conditions.	Community Wide
20/24	SBS	Support merchant organizing	Recently, joint efforts have been taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. In these early stages, support and resources are critical to establishing a foundation.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway
21/24	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	Bushwick has a rich culture that includes small business owners and entrepreneurs. The demand for the services have grown, as the population continues to increase. Workshops, small grants, and other services/opportunities are in higher demand.	Community Wide



Transportation

Main Issue Related to Transportation

Traffic safety

Initiatives, such as Vision Zero, have served as a conduit to address some of Bushwick's transit safety needs. This has been accomplished through much needed safety upgrades and the implementation of other strategic traffic calming measures, such as the Myrtle-Wyckoff Pedestrian Plaza. Additional studies are needed to address the busiest corridors in neighborhood, such as Broadway, Bushwick Avenue, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Myrtle Avenue. Those corridors in particular experience a high volume of pedestrian, cyclist, and vehicular traffic. They are also in great need of investment, ranging from repaving to the implementation of traffic calming measures.



Transportation

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to include an elevator. The station has experienced an increase in commuter volume over the past several years and is the closest train station to Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Renovations are also needed to address flooding when it rains. The installation of an elevator would improve the overall function of this station and greatly benefit the surrounding communities that rely on the healthcare services in the area.	DeKalb Avenue Station
4/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovate the Wilson Avenue Station on the L Line to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train, cameras, and additional lighting. The partial renovation of this station has left residents in need of Canarsie bound service at a disadvantage.	Wilson Avenue L Station
6/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Myrtle Avenue from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue is another major commercial corridor that directly links Queens to Brooklyn. The general traffic infrastructure and equipment is outdated and unreliable. The avenue is also notoriously difficult to traverse, given the overhead elevated M train line. The two-way bus traffic also contributes to the potential dangers of utilizing the corridor. Myrtle Avenue holds great potential to serve as a transportation conduit for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Prioritizing investment will better prepare the neighborhood for the future.	Myrtle Avenue Broadway Wyckoff Avenue
7/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Broadway was once the major commercial corridor drawing consumers from all over Brooklyn. In its current state, Broadway is far from the thriving strip of businesses it was in the past. Reconstructing Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Eastern Parkway is the first step in investing in the economic future of the neighborhood. The roadbed of this heavily traveled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for an enhanced roadway, lighting, and other transit safety features.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway
12/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.	Weirfield Street Wyckoff Avenue Irving Avenue



Transportation

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
13/15	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Lighting is needed throughout the district, especially under the NYCT MTA Elevated Structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.	Community Wide
14/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Wyckoff Avenue is one of the major commercial and transit corridors in the neighborhood. The high volume of all types of traffic, including delivery trucks and EMS vehicles, leads to rapid erosion of the streets and easily congests traffic. The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important and capital project for safety of the community. This avenue is also shared with our neighbors in Queens, which would ideally make capital investment more feasible, given the potential for partnership on the project.	Wyckoff Avenue Flushing Avenue Cooper Street

Expense Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
13/24	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board 4 area experiences significant delays in response time to light malfunctions and requests for repair. The average wait has increased to 15 days, which can lead to further safety risks and	Community Wide



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Park care and maintenance

Our parks are centers of interaction with neighbors and nature. They are also conduits for a variety of activities and opportunities within the neighborhood for individuals and families as a whole. At the most basic level they help purify the air and surrounding environment. It is for those reasons and beyond, that it remains vital to prioritize their upkeep and necessary renovations. In the past several years, complaints have been made in reference to an increasing number of homeless individuals living in the parks, encountering needles in bushes and play areas, and other general public safety issues.

Community District Needs Related to Cultural and other Community Facilities and Programming

Bushwick is known for its rich cultural diversity and arts community. Over the years, the cultures and artistic expression have changed with time, but the spirit of creativity remains and has contributed to the large increase in new residents and visitors from all over the world. Aside from the recent increase in popularity of the neighborhood, much work is needed to connect youth, seniors, and local stakeholders to opportunities for enrichment and skills building. The arts remain a conduit to many pathways, including but not limited to, employment, outlets for expression, and strengthening community ties.

Community District Needs Related to Community Boards

Community Boards are task with monitoring and informing city agencies and elected officials about district needs. In order to do building on this work, additional support is needed as it relates to technology. The development of an optional Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) software for community boards will potentially provide a comprehensive tool to streamline the work of the board. Additionally, boards often have limited funding for staff, which limits the ability to pursue new hires that are need to provide additional support and coverage.



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/15	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	The Brooklyn Public Library Washington Irving is in need of an interior renovation to better accommodate patrons.	BPL Washington Irving 360 Irving Avenue Block 3362, Lot 32
9/15	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The wait-time is extremely long for tree pruning as contracts do not accommodate the number of requests.	Community Wide
10/15	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	The comfort station at Maria Hernandez Park is in serious need of an upgrade. There are frequent complaints about the lack of regular maintenance, pooling, and broken restroom equipment from community members, especially during the summertime. Given the high volume of visitors and recreational opportunities in general, a renovated comfort station is needed to better accommodate the public.	Maria Hernandez Park
11/15	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	The Dekalb library is in need of a full major renovation, including the basement, interior/exterior, window restoration, and safety/security enhancements.	Brooklyn Public Library Dekalb 790 Bushwick Avenue Block 3241, Lot 18
15/15	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	Explore the feasibility of adding a comfort station to Irving Square Park	Irving Square Park



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/24	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provided a sense of security.	Community Wide
14/24	DoITT	Information technology goods and services	Collaboratively develop a CRM software tool to streamline community board work flow.	Community Wide
22/24	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	The larger parks in the neighborhood, such as Maria Hernandez Park and Irving Square Park have a high volume of visitors throughout the year, especially during the warmer weather months. Additional garbage collection is need to prevent the encouragement of illegal dumping and to keep the park entrances clear/clean.	Community Wide
23/24	DCLA	Provide more public art	As Bushwick continues to change at an accelerated pace it is important to honor and recognize the culture that helped create the neighborhood. Public art, especially as it relates to long-standing local artists and other aspects of the neighborhood's history, is one way to accomplish this. These kinds of projects should be implemented via partnership with community-based organizations, schools, and general community participation.	Community Wide
24/24	OMB	Provide more community board staff	Increase the baseline budget to allow for additional part-time or a full-time hire to support the board and help manage the work load.	Community Wide

6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests

Other Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
10/24	DOE	Renovate site component	Provide Funding for School Repairs. Many schools within School District 32 require upgrades and renovations to better accommodate students. Project Id(s): A00374592	Community Wide

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/15	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Strongly encourage private developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible and especially for projects on city-owned land. Currently, the majority of new rental apartments are not affordable for residents. This includes the majority of the housing that has been labelled affordable based on the Area Median Income (AMI). Many neighborhood residents continue to struggle in their search to find housing they can afford.	Community Wide	
2/15	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless	Truly affordable housing for all remains a city-wide crisis however, seniors and other at-risk populations are among the most vulnerable. Given the long waiting lists and general shortage in senior and supportive housing, increased development and/or inclusion of these projects should be encouraged along with with feedback from the Community Board.	Community Wide	
3/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to include an elevator. The station has experienced an increase in commuter volume over the past several years and is the closest train station to Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Renovations are also needed to address flooding when it rains. The installation of an elevator would improve the overall function of this station and greatly benefit the surrounding communities that rely on the healthcare services in the area.	DeKalb Avenue Station	Wyckoff Heights Medical Center; New York City Transit Authority
4/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovate the Wilson Avenue Station on the L Line to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train, cameras, and additional lighting. The partial renovation of this station has left residents in need of Canarsie bound service at a disadvantage.	Wilson Avenue L Station	Audrey Johnson Day Care Center; PS 384

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
5/15	DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	Establish additional Early Learn Centers and Pre-K for All programs within the neighborhood. Consider existing childcare centers as potential host sites. Capital funding is needed for renovation and/or new construction of facilities capable of responding to this request. As the population within the district continues to grow, planning for childcare facilities to meet those needs is essential.	Community Wide	
6/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Myrtle Avenue from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue is another major commercial corridor that directly links Queens to Brooklyn. The general traffic infrastructure and equipment is outdated and unreliable. The avenue is also notoriously difficult to traverse, given the overhead elevated M train line. The two-way bus traffic also contributes to the potential dangers of utilizing the corridor. Myrtle Avenue holds great potential to serve as a transportation conduit for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Prioritizing investment will better prepare the neighborhood for the future.	Myrtle Avenue Broadway Wyckoff Avenue	
7/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Broadway was once the major commercial corridor drawing consumers from all over Brooklyn. In its current state, Broadway is far from the thriving strip of businesses it was in the past. Reconstructing Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Eastern Parkway is the first step in investing in the economic future of the neighborhood. The roadbed of this heavily traveled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for an enhanced roadway, lighting, and other transit safety features.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
8/15	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	The Brooklyn Public Library Washington Irving is in need of an interior renovation to better accommodate patrons.	BPL Washington Irving 360 Irving Avenue Block 3362, Lot 32	
9/15	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The wait-time is extremely long for tree pruning as contracts do not accommodate the number of requests.	Community Wide	
10/15	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	The comfort station at Maria Hernandez Park is in serious need of an upgrade. There are frequent complaints about the lack of regular maintenance, pooling, and broken restroom equipment from community members, especially during the summertime. Given the high volume of visitors and recreational opportunities in general, a renovated comfort station is needed to better accommodate the public.	Maria Hernandez Park	
11/15	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	The Dekalb library is in need of a full major renovation, including the basement, interior/exterior, window restoration, and safety/security enhancements.	Brooklyn Public Library Dekalb 790 Bushwick Avenue Block 3241, Lot 18	
12/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.	Weirfield Street Wyckoff Avenue Irving Avenue	Council Member Rafael Espinal
13/15	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Lighting is needed throughout the district, especially under the NYCT MTA Elevated Structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
14/15	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Wyckoff Avenue is one of the major commercial and transit corridors in the neighborhood. The high volume of all types of traffic, including delivery trucks and EMS vehicles, leads to rapid erosion of the streets and easily congests traffic. The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important and capital project for safety of the community. This avenue is also shared with our neighbors in Queens, which would ideally make capital investment more feasible, given the potential for partnership on the project.	Wyckoff Avenue Flushing Avenue Cooper Street	
15/15	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	Explore the feasibility of adding a comfort station to Irving Square Park	Irving Square Park	
CS	EDC	Make infrastructure investments that will support growth in local business districts	The primary commercial corridors in Bushwick include Broadway, Myrtle, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. Given the high volume of traffic on these avenues, investment in the infrastructure will improve overall transit safety, the quality of life for all residents and visitors, and provide a solid foundation to support a vibrant and dynamic commercial sector.	Community Wide	
CS	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	Major commercial corridors, such as Broadway, Myrtle, and Wyckoff are in need of investment to revitalize and restore them to their optimal capacity. This should be accomplished through joint efforts between local merchants associations, general stakeholders, and the residents that are in most cases the primary consumers for the businesses. Improvements can include funding for signage, street furniture, and other design elements.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 24 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/24	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	Increase Manpower at the 83rd Precinct, Public Service Area 3, and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.	Community Wide	
2/24	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provided a sense of security.	Community Wide	
3/24	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	A staff increase in Fire Marshals will improve their ability to investigate and respond to fires, as well as, meet the growing need for inspections of new businesses; establishments that plan to serve liquor in particular.	Community Wide	
4/24	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	Hire code enforcement inspectors. Additional Inspectors are needed to respond to a high volume of complaints within the district. Inspectors should be trained to recognize chronic building negligence.	Community Wide	
5/24	DOB	Expand code enforcement	Provide funding for additional building inspectors to respond to code violations. A high volume of building construction and alterations occurs throughout the district in many cases illegally/without the proper permits. Additional inspectors will assist in addressing this issue.	Community Wide	
6/24	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	Provide equipment needed by FDNY personnel including, but not limited to, generators, printers for the firehouses, Level A Hazmat Suits, and new defibrillator batteries.	Community Wide	
7/24	DOHMH	Other animal and pest control requests	Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat the rodent issue in Bushwick.	Community Wide	
8/24	DHS	Expand street outreach	Increase street outreach and support community partnerships at intersections that regularly draw a large homeless and/or at-risk populations, such as, but not limited to the Myrtle-Broadway intersection.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 24 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
9/24	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	Additional programming for this population is required, especially for youth enrolled in public schools. Parents have limited options within the district and are often drawn to schools that offer a full day of learning and after school programming.	Community Wide	
10/24	DOE	Renovate site component	Provide Funding for School Repairs. Many schools within School District 32 require upgrades and renovations to better accommodate students. Project Id(s): A00374592	Community Wide	
11/24	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	Reinstate 5 day per week garbage collection at neighborhood institutions and community facilities, including, but not limited to schools, early learn centers/pre-K programs, and senior citizen centers. All of the above offer daily meals for breakfast & lunch, generating a high volume of garbage in designated locations that contribute to the low scorecard rating.	Community Wide	
12/24	DEP	Clean catch basins	Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system.	Community Wide	
13/24	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board 4 area experiences significant delays in response time to light malfunctions and requests for repair. The average wait has increased to 15 days, which can lead to further safety risks and issues.	Community Wide	
14/24	DoITT	Information technology goods and services	Collaboratively develop a CRM software tool to streamline community board work flow.	Community Wide	
15/24	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and other property owners.	Community Wide	
16/24	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 24 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
17/24	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	Establish an incubator within the district to spur economic growth and support current/emerging entrepreneurs.	Community Wide	
18/24	DSNY	Other enforcement requests	Post "Clean-Up After Dog" Signs throughout the district starting with community facilities, such as school, senior centers, and community centers. Negligent and/or uninformed pet owner's leaving behind their pet's waste is a chronic issue in the neighborhood. This can quickly lead to a host of public health issues and adversely impacts the quality of life in general.	Community Wide	
19/24	EDC	Expand graffiti removal services on private sites	Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal. Currently, there are a limited amount of programs and supplies within the community that provide this service. Often this results in longer than average wait times to resolve the issue, which generally leads to worsening conditions.	Community Wide	
20/24	SBS	Support merchant organizing	Recently, joint efforts have been taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. In these early stages, support and resources are critical to establishing a foundation.	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway	
21/24	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	Bushwick has a rich culture that includes small business owners and entrepreneurs. The demand for the services have grown, as the population continues to increase. Workshops, small grants, and other services/opportunities are in higher demand.	Community Wide	
22/24	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	The larger parks in the neighborhood, such as Maria Hernandez Park and Irving Square Park have a high volume of visitors throughout the year, especially during the warmer weather months. Additional garbage collection is need to prevent the encouragement of illegal dumping and to keep the park entrances clear/clean.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 24 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
23/24	DCLA	Provide more public art	As Bushwick continues to change at an accelerated pace it is important to honor and recognize the culture that helped create the neighborhood. Public art, especially as it relates to long-standing local artists and other aspects of the neighborhood's history, is one way to accomplish this. These kinds of projects should be implemented via partnership with community-based organizations, schools, and general community participation.	Community Wide	
24/24	OMB	Provide more community board staff	Increase the baseline budget to allow for additional part-time or a full-time hire to support the board and help manage the work load.	Community Wide	