

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

**Fiscal Year
2026**

**Brooklyn
Community District
4**

November 2024





Brooklyn Community Board No. 4

1420 Bushwick Avenue, Rm. 370
Brooklyn, New York 11207-1422
718-628-8400 | bk04@cb.nyc.gov
www.nyc.gov/brooklyn4

Robert Camacho - Chairperson
Celestina León - District Manager

BUSHWICK

ELECTED OFFICIALS

HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO
Borough President

HON. JENNIFER
GUTIERREZ
34th Council District

HON. SANDY NURSE
37th Council District

2024-2025

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DESMONDE MONROE
1st Vice Chairperson

MILAGROS SANDOVAL
2nd Vice Chairperson

FELIX CEBALLOS
Recording Secretary

JERRY VALENTIN
Treasurer

JO-ENA BENNETT
Parliamentarian

October 17, 2024

Re: Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Statement of District Needs and Board Budget Requests

Dear Community,

Brooklyn Community Board 4 (CB4) has once again convened to discuss and prioritize the fiscal year 2026 (FY26) capital and expense budget requests for the district, which uniquely includes only the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bushwick. The annual statement of community district needs submission is one of the most important charter-mandated responsibilities of the board. It is also the beginning of the city's budget process. Its significance remains vital as the only community-driven process to inform city agency budget priorities, although it may no longer be as familiar as newer initiatives, such as the NYC Council and NYC Civic Engagement Commission participatory budget processes.

While the submission and overall board process does not come with a funding allocation, like the participatory budget processes, it is a foundational planning document that provides a breakdown of Bushwick's needs within the following core areas.

- Health Care and Human Services
- Youth Education and Child Welfare
- Public Safety and Emergency Services
- Core Infrastructure, City Services, and Resiliency
- Housing, Land Use, and Economic Development
- Transportation and Mobility
- Parks, Libraries, and Other Community Facilities

Each core area has various needs groups that correspond to specific city agencies. CB4 endeavors to include the needs of the entire district through this annual process via feedback and input of board members and the community at large. We are thankful for our city agency partners for their support and the determination of our elected officials that continue to secure funds for neighborhood needs.

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 support projects and proposals that improve the quality of life for all.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the district manager.

Sincerely,

Robert Camacho
Chairperson

Celestina León
District Manager

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) 2026. 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, 2024.

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 FY24 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 2026. 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

How to Use This Report

1. Community Board Information

2. 2020 Census Data

3. Overview of Community District

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Health Care and Human Services

Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Transportation

Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

6. Other Budget Requests

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Address: 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Rm.
370, Brooklyn, NY 11207

Phone: 7186288400

Email: bk04@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb4

Chair: Robert Camacho

District Manager: Celestina Leon

2. 2020 CENSUS DATA

The following two pages contain data from the most recent 2020 Decennial Census, which includes basic demographic and housing characteristics for New York City, the borough, and this community district. The data also includes a view of change over time since 2010.

New York City

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	8,175,133	100.00	8,804,190	100.00	629,057	7.7	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	1,768,111	21.6	1,740,142	19.8	-27,969	-1.6	-1.8
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	8,175,133	100.0	8,804,190	100.0	629,057	7.7	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	2,336,076	28.6	2,490,350	28.3	154,274	6.6	-0.3
White non-Hispanic	2,722,904	33.3	2,719,856	30.9	-3,048	-0.1	-2.4
Black non-Hispanic	1,861,295	22.8	1,776,891	20.2	-84,404	-4.5	-2.6
Asian non-Hispanic	1,028,119	12.6	1,373,502	15.6	345,383	33.6	3.0
Some other race, non-Hispanic	78,063	1.0	143,632	1.6	65,569	84.0	0.6
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	148,676	1.8	299,959	3.4	151,283	101.8	1.6
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	3,371,062	100.0	3,618,635	100.0	247,573	7.3	0.0
Occupied housing units	3,109,784	92.2	3,370,448	93.1	260,664	8.4	0.9
Vacant housing units	261,278	7.8	248,187	6.9	-13,091	-5.0	-0.9

Brooklyn

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	2,504,700	100.00	2,736,074	100.00	231,374	9.2	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	594,378	23.7	595,703	21.8	1,325	0.2	-1.9
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	2,504,700	100.0	2,736,074	100.0	231,374	9.2	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	496,285	19.8	516,426	18.9	20,141	4.1	-0.9
White non-Hispanic	893,306	35.7	968,427	35.4	75,121	8.4	-0.3
Black non-Hispanic	799,066	31.9	729,696	26.7	-69,370	-8.7	-5.2
Asian non-Hispanic	260,129	10.4	370,776	13.6	110,647	42.5	3.2
Some other race, non-Hispanic	15,904	0.6	37,579	1.4	21,675	136.3	0.8
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	40,010	1.6	113,170	4.1	73,160	182.9	2.5
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	1,000,293	100.0	1,077,654	100.0	77,361	7.7	0.0
Occupied housing units	916,856	91.7	1,009,804	93.7	92,948	10.1	2.0
Vacant housing units	83,437	8.3	67,850	6.3	-15,587	-18.7	-2.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files
Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning

Brooklyn Community District 4

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	112,634	100.00	120,747	100.00	8,113	7.2	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	28,650	25.4	20,348	16.9	-8,302	-29.0	-8.5
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	112,634	100.0	120,747	100.0	8,113	7.2	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	73,616	65.4	61,627	51.0	-11,989	-16.3	-14.4
White non-Hispanic	9,564	8.5	27,883	23.1	18,319	191.5	14.6
Black non-Hispanic	22,688	20.1	18,163	15.0	-4,525	-19.9	-5.1
Asian non-Hispanic	4,776	4.2	7,402	6.1	2,626	55.0	1.9
Some other race, non-Hispanic	821	0.7	1,584	1.3	763	92.9	0.6
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	1,169	1.0	4,088	3.4	2,919	249.7	2.4
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	39,992	100.0	47,292	100.0	7,300	18.3	0.0
Occupied housing units	36,507	91.3	44,036	93.1	7,529	20.6	1.8
Vacant housing units	3,485	8.7	3,256	6.9	-229	-6.6	-1.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files
Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning

Statement on Data Accuracy

Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau is legally bound to protect the privacy of individuals participating in the decennial census. To adhere to the law and to avoid the disclosure of information about individual respondents, the Census Bureau has historically applied a host of techniques, such as top- and bottom-coding, imputation, table- and cell-suppression, and data swapping. The Census Bureau is employing a new technique with the 2020 Census, referred to as the Disclosure Avoidance System (DAS), based on differential privacy. With this approach, the Census Bureau “infuses noise” systematically across census data and sets a quantified disclosure risk, referred to as the Privacy Loss Budget (PLB).

While the new DAS approach may diminish the risk of disclosure concerns, it comes at a cost to data accuracy. Consequently, 2020 Census data users should be aware that all sub-state counts, except for housing units (which are unaffected by the DAS), may be adjusted to protect the privacy of Census participants and may be subject to reduced accuracy. Because DAS noise infusion is randomized, it is impossible for data users to know the degree to which any individual statistic is altered. However, it is possible to say that in general the relative size of errors decreases as counts increase. Consequently, data users should have greater confidence in the accuracy of the data as counts get larger. Further, an evaluation of a Privacy-Protected Microdata File (PPMF), treated with a Disclosure Avoidance System like the one applied to 2020 redistricting data, showed that counts of 300 or more rarely have sizable errors (error beyond +/- 10% of the count). Therefore, while data users need to be cognizant of data accuracy limitations, they should have confidence in conclusions based on sizable counts, which are relatively unaffected by the Census Bureau’s latest disclosure avoidance method.

3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

The boundaries of Bushwick, which are coterminous with Community District 4, currently extend from Flushing Avenue on the north, Broadway on the southwest, the border with Queens to the northeast, and the Cemetery of the Evergreens on the southeast. The borders remain the same despite the recent surge in the neighborhood's popularity leading to associations with parts of Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant, and Queens. Community Board 4 continues to represent Bushwick and advocate for initiatives and opportunities that will improve the quality of life for all. In preparing this year's statement, it is important to note several factors, in no particular order, that guide our selections and responses.

The current migrant crisis

Frequent weather events and flooding

The preexisting housing crisis

The lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

The ongoing pressures of gentrification

A history of public and private disinvestment.

The migrant crisis not only poses a long-term impact on the city's budget, it also affects local service delivery and the overall quality of life. The community board was not involved and often remains disconnected from larger decisions as it relates to the migrant shelter within the district that opened in spring 2023. The lack of inclusion and responsiveness continues despite the board's district office receiving a high volume of concerns, and regularly referring them to the NYC Department of Housing, Preservation, and Development for agency oversight.

Forecasts for rain that previously warranted flooding prevention from only coastal areas of the city now impact inland commercial and residential corridors along Knickerbocker Avenue and Wilson Avenue. Businesses, small homeowners, and public housing tenants continue to be at risk of storm damage and/or loss of building/services.

Many New Yorkers remain at-risk of housing displacement as the cost-of-living increases and the real estate market becomes more competitive. Studies show that neighborhoods with a large immigrant and minority population, such as Bushwick were hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. Families and individuals were suddenly without work, relying on unemployment, or essential workers required to work in public-facing positions. Food insecurity spiked, incentivizing new government programs and mutual aid groups to bridge the gap. The demand for food still remains as many households rely on food pantries to sustain themselves and their families.

The ongoing pressures of gentrification briefly lulled in 2020, as more renters were increasingly unable to pay rent, new construction was paused, and the pandemic deterred most from leaving their homes, and, at times, even required they shelter in place. As we've reemerged, significant challenges have affected the most vulnerable. Despite the influx of new residents and increased economic activity in the neighborhood, barriers still exist for many families and individuals of color and working-class families and individuals in Bushwick. Agencies with priorities largely governed by the current Mayoral administration have an opportunity to elevate community goals and further build constructive relationships. However, some remain absent or have had a diminished presence since the half-decade community planning process stalled in early 2019. Community Board 4 continues to encourage and support collaborative efforts among agencies, government agency partners, organizations, and local stakeholders to address racial, economic, and social inequity in Bushwick.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Brooklyn Community Board 4

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Affordable Housing

As Bushwick continues to evolve and grow in demand, the affordability of residential and commercial units has steeply declined compared to the average rent in the 2010s. Many of the immigrant (South and Central American and Caribbean) and longer-term migrant (African American and Caribbean) families and individuals primarily of color have been displaced from the neighborhood due to rent hardship, tenant harassment, and the overall increase in the cost of living. New construction continues at a steady pace despite a brief pause during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bushwick's transit rich options have only reinforced its desirability and development potential as the city experiences an overall strong economy. A majority of residents are either forced to double up or overcrowd units to cover the rent or, more prevalently, choose to share private apartments that are typically and informally rented by room. Additionally, for the latter, private management and real estate companies often cater to young urban professionals in these situations that are either working or rely on a guarantor to cover their expenses. This has led to a noticeable increase in transient, room-sharing residences that are priced much higher than the units previously occupied by families with potentially one of two income earners. Yet a subset of small property owners that invested in the neighborhood during economically challenging times remain; however, they continue to face aggressive tactics from those looking to acquire new properties and benefit from the increase in demand. It is commonplace for individuals and companies to actively target homeowners and persuade them to sell their properties via persistent mail campaigns, door-to-door canvassing, phone calls, etc. As some homeowners age, move, or pass away, properties are potentially abandoned, mismanaged, and end up in foreclosure furthering a cycle of decline and creating opportunities for developers seeking to profit off of Bushwick's burgeoning popularity. Despite the community board and larger community efforts to implement the Bushwick Community Plan in partnership with the Mayor's Administration to preserve the neighborhood's character and intentionally guide development, conversations stalled due to a difference in visions just before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The concerns and fears that incited the community plan process, were tragically realized within the past decade and persist as Bushwick's current blanket zoning (est. 1961) legally permits developments that are out-of-character with surrounding buildings due to a vastly outdated incentive. Once again demonstrating that government inaction is a two-sided sword that disproportionately impacts communities of color and actively works against racial equity. Upon reflection of this reality, it is clear that additional support from agency partners, such as the NYC Department of Housing, Preservation, and Development, is actively needed to further neighborhood goals. Processes in other neighborhoods similar to Bushwick have been met with a range of success, although ultimately create both a framework and foundation to empower community members. What was once a neighborhood rich in history continues to visibly erode (see Broadway and Bushwick Avenue) as even historic properties lacking the protection of landmark designation status are demolished. These properties, once the homes of the German brewery owners, explorers, doctors, and even a New York City mayor, typically sit on larger than average-sized lots and are purchased for redevelopment to make way for profit in the form of new and taller buildings with smaller units that are typically unaffordable to the Black and Brown working families and individuals that helped Bushwick rise from the ashes of turmoil in the late nineteenth century. Sustainable and deeply affordable housing remains one of the greatest needs of the community. The current Area Median Income (AMI) far exceeds the average income of Bushwick households, which historically encompassed a range from extremely low to moderate income. Within the past several years, the average affordable city lottery apartment is accessible to only those at 130% AMI. The word affordable is a trigger within the community, resulting often in the response 'for whom?' Unless developers take a community approach to their projects, their buildings only further displacement by excluding opportunities for low and extremely low-income households in Bushwick.

Infrastructure resiliency

Forecasts for rain that previously warranted flooding prevention from the coastal areas of the city now significantly impact inland commercial and residential corridors along Knickerbocker Avenue and Wilson Avenue. Businesses, small homeowners, and public housing tenants continue to be at risk of storm damage and/or loss of building/services. Support for and enhancement of preexisting infrastructure impacted by storms is needed along with investment in new types of resiliency infrastructure to address more frequent street and building flooding conditions.

Land use trends

As previously referenced in the section on Affordability, in 2013, the board's Housing and Land Use Committee drafted a letter to local elected officials that resulted in the Bushwick Community Plan. The plan, a culmination of an unprecedentedly comprehensive and collaborative effort, was released in September 2018. Multiple rounds of community engagement were coordinated to simultaneously address the desire for neighborhood preservation and the creation of affordable housing along with other various community needs. The rezoning and the resulting recommendations were unfortunately stalled in early 2020 due to differing visions (see City Planning's The Bushwick Neighborhood Plan) for the neighborhood's future. The previous mayoral administration labeled the community's plan a downzoning shortly before the pandemic suddenly and swiftly shifted citywide priorities. The process, also unprecedented in terms of partnership between city agencies, local stakeholders, and residents, endeavored to create and implement a truly community-led plan that would modernize Bushwick's zoning and bring much needed public investments to the entire neighborhood. Aspects of the plan, specifically the rezoning of manufacturing sites for other uses, remain a source of disagreement along with the lack of restrictions and accountability in the ULURP process. The majority of Bushwick remains blanketed with the R6 zoning designation, allowing 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 priced at or above the market rate, even when the developer seeks government subsidies and incentives. Most of the new housing developed in the neighborhood is out of reach for long-time residents as rents have since rebounded from the pandemic and continue to increase or unit composition fails to meet their household's needs. These pressures have spread to long-term and new commercial establishments that are gradually priced out of their locations. Commercial rents are often out of reach for small, independent business owners. Vacant storefronts are common, as property owners opt to wait for higher paying tenants. Additionally, the legal conversion of manufacturing spaces to commercial continues to change the neighborhood's landscape leading to new service challenges, as the properties were originally designed for manufacturing purposes. These challenges are compounded by an evolving culture that often adversely impacts the quality of life in the neighboring residential areas. In 2023, the Adams' administration via City Planning began the review and notification process for the City of Yes zoning text amendments for carbon neutrality, economic opportunity, and housing. The amendments propose sweeping citywide changes that will impact NYC's neighborhoods, like Bushwick, in a myriad of ways. The board approved the Zoning for Carbon Neutrality text amendment with the stipulation that all proposals remain optional. They opposed the Zoning for Economic Opportunity text amendment unless specific stipulations were met and approved the majority of the Zoning for Housing opportunity text amendment proposals with stipulations. The 'Lift Costly Parking Mandates' and 'Small and Shared Housing' proposals were opposed.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Access to healthy food and lifestyle programs

In previous years, chronic disease prevention and management was the most important issue in Bushwick under the health umbrella. The onset of the pandemic in March 2020 and surge in unemployment led to a sharp increase in the number of families and individuals that relied on local food pantries, mutual aid efforts, and city programs for food. Despite renewed economic investment in the neighborhood, accessibility and more specifically the affordability of fresh and healthy food remains limited. Efforts to address this have been made most noticeably via the Shop Healthy NYC program, however, additional support is needed. The Bushwick Health Center (335 Central Avenue) remains elusive in the neighborhood and is not featured on the NYC Health website as a resource for Bushwick locals and visitors. Community Board 4 leadership has connected with agency leadership to address this, although it's clear that the center must be prioritized on a higher level to receive the investment needed for it to become a true community asset. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: environmental health issues (noise, lead, respiratory illness, moisture, mildew, mold, etc.), services and communication for New Yorkers who are homebound/have disabilities, and services to reduce or prevent homelessness.

Community District Needs Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

Community Board 4 is grateful for the work and support of our partners at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull, as well as the local community-based organizations and other service providers for their leadership in addressing systemic health disparities. It remains vital to continue and enhance the educational outreach efforts that help connect community members to the resources they need to lead healthy lives. Additionally, an increase in neighborhood construction, transient populations, and frequent business turnover has further exacerbated environmental health issues, such as asthma, more garbage, and larger rodent populations. The staging conditions at construction sites and vacant lots have become havens for the rodent population and attract chronic illegal dumping and drop-off issues. These realities and the resulting challenges require a multi-agency approach to address the source of the issue before they impact neighboring properties and the general public.

Needs for Older NYs

Community Board 4 has historically prioritized requests for funding senior services. As the general population lives longer, additional services are needed to meet the increasing senior population and ever-changing needs. Many seniors are faced with declining mental and physical health, resulting from, but not limited to loneliness, abandonment, and other healthcare issues. Senior 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 be regularly promoted through strategic partnerships with facilities for seniors and other local community partners.

Needs for Homeless

Households citywide have been affected by the housing crisis and many of them face uncertainty due to housing insecurity, which was further exacerbated by the pandemic. Longtime Bushwick residents, in particular, continue to face the dual adversities of rent increases and poor building

maintenance. A record number of families are living in city shelters and often end up far from home. Single adults are faced with the harrowing choice of street homelessness 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.

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
5 / 21	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests
12 / 21	DHS	Expand street outreach
15 / 21	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs
16 / 21	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Educational attainment

As the city and larger economy continues to evolve, it is evident that access to quality education, vocational programs, trade schools, and professional development opportunities are essential to financial stability and general quality of life. From youth to older adults, educational attainment often determines profession and/or future employment opportunities and the corresponding income. With a higher cost of living, many low-income and vulnerable families and individuals struggle to afford and meet their basic needs. Access to more dynamic educational and workforce development programming would potentially offset some of these challenges. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: after school programs, support services for special needs youth (disabled, immigrant, non-English proficient, etc.), juvenile justice and services for at-risk youth, and youth workforce development and summer youth employment.

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

Community Board 4 continues to work with district school leadership, learning centers, and community institutions, such as Community Education Council 32, that provide educational services and support, as well as advocate for the needs of youth in the community. All efforts to renovate and upgrade district schools are appreciated. The pandemic further highlighted inequity in Bushwick, as District 32 leadership adapted to a series of new challenges. They continue to proactively collaborate with the board and local stakeholders to support the school community. In fall 2023, the district welcomed Interim Acting Superintendent Arelis Parache after Dr. Rebecca Lozada, the former superintendent, retired after thirty-five years of dedicated service in the NYC Public School system.

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
8 / 21	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Police-community relations

As Bushwick continues to experience rapid and multivariate changes due to gentrification, there is a need for adaptable and culturally sensitive police-community relations. Bushwick stakeholders have worked across generations to strengthen and improve the neighborhood's relations with the 83rd Precinct, Patrol Borough Brooklyn North, and the NYPD at large. With an increasing volume of quality-of-life complaints despite a decrease in major crimes, greater transparency, efficiency, and visibility are needed to meet the needs of the various communities in Bushwick. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: general crime, fire safety, emergency and disaster preparedness, and traffic violations and enforcement.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

Community Board 4 continues to work with the 83rd Precinct, the Precinct Community and Clergy Councils, and residents to help address the safety needs of the neighborhood. Despite a historic decrease in crime citywide and within Bushwick, it is still a reality of city life. As the city moves past recovery from the pandemic and responds to broader social issues, including law enforcement reform, it is critical that local communities are a part of the conversation. The board looks 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 larcenies, as well as furthering racial and social justice advocacy efforts in partnership with the NYPD and Bushwick community at large. In spring 2024, the board welcome the return of Captain David Poggioli as the new 83 Precinct Commanding Officer (C.O.). The former C.O., Inspector Alexandra Sarubbi, moved on within the department after her distinguished service, which included being both the first woman and Latina to serve in the position.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
6 / 12	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
1 / 21	NYPD	Hire additional uniformed officers
6 / 21	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Brooklyn Community Board 4

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

Sewer capacity

Street and property flooding are more frequent occurrences during rain events as the current infrastructure no longer supports the demand on the system. Investment in both capital reconstruction projects and alternative, shorter-term solutions are needed to safeguard against and prevent costly property damage. The Department of Environmental protection remains an accessible partner in response to flooding issues within the district and preparing for storms in advance, however, further support and collaborative strategies are needed to address aging and inadequate infrastructure. Local elected officials continue to demonstrate consistent leadership responding to and advocating for solutions to flooding conditions by hosting flood prevention workshops and other weather-related events.

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

See budget requests.

Needs for Sanitation Services

Historically, neglected vacant lots full of garbage and abandoned vehicles were a major issue in Bushwick and remain an issue in the present, although to a lesser degree. During the 70s and 80s, the board's Sanitation Committee was one of the three largest committees. Presently, there are fewer lots due to an increase in development. However, garbage and debris from abandoned properties, new construction, and illegal dumping have become a regular and unsightly occurrence. All residents in proximity to these sites typically experience a higher volume of quality of life and public safety issues. Community Board 4 is grateful for the support of the Brooklyn 4 sanitation garage in addressing these issues.

Additionally, the need for an increase in vendor enforcement has become a much larger issue as unlicensed vendors set up in plazas and along high-traffic corridors. DSNY is now responsible for vendor enforcement, although the agency has not been successful in deterring unlicensed vendors from returning. This has led to an increase in quality-of-life complaints about street cleanliness, concerns about food safety, and most vocally from brick-and-mortar business owners that are impacted by certain types of unlicensed vending.

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
4 / 12	DEP	Sewage Line Project

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
9 / 21	DEP	Clean Catch Basins
14 / 21	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions
17 / 21	DSNY	Community Recycling Programs
18 / 21	DSNY	Graffiti Removal/Cleaning
20 / 21	DSNY	Public Drop-Off Sites
21 / 21	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws

Brooklyn Community Board 4

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

Affordable housing creation

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

Additionally, there are fewer opportunities for affordable home ownership as the housing market is largely inaccessible to low- and middle- income New Yorkers and barriers and availability impact the accessibility of government-subsidized projects. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: land use and zoning, housing support services for homeowners, affordable housing preservation, and commercial district revitalization.

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

Needs for Land Use

See Most Pressing Issues - Land Use Trends.

Needs for Housing

See budget requests.

Needs for Economic Development

See budget requests.

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
1 / 12	HPD	Affordable Housing
2 / 12	HPD	Senior Housing
11 / 12	EDC	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts
CS	EDC	Other capital budget request for EDC

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
4 / 21	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations
13 / 21	DOB	Expand code enforcement
19 / 21	SBS	Support merchant organizing

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Traffic safety and enforcement (cars, scooters, ebikes, etc.)

Initiatives, such as Vision Zero, have served as a conduit to address some of Bushwick's transit infrastructure and safety needs 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 aging infrastructure, an increase in population density, and safety issues on the busiest corridors in the neighborhood, including Broadway, Bushwick Avenue, Knickerbocker Avenue, Myrtle Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. All corridors experience a high volume of mixed-use traffic (pedestrian, cyclist, vehicle, etc.). They remain in great need of additional investment, ranging from resurfacing to the implementation of traffic calming measures.

During spring and summer 2021, Community Board 4 in partnership with New York City Land Use conducted a traffic safety study along Bushwick Avenue noting key intersections of concern along with recommendations for improvements. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: pedestrian safety, street lighting, traffic congestion, and open space & street activation.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

See budget requests.

Needs for Transit Services

See budget requests.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
3 / 12	DOT	Reconstruct streets
9 / 12	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure
10 / 12	DOT	Reconstruct streets
12 / 12	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets
CS	DOT	Wyckoff Avenue Reconstruction Project

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

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

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important 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. At the most basic level they help filter 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, an increasing number of homeless individuals have sought shelter in local parks. There is visible drug use and paraphernalia on park benches, bushes, and play areas along with other general public safety issues. Limited park maintenance capacity and public safety issues remain common complaints. We are thankful for the partnership and support from the NYC Parks Brooklyn Borough Commissioner's office and the local park manager in addressing situations as they arise. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: street tree and forestry services, including street tree maintenance, park safety, landmarks, monuments, sites of cultural significance, and community board resources. Community Board operations and administration are significantly impacted by transitions within other offices and agencies that are charter-mandated to support the boards, as well as susceptible to the loss of institutional knowledge.

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

Needs for Parks

See budget requests.

Needs for Cultural Services

Bushwick is known for its rich cultural diversity and arts community. Over the years, cultures and artistic expression have changed, although the spirit of creativity remains and has contributed to the large increase in new residents and visitors from all over the world. Despite the neighborhood's increase in popularity, work is still 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.

Needs for Library Services

See budget requests.

Needs for Community Boards

Community Boards are tasked with monitoring and informing the delivery of city services in partnership with city agencies and elected officials. In order to build on this work, additional support is needed as outlined in the Future of Community Boards working group report. As the smallest city and most local agencies, community boards generally have two to three employees and limited personnel services funding. This hinders their ability to pursue and retain staff to serve evolving district populations and needs.

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
5 / 12	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library
7 / 12	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park
8 / 12	DPR	Green Central Knoll Playground Renovation
CS	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library
CS	DPR	Irving Square Park Children's Playground Project

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
2 / 21	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)
3 / 21	DPR	Improve Park Maintenance
7 / 21	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance
10 / 21	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness
11 / 21	OMB	Provide more community board staff

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

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

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

1 of 12 Affordable Housing

HPD

Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households

Strongly encourage developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible, 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.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We agree that your district needs affordable housing and thank you for your request. HPD will make use of all of the tools in our toolbox, including tax exemptions, subsidy and Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC.) Although the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is responsible for setting AMI, we will work to create affordable housing at all tiers wherever possible.

2 of 12 Senior Housing

HPD

Provide more housing for seniors

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 feedback from the Community Board.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. HPD will continue to fund the construction of senior housing from the development pipeline to maximize available resources.

3 of 12 Reconstruct streets

DOT

Reconstruct streets

Location: Broadway - Flushing Avenue & Van Sinderen Avenue
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 Van Sinderen Avenue 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.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. The agency supports this request but funding cannot be determined at this time. DOT has an unfunded capital project to reconstruct Broadway, remove the concrete roadway, and install pedestrian safety improvements.

4 of 12 Sewage Line Project

DEP

Inspect sanitary sewer on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed

Location: Wilson Avenue - Myrtle Avenue & Halsey Street
Upgrade and/or replace existing infrastructure to improve drainage and prevent backflow or combined sewer overflow.

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.

5 of 12 Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library**BPL**

Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library

The Dekalb library is in need of an interior renovation, heating cooling, and other infrastructure/safety improvements, and a sustainability project for site drainage.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Brooklyn Public Library supports this capital need and will continue advocating for additional capital funding to address it.

6 of 12 Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests**NYPD**

Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests

Location: Central Avenue & Pilling Street

Despite a historic decrease in neighborhood crime, statistics show increases in grand larcenies, burglaries, and gang activity in addition to a high volume of quality of life concerns. Additional Argus cameras would serve as a monitor and deterrent for areas with chronic safety issues. Locations requested: Bushwick Playground and Central Avenue and Pilling Street

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.

7 of 12 Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park**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.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We do not have capital funding available to improve the restrooms at Maria Hernandez Park, but we have accomplished some repairs in-house.

8 of 12 Green Central Knoll Playground Renovation**DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

The Green Central Knoll play area, including the equipment, is in need of a complete renovation to bring the space up to modern industry safety and design standards. The area has been prone to flooding issues from a water feature and has a decorative path that takes up space, poses a potentially safety hazard, and is disconnected from the rest of the area. Renovation of the space will greatly improve the playground conditions and potentially alleviate some community concerns over competing uses in other park areas.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We do not have funding currently available for capital improvements at Green Central Knoll.

9 of 12 Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure**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.

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.

10 of 12	Reconstruct streets	DOT
Reconstruct streets		
<p>Location: Myrtle Avenue - Broadway & Broadway</p> <p>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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. This is an unfunded New Need request.</i></p>
11 of 12	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts	EDC
Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts		
<p>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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Infrastructure improvements, specifically for traffic alleviation, would be best addressed by DOT</i></p>
12 of 12	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	NYCTA
Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure		
<p>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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.</i></p>
CS	Other capital budget request for EDC	EDC
Other capital budget request for EDC		
<p>Location: Broadway - Flushing Avenue & Flushing Avenue</p> <p>EDC - 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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYC is investing \$95 Million in East Brooklyn, including delivering vibrant public space and improving pedestrian safety. Improvements for signage, furniture and design can be something agencies such as DOT and SBS can look into.</i></p>
CS	Reconstruct streets	DOT
Reconstruct streets		
<p>Location: Weirfield Street - Wyckoff Avenue & Wyckoff Avenue</p> <p>Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. This project is currently in Final Design.</i></p>
CS	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	BPL
Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library		
<p>The Washington Irving library is in need of an interior renovation and elevator modernization to better accommodate patrons.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Brooklyn Public Library supports this capital need and will continue advocating for additional capital funding to address it.</i></p>

CS	Wyckoff Avenue Reconstruction Project Reconstruct streets	DOT
<p>Location: Wyckoff Avenue - Cooper Street & Flushing Avenue</p> <p>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 lead 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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Wyckoff Ave, Flushing to Cooper Ave is included in HWK876 which is currently in Final Design.</i></p>

CS	Irving Square Park Children's Playground Project Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	DPR
<p>Upgrade and expand the children's play equipment to include a toddler playground area in Irving Square Park.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have capital funding to improve the playground at Irving Square Park and a community input meeting to inform the design for the site will be held in 2025.</i></p>

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

1 of 21	Hire additional uniformed officers Hire additional uniformed officers	NYPD
<p>Increase manpower at the 83rd Precinct and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.</i></p>

2 of 21	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement) Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	DPR
<p>Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provide a sense of security.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We do not have expense funding available to hire additional PEP officers.</i></p>

3 of 21	Improve Park Maintenance Provide better park maintenance	DPR
<p>Fund the Parks department to ensure personnel can adequately maintain park spaces.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We do not have expense funding available to hire additional maintenance staff. We will continue to maintain parks within CB4 the best we can with the resources at hand.</i></p>

4 of 21	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	HPD
<p>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.</p>		<p><i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources. HPD has also increased the inspector headcount in recent years.</i></p>

5 of 21 Other programs to address public health issues requests**DOHMH**

Other programs to address public health issues requests

The Bushwick Neighborhood Health Action Center formerly known as the Bushwick District Public Health Office remains a valuable asset with considerable reach and influence on the culture of health in Bushwick. To date, the center and the various programs appear to lack a clear and cohesive role in the community and would benefit from a comprehensive outreach plan, marketing, and opportunities for community engagement around the future of the site.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. DOHMH agrees that our Health Action Centers in TRIE neighborhoods provide essential resources to the community. Look for engagement and promotion opportunities planned for 2025 of the health action centers

6 of 21 Provide more firefighters or EMS workers**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.

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.

7 of 21 Forestry services, including street tree maintenance**DPR**

Forestry services, including street tree maintenance

Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The industry standard of pruning every 7 years does not accommodate the number of requests. Larger trees in particular are overgrown and potential public safety hazards as they obstruct street lights, interfere with utility lines, and grow toward neighboring properties.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Parks' block pruning program provides neighborhood-based, proactive tree maintenance by addressing a portion of the street trees in each CB every year. If, in between the 7-year cycle, there are individual trees in need of pruning for public safety, including trees that are obstructing traffic signs or signals, we encourage anyone to submit a service request by locating the tree on the NYC Tree Map (and clicking on the "report a problem" tab), calling 311, or using our online tree service request system. Our inspectors will visit the tree and determine the appropriate action in accordance with our Tree Risk Management Program. Trees that are entangled or causing problems with electrical or telecommunications lines should be referred to the utility provider as Parks crews are not authorized to prune around high voltage power lines.

8 of 21 Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)**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.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Presently, there are a variety of agency-funded programs in the district for this target population. Additional programs are contingent upon available funding and will be distributed through an RFP process. Organizations are encouraged to apply.

9 of 21 Clean Catch Basins**DEP**

Clean catch basins

Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens prior to storms. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system, especially as the city experiences more extreme weather events.

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. Please contact the agency directly and promptly for more information.

10 of 21 Improve trash removal and cleanliness**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.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We will accommodate this request with existing resources. No additional staff has been funded.

11 of 21 Provide more community board staff**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.

Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. As of the FY 2026 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is being maintained.

12 of 21 Expand street outreach**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 Maria Hernandez Park, the Myrtle-Broadway intersection, and the Myrtle-Knickerbocker Plaza.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Street outreach services are available 24/7, 365 days a year. By calling 311 or using the 311 app when a homeless individual appears to be in need of assistance, any New Yorker can dispatch an outreach team to that person and help them move indoors. Funding for street outreach has more than doubled in recent years.

13 of 21 Expand code enforcement**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.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. The agency will accommodate the request with the current staff. Will discuss budget needs with OMB if agency needs changes,

14 of 21 Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	DSNY
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.	<i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYC public schools receive a high-level of additional DSNY service. It is the school's responsibility to properly store and manage their waste between the frequent collection service. Although the Department of Sanitation supports this request, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.</i>
15 of 21 Enhance educational and recreational programs Enhance educational and recreational programs	DFTA
Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes	<i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYC Aging will seek additional funding for this request.</i>
16 of 21 Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	DOHMH
Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat an increasing rodent population in Bushwick.	<i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. DOHMH is happy to discuss ways to partner on reducing rodent populations, including hosting Rat Academies for property owners and proper garbage disposal</i>
17 of 21 Community Recycling Programs Other expense budget request for DSNY	DSNY
Expand community recycling programs to educate residents about all types of recycling at residential buildings, public gathering places, events, and street festivals.	<i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Although the Department of Sanitation supports this request, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.</i>
18 of 21 Graffiti Removal/Cleaning Increase Graffiti Removal/Cleaning	DSNY
Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal.	<i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Although the Department of Sanitation supports this request, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.</i>

19 of 21 Support merchant organizing**SBS**

Support merchant organizing

Location: Broadway - Flushing Avenue & Flushing Avenue
Several years ago, joint efforts were taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. Further support and resources are critical to organizing capacity and sustainability.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. In FY24, SBS awarded Bridge Street Development Corporation a one-year strategic impact grant to conduct a Commercial District Needs Assessment (CDNA) of Ocean Hill which included the Broadway commercial corridor. A CDNA highlights a neighborhood's existing business landscape and consumer characteristics, identifies key issues and opportunities which helps prioritize SBS-supported local investments when available and serves as an informational and marketing resource for the neighborhood. The Ocean Hill CDNA is available on the SBS website. SBS will continue to send email notification to all community boards when new grants are available to CBOs/BIDs and we encourage them to share with their network.

20 of 21 Public Drop-Off Sites**DSNY**

Other expense budget request for DSNY

Establish public drop-off sites where residents can bring unwanted electronics, textiles, food scraps, and yard waste.

Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Special Waste sites will expand to two sites per borough operating 3 days per week for a total of 24 hours per week beginning at the end of December 2024. Additional information will be available shortly on DSNY's website.

21 of 21 Increase enforcement of canine waste laws**DSNY**

Increase enforcement of canine waste laws

The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and property owners.

Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Although the Department of Sanitation supports this request, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.