

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

Fiscal Year  
2022



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**Manhattan  
Community District  
6**

## INTRODUCTION

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

## HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

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

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

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

[CDNEEDS\\_DL@planning.nyc.gov](mailto:CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov)

This report is broadly structured as follows:

### 1. Overarching Community District Needs

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

### 2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

### 3. Community Board Budget Requests

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

### Disclaimer

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

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

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

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

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# 1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

## Manhattan Community Board 6

Address: 211 East 43rd Street, 1404  
Phone: (212) 319-3750  
Email:  
Website: [cbsix.org](http://cbsix.org)

Chair: Kyle Athayde  
District Manager: Jesus Perez

## 2. COMMUNITY DISTRICT PROFILE AND LAND USE MAP

# Manhattan Community District 6



See MN 6's profile online at  
[communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov](http://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov)

**Neighborhoods<sup>1</sup>:** Beekman Place, Gramercy Park, Murray Hill, Peter Cooper Village, Stuyvesant Town, Sutton Place, Tudor City, Turtle Bay

| POPULATION & DENSITY            |                   |               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 2000 <sup>2</sup>               | 2010 <sup>3</sup> | 2000-2010     |
| 136,152                         | 142,745           | +5%           |
| 2014-2018 Estimate <sup>4</sup> |                   | 159,623       |
| Square Miles                    |                   | 1.4           |
| Population Density              |                   | 101,961/sq mi |



## COMMUNITY BOARD PERSPECTIVES

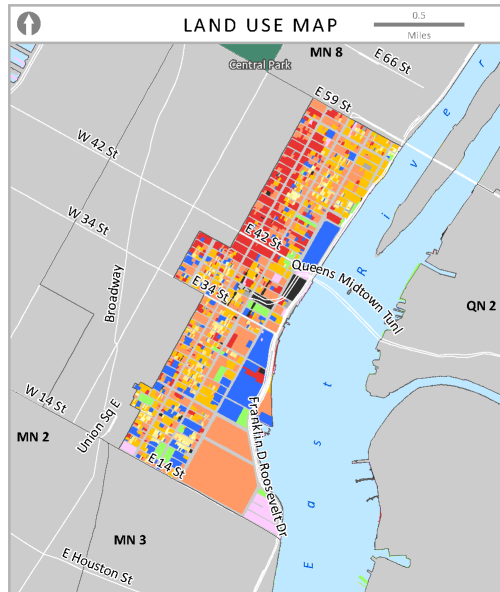
Top 3 pressing issues identified by  
Manhattan Community Board 6 in 2020:

1. Affordable housing
2. Homelessness
3. Parks and open space

To learn more, please read Manhattan CD 6's Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2022.

Website: [cbsix.org/](http://cbsix.org/)  
Email: [Office@cbsix.org](mailto:Office@cbsix.org)

| Land Use Category      | # Lots | % Lot |
|------------------------|--------|-------|
|                        |        | Area  |
| 1 & 2 Family Bldgs     | 260    | 2%    |
| Multifamily Walk-up    | 498    | 5%    |
| Multifamily Elevator   | 418    | 17%   |
| Mixed Use              | 934    | 35%   |
| Commercial             | 319    | 14%   |
| Industrial             | 1      | 0%    |
| Transportation/Utility | 41     | 4%    |
| Public/Institutional   | 208    | 16%   |
| Open Space             | 37     | 3%    |
| Parking                | 23     | 1%    |
| Vacant                 | 62     | 2%    |
| Other                  | 8      | 0%    |



Map Source: PLUTO 20v8

## A Snapshot of Key Community Indicators

| COMMUNITY ASSETS <sup>5</sup>  |    |
|--|----|
| Public Schools   | 16 |
| Public Libraries   | 3  |
| Hospitals and Clinics  | 48 |
| Parks  | 6  |
| Visit <a href="https://CapitalPlanning.nyc.gov">CapitalPlanning.nyc.gov</a> for more information |    |

| RENT BURDEN <sup>4</sup>                                |           |
|---|-----------|
| Manhattan CD 6  | Manhattan |
| 35%   | 36%*      |
| of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent | NYC       |
|   | 44%       |

| ACCESS TO PARKS <sup>6</sup>   |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Manhattan CD 6</p> <p><b>79%</b></p> <p>of residents live within walking distance of a park or open space</p> | <p>Citywide Target</p> <p><b>85%</b></p> |

| MEAN COMMUTE TO WORK <sup>4</sup> |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Manhattan CD 6                    | Manhattan     |
| 28<br>minutes                     | 32<br>minutes |
|                                   | NYC           |
|                                   | 41<br>minutes |

| LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY <sup>4</sup>                       |           |
|--|-----------|
| Manhattan CD 6   | Manhattan |
| 7%   | 15%       |
| of residents 5 years or older have limited English proficiency | NYC       |
|  | 23%       |

| CRIME RATE <sup>7</sup>  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Manhattan CD 6<br><b>10.7</b><br>major felonies were reported<br>per 1,000 residents in 2019 | Manhattan<br>16.1 |
|  | NYC<br>11         |

| EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT <sup>4</sup>                                      |           |
|--|-----------|
| Manhattan CD 6   | Manhattan |
| 80%  | 61%       |
| of residents 25 years or older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher | NYC       |
|  | 37%       |

| UNEMPLOYMENT <sup>4</sup>   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Manhattan CD 6  | Manhattan |
| 2.5%  | 3.8%      |
| of the civilian labor force<br>was unemployed on<br>average from 2014 to 2018 | NYC       |
|   | 4.4%      |

| NYCgov POVERTY MEASURE <sup>8</sup>                          |           |
|--|-----------|
| Manhattan CD 6   | Manhattan |
| 9%   | 14%       |
| of residents have incomes below the NYCgov poverty threshold | NYC       |
|  | 20%       |

<sup>1</sup>Neighborhoods may be in multiple districts. Names and boundaries not officially designated. <sup>2</sup>2000 US Census; <sup>3</sup>2010 US Census; <sup>4</sup>American Community Survey 2014-2018 5-Year Estimates, approximated by aggregating data from blocks and block-groups. When comparing CD estimates to Borough and City averages, due to survey sampling error values with an asterisk (\*) are not statistically significant differences. Visit the Community District Profiles tool online to find Margins of Error (MOEs) for all estimates. "NYC Dept of City Planning Facilities Database (2020)"; "NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (2019). DPR considers walking distance to be 1/4 mile for parks less than 8 acres, and 1/2 mile for larger parks and pools. "NYPD Complaint Data (2019)"; <sup>5</sup>2014-2018 NYCgov Poverty Measure by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA). PUMAs are geographic approximations of community districts. 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.

# Manhattan Community District 6 - Land Use

One & Two Family Buildings

MultiFamily Walkup Buildings

MultiFamily Elevator Buildings

Mixed Commercial/Residential Buildings

Commercial/Office Buildings

Industrial/Manufacturing

Transportation/Utility

Public Facilities & Institutions

Open Space

Parking Facilities

Vacant Land

All Others or No Data

Community Districts

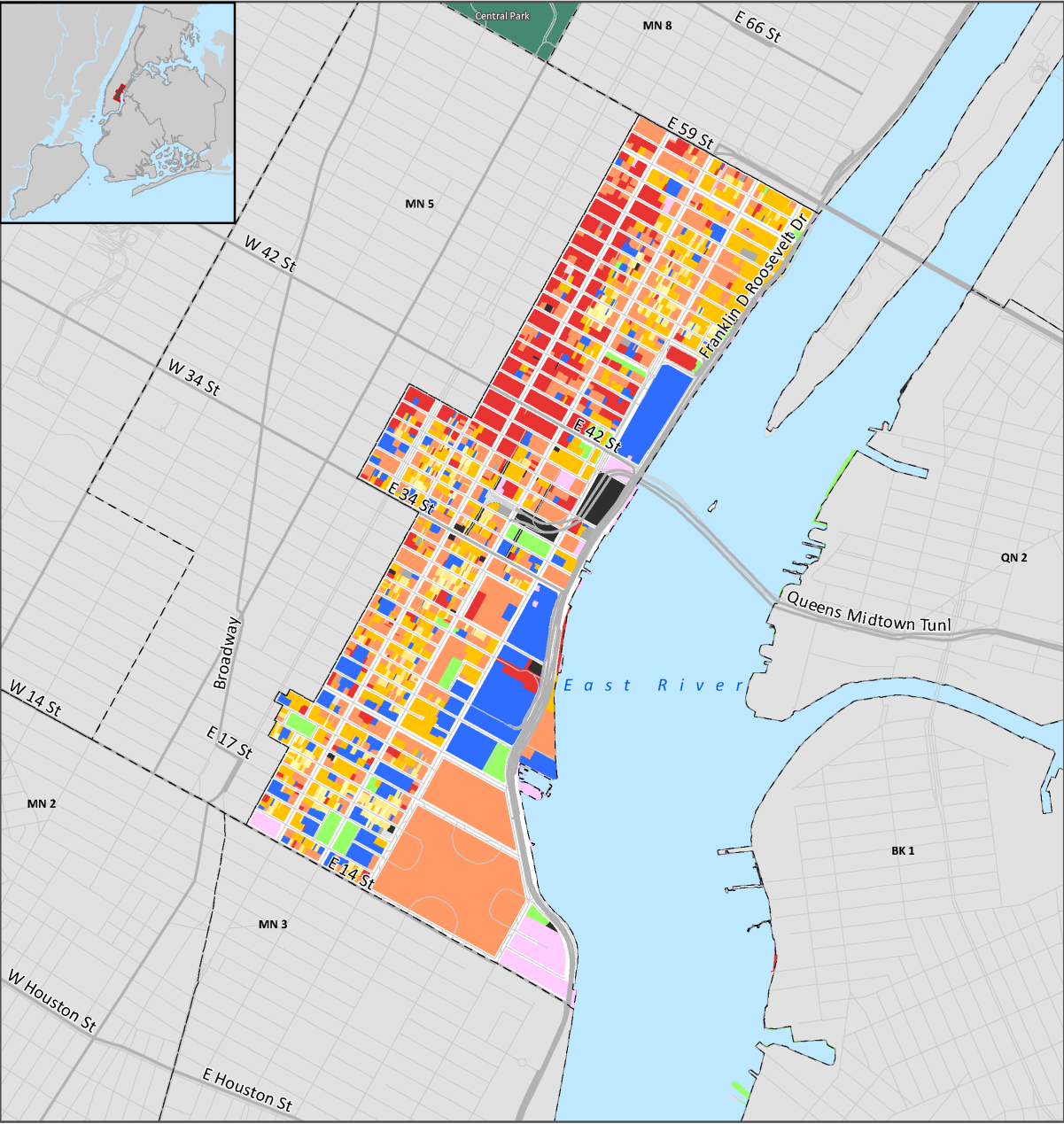
0

1,100

2,200

Feet

Source: MapPLUTO™ 20v7  
BYTES of the Big Apple  
Created January 2021



### 3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Community District Six (CD6) encompasses the East Side of Manhattan from 14th to 59th Streets, from the East River to Lexington Avenue and farther west in some areas to include Gramercy Park, Murray Hill, Turtle Bay and parts of East Midtown. Additional well-known neighborhoods lie within our boundaries: Sutton Place, Beekman Place, Tudor City, Kips Bay, Rosehill, East Midtown Plaza, Waterside Plaza, Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village. The district is a mixture of residential, commercial, medical, educational and institutional uses with major office buildings, including 731 Lexington (“Bloomberg Tower”), 601 Lexington Avenue (former Citigroup Center), and the Chrysler building, and retail shops lining the avenues. There are several medical facilities used by all New Yorkers including VA Medical Center, Bellevue Hospital, NYU Langone Medical Center, NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases, and Mt. Sinai Beth Israel Hospital, which is undergoing major restructuring that will affect our community in important ways noted throughout this document. Numerous substance abuse, mental health, and ambulatory care clinics as well as some facilities of the New York Eye and Ear Hospital are located in the district. CD6 hosts the HRA 30th St Men’s Shelter, the city’s largest at 850 beds, Samaritan Village on 53rd, New Providence Women’s Shelter and other homeless facilities, including a Safe Haven site on East 17th Street. The district includes the Baruch College campus, the School of Visual Arts, the NYU School of Medicine, the NYU College of Dentistry, and the Beren Campus of Yeshiva University, Stern College and other institutions. We host numerous bioscience laboratories out of the Alexandria Center for Life Science and expect more facilities as NYU continues expansion. CD6 is also home to the United Nations as well as hundreds of missions and diplomatic residences.

While recognizing the diversity of residential and commercial use, the district is primarily a middle-income community that has significant numbers of low-income residents and a large elderly population, many living on fixed incomes. We are always mindful that data about the neighborhoods of affluence in CD6 must not mask the very real need for access to affordable housing, homeless and general social services, and adequate measures for personal safety and overall well-being for all our neighbors. There are five Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) within CD6 or at its borders: The Grand Central Partnership, 34th Street Partnership, East Midtown Association, Union Square Partnership and the Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership. These continue to improve the quality of life within the district and we encourage the city to continue endorsing new BIDs where viable.

We also must draw attention to the two 197-a plans prepared by CB6 and adopted, with modifications, by the City Planning Commission and the City Council. In January 2008, the City Planning Commission approved with modifications the 197-a plan submitted by Manhattan Community Board 6. In March 2008 the City Council adopted the plan as modified by the City Planning Commission. In May of 1995, CB6 submitted a 197-a plan regarding Stuyvesant Cove. This plan was modified and adopted by the City Planning commission and City Council in 1997. These long-term planning documents should guide future action of all city agencies and are integral to the understanding of the needs of our district. This is particularly true in planning related to the waterfront and for the medical corridor that is anchored by First Avenue from 14th Street to 38th Street. CB6 is committed to seeing the planning guidelines and specific proposals of the 197-a plans fully implemented. CD6 is undergoing several major shifts in its urban-planning landscape. Along the waterfront, the East Side Coastal Resiliency Project promises to transform access to additional open space and recreational opportunities, while increasing our district’s ability to withstand flood damage like that experienced during Superstorm Sandy.

Recent rezoning efforts in East Midtown promise to transform several blocks in our district into more densely populated areas that could bring additional challenges to our docket. Mount Sinai Beth Israel’s Campus transformation continues to pose questions, especially in the midst of a global pandemic. It is not clear how service closures will affect the community and working groups continue to meet to review the possible impacts of redevelopment of real estate at the site. Finally, affordability remains a difficult issue to solve and one which affects our middle- and working-class communities in direct, immediate ways. We will always look at any shifts in zoning (in-district or city-wide) and governmental- or institutionally-owned property as potential means to provide residents with housing units at reasonable cost based on their income levels.



## 4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

### Manhattan Community Board 6

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The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

#### **Affordable housing**

Explanation: CD 6 like many other community districts across the city is in dire need of affordable housing, particularly NEW low-income and moderate-income housing. Thanks to the passage of Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019, rent-stabilized housing remains the most effective measure of preserving existing affordable housing City-wide. We are grateful to the State legislature for passing comprehensive rent regulation reform which will preserve our district's stock of affordable rent stabilized housing. However, preserving our existing stock of affordable housing is not enough to ameliorate the housing crisis we face. Over the past 15-20 years, a loss of Mitchell-Lama, and loss of Section 8 housing, and loss of rent-controlled and loss of rent-regulated housing, have led to 13.7% of rental units being rented at 80% AMI, 20.6% of district renters are rent burdened, and 64.8% of low- income renters in the district are severely rent burdened. To support and retain population and economic diversity, the board seeks new or reclaimed low- and moderate-income housing within the district.

#### **Homelessness**

Despite the major residential development in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6), affordable housing in our district is disappearing. At the same time, there has been little attention to the housing and support services needed by specific groups such as the disabled, seniors, and individuals facing homelessness. The City has opened both temporary and permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness but seldom provides the necessary support to transition individuals to permanent housing. Outreach to the chronically homeless is a long and difficult process and the basic humanitarian needs of the chronically homeless who turn to our parks and public spaces during the day are not being met. Funding for these critical support services should be increased not merely maintained. We include in basic humanitarian support, services that provide a measure of personal dignity such as rest rooms and showers for those who currently have no way of accessing such services.

#### **Parks and open space**

CD6 has the least amount of open space of any community district in Manhattan. Census data shows our child-age population growing quickly, and therefore more playground and recreation space is needed. Residents of all ages keep our current spaces busy with active and passive uses and during the pandemic those green spaces provided a welcome relief to the necessary isolation and social distancing. Unfortunately, much of the open space we do have has fallen into disrepair and needs regular clean up and security patrols. Additionally, lack of open space is tied to air quality. Manhattan CD6 remains towards the top of several pollutant levels lists in recent municipal studies. As these levels are aggravated by lack of tree cover and extent of "impermeable surface," additional green spaces can be considered a health matter.

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## 5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

### HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Manhattan Community Board 6

##### Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

###### **Services to reduce or prevent homelessness**

During his 2019 State of the State address Governor Cuomo announced a new commitment to build or rehabilitate 20,000 supportive housing units statewide over the next fifteen years. As CD 6 has only one supportive housing facility, Kenmore Hall, CB6 asks that additional supportive housing units be built in CD 6—especially given CD 6’s proximity to many public health facilities that support this population. Supportive housing will help our most vulnerable residents by creating a more robust social safety net to prevent a rise in street homelessness and to reduce crowding at our homeless shelters. CD 6 has the largest men's homeless shelter in the country, the HRA 30th Street Men’s Shelter (located on 30th Street between 1st Avenue and the FDR Drive). This shelter maintains 850 beds and is the entry point for many citywide into the shelter system. Homelessness is a citywide issue; however, we are particularly concerned that the lack of supportive housing units in CD 6 has led to an increase in street-homeless. We need to put greater focus on health care, mental health care, and other social services. CB6 asks that the City and State ensure that supportive housing providers be fully funded so that they can continue to plan, build, and operate supportive housing and the associated social services. The City continues to invest in costly temporary solutions while underinvesting in long-term systemic solutions. The structural shortage of affordable housing, the undersupply of supportive housing and social support services, and the urgent relocations for health and safety reasons forced by the covid emergency – taken together these things have made it clearer than ever that we as a community are not adequately serving unhoused New Yorkers and that we are not delivering on our social commitment to enable all our citizens to live in safety, security and dignity.

##### Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

###### **Needs for Health Care and Facilities**

There are several major hospitals in CD6, used by all New Yorkers, including Mt. Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center, VA Medical Center, Bellevue Hospital, NYU Langone Medical Center, and the NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases. Numerous substance abuse, mental health, and other ambulatory care clinics as well as some facilities of the New York Eye and Ear Hospital are located in CD6. These together essentially comprise a “medical corridor” within New York City, as alluded to in our 197-a Plan. We look forward to continued cooperation with these medical facilities as they expand and modernize their operations, as well as cooperation with city agencies in ensuring that these institutions have the adequate, surrounding infrastructure and supportive programming needed to properly serve both district residents and New Yorkers at large.

Of continuing concern in the coming months and years is the status of Mt. Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center and the services it will provide as well as the implications on land use at its current facilities. After Mt. Sinai Health System’s (MSHS) merger with Continuum Health Partner, their Downtown Transformation Plan (DTP) was developed. This plan involves the distribution of services throughout the MSHS citywide systems, creating specialized satellite treatment centers at each of their network facilities. This would mean reduction or elimination of certain specialty services within the current Beth Israel campus, including Gynecological and Obstetric care, and potentially, longer distances for our most vulnerable citizens seeking care they currently receive locally. Further, Beth Israel Hospital itself will be relocated to a new site on 13th Street, with a significantly- reduced bed count. This, in addition to the elimination of 25 acute-care beds for AIDS treatment through closure of its Mapplethorpe Center and a further reduction of 29 acute-care beds through closure of the campus’s inpatient physical rehab facility. Understandably, the residents of CD6 and nearby areas served by this medical center have serious questions as to whether their healthcare needs will be adequately met and if the reduced scope of service is sufficient for the population of our district and much of Downtown Manhattan, especially in the wake of St. Vincent Hospital’s closure and considering New York-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Hospital’s limited capacity. We worry about not

just non-emergency care and everyday emergencies, but also large-scale calamities like the Covid-19 pandemic, Superstorm Sandy or the attacks of 9/11. The appropriate agencies and elected officials, along with MSHS, must monitor the plan in conjunction with CB6 to mitigate downside risks to our community.

As of this document's submission, the hospital corporation has not released its community assessment report. However, CB6 hopes that in anticipation of further healthcare facility changes or closures, the City and State initiate a systemwide study of both the public and private healthcare networks so that communities can better understand current coverage, connectivity, and shortfalls across the five boroughs.

For decades, CB6 has been advocating for a strategic plan to determine Bellevue Hospital's immediate and future health care and land use needs, especially prior to any potential disposition of property. No such study has ever been conveyed to the board. We will continue to advocate for updated facilities, state-of-the-art equipment, and improved services there. We assume we will see significant changes to reflect what was learned by the response to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the physical plant, medical supply chains and and so much more including, most importantly, ensuring the well-being of patients and first line medical professionals. We applaud the City's response through its public hospital system and will support what they identify as emerging needs in any way we can.

CB6 has taken note of the lack of high quality skilled nursing facilities in Manhattan and especially within CD6. Also, the number of hospice beds is woefully inadequate. The NYC Department of City Planning projects that Manhattan's elderly population, aged 65 and over, will grow by 57.9% between 2000 and 2030, adding 108,000 elderly persons. CD6 has seen an increase in the number of persons age 65 and over of 9.8% just since the 2000 census – and more than 45% of these individuals are 75 and older. We therefore must plan for the additional health and other support services needed by this population. Consistent with the 197-a Plan, we are looking at development of health-related facilities within this "medical corridor." Among other options, we would welcome a sub-acute facility or multiple use facility that would allow for a continuum of care for seniors and others. Biotech incubators, such as the Alexandria Center for Life Sciences, are also well-received additions to the corridor's development. Non-medical and non-research related uses within this corridor will be subject to the greatest scrutiny and likely continued opposition.

### **Needs for Older NYs**

In CD6, over 18% of our population is 65 and older, one of the highest proportions of seniors relative to other community districts. Therefore, senior services are of paramount importance to our district, especially since seniors are likelier to have income restraints. To encourage innovative programming, we urge the city to provide funding that looks beyond just the number of meals served and focuses instead on the services seniors seek for social and mental stimulation. We recognize older adults prioritize the ability to maintain and create new relationships. Social isolation is a major concern when considering aging segments, whether due to living alone or to disabilities.

Research suggests that isolation may be as harmful as smoking, obesity and lack of physical activity. Social isolation also contributes to elder abuse and preventable deaths. And yet, our experience with the pandemic tells us that congregate situations with the elderly may pose added health risks. We look forward to working with DFTA in finding creative solutions that can provide social distancing when needed but social interaction to the extent possible.

The board also notes that falls are a serious health issue among seniors in CD6. Therefore, programming to foster social and physical activity would help prevent avoidable injury and illness in many of our seniors. We are pleased by DFTA's efforts to introduce "innovative senior centers" and while the social distancing required in 2020 has been a challenge to senior centers of all types, the innovative centers are still a step in the right direction. Unfortunately, no innovative senior center is located in CD6. We ask that DFTA look at expanding programs for our seniors beyond the confines of the traditional senior center, making them available throughout our district. We note that we only have two senior centers, one at the northern- and one at the southern-most end of the map, and they are at capacity. We are concerned that one of these centers may not reopen even after the restrictions of the pandemic are lifted. To fill the need for residents in the middle of our district, and recognizing that a dedicated single-site senior center may not be financially viable at this time, we propose shared space with existing educational facilities such as libraries, colleges or underutilized city-owned spaces, or through partnerships with area community-based organizations. Facilities and organizations should have the funds to provide services not just for the frail,

but also for active seniors. Computer labs with Internet access provide a wide range of opportunities so all seniors may research issues related to their health, keep informed of programs for their age group, and expand their skill set. Education on how to manage benefits online should lead to improved quality of life as well as greater use of federal programs and less reliance on city funds. CB6 consistently advocates for lifelong learning in budget requests to provide on-going education for seniors. In addition to meals and programming, aging-in-place services are vital, like homecare (a cheaper option than nursing homes) and escort assistance. Respite assistance for caregivers also is needed and ultimately, is a cost-cutting measure. Further, affordable housing options should keep this segment in mind - seniors should be able to remain in their neighborhoods of choice. Specialized legal needs and support for the physically and financially abused elderly have recently arisen as pressing concerns. We understand federal funding has been cut over the years, but various studies suggest an aging population and services supporting it remain vital – these requests are shared by CD's across New York (see attachment). The city must take steps to make up the funding gap since we can no longer rely on other government sources. CB6 has consistently advocated for greater funding for senior services but it never materializes. This year, in recognition of the significant stress on budget and traditional sources of funding, we have cut back a bit on our requests. We hope, however, that the City will take the opportunity to study how best to deliver senior services to make our City a leader in programming for healthy and secure senior years.

### **Needs for Homeless**

CB6 faces certain unique homeless and housing related challenges based in large part to the close proximity of five facilities/features within a several block radius of one another – NYCHA's Nathan Straus Houses (located at 2nd Avenue between 27th and 28th Street), the HRA 30th Street Men's Shelter (located on 1st Avenue and 30th Street), ACS's Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center (located on 1st Avenue between 26th and 27th Streets), Bellevue South Park (located between 1st and 2nd Avenues and 26th and 28th Streets), and the single largest concentration of hospitals in the city, including NYCHH's Bellevue Hospital and the VA Medical Center (all located along 1st Avenue between 23rd Street and 34th Streets) creating the largest Public Health District in the city.

The result has been a concentration of three separate constituencies (homeless, local residents and ACS teens), all within a few blocks of one another, each competing for extremely limited places to go, particularly during the day, and thereby creating a variety of challenges and pressures on this area of the district. It is no surprise then, that CB6 experiences homeless conditions and housing challenges that are complicated and high in volume and require sophisticated and thoughtful solutions.

### **Needs for Low Income NYs**

CD6 welcomes programming that seeks to help individuals find employment opportunities, particularly when a job can allow them to exit public assistance. It is estimated that over 5% of our district receives some form of government-funded income support; many of these residents do not have the skills to gain employment in a competitive, changing marketplace. Free or affordable job training programs and employment-readying services are essential to this mission. We acknowledge the city's progress in integrating social services to make it easier for individuals and families to reach the proper agencies and programs when they need help. AccessNYC, the city's benefits portal, allows them to more easily attain those benefits, including food assistance, rent support and supplemental health insurance, which stabilize their current hardships. Further outreach is needed to make sure CD6 residents are aware of this website. Despite recent federal cuts, we must make sure citizens know they might have food, housing and medical security in these still-difficult economic times. As CD6 continues to see luxury residential development replace low- and middle-income housing, HRA's oversight of legal services becomes an indispensable part of the affordable housing arsenal, as fixed-income constituents, including seniors, face landlord harassment and complicated visits to Housing Court. We welcome the city's major investment in legal aid for these and other purposes that assist people in staying in their current home, thereby solidifying our neighborhoods. Increased funding for these programs should be maintained in FY 2022 and beyond to avoid displacing neighbors and prevent homelessness.

## Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request                                     | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|----------|
| 6/25     | DHS    | <b>Other capital budget request for DHS</b> | <i>CB6 continues to receive complaints about homeless individuals urinating and defecating in parks, POPS, and the street. New Yorkers experiencing homelessness, including some sheltered individuals, do not relieve themselves in public as a choice; they are forced to do so as the City has failed to provide them with public restrooms and handwashing stations. We ask that the City construct new public restrooms in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6). One way to begin this might be to find suitable sites to place a few of the automatic public toilets purchased over a decade ago that currently sit in a DCAS warehouse waiting to be installed. We are making a parallel expense budget request to address the supervision of such facilities and research to find additional solutions.</i> |          |
| 23/25    | DFTA   | <b>Renovate or upgrade a senior center</b>  | <i>CB6 understands the lack of fed &amp; state funds for a new senior center, but asks DFTA to aggressively advocate for such funds and seek city funds to ensure adequate services to our aging population. Manhattan Community District 6 only has Stein Senior Center and the Center at St. Peter's, a satellite location of Lenox Hill Houses. The pandemic has revealed the risks involved in vulnerable populations congregating, and yet social interaction is critical to healthy aging. We ask the City to establish new and renovate existing senior centers to allow safe programming. And if an additional dedicated physical location is not feasible now, we ask that DFTA enlist the use of other City owned facilities such as colleges &amp; schools for programming needs.</i>                    |          |

## Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|
|          |        |         |             |          |



|      |      |  |  |
|------|------|--|--|
| 1/21 | DHS  | <b>Expand street outreach</b>                        | <i>CB6 asks that the City fund the deployment of a dedicated street outreach team to serve the densest portion of our Public Health District, from 23rd Street to 34th Street and from Lexington Avenue to the East River. This request includes the Bellevue South Park area which has been the center of concern for some time.</i>  |
| 5/21 | DFTA | <b>Enhance educational and recreational programs</b> | <i>A new senior facility providing meals and services has been requested by CB6 for over a decade. While we continue to advocate for an additional center in our district, our aging population would benefit from an expansion of programming that can be housed in existing City facilities or in sites run by community organizations, and funded by DFTA and other agencies. Libraries or CBOs, for example, can host or provide exercise programs, fall prevention programming (i.e., Tai Chi), lifelong learning, and technology programming. The pandemic has shown us that creative thinking is needed to find new ways to provide supportive services and programming to relieve isolation and provide intellectual engagement.</i> |
| 8/21 | DFTA | <b>Enhance home care services</b>                    | <i>Allocate Additional Funding for Home Assistance Programs for the Elderly in Manhattan Community District 6. 18.3% of the population of the district is over age 65. CB6 requests a higher level of attention to its elderly population. Increased availability of home assistance may become particularly important after the cutbacks in services at senior centers throughout the area. This method of care is far less expensive than subsidized nursing home care, which is typically the alternative. Enhanced home care may also be required for individuals who are at high risk during a pandemic such as Covid-19.</i>   |
| 9/21 | DHS  | <b>Other request for services for the homeless</b>   | <i>We ask that the City conduct research on how to provide restroom and shower facilities to individuals experiencing homelessness. At a recent panel discussion sponsored by CB6, advocates for the homeless explained that such services are provided in northern Manhattan by nonprofit organizations. Research would include identifying appropriate locations, operational success experienced by the organizations, level of security required, costs, and a number of other elements. We hope the research would lead to contracting with a provider.</i>   |

|       |       |   |   |
|-------|-------|---|---|
| 10/21 | DHS   | <b>Other facilities for the homeless requests</b> | <i>CB6 is asking for funds to secure an additional five stabilization beds in or near Manhattan Community District 6, over and above what is available through the larger city contract. These beds would offer immediate respite for people who the homeless outreach team is working with while the team works for more permanent housing solutions.</i>  |
| 18/21 | DFTA  | <b>Enhance programs for elder abuse victims</b>   | <i>With an aging population comes a greater need for attention to crimes perpetrated that are particular to seniors. Combating elder abuse, whether physical (domestic) abuse or the financial kind is critical in a district that has 18.2% of its population over the age of 65 (and growing). CB6 asks for additional funds to be devoted to specialized programs developed by the Department for the Aging to identify and prevent these situations. Additionally, more data on the extent of elder abuse in our city would be helpful in identifying needs in the district and citywide.</i>           |
| 19/21 | DOHMH | <b>Promote vaccinations and immunizations</b>     | <i>As we write this, a vaccine for Covid-19 is not available. When it is, it is essential that rapid and complete deployment is made. We know that the recent measles outbreak in New York City occurred largely because of misunderstandings and misinformation about the measles vaccine. We need to ensure that misinformation does not hinder efforts to ensure that scourges like the pandemic can be contained and the outbreak of measles don't happen in the future.</i>  |
| 20/21 | HRA   | <b>Provide, expand, or enhance job training</b>   | <i>CB6 would like to see enhanced funding for job training programs in existence or under development by HRA and its partners. These programs seek to increase clients' skills, readying them for employment and facilitating their exit from public assistance. These programs and associated training materials should be free or low-cost so as not to deter clients from participating. With the recent disruption to jobs due to the pandemic and the need to assist individuals who are either experiencing homelessness or seek an exit from public assistance, training is increasingly needed.</i> |

## **YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE**

### **Manhattan Community Board 6**

#### Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

##### **Schools and educational facilities (Maintenance)**

Schools in CD6 need continued investment in their aging infrastructure. HVAC issues, electrical and plumbing lines, and fiber optic cabling are just some of the areas in need of attention. We should also point out that while the welfare of students is the primary focus of any school maintenance, adult staff facilities should be kept in mind when renovations are identified and planned. While federal funds should be available as early as 2020, retrofitting our schools based on the COVID-19 experience is likely to still be necessary in FY 2022

#### Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

##### **Needs for Youth Education**

Universal Pre-K seats and insufficient afterschool and support services for children continue to be a problem in CD6. The board's ability to address the state of our schools is hampered by the lack of adequate communication about proposed educational plans, facility enhancements, and resource allocation. Although PS 281 opened in 2013, issues have already arisen, including child safety concerns due to changing traffic patterns and construction on adjacent sites, as well as the concerns about the anticipated lack of sunlight in the schoolyard and some disruption as a result of renovations to St. Vartan Park. CB6 restates its belief that communication between boards and the DOE and School Construction Authority would improve outcomes. To keep our schools up to date, they need appropriate technology upgrades and wiring to support the bandwidth of tomorrow. Some schools in CD6 have upgraded infrastructure, but many facilities remain unaddressed, including facilities used by adult staff and parents, which are often overlooked. Refurbished facilities would also be available for community events providing year-round, multi-purpose utilization of school buildings. Our schools should also be constantly monitored for air quality to protect our children from exposure to toxic substances. Overall, CD6, located in School District 2, should see a greater rate of spending per child, since IBO reports we have among the lowest per-pupil allocations in the city (see "Per Pupil Allocations" below). CB6 continues to urge that the old Police Academy location on East 20th St should be considered a possible location for a school once the NYPD vacates. It is our current understanding that the agency does not have immediate plans to leave, but we urge the administration to include the board and surrounding community in any future planning for this site as required by the New York City Charter. CB6 has a stated position that any future private charter schools not be placed in current public-school facilities as this undermines their efficacy. In addition, CB6 supports the establishment and continuation of stand-alone capital fund accounts formed when we experience large-scale residential or commercial development. Financial contributions by private developers and institutions in these instances would help address increased collateral needs resulting from such projects that add permanent or commuter populations to our district. These needs can include new schools, transit services and below-surface infrastructure.

##### **Needs for Youth and Child Welfare**

CB6 appreciates the difficulty and quantity of the caseload covering children's issues in New York. We support efforts that establish an effective and appropriate caseworker-per-child ratio. Abuse and even fatalities of children that were being monitored by ACS demonstrate that more well-qualified caseworkers are needed to ensure the safety of our kids. Proper management of these cases can help prevent other tragedies, but in some cases, can help prevent the alternative - foster care - by providing households with counseling and services that allow the family to stay intact. Kinship programs, where relatives care for the child in lieu of strangers, should be promoted where possible, and support for those caregivers must be adequately distributed. Our board also encourages lead agencies to promote foster parenting to citizens within our borders in cooperation with the CD6 office. We are pleased that a Community Advisory Board (CAB) has been established for the Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center (ACS) on First Avenue and that it meets regularly. ACS' location within what we have referred to in previous sections as a "public health district" has led to needs specific to this area. For more on those needs, see the sections on homelessness and public security. Additionally, CB6 recognizes the important role ACS plays in early



childhood education and welcomes new hires to manage programs and providers of such services. It is essential that, coupled with Universal Pre-K, EarlyLearn and other initiatives seek funding to achieve maximum enrollment in CD6 and beyond.

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## Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request                           | Explanation  | Location   |
|----------|--------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 10/25    | SCA    | <b>Provide technology upgrade</b> | <i>It is our understanding that PS 116 currently has no security system or not a sufficient security system, making it difficult for the school to keep track of what is going on throughout its building. At this time, it is not clear exactly what will be needed in light of other modifications to the physical plant to accommodate any health-required changes to the building interior and entrances/exits. We do know that installing a security system at PS 116 will be a major step towards ensuring the safety of kids at the school.</i> | 210 East 33 Street,<br>Manhattan,<br>New York,<br>NY |

## Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 2/21     | DYCD   | <b>Other runaway and homeless youth requests</b> | <i>According to the latest research by NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, one out of every eight children in New York City experiences homelessness before the fifth grade. The trauma of homelessness leaves many children unable to reach their full potential and in need of expanded support. In addition, elementary schools across the entire city are seeing rises in homeless students, including in Chinatown, Midtown West and Midtown East, with some schools experiencing rates of students in temporary housing as high as 27%. These schools include institutions in our neighboring Community Districts and significantly impact children in PS 116 in our district.</i> |          |

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|      |     |   |  |
|------|-----|---|--|
| 7/21 | ACS | <b>Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth</b> | <i>CB6 requests that funding be enhanced for ACS preventative services that allow families to remain together which maintaining the welfare of the children in the home. We understand these programs are effective in preventing children from entering foster care and can include services such as family or individual counseling, parenting classes, substance abuse treatment, domestic violence intervention, home care, and support for pregnant and parenting teens, among others. However, this funding must be coupled with additional staff and better training for caseworkers to ensure children's safety.</i> |
|------|-----|---|--|

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

### **Manhattan Community Board 6**

#### Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

##### **Other**

As previously mentioned, CD 6's "public health district," the several block radius that encompasses NYCHA's Nathan Straus Houses (located at 2nd Avenue between 27th and 28th Street), the 30th Street Men's Shelter (located on 1st Avenue and 30th Street), ACS's Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center (located on 1st Avenue between 26th and 27th Streets), Bellevue South Park (located between 1st and 2nd Avenues and 26th and 28th Streets), and the single largest concentration of hospitals in the city, including NYCHH's Bellevue Hospital and the VA Medical Center (all located along 1st Avenue between 23rd Street and 34th Streets, has resulted in a concentration of three separate constituencies (homeless, local residents and ACS teens), all within a few blocks of one another, each competing for extremely limited places to go, particularly during the day, and thereby creating a variety of challenges and pressures on this area of the district. To remedy some of the issues that this subsection of CD 6 faces, CB6 recommends that the security at Straus houses be improved through the implementation of layered access at the lobby and rear door. Finally, we believe that DHS should fund a dedicated homeless outreach team for this area to: 1) continually canvass the catchment area to establish constructive relationships with homeless individuals and provide outreach, direct services and referrals; 2) provide a rapid response for emotionally disturbed people in crisis in CD6.

#### Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

##### **Needs for Public Safety**

While our crime rates remain stable (or lower in some categories), issues associated with some of our homeless shelters and several clinics, have particularly concerned CD6 residents. Other issues include increasing calls about urinating and defecating public and, while off somewhat from previous years, public drinking and drug use, loitering in playgrounds, extensive littering, and aggressive panhandling. Through Community Advisory Boards (CABs), we continue to communicate with NYPD, lead agencies and the service sites to find solutions to these problems, including more frequent foot patrols of surrounding streets. As traffic worsens in CD6, so do infractions: Speeding, disobeying traffic signals, blocking of intersections, parking in bus and bike lanes, and illegal stopping. This adds to potential dangers to our pedestrian-heavy district.

Moreover, continued increases in bicycle ridership and other micro-mobility options adds a new element to policing of traffic safety. To be clear, CB6 does not intend to put the onus on cyclists, but rather suggests the comprehensive monitoring of how they, cars and pedestrians interact safely and follow traffic rules. We would welcome officers or auxiliary personnel on bike patrol to add units that mimic the new transportation landscape. We further suggest that, as an ongoing City Hall priority, Vision Zero help place emphasis on integrating the many new and old facets of transportation to ensure everyone commutes safely.

Noise remains the top complaint as registered by 311. There have been many concerns voiced by the community about the concentration of bars along 2nd and 3rd Avenues, particularly in the East 20s, 30s and 50s. These areas are heavily congested and noisy when patrons congregate outside or leave the venue. Some owners blast music out of open storefronts. Advertised pub crawls exacerbate the issue. Residents have found calls to 311 frustrating as law enforcement has many hours to respond to non-emergency; therefore, there is limited response to these issues when they are actually happening. This is also true for complaints of excessive honking when vehicular traffic is backed up and sirens which seem to be overused in non emergency situations. NYPD should coordinate activities with DEP to provide better response times to address these ongoing violations. DEP should also explore outreach efforts to the community where they could educate the public on how to best monitor and document noise problems to assist the agency in investigations. Of course, our police precincts cannot carry out their duties effectively with aging infrastructure hampering their efforts. We have asked for full modernization of precincts in CD6 that reflect the force's 21st Century needs. We have been told that there are no needs currently but we are open to supporting future requests for funding.

## **Needs for Emergency Services**

CD6 hosts first-class emergency rooms and hospital facilities within its borders. Our first responders should have state-of-the-art bases and training, ready for more of the potential crises we have experienced in the recent past. Both our community and its emergency responders, including firefighters, EMS workers and other emergency support workers, are better served when responders are equipped with the right tools. With regards to EMS Battalion 8, a concern is construction and renovation of sites adjacent to their facility. With a major development project on the horizon at the former Brookdale Campus on East 25th St and the upcoming resiliency-related upgrades at Bellevue Hospital Center, CB6 is concerned Battalion 8 will be hampered or may have to be temporarily relocated. We will watch the progress at these sites so that they do not adversely affect this essential deliverer of emergency services.

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## Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

## Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

| Priority | Agency | Request   | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|----------|
| 6/21     | NYPD   | <b>Assign additional traffic enforcement officers</b> | <i>The Mayor has several policies and programs meant to improve traffic flow and traffic safety in New York City, such as more protected bicycle lanes, dedicated bus lanes, and Vision Zero. However, because of a lack of traffic enforcement in our district, those policies and programs are left compromised. Protected bicycle lanes are compromised because of drivers interfering with those lanes. Bus lanes are compromised because other vehicles park in those dedicated bus lanes. Vision Zero is compromised because of vehicles that travel in a dangerous manner, therefore compromising the safety and lives of pedestrians. Additional traffic enforcement officers will be helpful in the carrying out of these initiatives.</i> |          |

## CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

### Manhattan Community Board 6

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

##### **Noise pollution**

With major arteries and approaches, such as to the Queens Midtown Tunnel and the 59th St Bridge, and due to increased bike/bus lanes and private and public street closures, traffic has become a major problem and results in increased noise. Additionally, high-rise building construction is rampant and causes its own noise pollution. With several bar and nightlife stretches, we also experience noise complaints due to evening activities. Noise is the number one CD6 resident complaint to 311.

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

##### **Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection**

CB6 continues to advocate for measures that better the overall environmental quality of the district, including resolutions on greater efficiency for city vehicles and boats, monitoring of construction projects and "macro" items, such as advocacy for greater recycling efforts. However, we also look for support in day-to-day monitoring of air and noise pollution. With increased traffic congestion due to several factors, street noise and concerns about air quality have increased. As the attached Air Survey maps show, NO2 levels, heavily weighted towards traffic levels, remains at their highest in Manhattan CD6. Other contributing factors to air and noise pollution: The 34th Street Heliport's noise, odors and air blast impacts have drawn criticism from nearby residents and just a few years ago necessitated replacement of costly air filtration equipment at NYU Langone Medical Center. Residential and commercial real estate development in the district raises many of the same noise and air concerns. Additionally, our prominent nightlife districts result in frequent calls from residents to 311, complaining about loud patrons and blaring music from open storefronts into the early morning hours. A greater number of inspectors to monitor noise is needed. We also ask that more air monitoring devices be placed in areas of recently increased construction and traffic activity (i.e. Queens Midtown Tunnel) so that their short- and medium-term impact can be analyzed. CB6 also believes better coordination on hot-button issues between DEP and these other agencies could prove fruitful (NYPD in the case of traffic and nightlife; DOT with regards to conducting traffic studies and observing emission levels; DOB when it comes to onsite construction inspections and asbestos abatement). As we have suggested elsewhere, DEP should also educate the public in how to best monitor and document on-going noise issues to assist the agency's enforcement measures.

##### **Needs for Sanitation Services**

Trash complaints to the CD6 office, both residential and on our streets, have increased. We continue to note that additional enforcement of alternate side of the street regulations is needed to facilitate regular maintenance. Some sidewalks also fare poorly, as they are continuously littered. CB6 supports hiring of additional crews to remedy the situation, and encourage further review of pick-up routes and frequency. Commercial and residential garbage frequently sits on the street for many hours in advance of mandated curbside placement times, which creates odors and unsightly messes that also attract rodents. This issue pertains to both privately- and government-owned buildings. Enforcement of sanitation rules must be increased. Additional pickups seem warranted to handle the increase in mandated recycling efforts. Small- and medium-sized buildings do not have space to store the added volume between once-weekly pickup times. Anecdotal evidence suggests many buildings are commingling their recycling with regular garbage on sanitation pick-up days to free up space in receptacles and refuse rooms. It's time to treat recycling collection and enforcement the same as that for regular trash.

Graffiti became a serious problem in 2020 throughout the district with new examples along Third Avenue and on side streets in Murray Hill. Graffiti degrades the district making the district less attractive for small business and less pleasant as a residential area. We support the restoration of New York City's graffiti removal program.

Finally, DSNY with EDC has proposed that a garage be located at the former Hunter College Brookdale Campus, 425 East 25th St, between First Ave and FDR Dr. While CB6 recognizes the principle of locating such facilities in or near the district being served, we have objected to the placement of this project in the middle of the medical corridor (between Bellevue Center and the VA Hospital) and near major residential developments and schools. The location is in clear opposition to our 197-a plan. A planning study commissioned by CB6 proposed two alternatives that have gone ignored (see "25th Street Sanitation Garage" study below). We still have no specifics as to plans for the remainder of the site on either end of the planned garage, even after several scoping hearings with community groups, but the ULURP process remains. CB6 has serious concerns in regard to a sanitation garage being proposed at this site. In the meantime, DSNY has established a temporary base of operations on East 26th Street along with a nearby on-street site for the storage of sanitation vehicles on Mount Carmel Place, next to residences and a park. The board was given no other options on this siting. We oppose this siting and encourage the city to take any possible measures to relocate the temporary base & vehicle parking to a non-residential area where it would be more appropriate.

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## Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

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

## Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 12/21    | DEP    | <b>Investigate noise complaints at specific location</b> | <i>Noise is our district's #1 complaint. Aside from late-night noise from bars/restaurants, our district also sees increased complaints due to traffic congestion. Our roads are narrower due to bike/bus lanes and we have major approaches in our borders, such as the Queensboro Bridge and Queens Midtown Tunnel. We also host the 34th St Heliport and large construction projects. Finally, because of After-Hours Variances, there are complaints about late night construction noise. More inspectors would stay ahead of complaints with 24/7 monitoring, rather than the current after-the-fact on-site visits. Recognizing budget constraints which may continue into FY2022, we trust that at least staffing not be decreased in this area and that possibilities for additional noise monitoring are explored.</i> |          |
| 13/21    | DSNY   | <b>Provide more frequent litter basket collection</b>    | <i>While in recent years we had seen a fairly stable level of over-flowing waste baskets, since the pandemic we are experiencing a major uptick. Trash ends up in the street creating unsightly and unhygienic conditions.</i>  |          |

## HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

### Manhattan Community Board 6

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

##### **Affordable housing creation**

Affordable housing is disappearing from CD6 and demand continues to increase. Thanks to the passage of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019, rent-stabilized housing remains the most effective measure of preserving existing affordable housing City-wide. CB6 requests the development of NEW low-income and moderate-income housing in CD 6. Over the past 15-20 years, a loss of Mitchell-Lama, and loss of Section 8 housing, and loss of rent-controlled and loss of rent-regulated housing, have led to 13.7% of rental units being rented at 80% AMI, 20.6% of district renters are rent burdened, and 64.8% of low-income renters in the district are severely rent burdened. In order to support and retain our existing population and promote economic diversity, we call upon the City to provide new or reclaimed low- and moderate-income housing within our district in the forthcoming year.

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

##### **Needs for Land Use**

Before the 2008 recession, CD6 saw rapid building growth, with over 2000 additional residential units constructed since the 2000 Census, plus over 2 million square feet of new office and retail space. By 2016, a boom in residential permitting had returned, with building applications at record highs. DOB and related agencies need enough tools and personnel to process paperwork and inspect sites correctly. Expanded online capabilities for submission of zoning and construction documents and their subsequent public review is also welcomed. Rapid growth also means additional infrastructure requirements, such as transit options, subsurface service delivery, sanitation services, and open space – City Planning staff should be sufficient to meet these challenges. The rezoning of about 70 blocks of East Midtown remains on our radar. Greater East Midtown rezoning was approved in August 2017, after extensive community comment and input. Responding to community requests for additional open space, the text amendment requires each site developed under the rezoning to provide public open space. Additionally, there is a governing group to prioritize public realm improvements in the area. CB6 wants to encourage the creation of open space in the district. and will work with the city and private developers to facilitate open space development, as well as street level public realm improvements.

CB6 remains an advocate for expanded transportation and subsurface infrastructure and specific public realm upgrades. We hope to work with DCP and partners to preserve East Midtown's global competitiveness in the 21st Century, while retaining some human scale and meeting demands of local residents. This applies not just to multi-block rezoning, but also to the rising number of individual sites slated for "superscrapers," which CB6 opposes when they threaten the scale and character of a neighborhood. As to remapping streets, 30th St east of First Ave does not appear on the official city map, thus is technically not a street. In our 2008 City Council-approved 197-a plan, CB6 stated its desire to re-map this street. Since NYU Langone has completed its new laboratory building, we cannot see why the hospital would object. Another re-mapping request is 26th St east of First, at the site of the proposed DSNY Garage. The Sanitation Garage Working Group requested that DSNY re-map the street as it enhances oversight of adjoining parcels. Any further changes on the horizon to street mapping proposed by government or institutional actors, due to issues such as waterfront resiliency or otherwise, will continue to receive our board's highest scrutiny. Regarding the DSNY garage, the proposed rezoning would change the property from an R to M zone, which would constitute spot zoning. The property is located between Bellevue and the VA, an area designated as a medical corridor in CD6's 197-a plan. The community at-large asks that the ULURP process take objections into account. Due to local opposition and since it contradicts our 197-a, CB6 requests DSNY re-evaluate alternatives sites. As pertains to forthcoming, large-scale development issues, the upcoming restructuring of Mount Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center is being met with skepticism from CD6 residents.

As Mount Sinai plans to relocate services from the current site and dispose of real estate, questions remain as to potential development in its place. ULURP procedures, as alternative uses become apparent, especially those not in keeping with current zoning or use provisions, should be sensitive to community input. CB6 will make sure new construction will be of minimal impact while studying possible services and

infrastructure improvements the district may need as the area suffers the loss of this vital institution. A related concern is the proximity of Beth Israel to Stuyvesant Town, which contains additional development rights whose transfer parameters have yet to be defined. Any disposition of Stuyvesant Town air rights here or to other district sites should be subject to extensive public review.

Finally, CB6 is in the process of updating our database of privately-owned public spaces (POPS) in CD 6. This database will include the site's physical condition, amenities required, and general notes. As soon as this database is completed it will be posted publicly on our website, cbsix.org. We ask for additional oversight of our POPS and a for City Planning to partner with community boards on developing a better POPS framework, especially since CD6 ranks lowest in amount of open space in Manhattan.

### **Needs for Housing**

CD6 is confronting a housing crisis along with the rest of the city. We also show that CD6 did not benefit greatly from the New Market Place program under the prior administration, nor have we seen significant upticks in preservation or new affordable development under the current Housing New York plan. In order to support and retain our existing residents and promote economic diversity, CB6 calls on the city to commit funds to provide new or reclaimed low- and moderate-income housing within the district, with particular attention to senior citizens and other fixed-income households. Our community has demonstrated great compassion for the homeless and is aware of the enormous demands for service needed by this population. CD6 welcomed new developments within the district built or converted under the successful city-and-state joint program NY/NY III, which created 9000 supportive housing units for the mentally ill homeless and other target segments. We believe it is essential that successor programs learn from the positive lessons in interagency communication and community involvement in site selection (led in the city by DOHMH and HPD). We are encouraged by recent (but separate) city and state commitments to the construction of new supportive units. In 2015, the Mayor announced a 15,000-unit goal, while the Governor's proposal includes another 20,000 units statewide. We ask that funding be disbursed immediately so they can begin to sensibly address our persistent homelessness crisis. The case for this type of housing can be made financially, as shown in the attached report, which shows it saves taxpayers when compared to sheltering or institutionalization – \$40 per person per day in supportive housing vs. a staggering \$802 per day in the latter options.

CD6 supports additional housing for homeless families and notes that DHS announced a new shelter in CD6 in October 2020. HPD and DHS should consider allocating an increased portion of the city's affordable housing resources to this population throughout the City. We also would like to draw attention to our district's NYCHA developments. CB6 is aware that capital needs are an agency-wide problem, but Straus Houses requires upgrades that deal with immediate security concerns. Residents and management have alerted us to items such as new lobby doors that would prevent non-residents from entering the premises without permission. On an operations level, these developments need new refuse disposal facilities and policies, where curbside placement frequently occurs on the wrong days and times, leading to accumulation of garbage and attracting vermin and persons looking to rummage through. Recycling efforts should also be redoubled, and pest control should be further explored. We want to make sure CD6 NYCHA residents' needs are communicated through our office, which is why we also encourage the agency to expand and share informational resources so we can achieve this effectively.

### **Needs for Economic Development**

We are pleased that sources of highly skilled medical and research jobs and the economic stimulus they provide are in and near CD6. NYU Langone recently completed a 14-story laboratory building on East 30th St and First Ave and a new Children's Hospital at East 34th Street and First Ave. The Alexandria Center of Life Science, part of East River Science Park, has two operational buildings with a third on the way. It is devoted primarily to biotech facilities and contains 300,000 sq. ft. of lab and other R&D space. Funding for this project was a public/private arrangement including money from city and state entities, the city's business community, some federal funding, and the developer. We welcome the addition of the Cornell NYC Tech Campus on Roosevelt Island which, while located outside CD6, will have great impact. CB6 has advocated for a strategic plan to determine Bellevue's health care and land use needs prior to disposition of property. No such study has been conveyed to us. We continue to advocate for the renovation and re-purposing of the former Bellevue Psychiatric Building. In 2008, EDC issued an RFP for it, and several proposals were received; however, no selection was made. Our 197-a Plan explicitly calls

for scientific, medical, and institutional uses for this building. CB6 stands by the plan and continues to ask for renovation of the building. It has been considered for landmarking by the state and contains WPA-era murals in need of restoration.

CB6 remains diligent about our waterfront. We continue to work toward a continuous esplanade and bikeway along the East River. The former ConEd site pier, renamed Waterside Pier, has been restored and is in need of beautification and amenities. Earlier this year the Mayor pledged funding for an esplanade between East 53rd and East 61st Streets which will have a dramatic impact on our waterfront access and use. Our continuing participation in the Eastside Coastal Resiliency plan remains essential with construction beginning in late 2020. Continued incorporation of the East River Blueway Plan items into these resiliency projects are positive steps that we will keep lobbying for. We also are happy that the NYC Ferry stop at East 20th Street is active and serving the residents of CD 6. Much of the funding for our waterfront (and near-waterfront) priorities, however, had been reliant upon the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) involving the disposition of assets to the United Nations. The UN has not formally approved the MOU and is unlikely to move forward. Notwithstanding, CB6 seeks a proactive approach by EDC in ensuring alternative funding sources for some of these important projects so that they are not put off indefinitely nor solely dependent on agreements with non-city institutions. The Mayor's commitment to funding a partial stretch of East River waterfront from is a step in the right direction, but more will be needed to make our waterfront safe, accessible and useful.

Finally, DSNY with EDC proposed that a garage be built at the former Hunter College Brookdale Campus on East 25th St. While CB6 recognizes the principle of locating such facilities in or near the district being served, we have objected to this site as it contradicts our 197-a plan. We continue to support alternative plans as presented in a 2014 planning study independently commissioned by CB6 and encourage a re-evaluation of alternative sites that would be more suitable for this purpose.

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## Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

| Priority | Agency | Request   | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|----------|
| 1/25     | HPD    | <b>Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households</b>                 | <i>Over the past 15-20 years, a loss of: Mitchell-Lama, Section 8 housing, as well as rent-controlled and rent-regulated apartments, has caused areas in CD6 to become increasingly more income segregated. Statistics from ANHD indicate that almost 41% of renters in our district are rent burdened. In order to support and retain our existing population and promote economic diversity, we call upon the City to preserve and develop NEW low- and moderate-income housing in CD6.</i>   |          |
| 3/25     | HPD    | <b>Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless</b> | <i>CB6 asks that additional supportive housing be built in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6). During his 2019 State of the State address Governor Cuomo announced a new commitment to build or rehabilitate 20,000 supportive housing units statewide over the next fifteen years. As CD6 has only one supportive housing facility, Kenmore Hall, and especially given CD6's proximity to many public health facilities that support this population, CB6 asks that additional supportive housing units be built in CD6. In addition, CB6 asks that the City and State ensure that supportive housing providers be fully funded so that they can continue to operate their current facilities.</i> |          |
| 4/25     | HPD    | <b>Provide more housing for seniors</b>   | <i>There is little supportive housing dedicated to seniors in CD6. While some privately-funded accommodations are available, they are expensive and out of reach for most seniors. At-home services are available to a very limited extent but, some seniors require more assistance and on-site medical professionals. CB6 is currently reviewing potential sites for senior housing and asks the City to join us in filling this important need in our community.</i>   |          |

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| 5/25  | EDC   | <b>Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront</b> | <i>According to the Dept of City Planning (DCP), New York City boasts 520 miles of waterfront and as such our waterfront is a significant resource for our city. Our waterfront has for many years been a particular priority for CB6. Currently our community cannot access large segments of our waterfront because our waterfront esplanade has significant gaps. In a city where we all live in such close quarters and must sometimes comply with COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders, our outdoor spaces, especially our waterfronts, are all the more valuable. And for districts like ours, which DCP has confirmed has “the lowest amount of open space per capita of Manhattan community districts”, we feel this need most acutely. CB6 requests updated timelines for the esplanade and bikeway plans when possible.</i> | East River Esplanade E 14th Street E 59th Street |
| 7/25  | NYCHA | <b>Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades</b>         | <i>For many years, residents of Straus Houses have urged NYCHA to improve security. Most pressing is the need for new front and rear lobby doors incorporating layered access control. The lack of layered access and the general malfunctioning of the doors constitutes a significant safety and security concern for residents and management—for example, there were multiple fires set in the stairwells by non-residents in 2019. Given that neighboring 344 East 28th Street is undergoing a PACT conversion and thus will have its security needs paid for by the new management company, NYCHA should redirect security funding to Straus houses once the 344 PACT conversion occurs.</i>  |  |
| 22/25 | EDC   | <b>Build or expand affordable work or research lab spaces</b>         | <i>Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) hosts a premier medical corridor along First Ave that includes several major hospitals and the successful Alexandria Center for Life Science. This cluster of institutions, in addition to university and training facilities, make our district ideal for construction of additional, affordable research lab space and tech-related incubators. The rising cost in the traditional office corridors discourages greater expansion of these industries in New York. We welcome the added employment opportunities they bring, as well as the partnerships they can forge with our educational centers. We encourage exploration of city-owned sites for this purpose.</i>  | First Avenue E 23rd Street E 23rd Street         |



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| CS | EDC | <b>Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront</b> | <i>Solar One conducts numerous educational programs in the park using indigenous and exogenous varieties of plants as part of its instruction for responsible environmental practices. An irrigation system is essential for survival of the plants used throughout Stuyvesant Cove Park. We look forward to its completion now that funds are committed as part of resiliency efforts on the waterfront.</i> | 24-20 FDR Drive East Service Road |
|----|-----|---|---|-----------------------------------|

#### Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 14/21    | EDC    | <b>Reinvest in the graffiti free removal program for private sites</b> | <i>CB6 asks for the restoration of NYC's graffiti removal program and encourages its application to our district. Graffiti has suddenly become a major problem in Manhattan Community District 6 including in previously graffiti-free areas in Murray Hill and Kips Bay. The graffiti makes the business area unappealing at a time when we hope to encourage patronage of small businesses in the district. Similarly, a degraded quality of life in residential areas has been reported.</i> |          |

## TRANSPORTATION

### Manhattan Community Board 6

#### Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

##### **Accessibility (ADA related compliance and infrastructure enhancements)**

Of the six subway stations that have subway entrances in Community District 6, two (59th & Lexington Ave and 14th & 3rd Ave) remain ADA non-compliant. The heavily used 59th & Lexington Ave station was slated for accessibility improvements in the 2020-2024 Capital Plan. However, any such plans are on hold indefinitely for lack of funds in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. We hope that funds will become available sooner than expected and that the critical accessibility upgrades can be back on schedule. The City should provide funding to the MTA to make all subway stations in and near our district accessible by constructing elevators and accessible entrances to subway platforms.

#### Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

##### **Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure**

Traffic in CD6 is a major concern. We need a traffic study and action plan to understand how vehicular flow can improve. With major vehicular transit points like the 59th St Bridge, Queens Midtown Tunnel and FDR on/off ramps, plus sometimes all-day avenue and side street congestion, solutions need to be identified to allow better movement for private cars, buses, bikes and pedestrians alike. Major construction at the Queens Midtown Tunnel has abated but the problem of traffic backups and noise continue on major streets, side streets, and avenues that feed this vital artery. Work on the MTA's Park Avenue infrastructure may make matters on those same side streets worse. Congestion increases due to partial and full street closures by real estate development and construction, plus DOT or utility company street work. The need for studying traffic patterns and better coordination of work/permitting that might affect them is evident. As the board does not have resources to process a study alone, a DOT-directed action plan based on available and requested research would be most beneficial. CB6 had high hopes for Vision Zero. We were pleased with the initial efforts being made to install accessible crossing signals and curb cuts and continue to request them at problem-corners via DOT's portal. Traffic incidents occur throughout the district but some locations are of greater concern. The area around 34th St and FDR Dr Service Rd consistently ranks high in collision rates. Engineering to address traffic flow here is key. CB6 has also heard from residents about 23rd St and 2nd Ave, 23rd St and 3rd Ave, and the ever- problematic 57th to 58th Street section of 2nd Ave. To help address pedestrian-vehicle collisions, several measures can be studied. Dedicated left turn signals are necessary at several major intersections along our avenues.

Additionally, CB6 asks that DOT consider traffic calming measures, such as leading pedestrian intervals, speed bumps, all-red stop phases or other methods to improve safety for pedestrians along some avenue segments. Pedestrian-bicycle incidents are on the rise. There has been a noticeable increase in bike ridership. CB6 supports protected bike lanes, but infractions such as sidewalk riding, ignoring stop lights, and traveling against traffic are dangerous to not only pedestrians, but to cyclists and vehicular traffic as well. Enforcement is the easiest solution. Micro-mobility users not only deal with lanes shared by buses, vehicles, and double parking, but they have challenges with major gaps in the East River Greenway, which force cyclists into dangerous traffic conditions. Completion of protected bike lanes along the east side of CD6 is a critical component of DOT strategy. As for waterways, CB6 is happy that there is now an East River Ferry stop at East 20th Street. We look forward to the continued use of this maritime complement to our current, congested land-based transportation network. We note, however, that as ferry-related pedestrian and bicycle traffic increases along the FDR Service Road, so should monitoring of possible safety issues related to vehicular traffic flow.

##### **Needs for Transit Services**

CB6 notes its continuing support for a full-length Second Avenue Subway which would relieve the burden on the Lexington Line and provide much-needed relief to the congested bus system along First, Second and Third Avenues. Many on the East Side currently walk over one-half mile to a subway station. Phases 3 and 4 of the project are expected to benefit Manhattan CD6. We eagerly await the completion of this work and ask the city to block any efforts to further delay it. Consideration of simultaneous work on Phases 2-4 should be considered as funding and machinery is available. In light of capital demands on the



Metropolitan Transit Authority, we hope the city and the state will cooperate in funding shortfalls in the MTA's capital budget, with particular attention to the Second Avenue Subway line's completion. The economic benefits are apparent: it would secure New York its place as a competitive, world-class business environment, while its construction provides good-paying jobs for New Yorkers. A proposed Emergency Ventilation Plant (EVP) for the Lexington Avenue Subway Line was slated for the area under Park Avenue in the East 30s. As the MTA has delayed this action item pending review of possible alternatives to the original plan, we await a resolution that is considerate of the community in this project-intensive neighborhood. For this and any other project in the neighborhood we expect efforts to limit noise, potential street closures, pedestrian detours, and general traffic flow disruptions.

The board is pleased that requests to make the 146th Street L Train subway station ADA compliant has resulted in the construction of platform elevators at that station, and hopes that, along with vital upgrades to the line, the MTA will consider making L additional train stops compliant with ADA regulations. Additionally, CB6 hopes more bus lane improvements such as transit priority signals and bus lane cameras will increase efficiencies of bus lanes along First and Second Avenues to decrease clustering and improve travel times. Finally, we want to ensure the MTA and NYCTA remain vigilant in its oversight of maintenance at stations managed and constructed by private developers. The long-term upkeep of these stations requires continued supervision and their completion should be monitored for unreasonable delays.

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## Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 2/25     | NYCTA  | <b>Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.</b> | <i>Of the six subway stations that have subway entrances in Community District 6, two (59th &amp; Lexington Ave and 14th &amp; 3rd Ave) remain ADA non-compliant. The heavily used 59th &amp; Lexington Ave station was slated for accessibility improvements in the 2020-2024 Capital Plan. However, any such plans are on hold indefinitely for lack of funds in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. We hope that funds will become available sooner than expected and that the critical accessibility upgrades can be back on schedule.</i>   |          |
| 12/25    | NYCTA  | <b>Other transit infrastructure requests</b>   | <i>Numerous express buses that originate in the outer boroughs end their routes in or near Manhattan Community District 6. However, these buses have no suitable parking options and therefore park in our district's streets, taking away parking spaces from residents and blocking bus lanes. Residents frequently complain about express buses parking along 34th and 57th Streets, and in the 2nd Avenue bus lane. CB6 has passed resolutions in support of finding layover locations for these buses. A bus depot or other solution will remove obstructions from our bus lanes and increase parking availability.</i>  |          |
| 14/25    | DOT    | <b>Rehabilitate bridges</b>  | <i>Waterside Plaza has an existing pedestrian bridge at East 25th Street which should be modified to allow handicap access at its western end. The agency should also work with Waterside to make sure that resident concerns are addressed including the installation of safer surfaces that reduce problems in snow and rain, improved lighting and other safety issues. It is our understanding that the project is in the Ten-Year Plan. However, we are concerned that this project will continue to be deferred and want to express our interest in having the project be completed. When we are certain the project is securely in the plan, we will shift this item to Continued Support.</i> |          |

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| 15/25 | NYCTA | <b>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</b> | <i>The East Side of Manhattan is under-served by the transit system. The Lexington Avenue lines are grossly over-crowded; many Eastside residents and commuters walk over a half mile to already overly-congested trains. Phases 3 and 4 of the Second Avenue Subway are expected to benefit Manhattan Community District 6. We eagerly await the completion of this work and ask the City to not delay this work. We understand that federal money and other sources will be challenged for the near term. However, this is an essential infrastructure project that is needed to ensure the vitality of Midtown Manhattan as a business and residential community.</i>  |
| 16/25 | DOT   | <b>Install streetscape improvements</b>                                  | <i>It is our understanding that the City has not completed its ADA obligation to install pedestrian ramps and curb cuts at various locations within our District. We can work with the City to identify the areas of most significant need and recognize budget constraints on such projects, but there is a pressing need to provide street accessibility to all residents. In addition, drainage at curb cuts can be an issue that cannot be left to an arbitrary review and work timetable, Inspection at the time of significant rainfall or snow/ice thaw is essential in adapting the schedule to the actual need as soon as possible.</i>  |
| 21/25 | DOT   | <b>Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming</b>  | <i>We request automatic walkway counters at strategic locations throughout Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) that would collect counts for pedestrians and cyclists. This data is valuable for multi-modal planning in CD6 for pedestrians and cyclists, specifically for projects relating to the new Green Wave initiative and other system improvements in CD6. Ideal counters would be able to differentiate between cyclists and pedestrians and distinguish the direction of users. Data would then be made available to CB6 through regular reports. A permanent walkway counter would allow for the collection of data year-round, making it easier to understand total use and identify trends over time.</i> |

|    |     |  |   |  |
|----|-----|--|---|--|
| CS | DOT | <b>Upgrade or create new greenways</b> | <i>From 13th to 15th Street, the waterfront esplanade heads north of East River Park past the Con Edison pier. While this section has been reconstructed to allow a wider path for bikers and pedestrians, there is a section of the path that remains narrow and promotes collisions - known as the "pinch point." Using some existing FDR Dr infrastructure, the Blueway Plan outlines an elevated, safer pedestrian and biker bridge that also separates the public from the Con Ed facility. We understand that the design of a flyover bridge is continuing while the city is exploring different construction sequencing scenarios to minimize impacts to East River Park and the Greenway. The bridge is currently funded with \$56M in City capital funds and we advocate for the project's swift progress.</i> | East River Esplanade<br>East 13th Street East<br>13th Street |
|----|-----|--|---|--|

#### Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

| Priority | Agency | Request                                   | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|----------|
| 11/21    | DOT    | <b>Conduct traffic or parking studies</b> | <i>Noise is our district's #1 complaint. Aside from late-night noise from bars/restaurants, our district also sees increased complaints due to traffic congestion. Our roads are narrower due to bike/bus lanes and we have major approaches in our borders, such as the Queensboro Bridge and Queens Midtown Tunnel. We also host the 34th St Heliport and large construction projects. Finally, because of After-Hours Variances, there are complaints about late night construction noise. More inspectors would stay ahead of complaints with 24/7 monitoring, rather than the current after-the-fact on-site visits. Recognizing budget constraints which may continue into FY2022, we trust that at least staffing not be decreased in this area and that possibilities for additional noise monitoring are explored.</i> |          |

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17/21

DOT

**Other traffic  
improvement  
requests**

*For each of the past several years, well over 1,000 calls about street conditions have been made to 311 in Manhattan Community District 6. Given this fact, robust paving personnel is necessary to repair roads in poor condition as well as keep roads in good condition. Having more paving crews would also prevent lane closures, improve traffic in spots, and avoid damage to cars, trucks and city vehicles due to potholes and sinkholes.*

## **PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

### **Manhattan Community Board 6**

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

##### **Quality of parks and park facilities**

CB6 selects parks as an important capital priority because of limited open space in our district. In a borough-wide comparison, CD6 has the least amount of open space and outdoor recreation. CD 6 is also one of the densest districts in New York City, with 146.8k residents and 18 acres of park space. Compared to other districts, the ratio of parks to people is disproportionate, ranking open space as one of CB6's top capital and expense objectives. CB6 advocates for additional open space and improved park facilities that provide a visual relief in densely developed areas like CD 6.

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

##### **Needs for Parks**

##### Increase in CD 6's Youth Population

In CD6, 8.7 percent of the residents are under the age of eighteen and this number is only growing. Between the years of 2020 and 2030, the Department of City Planning (DCP) projects an 8.9 percent increase in children between the ages of 5 and 17. To support an increase in CD6's youth population, CB6 requests additional active open space and playgrounds.

##### CD 6's Privately Owned Public Spaces

With 16 parks, concentrated from 2nd Avenue to the East River, the district lacks adequate access to open space and recreation. In this subsection of Midtown, from Lexington to 2nd Avenue, there is, however, a concentration of small privately owned public spaces (POPS). Thus, preservation of our 77 POPS are vital due to our low park count in densely populated neighborhoods. We ask for the city's support in ensuring that they are compliant and accessible.

In 2008, CB6 began surveying the district's POPS. Currently, CB6 is updating the survey with new observations. This report will provide a guide to and a survey of the varying physical condition of many of these often-overlooked sites. CB6 recommends that POPS are not quantified as parkland, to ensure that there is an accurate count of acreage attributed to CD 6 for open space and active recreation. CB6 discerns POPS's importance but advocates for additional recreation and open space, outside of flood prone areas (between Lexington and 2nd Avenues).

##### CD 6's Flood Zone

Thirteen of CD 6's parks are in the 2050 floodplain: Sutton Place Park South, Peter Detmold, Robert Moses Playground, St. Vartan Park, Glick Park, Asser Levy Park, Peter's Field, Augustus St. Gaudens Playground, Stuyvesant Square Park, Con Edison Field, Captain Patrick J. Brown Walk, Stuy Cove (EDC), and Waterside Pier (EDC). During the East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) Project, Murphy Brothers Playground, Stuyvesant Cove Park, Asser Levy Playground and Captain Patrick J. Brown Walk will be remodeled and upgraded to include improved programming, landscapes, recreational fields, playgrounds, and/or amenities. It is estimated that these parks will be closed for 3.5 to 5 years. As part of the ESCR project, a flood barrier will be deployed to prevent flood inundation, still, CB 6 advocates for supplemental action. The interior of the Asser Levy Recreation Center requires infrastructural upgrades for functional improvement and to deter storm damage. In the event of a flood, additional capital upgrades that flood proof the recreation center could have monetary benefits. CB6 recommends that the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) conduct a cost benefit analysis on flood-proofing parks that are in the flood plain. CB6 advocates for resilient materials in parks, floodproofing, and waterfront zoning for buildings on our waterfront.

##### New Park for CD 6

Along with the ESCR project, CB6 advocates for additional park development in CD 6, particularly on our waterfront. In many stretches of CD 6, residents cannot access their waterfront. This is because the FDR obstructs the greenway. Many segments 'Under the Elevated' FDR highway are dark, unsafe, and unfit for community activity. These segments on the waterfront can be repurposed not just for enjoyment of the residents but to act as further mitigation for the ESCR project. One such space that comes to mind is the 34th Street parking lot, which obstructs pedestrian views, impacts pedestrian and bike safety, and connectivity. Waterfront open space has a proven track record of turning desolate spaces into networks of community exchange that foster economic growth; thus, a waterfront park has the potential to be a resource for CD 6 residents.

#### Tree Planting & Bioswales for CD 6

CB6 thanks DPR for their mitigation efforts through targeted tree planting and urban forest enhancements, which proposes 1,000 tree plantings in parks and streets, and 40 bioswales starting in fall of 2019. CB6 welcomes collaboration between the DPR and City Council Members to create these capital improvements. CB6 recommends that Partnerships For Parks expand its programming and gardening services throughout CD 6.

#### Irrigation Systems for CD 6's Parks

Irrigation in parks is used for water fountains, sprinkler systems, and tree watering. DPR says that watering your street tree or greenstreet is very important and is an extreme challenge for parks workers and residents. If more parks had irrigation systems, it would free up time for parks workers, residents, and would produce healthy trees. By irrigating parkland, you can improve quality of life, intercept stormwater, conserve energy, remove air pollutants, and reduce carbon dioxide. Out of CD 6's sixteen parks, Augustus St. Gaudens Playground, Bellevue South Park, and St. Vartan Park are the only three with sprinkler systems. Parks with sprinklers can be used as cooling stations on hot days in New York City. Out of CD 6's sixteen parks, Asser Levy and Stuyvesant Square Park are the only two with functioning fountains. Community Board 6 advocates for water in all of our parks, especially in the parks with dog runs like Robert Moses and Peter Detmold, to keep our animals hydrated.

#### Additional Parks Staff for CD 6

CB6 continues to stress the need for increased staffing at parks and recreation centers. Upkeep would improve with specialty staff such as a dedicated district gardener, city parks workers, and additional welders. As we address these maintenance issues, we seek better security from additional PEP officers and cameras for the southern command. The importance of access to public parks was amplified during the pandemic when individuals sought respite in the parks. In a time of reduced funds overall, it is essential that funding for PEP officers, professional gardeners, and parks clean up workers at least is not cut.

#### **Needs for Cultural Services**

In CD 6 we host two important museums with distinguished collections, eleven theaters, and eight music venues or schools. CB6 is always supportive of existing and enhanced supportive programs that allow these smaller theaters and lower-key museums to thrive, through direct grants or via funding to community organizations that utilize them. CB6 also acknowledges that schools and universities in our district, as well as long-standing art institutes, contribute to cultural creation. Additionally, public works of art are considered of benefit in CD 6, and we welcome the continued use of corporate or public plazas to host artistic installations that enhance the cultural program of the area. We also encourage a conversation to identify additional locations for public art in our district. CB 6 also encourages partnership with local Business Improvement Districts to support the implementation of cultural events, connecting residents to these experiences.

#### **Needs for Library Services**

In 2020, the City Council's Fiscal Executive Plan granted library systems a \$387.1 million subsidy, while in fiscal year 2019, library systems were granted \$387.7 million, which is a \$589,000 decrease in funding. CB6 supports capital and expense funding increases for libraries city-wide. In CD 6 we host three libraries: the Epiphany Library, Grand Central Library, and Kips Bay Library. In FY19, the Epiphany Library had 198,399 visits and 16,645 participating in programming; the Grand Central Library had 220,323 visits and



15,329 participating in programming; the Kips Bay Library had 136,350 visits and 10,469 participating in programming. This data shows that Epiphany Library and Grand Central Library both have a large audience for programming, and therefore, an increased budgetary need. Libraries have become a resource nationwide; in 2015, more than one-third of all libraries provide literacy training, GED preparation, STEAM, and afterschool programs. Programs like these can uplift New York City's youth, building a support net for a brighter future. Virtually all libraries, 98 percent, offer free public Wi-Fi access, which is a great resource for after school study and for remote employees. CB6 advocates for additional programming, educational resources, and electronic resources in all of CD 6's branches. Additionally, programs for subgroups like seniors are increasingly provided by libraries, and as requested of DFTA, we believe the library system should increase its services to older New Yorkers seeking social and educational stimulation. The period of Covid-related lockdown and period of limited access to city services showed us how valuable the branch libraries are in providing their lending library functions, computer access, and programming. It also pointed out the need for some redesign of the internal spaces of the branches so that they might remain open or open more quickly in another such emergency situation. We understand that our District branches have addressed many of the Covid related adjustments that needed to be made. However, we urge the NYPL to study the possibilities of multiple uses and alternative interior configurations to meet future needs. As far as budgetary impacts, we acknowledge the funding received in recent years and, should additional funds not be available, the current budget should at least be baselined.

### **Needs for Community Boards**

CB6 took a big step forward in 2018 with the acquisition and occupation of a new board office, satisfying a long- standing desperate need. Although the board itself is now sufficiently sited within this office for years to come, many of our community-based service institutions face problems in arranging usable facilities for their functions.

Additionally, common office/meeting spaces can serve functions as general community centers open to the public, centers for specialized programming, and polling places for BOE operations. We urge our officials to consider possible existing or new, permanent sites that can satisfy these outstanding needs, so that our district has a sufficient supply of welcoming community facilities for local groups and residents-at-large and in particular, spaces that could be called upon in times of emergency such as the pandemic and Superstorm Sandy.

Communications between some city agencies and the board need to be improved. Consultation on district capital projects is required by the NYC Charter but too often the board is often informed about decisions without appropriate notice. As a result, CB6 is unable to provide timely information to community-based organizations and loses resident feedback on some of our most important projects. While Open Data portals have improved, creating datasets remains difficult for the layperson – therefore, we miss out on potentially useful mapping and summaries of information on a host of issues. Thankfully, DCP has recently released a district portal with a good deal of information about the community's population, zoning issues and other information useful in analyzing the state of our neighborhoods. A more user-friendly experience to build our as-needed research capabilities on Open Data would still be helpful. Moreover, the continued breakdown of census and agency information by community district, spearheaded by DOITT and DCP, is essential. Finally, appropriate funding for the CB6 office is essential to provide the level of analysis and service our community should expect. Despite recent increases in funding, the increases are not baselined and are a bare minimum to keep the board office functioning on a basic level. Additional funds would allow us to hire more staff or fund studies and surveys that would help us better target hyperlocal services. We would also support any legislation mandating additional, specialized staff to assist board offices, such as community and/or urban planners. We recognize that the community boards, along with all other city agencies will have to review operations to reflect possible changes in the workplace. Remote work locations may require greater personal responsibility and individual expertise from employees which in turn would mean higher salaries. Other Than Personal Services budgets will need to reflect remote working as well. During this time of tight budget but major transitions, we urge that, at a minimum, previous community board budget increases be baselined and, to the extent possible, increased to reflect the greater expertise required by existing staff and specialized backgrounds or future hires.



## Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation  | Location                          |
|----------|--------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| 8/25     | DPR    | <b>Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <i>Our district has the least amount of parkland in the borough. While densely developed, our district has parcels of underutilized land that should be repurposed as park space. Apart from the 276,000 sq ft of privately-owned land that has sat vacant for many years in the middle of our district, at 34th Street, there are two prime waterfront spaces: one is an 11,000 sq ft City-owned property that is current used as a parking lot and the other is a 40,000 sq ft City-owned heliport that adversely impacts the quality of life of nearby residents and was the origin of the helicopter that crashed into a midtown office building on June 10, 2019, killing the pilot. There is an approximately 25,000 sq ft City-owned waterfront space at 30th Street that is only used intermittently as a party venue.</i> | 34th Street & the FDR             |
| 9/25     | DPR    | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>   | <i>On behalf of the Office Manager at Asser Levy Recreation Center, CB6 asks for substantial renovation and upgrades at the recreation center: replace, upgrade, and flood proof the center's windows; replace all ceiling tiles at the recreation center; repair indoor pool dehumidifier/HVAC system; add LED lights in the pool. In addition, CB6 requests that air conditioning is installed throughout the building and the men's locker room, woman's locker room, and handicapped restrooms should be remodeled to include new toilets, hand dryers, showers and sinks.</i>   | 392 Asser Levy Place              |
| 11/25    | DPR    | <b>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</b>                            | <i>CB6 requests a new comfort station at Murphy's Brother's Playground. There are only five comfort stations in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) parks and with greater use during the pandemic, the need for facilities including places to wash hands has increased. A comfort station at Murphy's Brother's Playground is anticipated, and the ESCR project work will take that into account; however, the design and construction of a comfort station is not part of the ESCR project scope and would need to be funded, designed, and constructed separately. CB6 urges the City to fund and design a comfort station for Murphy's Brother's Playground so that construction may begin as soon as possible.</i>  | Avenue C, Manhattan, New York, NY |

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| 13/25 | DPR  | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>   | <i>CB6 requests that the bluestone sidewalk at Ralph J. Bunche Park be reconstructed. The bluestone pavers have been deteriorating for years and are dangerous to pedestrians and those using walkers and wheelchairs. It poses ADA issues and potential liability issues for the City. We also note that this Park is opposite the south end of the UN property and is viewed by and used by visitors to the UN.</i>  |                      |
| 17/25 | DPR  | <b>Other capital budget request for DPR</b>          | <i>A video security system at Bellevue South Park would increase security for people using the park and help identify and deter criminal activity. Manhattan CB6 board office continues to receive notices from residents about problems at this site. Members of the board who reside at this location report that regularly they see inappropriate and vulgar behavior.</i>  | 315 East 26th Street |
| 18/25 | DPR  | <b>Other capital budget request for DPR</b>          | <i>Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Park and local residents request the installation of video camera(s) in the Garden Area of Dag Hammarskjold Park. District residents have reported criminal or offensive public behavior in the Park but PEP Officers and law enforcement are hindered by the need to actually observe the behavior when it occurs. Surveillance by video camera(s) would be a cost-effective means to identify incidents and deter future illegal activity.</i>  | 831 1st Avenue       |
| 19/25 | NYPL | <b>Provide more or better equipment to a library</b> | <i>CB6 requests additional electronic resources for libraries in our district (Kips Bay, Epiphany, and Grand Central branches). Pre-pandemic we saw library usage at record highs, primarily by those seeking to use computers for job searches, college applications, grant and benefits research, and other essential reasons. During the pandemic, not everyone, particularly children trying to do remote learning, had access to computers and internet. While branch libraries cannot solve all of the problems of accessibility, branches should be equipped with additional and upgraded computer stations and fiber optic cabling. Alternative electronic equipment such as newer servers, research platforms and tablets would also help connect all New Yorkers to better data and opportunities.</i> |                      |

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| 20/25 | DPR  | <b>Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <i>CB6 requests that the lights at Tudor City's entrance ramps at 42nd and 1st Avenue are repaired. For the past years, there has been a conversation about jurisdiction between the Department of Parks &amp; Recreation and Department of Transportation. CB6 asks that this discrepancy is resolved because at night the staircases are dangerous.</i>   | 328 East 42 Street, Manhattan, New York, NY |
| 24/25 | DPR  | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                                   | <i>We have been alerted that elevators at Recreation Center 54 need to be renovated and that locker rooms are in need of repair and updating. We are supportive of our recreation centers and among the repairs and renovations we would like to see any improvements that might allow faster re-opening of all or part of the facility if there is a future pandemic or required shut down.</i>  |   |
| 25/25 | DCAS | <b>Other capital budget request for DCAS</b>   | <i>CB6 requests a City-owned multi-use facility to accommodate local offices of resident facing City agencies, the community board office, and public meeting space for events of varying size. East midtown is lacking in city service facilities. We also lack places for community groups to meet, particularly with social distancing when that is necessary. Just a few years ago CB6 went through a 3 ½ year process to replace its office, as space was at premium prices and in high demand. A City owned solution would provide a reliable, affordable space. A city owned multi-use property could also be called into service for a citywide emergency such as the pandemic or Superstorm Sandy and ask DCAS to recognize these needs.</i> |   |
| CS    | DPR  | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                                   | <i>Restoration of function to the East River Esplanade Park (Glick Park) fountains by replacing the pumps for water circulation and the electrical systems would add considerably to the attractiveness and use of the park. We look forward to seeing design proposals and a fully funded commitment.</i>  | FDR Drive and East 36 Street                |
| CS    | DPR  | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                                   | <i>Restoration of function to the East River Esplanade Park (Glick Park) fountains by replacing the pumps for water circulation and the electrical systems would add considerably to the attractiveness and use of the park. We look forward to seeing design proposals and a fully funded commitment.</i>  | FDR Drive and E 36th Street                 |

|    |     |   |  |                                   |
|----|-----|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>  | <i>Repair Fountains in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. Most of the fountain equipment has been under water for more than a decade and is hopelessly corroded. This includes both plumbing and electrical wiring. The Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza takes a custodial interest and will do what it can, but the Plaza should be a world-class park and outstanding neighborhood amenity worthy of funding by the city. We look forward to this work's completion.</i> |                                   |
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <i>We believe the design work and majority of the physical work has been completed at Bellevue South Park as we and the nearby community requested. We maintain this item as continued support to ensure that the promised funding results in the promised deliverables.</i>   |                                   |
| CS | DPR | <b>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</b>                           | <i>It is our understanding that a dog run is included in the current ESCR plans for the area including Murphy's Brother's Playground. We will be monitoring to make sure this is the case.</i>   | Avenue C, Manhattan, New York, NY |

#### Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 3/21     | DPR    | <b>Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)</b> | <i>Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) officer presence reduces illegal or inappropriate behavior and increases the opportunity for peaceful and safe enjoyment of the parks by both children and adults. CB6 would like more frequent patrols in our district. Current levels of roving enforcement are not sufficient to address quality of life issues in our parks which appear to have ramped up during the pandemic; more fixed patrols are needed. In this vein, we support funding of 1 additional sergeant and 8 additional PEP officers for Manhattan South. If additional officers are not possible at this time, we urge that the current level of staffing continue and that the Department of Parks consider patrol routes to address changing needs.</i> |          |

|       |      |   |  |
|-------|------|---|--|
| 4/21  | DPR  | <b>Provide better park maintenance</b>                        | <i>CB6 continues to stress the need for increased staffing at parks, such as a dedicated district gardener, city parks workers, and additional welders. Current levels of maintenance and operations staff are not adequate to maintain our parks, and our landscaping suffers from lack of gardening and accessibility. Also, non-governmental funding (i.e. conservancies) is not available for any parks in Manhattan Community District 6. As a district lacking park space, maintaining what little we have is crucial. The pandemic has resulted in an increase in park usage and the maintenance of available space provides welcome locations for respite from isolation. While current staffing is insufficient, if budget constraints threaten current staffing we urge the City to not cut existing levels.</i> |
| 15/21 | DPR  | <b>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</b> | <i>To mitigate the loss of park space and active recreation space in Manhattan Community District 6 as a result of the ESCR project construction, CB6 requests that DPR do more outreach and alternative programming at locations with available space for active recreation activities.</i>   |
| 16/21 | NYPL | <b>Other expense budget request for NYPL</b>                  | <i>In previous years we have asked for additional electronic assets for libraries and staffing increases. The City did respond with some additional funding and the Branches in our district have told us they do not need an increase at this time even to make internal renovations for social distancing, However, the funding has not been baselined in the budget making reliance on future amounts precarious. We ask that the budget for NYPL and particularly for the branches in our district be baselined and then increased to address upgrades to resources when budgets allow.</i>  |

**Provide more  
community board  
staff**

*In Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020 all 59 Community Boards received a non-baselined \$42,500 increase to their OTPS budget. These increases should be baselined to ensure reliable funds that will allow Community Boards to hire new staff and retain current staff. With the changing nature of in-office vs remote work situations, we will need to assess budgetary impacts. Some employees may need to exercise greater independence and less supervision. Expenses for equipment, supplies, and the like may be affected. We therefore urge that at a minimum community board budgets are baseline to FY2020 levels.*

## **6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS**

### **Other Capital Requests**

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

### **Other Expense Requests**

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



## 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

### Capital Budget Requests

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 1/25     | HPD    | <b>Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households</b>                          | <i>Over the past 15-20 years, a loss of: Mitchell-Lama, Section 8 housing, as well as rent-controlled and rent-regulated apartments, has caused areas in CD6 to become increasingly more income segregated. Statistics from ANHD indicate that almost 41% of renters in our district are rent burdened. In order to support and retain our existing population and promote economic diversity, we call upon the City to preserve and develop NEW low- and moderate-income housing in CD6.</i>   |          |
| 2/25     | NYCTA  | <b>Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.</b> | <i>Of the six subway stations that have subway entrances in Community District 6, two (59th &amp; Lexington Ave and 14th &amp; 3rd Ave) remain ADA non-compliant. The heavily used 59th &amp; Lexington Ave station was slated for accessibility improvements in the 2020-2024 Capital Plan. However, any such plans are on hold indefinitely for lack of funds in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. We hope that funds will become available sooner than expected and that the critical accessibility upgrades can be back on schedule.</i>   |          |
| 3/25     | HPD    | <b>Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless</b>          | <i>CB6 asks that additional supportive housing be built in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6). During his 2019 State of the State address Governor Cuomo announced a new commitment to build or rehabilitate 20,000 supportive housing units statewide over the next fifteen years. As CD6 has only one supportive housing facility, Kenmore Hall, and especially given CD6's proximity to many public health facilities that support this population, CB6 asks that additional supportive housing units be built in CD6. In addition, CB6 asks that the City and State ensure that supportive housing providers be fully funded so that they can continue to operate their current facilities.</i> |          |

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| 4/25 | HPD | <b>Provide more housing for seniors</b>                               | <i>There is little supportive housing dedicated to seniors in CD6. While some privately-funded accommodations are available, they are expensive and out of reach for most seniors. At-home services are available to a very limited extent but, some seniors require more assistance and on-site medical professionals. CB6 is currently reviewing potential sites for senior housing and asks the City to join us in filling this important need in our community.</i>   |  |
| 5/25 | EDC | <b>Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront</b> | <i>According to the Dept of City Planning (DCP), New York City boasts 520 miles of waterfront and as such our waterfront is a significant resource for our city. Our waterfront has for many years been a particular priority for CB6. Currently our community cannot access large segments of our waterfront because our waterfront esplanade has significant gaps. In a city where we all live in such close quarters and must sometimes comply with COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders, our outdoor spaces, especially our waterfronts, are all the more valuable. And for districts like ours, which DCP has confirmed has “the lowest amount of open space per capita of Manhattan community districts”, we feel this need most acutely. CB6 requests updated timelines for the esplanade and bikeway plans when possible.</i> | East River Esplanade E 14th Street E 59th Street |
| 6/25 | DHS | <b>Other capital budget request for DHS</b>                           | <i>CB6 continues to receive complaints about homeless individuals urinating and defecating in parks, POPS, and the street. New Yorkers experiencing homelessness, including some sheltered individuals, do not relieve themselves in public as a choice; they are forced to do so as the City has failed to provide them with public restrooms and handwashing stations. We ask that the City construct new public restrooms in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6). One way to begin this might be to find suitable sites to place a few of the automatic public toilets purchased over a decade ago that currently sit in a DCAS warehouse waiting to be installed. We are making a parallel expense budget request to address the supervision of such facilities and research to find additional solutions.</i>               |  |

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| 7/25 | NYCHA | <b>Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades</b>                              | <p><i>For many years, residents of Straus Houses have urged NYCHA to improve security. Most pressing is the need for new front and rear lobby doors incorporating layered access control. The lack of layered access and the general malfunctioning of the doors constitutes a significant safety and security concern for residents and management—for example, there were multiple fires set in the stairwells by non-residents in 2019. Given that neighboring 344 East 28th Street is undergoing a PACT conversion and thus will have its security needs paid for by the new management company, NYCHA should redirect security funding to Straus houses once the 344 PACT conversion occurs.</i></p>   |                       |
| 8/25 | DPR   | <b>Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <p><i>Our district has the least amount of parkland in the borough. While densely developed, our district has parcels of underutilized land that should be repurposed as park space. Apart from the 276,000 sq ft of privately-owned land that has sat vacant for many years in the middle of our district, at 34th Street, there are two prime waterfront spaces: one is an 11,000 sq ft City-owned property that is current used as a parking lot and the other is a 40,000 sq ft City-owned heliport that adversely impacts the quality of life of nearby residents and was the origin of the helicopter that crashed into a midtown office building on June 10, 2019, killing the pilot. There is an approximately 25,000 sq ft City-owned waterfront space at 30th Street that is only used intermittently as a party venue.</i></p> | 34th Street & the FDR |
| 9/25 | DPR   | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>   | <p><i>On behalf of the Office Manager at Asser Levy Recreation Center, CB6 asks for substantial renovation and upgrades at the recreation center: replace, upgrade, and flood proof the center's windows; replace all ceiling tiles at the recreation center; repair indoor pool dehumidifier/HVAC system; add LED lights in the pool. In addition, CB6 requests that air conditioning is installed throughout the building and the men's locker room, woman's locker room, and handicapped restrooms should be remodeled to include new toilets, hand dryers, showers and sinks.</i></p>   | 392 Asser Levy Place  |

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| 10/25 | SCA   | <b>Provide technology upgrade</b>                               | <i>It is our understanding that PS 116 currently has no security system or not a sufficient security system, making it difficult for the school to keep track of what is going on throughout its building. At this time, it is not clear exactly what will be needed in light of other modifications to the physical plant to accommodate any health-required changes to the building interior and entrances/exits. We do know that installing a security system at PS 116 will be a major step towards ensuring the safety of kids at the school.</i>  | 210 East 33 Street,<br>Manhattan,<br>New York,<br>NY |
| 11/25 | DPR   | <b>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</b> | <i>CB6 requests a new comfort station at Murphy's Brother's Playground. There are only five comfort stations in Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) parks and with greater use during the pandemic, the need for facilities including places to wash hands has increased. A comfort station at Murphy's Brother's Playground is anticipated, and the ESCR project work will take that into account; however, the design and construction of a comfort station is not part of the ESCR project scope and would need to be funded, designed, and constructed separately. CB6 urges the City to fund and design a comfort station for Murphy's Brother's Playground so that construction may begin as soon as possible.</i> | Avenue C,<br>Manhattan,<br>New York,<br>NY           |
| 12/25 | NYCTA | <b>Other transit infrastructure requests</b>                    | <i>Numerous express buses that originate in the outer boroughs end their routes in or near Manhattan Community District 6. However, these buses have no suitable parking options and therefore park in our district's streets, taking away parking spaces from residents and blocking bus lanes. Residents frequently complain about express buses parking along 34th and 57th Streets, and in the 2nd Avenue bus lane. CB6 has passed resolutions in support of finding layover locations for these buses. A bus depot or other solution will remove obstructions from our bus lanes and increase parking availability.</i>  |  |

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| 13/25 | DPR   | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                       | <i>CB6 requests that the bluestone sidewalk at Ralph J. Bunche Park be reconstructed. The bluestone pavers have been deteriorating for years and are dangerous to pedestrians and those using walkers and wheelchairs. It poses ADA issues and potential liability issues for the City. We also note that this Park is opposite the south end of the UN property and is viewed by and used by visitors to the UN.</i>   |
| 14/25 | DOT   | <b>Rehabilitate bridges</b>  | <i>Waterside Plaza has an existing pedestrian bridge at East 25th Street which should be modified to allow handicap access at its western end. The agency should also work with Waterside to make sure that resident concerns are addressed including the installation of safer surfaces that reduce problems in snow and rain, improved lighting and other safety issues. It is our understanding that the project is in the Ten-Year Plan. However, we are concerned that this project will continue to be deferred and want to express our interest in having the project be completed. When we are certain the project is securely in the plan, we will shift this item to Continued Support.</i> |
| 15/25 | NYCTA | <b>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</b> | <i>The East Side of Manhattan is under-served by the transit system. The Lexington Avenue lines are grossly over-crowded; many Eastside residents and commuters walk over a half mile to already overly-congested trains. Phases 3 and 4 of the Second Avenue Subway are expected to benefit Manhattan Community District 6. We eagerly await the completion of this work and ask the City to not delay this work. We understand that federal money and other sources will be challenged for the near term. However, this is an essential infrastructure project that is needed to ensure the vitality of Midtown Manhattan as a business and residential community.</i>                              |

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| 16/25 | DOT  | <b>Install streetscape improvements</b>              | <i>It is our understanding that the City has not completed its ADA obligation to install pedestrian ramps and curb cuts at various locations within our District. We can work with the City to identify the areas of most significant need and recognize budget constraints on such projects, but there is a pressing need to provide street accessibility to all residents. In addition, drainage at curb cuts can be an issue that cannot be left to an arbitrary review and work timetable, Inspection at the time of significant rainfall or snow/ice thaw is essential in adapting the schedule to the actual need as soon as possible.</i>   |                      |
| 17/25 | DPR  | <b>Other capital budget request for DPR</b>          | <i>A video security system at Bellevue South Park would increase security for people using the park and help identify and deter criminal activity. Manhattan CB6 board office continues to receive notices from residents about problems at this site. Members of the board who reside at this location report that regularly they see inappropriate and vulgar behavior.</i>  | 315 East 26th Street |
| 18/25 | DPR  | <b>Other capital budget request for DPR</b>          | <i>Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Park and local residents request the installation of video camera(s) in the Garden Area of Dag Hammarskjold Park. District residents have reported criminal or offensive public behavior in the Park but PEP Officers and law enforcement are hindered by the need to actually observe the behavior when it occurs. Surveillance by video camera(s) would be a cost-effective means to identify incidents and deter future illegal activity.</i>  | 831 1st Avenue       |
| 19/25 | NYPL | <b>Provide more or better equipment to a library</b> | <i>CB6 requests additional electronic resources for libraries in our district (Kips Bay, Epiphany, and Grand Central branches). Pre-pandemic we saw library usage at record highs, primarily by those seeking to use computers for job searches, college applications, grant and benefits research, and other essential reasons. During the pandemic, not everyone, particularly children trying to do remote learning, had access to computers and internet. While branch libraries cannot solve all of the problems of accessibility, branches should be equipped with additional and upgraded computer stations and fiber optic cabling. Alternative electronic equipment such as newer servers, research platforms and tablets would also help connect all New Yorkers to better data and opportunities.</i> |                      |



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| 20/25 | DPR | <b>Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <i>CB6 requests that the lights at Tudor City's entrance ramps at 42nd and 1st Avenue are repaired. For the past years, there has been a conversation about jurisdiction between the Department of Parks &amp; Recreation and Department of Transportation. CB6 asks that this discrepancy is resolved because at night the staircases are dangerous.</i>   | 328 East 42 Street,<br>Manhattan,<br>New York,<br>NY |
| 21/25 | DOT | <b>Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming</b>              | <i>We request automatic walkway counters at strategic locations throughout Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) that would collect counts for pedestrians and cyclists. This data is valuable for multi-modal planning in CD6 for pedestrians and cyclists, specifically for projects relating to the new Green Wave initiative and other system improvements in CD6. Ideal counters would be able to differentiate between cyclists and pedestrians and distinguish the direction of users. Data would then be made available to CB6 through regular reports. A permanent walkway counter would allow for the collection of data year-round, making it easier to understand total use and identify trends over time.</i> |  |
| 22/25 | EDC | <b>Build or expand affordable work or research lab spaces</b>                        | <i>Manhattan Community District 6 (CD6) hosts a premier medical corridor along First Ave that includes several major hospitals and the successful Alexandria Center for Life Science. This cluster of institutions, in addition to university and training facilities, make our district ideal for construction of additional, affordable research lab space and tech-related incubators. The rising cost in the traditional office corridors discourages greater expansion of these industries in New York. We welcome the added employment opportunities they bring, as well as the partnerships they can forge with our educational centers. We encourage exploration of city-owned sites for this purpose.</i>        | First Avenue<br>E 23rd<br>Street E<br>23rd Street    |



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|-------|------|--|--|
| 23/25 | DFTA | <b>Renovate or upgrade a senior center</b>         | <i>CB6 understands the lack of fed &amp; state funds for a new senior center, but asks DFTA to aggressively advocate for such funds and seek city funds to ensure adequate services to our aging population. Manhattan Community District 6 only has Stein Senior Center and the Center at St. Peter's, a satellite location of Lenox Hill Houses. The pandemic has revealed the risks involved in vulnerable populations congregating, and yet social interaction is critical to healthy aging. We ask the City to establish new and renovate existing senior centers to allow safe programming. And if an additional dedicated physical location is not feasible now, we ask that DFTA enlist the use of other City owned facilities such as colleges &amp; schools for programming needs.</i> |
| 24/25 | DPR  | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b> | <i>We have been alerted that elevators at Recreation Center 54 need to be renovated and that locker rooms are in need of repair and updating. We are supportive of our recreation centers and among the repairs and renovations we would like to see any improvements that might allow faster re-opening of all or part of the facility if there is a future pandemic or required shut down.</i>   |
| 25/25 | DCAS | <b>Other capital budget request for DCAS</b>       | <i>CB6 requests a City-owned multi-use facility to accommodate local offices of resident facing City agencies, the community board office, and public meeting space for events of varying size. East midtown is lacking in city service facilities. We also lack places for community groups to meet, particularly with social distancing when that is necessary. Just a few years ago CB6 went through a 3 ½ year process to replace its office, as space was at premium prices and in high demand. A City owned solution would provide a reliable, affordable space. A city owned multi-use property could also be called into service for a citywide emergency such as the pandemic or Superstorm Sandy and ask DCAS to recognize these needs.</i>  |

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|----|-----|---|---|--|
| CS | DOT | <b>Upgrade or create new greenways</b>                                | <i>From 13th to 15th Street, the waterfront esplanade heads north of East River Park past the Con Edison pier. While this section has been reconstructed to allow a wider path for bikers and pedestrians, there is a section of the path that remains narrow and promotes collisions - known as the "pinch point." Using some existing FDR Dr infrastructure, the Blueway Plan outlines an elevated, safer pedestrian and biker bridge that also separates the public from the Con Ed facility. We understand that the design of a flyover bridge is continuing while the city is exploring different construction sequencing scenarios to minimize impacts to East River Park and the Greenway. The bridge is currently funded with \$56M in City capital funds and we advocate for the project's swift progress.</i> | East River Esplanade<br>East 13th Street East<br>13th Street |
| CS | EDC | <b>Invest in capital projects to improve access to the waterfront</b> | <i>Solar One conducts numerous educational programs in the park using indigenous and exogenous varieties of plants as part of its instruction for responsible environmental practices. An irrigation system is essential for survival of the plants used throughout Stuyvesant Cove Park. We look forward to its completion now that funds are committed as part of resiliency efforts on the waterfront.</i>   | 24-20 FDR Drive East<br>Service Road                         |
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                    | <i>Restoration of function to the East River Esplanade Park (Glick Park) fountains by replacing the pumps for water circulation and the electrical systems would add considerably to the attractiveness and use of the park. We look forward to seeing design proposals and a fully funded commitment.</i>  | FDR Drive and East 36 Street                                 |
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>                    | <i>Restoration of function to the East River Esplanade Park (Glick Park) fountains by replacing the pumps for water circulation and the electrical systems would add considerably to the attractiveness and use of the park. We look forward to seeing design proposals and a fully funded commitment.</i>  | FDR Drive and E 36th Street                                  |

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|----|-----|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>  | <i>Repair Fountains in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. Most of the fountain equipment has been under water for more than a decade and is hopelessly corroded. This includes both plumbing and electrical wiring. The Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza takes a custodial interest and will do what it can, but the Plaza should be a world-class park and outstanding neighborhood amenity worthy of funding by the city. We look forward to this work's completion.</i> |                                   |
| CS | DPR | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b> | <i>We believe the design work and majority of the physical work has been completed at Bellevue South Park as we and the nearby community requested. We maintain this item as continued support to ensure that the promised funding results in the promised deliverables.</i>   |                                   |
| CS | DPR | <b>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</b>                           | <i>It is our understanding that a dog run is included in the current ESCR plans for the area including Murphy's Brother's Playground. We will be monitoring to make sure this is the case.</i>   | Avenue C, Manhattan, New York, NY |

## Expense Budget Requests

| Priority | Agency | Request  | Explanation   | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 1/21     | DHS    | <b>Expand street outreach</b>  | <i>CB6 asks that the City fund the deployment of a dedicated street outreach team to serve the densest portion of our Public Health District, from 23rd Street to 34th Street and from Lexington Avenue to the East River. This request includes the Bellevue South Park area which has been the center of concern for some time.</i>   |          |
| 2/21     | DYCD   | <b>Other runaway and homeless youth requests</b>                                     | <i>According to the latest research by NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, one out of every eight children in New York City experiences homelessness before the fifth grade. The trauma of homelessness leaves many children unable to reach their full potential and in need of expanded support. In addition, elementary schools across the entire city are seeing rises in homeless students, including in Chinatown, Midtown West and Midtown East, with some schools experiencing rates of students in temporary housing as high as 27%. These schools include institutions in our neighboring Community Districts and significantly impact children in PS 116 in our district.</i>   |          |
| 3/21     | DPR    | <b>Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)</b> | <i>Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) officer presence reduces illegal or inappropriate behavior and increases the opportunity for peaceful and safe enjoyment of the parks by both children and adults. CB6 would like more frequent patrols in our district. Current levels of roving enforcement are not sufficient to address quality of life issues in our parks which appear to have ramped up during the pandemic; more fixed patrols are needed. In this vein, we support funding of 1 additional sergeant and 8 additional PEP officers for Manhattan South. If additional officers are not possible at this time, we urge that the current level of staffing continue and that the Department of Parks consider patrol routes to address changing needs.</i> |          |

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|------|------|---|--|
| 4/21 | DPR  | <b>Provide better park maintenance</b>                | <i>CB6 continues to stress the need for increased staffing at parks, such as a dedicated district gardener, city parks workers, and additional welders. Current levels of maintenance and operations staff are not adequate to maintain our parks, and our landscaping suffers from lack of gardening and accessibility. Also, non-governmental funding (i.e. conservancies) is not available for any parks in Manhattan Community District 6. As a district lacking park space, maintaining what little we have is crucial. The pandemic has resulted in an increase in park usage and the maintenance of available space provides welcome locations for respite from isolation. While current staffing is insufficient, if budget constraints threaten current staffing we urge the City to not cut existing levels.</i> |
| 5/21 | DFTA | <b>Enhance educational and recreational programs</b>  | <i>A new senior facility providing meals and services has been requested by CB6 for over a decade. While we continue to advocate for an additional center in our district, our aging population would benefit from an expansion of programming that can be housed in existing City facilities or in sites run by community organizations, and funded by DFTA and other agencies. Libraries or CBOs, for example, can host or provide exercise programs, fall prevention programming (i.e., Tai Chi), lifelong learning, and technology programming. The pandemic has shown us that creative thinking is needed to find new ways to provide supportive services and programming to relieve isolation and provide intellectual engagement.</i>   |
| 6/21 | NYPD | <b>Assign additional traffic enforcement officers</b> | <i>The Mayor has several policies and programs meant to improve traffic flow and traffic safety in New York City, such as more protected bicycle lanes, dedicated bus lanes, and Vision Zero. However, because of a lack of traffic enforcement in our district, those policies and programs are left compromised. Protected bicycle lanes are compromised because of drivers interfering with those lanes. Bus lanes are compromised because other vehicles park in those dedicated bus lanes. Vision Zero is compromised because of vehicles that travel in a dangerous manner, therefore compromising the safety and lives of pedestrians. Additional traffic enforcement officers will be helpful in the carrying out of these initiatives.</i>  |

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| 7/21  | ACS  | <b>Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth</b> | <i>CB6 requests that funding be enhanced for ACS preventative services that allow families to remain together which maintaining the welfare of the children in the home. We understand these programs are effective in preventing children from entering foster care and can include services such as family or individual counseling, parenting classes, substance abuse treatment, domestic violence intervention, home care, and support for pregnant and parenting teens, among others. However, this funding must be coupled with additional staff and better training for caseworkers to ensure children's safety.</i>       |
| 8/21  | DFTA | <b>Enhance home care services</b>   | <i>Allocate Additional Funding for Home Assistance Programs for the Elderly in Manhattan Community District 6. 18.3% of the population of the district is over age 65. CB6 requests a higher level of attention to its elderly population. Increased availability of home assistance may become particularly important after the cutbacks in services at senior centers throughout the area. This method of care is far less expensive than subsidized nursing home care, which is typically the alternative. Enhanced home care may also be required for individuals who are at high risk during a pandemic such as Covid-19.</i> |
| 9/21  | DHS  | <b>Other request for services for the homeless</b>  | <i>We ask that the City conduct research on how to provide restroom and shower facilities to individuals experiencing homelessness. At a recent panel discussion sponsored by CB6, advocates for the homeless explained that such services are provided in northern Manhattan by nonprofit organizations. Research would include identifying appropriate locations, operational success experienced by the organizations, level of security required, costs, and a number of other elements. We hope the research would lead to contracting with a provider.</i>   |
| 10/21 | DHS  | <b>Other facilities for the homeless requests</b>   | <i>CB6 is asking for funds to secure an additional five stabilization beds in or near Manhattan Community District 6, over and above what is available through the larger city contract. These beds would offer immediate respite for people who the homeless outreach team is working with while the team works for more permanent housing solutions.</i>   |



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| 11/21 | DOT  | <b>Conduct traffic or parking studies</b>                | <i>Noise is our district's #1 complaint. Aside from late-night noise from bars/restaurants, our district also sees increased complaints due to traffic congestion. Our roads are narrower due to bike/bus lanes and we have major approaches in our borders, such as the Queensboro Bridge and Queens Midtown Tunnel. We also host the 34th St Heliport and large construction projects. Finally, because of After-Hours Variances, there are complaints about late night construction noise. More inspectors would stay ahead of complaints with 24/7 monitoring, rather than the current after-the-fact on-site visits. Recognizing budget constraints which may continue into FY2022, we trust that at least staffing not be decreased in this area and that possibilities for additional noise monitoring are explored.</i> |
| 12/21 | DEP  | <b>Investigate noise complaints at specific location</b> | <i>Noise is our district's #1 complaint. Aside from late-night noise from bars/restaurants, our district also sees increased complaints due to traffic congestion. Our roads are narrower due to bike/bus lanes and we have major approaches in our borders, such as the Queensboro Bridge and Queens Midtown Tunnel. We also host the 34th St Heliport and large construction projects. Finally, because of After-Hours Variances, there are complaints about late night construction noise. More inspectors would stay ahead of complaints with 24/7 monitoring, rather than the current after-the-fact on-site visits. Recognizing budget constraints which may continue into FY2022, we trust that at least staffing not be decreased in this area and that possibilities for additional noise monitoring are explored.</i> |
| 13/21 | DSNY | <b>Provide more frequent litter basket collection</b>    | <i>While in recent years we had seen a fairly stable level of over-flowing waste baskets, since the pandemic we are experiencing a major uptick. Trash ends up in the street creating unsightly and unhygienic conditions.</i>  |



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| 14/21 | EDC  | <b>Reinvest in the graffiti free removal program for private sites</b> | <i>CB6 asks for the restoration of NYC's graffiti removal program and encourages its application to our district. Graffiti has suddenly become a major problem in Manhattan Community District 6 including in previously graffiti-free areas in Murray Hill and Kips Bay. The graffiti makes the business area unappealing at a time when we hope to encourage patronage of small businesses in the district. Similarly, a degraded quality of life in residential areas has been reported.</i>   |
| 15/21 | DPR  | <b>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</b>          | <i>To mitigate the loss of park space and active recreation space in Manhattan Community District 6 as a result of the ESCR project construction, CB6 requests that DPR do more outreach and alternative programming at locations with available space for active recreation activities.</i>  |
| 16/21 | NYPL | <b>Other expense budget request for NYPL</b>                           | <i>In previous years we have asked for additional electronic assets for libraries and staffing increases. The City did respond with some additional funding and the Branches in our district have told us they do not need an increase at this time even to make internal renovations for social distancing, However, the funding has not been baselined in the budget making reliance on future amounts precarious. We ask that the budget for NYPL and particularly for the branches in our district be baselined and then increased to address upgrades to resources when budgets allow.</i> |
| 17/21 | DOT  | <b>Other traffic improvement requests</b>                              | <i>For each of the past several years, well over 1,000 calls about street conditions have been made to 311 in Manhattan Community District 6. Given this fact, robust paving personnel is necessary to repair roads in poor condition as well as keep roads in good condition. Having more paving crews would also prevent lane closures, improve traffic in spots, and avoid damage to cars, trucks and city vehicles due to potholes and sinkholes.</i>   |

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| 18/21 | DFTA  | <b>Enhance programs for elder abuse victims</b> | <i>With an aging population comes a greater need for attention to crimes perpetrated that are particular to seniors. Combating elder abuse, whether physical (domestic) abuse or the financial kind is critical in a district that has 18.2% of its population over the age of 65 (and growing). CB6 asks for additional funds to be devoted to specialized programs developed by the Department for the Aging to identify and prevent these situations. Additionally, more data on the extent of elder abuse in our city would be helpful in identifying needs in the district and citywide.</i>           |
| 19/21 | DOHMH | <b>Promote vaccinations and immunizations</b>   | <i>As we write this, a vaccine for Covid-19 is not available. When it is, it is essential that rapid and complete deployment is made. We know that the recent measles outbreak in New York City occurred largely because of misunderstandings and misinformation about the measles vaccine. We need to ensure that misinformation does not hinder efforts to ensure that scourges like the pandemic can be contained and the outbreak of measles don't happen in the future.</i>  |
| 20/21 | HRA   | <b>Provide, expand, or enhance job training</b> | <i>CB6 would like to see enhanced funding for job training programs in existence or under development by HRA and its partners. These programs seek to increase clients' skills, readying them for employment and facilitating their exit from public assistance. These programs and associated training materials should be free or low-cost so as not to deter clients from participating. With the recent disruption to jobs due to the pandemic and the need to assist individuals who are either experiencing homelessness or seek an exit from public assistance, training is increasingly needed.</i> |

**Provide more  
community board  
staff**

*In Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020 all 59 Community Boards received a non-baselined \$42,500 increase to their OTPS budget. These increases should be baselined to ensure reliable funds that will allow Community Boards to hire new staff and retain current staff. With the changing nature of in-office vs remote work situations, we will need to assess budgetary impacts. Some employees may need to exercise greater independence and less supervision. Expenses for equipment, supplies, and the like may be affected. We therefore urge that at a minimum community board budgets are baseline to FY2020 levels.*