

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

Fiscal Year
2025

**Brooklyn
Community District
4**

November 2023



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) 2025. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from June to November, 2023.

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

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:
CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov

This report is broadly structured as follows:

1. Overarching Community District Needs

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

2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

3. Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY24 budget cycle; one list for capital and another for expense budget requests. For each budget request, community boards were able to provide a priority number, explanation, location, and supporters. OMB remains the definitive source on budget requests submitted to city agencies.

Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2025. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

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

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

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

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1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Address: 1420 Bushwick Avenue, 370

Phone: (718) 628-8400

Email:

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb4

Chair: Robert Camacho

District Manager: Celestina Leon

2. 2020 CENSUS DATA

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

New York City

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

Brooklyn

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

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

Brooklyn Community District 4

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

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

Statement on Data Accuracy

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

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

3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

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

- The current migrant crisis
- Frequent weather events and flooding
- The preexisting housing crisis
- The lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The ongoing pressures of gentrification
- A history of public and private disinvestment.

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

Forecasts for rain that previously warranted flooding prevention from the coastal areas of the city now impact inland commercial and residential corridors along Knickerbocker Avenue and Wilson Avenue. Businesses, small homeowners, and public housing tenants continue to be at-risk of storm damage and/or loss of building/services. Many New Yorkers remain at-risk of housing displacement as the cost-of-living increases and the real estate market becomes more competitive. Studies show that neighborhoods with a large immigrant and minority population, such as Bushwick were hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. Families and individuals were suddenly without work, relying on unemployment, or essential workers required to work in public-facing positions. Food insecurity spiked incentivizing new government programs and mutual aid groups to bridge the gap. The demand for food still remains as many households rely on food pantries to sustain themselves and their families.

The ongoing pressures of gentrification briefly lulled in 2020, as more renters were increasingly unable to pay rent, new construction was paused, and the pandemic deterred most from leaving their homes, and, at times, even required they shelter in place. As we reemerge, there are significant challenges ahead, especially for the most vulnerable. Despite the influx of new residents and increased economic activity in the neighborhood, barriers still exist for many Black, Brown, and working-class families and individuals in Bushwick. Agencies with priorities largely governed by the current Mayoral administration have an opportunity to elevate community goals and further build constructive relationships. However, many remain absent or have had a diminished presence since the half-decade community planning process stalled in early 2019.

Community Board 4 continues to encourage and support collaborative efforts among agencies government agency partners, organizations, and local stakeholders to address racial, economic, and social inequity in Bushwick. During summer and fall 2023, the board's office built on previous efforts to increase community engagement and participation with the statement of community district needs and budget request process. Those efforts included relaunching the annual district needs survey and organizing the second district needs town hall meeting. The results of both will be partially reflected in this statement as well as a separate report. We are grateful for the support of the community and look forward to improving these efforts in the years to come.

Robert Camacho, Chairperson

Celestina León, District Manager

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Brooklyn Community Board 4

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Affordable housing

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

Infrastructure resiliency

Forecasts for rain that previously warranted flooding prevention from the coastal areas of the city now significantly impact inland commercial and residential corridors along Knickerbocker Avenue and Wilson Avenue. Businesses,

small homeowners, and public housing tenants continue to be at-risk of storm damage and/or loss of building/services. Support for and enhancement of preexisting infrastructure impacted by storms is needed along with investment in new types of resiliency infrastructure to address more frequent street and building flooding conditions.

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

As previously referenced in the section on Affordability, in 2013, the board's Housing and Land Use Committee drafted a letter to local elected officials that resulted in the Bushwick Community Plan. The plan, a culmination of an unprecedentedly comprehensive and collaborative effort, was released in September 2018. Multiple rounds of community engagement were coordinated to simultaneously address the desire for neighborhood preservation and the creation of affordable housing along with other various community needs. The rezoning and the resulting recommendations were unfortunately stalled in early 2020 due to differing visions (see City Planning's The Bushwick Neighborhood Plan) for the neighborhood's future. The previous mayoral administration labeled the community's plan a downzoning shortly before the pandemic suddenly and swiftly shifted citywide priorities. The process, also unprecedented in terms of partnership between city agencies, local stakeholders, and residents, endeavored to create and implement a truly community-led plan that would modernize Bushwick's zoning and bring much needed public investments to the entire neighborhood. Aspects of the plan, specifically the rezoning of manufacturing sites for other uses, remain a source of contention along with the lack of restrictions and accountability in the ULURP process. The majority of Bushwick remains blanketed with the R6 zoning designation, allowing developers to construct buildings and other edifices as-of-right that are typically non-conforming in height and non-contextual to other buildings in the area. The rents in these buildings are typically priced at or above the market rate, even when the developer seeks government subsidies and incentives. Most of the new housing developed in the neighborhood is out of reach for longtime residents as rents continue to rebound from the pandemic and increase and/or unit composition fails to meet their household's needs. These pressures have spread to longtime and new commercial establishments that are gradually priced out of their locations. Commercial rents are often out of reach for small, independent business owners. Vacant storefronts are common, as property owners opt to wait for higher paying tenants. Additionally, the legal conversion of manufacturing spaces to commercial continues to change the neighborhood's landscape leading to new service challenges, as the properties were originally designed for manufacturing purposes. These challenges are compounded by an evolving culture that often adversely impacts the quality of life in the neighboring residential areas. In 2023, the Adams' administration via City Planning began the review and notification process for the City of Yes zoning text amendments for carbon neutrality, economic opportunity, and housing. The amendments propose sweeping citywide changes that will impact NYC's neighborhoods, like Bushwick, in a myriad of ways. The board's review of the Zoning for Economic Opportunity text amendment is slated for fall 2023 and the review of the Zoning for Housing opportunity text amendment will follow in 2024.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Access to healthy food and lifestyle programs

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

Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

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

Needs for Older NYs

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

Needs for Homeless

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

Needs for Low Income NYs

No comments

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

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

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/19	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	<i>The Bushwick Neighborhood Health Action Center formerly known as the Bushwick District Public Health Office remains a valuable asset with considerable reach and influence on the culture of health in Bushwick. To date, the center and the various programs appear to lack a clear and cohesive role in the community and would benefit from a comprehensive outreach plan, marketing, and opportunities for community engagement around the future of the site.</i>	
8/19	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat an increasing rodent population in Bushwick.</i>	
14/19	DHS	Expand street outreach	<i>Increase street outreach and support community partnerships at intersections that regularly draw a large homeless and/or at-risk populations, such as, but not limited to Maria Hernandez Park, the Myrtle-Broadway intersection, and the Myrtle-Knickerbocker Plaza.</i>	
18/19	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	<i>Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes</i>	

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Educational attainment

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

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

Community Board 4 continues to work with school leadership, learning centers, and community institutions, such as Community Education Council 32, that provide educational services and support, as well as, advocate for the needs of the community. We are appreciative of all efforts to invest in the renovation and upgrading of schools. Given the evolving educational atmosphere and technology, all students and youth in Bushwick need equitable access to quality learning equipment and materials necessary for them to build the skills they need to thrive in the modern world. The COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted inequity in Bushwick, as District 32 leadership adapted to a series of new normals and stepped up to support the school community during a time of great need.

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

No comments

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

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

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
17/19	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	<i>Additional programming for this population is required, especially for youth enrolled in public schools. Parents have limited options within the district and are often drawn to schools that offer a full day of learning and after school programming.</i>	

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Police-community relations

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

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

Community Board 4 continues to work with the 83rd Precinct, the Precinct Community and Clergy Councils, and residents to help address the safety needs of the neighborhood. Despite a historic decrease in crime citywide and within Bushwick, it is still a reality of city life. As the city continues to recover from the pandemic and respond to broader social issues, including law enforcement reform, it is critical that local communities are a part of the conversation. We look forward to advocating in partnership for the resources needed to address the most common public safety issues in the neighborhood, such as burglaries and grand larcenies, as well as, furthering racial and social justice advocacy efforts in partnership with the NYPD and Bushwick community at large.

Needs for Emergency Services

No comments

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/14	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Despite a historic decrease in neighborhood crime, statistics show increases in grand larcenies, burglaries, and gang activity in addition to a high volume of quality of life concerns. Additional Argus cameras would serve as a monitor and deterrent for areas with chronic safety issues. Locations requested: Knickerbocker/Hart Street, Knickerbocker/Stanhope Street, Knickerbocker/Stockholm Street, and Halsey Street/Wilson Avenue.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/19	NYPD	Hire additional uniformed officers	<i>Increase manpower at the 83rd Precinct and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.</i>	
6/19	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	<i>A staff increase in Fire Marshals will improve their ability to investigate and respond to fires, as well as, meet the growing need for inspections of new businesses; establishments that plan to serve liquor in particular.</i>	

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Brooklyn Community Board 4

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

Sewer capacity

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

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

See budget requests.

Needs for Sanitation Services

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

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
14/14	DEP	Inspect sanitary sewer on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed	<i>Extreme weather</i>	Wilson Avenue Myrtle Avenue Halsey Street

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
9/19	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system.</i>	
15/19	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	<i>Reinstate 5 day per week garbage collection at neighborhood institutions and community facilities, including, but not limited, to schools, early learn centers/pre-K programs, and senior citizen centers.</i>	
19/19	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	<i>The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and property owners.</i>	

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Brooklyn Community Board 4

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

Affordable housing creation

Truly affordable housing remains one of the greatest needs in Bushwick. Only a small number of buildings in the district are rent-stabilized and the tenants within those buildings are subject to aggressive harassment tactics as some landlords attempt to achieve vacancy decontrol. The current Area Median Income (AMI) far exceeds the average income of Bushwick households, which encompasses a range of extremely low- to moderate-income. The word affordable has become a trigger within the community, resulting often in the response, for whom? Unless developers take a community approach to their projects, their buildings often exclude low- and extremely low-income families and individuals. This has led to rampant displacement and an increase in homelessness. All types of households continue to pay over fifty percent of their income in rent. Additionally, there are fewer opportunities for affordable home ownership as the housing market is largely inaccessible to low- and middle- income New Yorkers and barriers and availability impact the accessibility of government-subsidized projects. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: - Land use and zoning - Housing support services for homeowners - Affordable housing preservation - Commercial district revitalization

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

Needs for Land Use

See Most Pressing Issues - Land Use Trends.

Needs for Housing

See budget requests.

Needs for Economic Development

See budget requests.

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/14	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	<i>Strongly encourage developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible, especially for projects on city-owned land. Currently, the majority of new rental apartments are not affordable for residents. This includes the majority of the housing that has been labelled affordable based on the Area Median Income (AMI). Many neighborhood residents continue to struggle in their search to find housing they can afford.</i>	
2/14	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Truly affordable housing for all remains a city-wide crisis however, seniors and other at-risk populations are among the most vulnerable. Given the long waiting lists and general shortage in senior and supportive housing, increased development and/or inclusion of these projects should be encouraged along with feedback from the Community Board.</i>	
9/14	EDC	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts	<i>The primary commercial corridors in Bushwick include Broadway, Myrtle, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. Given the high volume of traffic on these avenues, investment in the infrastructure will improve overall transit safety, the quality of life for all residents and visitors, and provide a solid foundation to support a vibrant and dynamic commercial sector.</i>	
CS	EDC	Other capital budget request for EDC	<i>EDC - Major commercial corridors, such as Broadway, Myrtle, and Wyckoff are in need of investment to revitalize and restore them to their optimal capacity. This should be accomplished through joint efforts between local merchants associations, general stakeholders, and the residents that are in most cases the primary consumers for the businesses. Improvements can include funding for signage, street furniture, and other design elements.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue

Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/19	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Hire code enforcement inspectors. Additional inspectors are needed to respond to a high volume of complaints within the district. Inspectors should be trained to recognize chronic building negligence.</i>	
5/19	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide funding for additional building inspectors to respond to code violations. A high volume of building construction and alterations occurs throughout the district in many cases illegally/without the proper permits. Additional inspectors will assist in addressing this issue.</i>	
12/19	EDC	Expand clean space initiatives for public sites and graffiti free removal program for private sites along commercial business corridors	<i>Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal. Currently, there are a limited amount of programs and supplies within the community that provide this service. Often this results in longer than average wait times to resolve the issue, which generally leads to worsening conditions.</i>	
16/19	SBS	Support merchant organizing	<i>Several years ago, joint efforts were taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. Further support and resources are critical to organizing capacity and sustainability.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue

TRANSPORTATION

Brooklyn Community Board 4

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

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

Initiatives, such as Vision Zero, have served as a conduit to address some of Bushwick's transit infrastructure and safety needs through much needed safety upgrades and the implementation of other strategic traffic calming measures, such as the Myrtle-Wyckoff pedestrian plaza. Additional studies are needed to address aging infrastructure, an increase in population density, and safety issues on the busiest corridors in the neighborhood, including Broadway, Bushwick Avenue, Knickerbocker Avenue, Myrtle Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. All corridors experience a high volume of mixed-use traffic (pedestrian, cyclist, vehicular, etc.). They remain in great need of additional investment, ranging from resurfacing to the implementation of traffic calming measures. During spring and summer 2021, Community Board 4 in partnership with New York City Land Use conducted a traffic safety study along Bushwick Avenue noting key intersections of concern along with recommendations for improvements. This project was possible with the support of Council Member Antonio Reynoso and Council Member Darma Diaz. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: - Pedestrian safety - Street lighting - Traffic congestion - Open space & street activation

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

See budget requests.

Needs for Transit Services

See budget requests.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Broadway was once the major commercial corridor drawing consumers from all over Brooklyn. In its current state, Broadway is far from the thriving strip of businesses it was in the past. Reconstructing Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Van Sinderen Avenue is the first step in investing in the economic future of the neighborhood. The roadbed of this heavily traveled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for an enhanced roadway, lighting, and other transit safety features.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Van Sinderen Avenue
6/14	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	<i>Lighting is needed throughout the district, especially under the NYCT MTA elevated structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.</i>	
8/14	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to include an elevator. The station has experienced an increase in commuter volume over the past several years and is the closest train station to Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Renovations are also needed to address flooding when it rains. The installation of an elevator would improve the overall function of this station and greatly benefit the surrounding communities that rely on the healthcare services in the area.</i>	

11/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Myrtle Avenue from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue is another major commercial corridor that directly links Queens to Brooklyn. The general traffic infrastructure and equipment is outdated and unreliable. The avenue is also notoriously difficult to traverse, given the overhead elevated M train line. The two-way bus traffic also contributes to the potential dangers of utilizing the corridor. Myrtle Avenue holds great potential to serve as a transportation conduit for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Prioritizing investment will better prepare the neighborhood for the future.</i>	Myrtle Avenue Broadway Broadway
12/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Wyckoff Avenue is one of the major commercial and transit corridors in the neighborhood. The high volume of all types of traffic, including delivery trucks and EMS vehicles, leads to rapid erosion of the streets and easily congests traffic. The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important and capital project for safety of the community. This avenue is also shared with our neighbors in Queens, which would ideally make capital investment more feasible, given the potential for partnership on the project.</i>	Wyckoff Avenue Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue
13/14	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the Wilson Avenue Station on the L Line to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train, cameras, and additional lighting. The partial renovation of this station has left residents in need of Canarsie bound service at a disadvantage.</i>	
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.</i>	Weirfield Street Wyckoff Avenue Wyckoff Avenue

Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
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13/19

DOT

**Other traffic
improvement
requests**

Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board 4 area experiences significant delays in response time to light malfunctions and requests for repair. The average wait has increased to 15 days, which can lead to further safety risks and issues.

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Brooklyn Community Board 4

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

Park care and maintenance

Our parks are centers of interaction with neighbors and nature. They are also conduits for a variety of activities and opportunities within the neighborhood for individuals and families. At the most basic level they help filter the air and surrounding environment. It is for those reasons and beyond, that it remains vital to prioritize their upkeep and necessary renovations. In the past several years, an increasing number of homeless individuals have sought shelter in local parks. There is visible drug use and paraphernalia on park benches, bushes, and play areas along with other general public safety issues. Limited park maintenance capacity and public safety issues remain common complaints. We are thankful for the partnership and support from the NYC Parks Brooklyn Borough Commissioner's office and the local park manager in addressing situations as they arise. The following round out the top five most important neighborhood issues: - Street tree and forestry services, including street tree maintenance - Park safety - Landmarks, monuments, sites of cultural significance - Community board resources* *Community Board operations and administration are significantly impacted by transitions within other offices and agencies that are charter-mandated to support the boards, as well as susceptible to the loss of institutional knowledge.

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

Needs for Parks

See budget requests.

Needs for Cultural Services

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

Needs for Library Services

See budget requests.

Needs for Community Boards

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

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/14	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>The comfort station at Maria Hernandez Park is in serious need of an upgrade. There are frequent complaints about the lack of regular maintenance, pooling, and broken restroom equipment from community members, especially during the summertime. Given the high volume of visitors and recreational opportunities in general, a renovated comfort station is needed to better accommodate the public.</i>	
5/14	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Upgrade and expand the children's play equipment to include a toddler playground area in Irving Square Park.</i>	
10/14	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Dekalb library is in need of an interior renovation, heating cooling, and other infrastructure/safety improvements, and a sustainability project for site drainage.</i>	790 Bushwick Avenue
CS	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Washington Irving library is in need of an interior renovation and elevator modernization to better accommodate patrons.</i>	360 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, NY

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/19	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	<i>Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provide a sense of security.</i>	
7/19	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The industry standard of pruning every 7 years does not accommodate the number of requests. Larger trees in particular are overgrown and potential public safety hazards as they obstruct street lights, interfere with utility lines, and grow toward neighboring properties.</i>	

10/19	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	<i>The larger parks in the neighborhood, such as Maria Hernandez Park and Irving Square Park have a high volume of visitors throughout the year, especially during the warmer weather months. Additional garbage collection is need to prevent the encouragement of illegal dumping and to keep the park entrances clear/clean.</i>
11/19	OMB	Provide more community board staff	<i>Increase the baseline budget to allow for additional part-time or a full-time hire to support the board and help manage the work load.</i>

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
1/14	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	<i>Strongly encourage developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible, especially for projects on city-owned land. Currently, the majority of new rental apartments are not affordable for residents. This includes the majority of the housing that has been labelled affordable based on the Area Median Income (AMI). Many neighborhood residents continue to struggle in their search to find housing they can afford.</i>	
2/14	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Truly affordable housing for all remains a city-wide crisis however, seniors and other at-risk populations are among the most vulnerable. Given the long waiting lists and general shortage in senior and supportive housing, increased development and/or inclusion of these projects should be encouraged along with with feedback from the Community Board.</i>	
3/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Broadway was once the major commercial corridor drawing consumers from all over Brooklyn. In its current state, Broadway is far from the thriving strip of businesses it was in the past. Reconstructing Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Van Sinderen Avenue is the first step in investing in the economic future of the neighborhood. The roadbed of this heavily traveled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for an enhanced roadway, lighting, and other transit safety features.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Van Sinderen Avenue

4/14	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>The comfort station at Maria Hernandez Park is in serious need of an upgrade. There are frequent complaints about the lack of regular maintenance, pooling, and broken restroom equipment from community members, especially during the summertime. Given the high volume of visitors and recreational opportunities in general, a renovated comfort station is needed to better accommodate the public.</i>
5/14	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Upgrade and expand the children's play equipment to include a toddler playground area in Irving Square Park.</i>
6/14	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	<i>Lighting is needed throughout the district, especially under the NYCT MTA elevated structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.</i>
7/14	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Despite a historic decrease in neighborhood crime, statistics show increases in grand larcenies, burglaries, and gang activity in addition to a high volume of quality of life concerns. Additional Argus cameras would serve as a monitor and deterrent for areas with chronic safety issues. Locations requested: Knickerbocker/Hart Street, Knickerbocker/Stanhope Street, Knickerbocker/Stockholm Street, and Halsey Street/Wilson Avenue.</i>
8/14	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to include an elevator. The station has experienced an increase in commuter volume over the past several years and is the closest train station to Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Renovations are also needed to address flooding when it rains. The installation of an elevator would improve the overall function of this station and greatly benefit the surrounding communities that rely on the healthcare services in the area.</i>

9/14	EDC	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts	<i>The primary commercial corridors in Bushwick include Broadway, Myrtle, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. Given the high volume of traffic on these avenues, investment in the infrastructure will improve overall transit safety, the quality of life for all residents and visitors, and provide a solid foundation to support a vibrant and dynamic commercial sector.</i>	
10/14	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Dekalb library is in need of an interior renovation, heating cooling, and other infrastructure/safety improvements, and a sustainability project for site drainage.</i>	790 Bushwick Avenue
11/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Myrtle Avenue from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue is another major commercial corridor that directly links Queens to Brooklyn. The general traffic infrastructure and equipment is outdated and unreliable. The avenue is also notoriously difficult to traverse, given the overhead elevated M train line. The two-way bus traffic also contributes to the potential dangers of utilizing the corridor. Myrtle Avenue holds great potential to serve as a transportation conduit for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Prioritizing investment will better prepare the neighborhood for the future.</i>	Myrtle Avenue Broadway Broadway
12/14	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Wyckoff Avenue is one of the major commercial and transit corridors in the neighborhood. The high volume of all types of traffic, including delivery trucks and EMS vehicles, leads to rapid erosion of the streets and easily congests traffic. The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important and capital project for safety of the community. This avenue is also shared with our neighbors in Queens, which would ideally make capital investment more feasible, given the potential for partnership on the project.</i>	Wyckoff Avenue Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue
13/14	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the Wilson Avenue Station on the L Line to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train, cameras, and additional lighting. The partial renovation of this station has left residents in need of Canarsie bound service at a disadvantage.</i>	

14/14	DEP	Inspect sanitary sewer on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed	<i>Extreme weather</i>	Wilson Avenue Myrtle Avenue Halsey Street
CS	EDC	Other capital budget request for EDC	<i>EDC - Major commercial corridors, such as Broadway, Myrtle, and Wyckoff are in need of investment to revitalize and restore them to their optimal capacity. This should be accomplished through joint efforts between local merchants associations, general stakeholders, and the residents that are in most cases the primary consumers for the businesses. Improvements can include funding for signage, street furniture, and other design elements.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.</i>	Weirfield Street Wyckoff Avenue Wyckoff Avenue
CS	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Washington Irving library is in need of an interior renovation and elevator modernization to better accommodate patrons.</i>	360 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, NY

Expense Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/19	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	<i>Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provide a sense of security.</i>	
2/19	NYPD	Hire additional uniformed officers	<i>Increase manpower at the 83rd Precinct and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.</i>	
3/19	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Hire code enforcement inspectors. Additional inspectors are needed to respond to a high volume of complaints within the district. Inspectors should be trained to recognize chronic building negligence.</i>	
4/19	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	<i>The Bushwick Neighborhood Health Action Center formerly known as the Bushwick District Public Health Office remains a valuable asset with considerable reach and influence on the culture of health in Bushwick. To date, the center and the various programs appear to lack a clear and cohesive role in the community and would benefit from a comprehensive outreach plan, marketing, and opportunities for community engagement around the future of the site.</i>	
5/19	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide funding for additional building inspectors to respond to code violations. A high volume of building construction and alterations occurs throughout the district in many cases illegally/without the proper permits. Additional inspectors will assist in addressing this issue.</i>	
6/19	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	<i>A staff increase in Fire Marshals will improve their ability to investigate and respond to fires, as well as, meet the growing need for inspections of new businesses; establishments that plan to serve liquor in particular.</i>	

7/19	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The industry standard of pruning every 7 years does not accommodate the number of requests. Larger trees in particular are overgrown and potential public safety hazards as they obstruct street lights, interfere with utility lines, and grow toward neighboring properties.</i>
8/19	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat an increasing rodent population in Bushwick.</i>
9/19	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system.</i>
10/19	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	<i>The larger parks in the neighborhood, such as Maria Hernandez Park and Irving Square Park have a high volume of visitors throughout the year, especially during the warmer weather months. Additional garbage collection is need to prevent the encouragement of illegal dumping and to keep the park entrances clear/clean.</i>
11/19	OMB	Provide more community board staff	<i>Increase the baseline budget to allow for additional part-time or a full-time hire to support the board and help manage the work load.</i>
12/19	EDC	Expand clean space initiatives for public sites and graffiti free removal program for private sites along commercial business corridors	<i>Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal. Currently, there are a limited amount of programs and supplies within the community that provide this service. Often this results in longer than average wait times to resolve the issue, which generally leads to worsening conditions.</i>
13/19	DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	<i>Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board 4 area experiences significant delays in response time to light malfunctions and requests for repair. The average wait has increased to 15 days, which can lead to further safety risks and issues.</i>

14/19	DHS	Expand street outreach	<i>Increase street outreach and support community partnerships at intersections that regularly draw a large homeless and/or at-risk populations, such as, but not limited to Maria Hernandez Park, the Myrtle-Broadway intersection, and the Myrtle-Knickerbocker Plaza.</i>	
15/19	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	<i>Reinstate 5 day per week garbage collection at neighborhood institutions and community facilities, including, but not limited, to schools, early learn centers/pre-K programs, and senior citizen centers.</i>	
16/19	SBS	Support merchant organizing	<i>Several years ago, joint efforts were taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. Further support and resources are critical to organizing capacity and sustainability.</i>	Broadway Flushing Avenue Flushing Avenue
17/19	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	<i>Additional programming for this population is required, especially for youth enrolled in public schools. Parents have limited options within the district and are often drawn to schools that offer a full day of learning and after school programming.</i>	
18/19	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	<i>Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes</i>	
19/19	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	<i>The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and property owners.</i>	

FY25 Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses – Capital

PRIORITY	PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01	01/17	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	<i>Strongly encourage developers to construct deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of the community, as well as, create one hundred percent affordable housing when feasible, especially for projects on city-owned land. Currently, the majority of new rental apartments are not affordable for residents. This includes the majority of the housing that has been labelled affordable based on the Area Median Income (AMI). Many neighborhood residents continue to struggle in their search to find housing they can afford.</i>	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.
02	02/17	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	<i>Truly affordable housing for all remains a city-wide crisis however, seniors and other at-risk populations are among the most vulnerable. Given the long waiting lists and general shortage in senior and supportive housing, increased development and/or inclusion of these projects should be encouraged along with with feedback from the Community Board.</i>	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.
03	03/17	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Broadway was once the major commercial corridor drawing consumers from all over Brooklyn. In its current state, Broadway is far from the thriving strip of businesses it was in the past. Reconstructing Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Van Sinderen Avenue is the first step in investing in the economic future of the neighborhood. The roadbed of this heavily traveled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for an enhanced roadway, lighting, and other transit safety features.</i>	Capital funding constraints, project capacity and City-wide priorities preclude this project at this time.
04	04/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>The comfort station at Maria Hernandez Park is in serious need of an upgrade. There are frequent complaints about the lack of regular maintenance, pooling, and broken restroom equipment from community members, especially during the summertime. Given the high volume of visitors and recreational opportunities in general, a renovated comfort station is needed to better accommodate the public.</i>	Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council member.
05	05/17	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Upgrade and expand the children's play equipment to include a toddler playground area in Irving Square Park.</i>	Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council member.
06	06/17	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	<i>Lighting is needed throughout the district, especially under the NYCT MTA elevated structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.</i>	This type of request should be entered into ARTS rather than the community budget process.

07	07/17	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	<i>Despite a historic decrease in neighborhood crime, statistics show increases in grand larcenies, burglaries, and gang activity in addition to a high volume of quality of life concerns. Additional Argus cameras would serve as a monitor and deterrent for areas with chronic safety issues. Locations requested: Knickerbocker/Hart Street, Knickerbocker/Stanhope Street, Knickerbocker/Stockholm Street, and Halsey Street/Wilson Avenue.</i>	Argus cameras are funded via allocations from elected officials for use within their districts. Specific location recommendations should be provided to the local precinct commander for submission to the Information Technology Bureau once funding is allocated. The NYPD will attempt to accommodate specific location requests whenever funding is provided, but reserves the right to place cameras as appropriate due to current crime trends and operational needs.
08	08/17	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to include an elevator. The station has experienced an increase in commuter volume over the past several years and is the closest train station to Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Renovations are also needed to address flooding when it rains. The installation of an elevator would improve the overall function of this station and greatly benefit the surrounding communities that rely on the healthcare services in the area.</i>	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
09	09/17	EDC	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts	<i>The primary commercial corridors in Bushwick include Broadway, Myrtle, Knickerbocker Avenue, and Wyckoff Avenue. Given the high volume of traffic on these avenues, investment in the infrastructure will improve overall transit safety, the quality of life for all residents and visitors, and provide a solid foundation to support a vibrant and dynamic commercial sector.</i>	Inquiry needs to be directed elsewhere
10	10/17	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Dekalb library is in need of an interior renovation, heating cooling, and other infrastructure/safety improvements, and a sustainability project for site drainage.</i>	This BPL capital project is currently unfunded or not fully funded. BPL supports the City funding this need.
11	11/17	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Myrtle Avenue from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue is another major commercial corridor that directly links Queens to Brooklyn. The general traffic infrastructure and equipment is outdated and unreliable. The avenue is also notoriously difficult to traverse, given the overhead elevated M train line. The two-way bus traffic also contributes to the potential dangers of utilizing the corridor. Myrtle Avenue holds great potential to serve as a transportation conduit for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Prioritizing investment will better prepare the neighborhood for the future.</i>	DOT has requested funding for this project.

12	12/17	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Wyckoff Avenue is one of the major commercial and transit corridors in the neighborhood. The high volume of all types of traffic, including delivery trucks and EMS vehicles, leads to rapid erosion of the streets and easily congests traffic. The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important and capital project for safety of the community. This avenue is also shared with our neighbors in Queens, which would ideally make capital investment more feasible, given the potential for partnership on the project.</i>	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
13	13/17	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	<i>Renovate the Wilson Avenue Station on the L Line to include ADA compliance on the Canarsie bound train, cameras, and additional lighting. The partial renovation of this station has left residents in need of Canarsie bound service at a disadvantage.</i>	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
14	14/17	DEP	Inspect sanitary sewer on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed	<i>Extreme weather</i>	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
CS	CS/17	EDC	Other capital budget request for EDC	<i>EDC - Major commercial corridors, such as Broadway, Myrtle, and Wyckoff are in need of investment to revitalize and restore them to their optimal capacity. This should be accomplished through joint efforts between local merchants associations, general stakeholders, and the residents that are in most cases the primary consumers for the businesses. Improvements can include funding for signage, street furniture, and other design elements.</i>	Inquiry needs to be directed elsewhere
CS	CS/17	DOT	Reconstruct streets	<i>Complete the repair of the following roadbeds on the HWK876 project: Weirfield Street between Wyckoff & Irving Avenues.</i>	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
CS	CS/17	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	<i>The Washington Irving library is in need of an interior renovation and elevator modernization to better accommodate patrons.</i>	This BPL capital project is currently unfunded or not fully funded. BPL supports the City funding this need.

FY25 Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses – Expense

PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01/19	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	<i>Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provide a sense of security.</i>	The Parks Department would support this request for personnel.
02/19	NYPD	Hire additional uniformed officers	<i>Increase manpower at the 83rd Precinct and Transit District 33. Additional patrols and manpower from the Academy are needed in Bushwick.</i>	NYPD's total uniformed staffing levels depend on decisions made in the Preliminary and Executive Budget process. Allocation of uniformed personnel is scheduled by the agency only after graduation of police classes from the Academy.
03/19	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	<i>Hire code enforcement inspectors. Additional inspectors are needed to respond to a high volume of complaints within the district. Inspectors should be trained to recognize chronic building negligence.</i>	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
04/19	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	<i>The Bushwick Neighborhood Health Action Center formerly known as the Bushwick District Public Health Office remains a valuable asset with considerable reach and influence on the culture of health in Bushwick. To date, the center and the various programs appear to lack a clear and cohesive role in the community and would benefit from a comprehensive outreach plan, marketing, and opportunities for community engagement around the future of the site.</i>	More information is needed from the community board before making a funding decision. The community board should contact the agency.
05/19	DOB	Expand code enforcement	<i>Provide funding for additional building inspectors to respond to code violations. A high volume of building construction and alterations occurs throughout the district in many cases illegally/without the proper permits. Additional inspectors will assist in addressing this issue.</i>	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
06/19	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	<i>A staff increase in Fire Marshals will improve their ability to investigate and respond to fires, as well as, meet the growing need for inspections of new businesses; establishments that plan to serve liquor in particular.</i>	In the Preliminary Budget, Citywide personnel/program/ equipment funds are maintained in FY 2024. Allocations are scheduled by the agency only after budget adoption.
07/19	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Expand Contracts for TreePruning. The industry standard of pruning every 7 years does not accommodate the number of requests. Larger trees in particular are overgrown and potential public safety hazards as they obstruct street lights, interfere with utility lines, and grow toward neighboring properties.</i>	Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council member.

08/19	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	<i>Enhance outreach and conduct public education workshops in partnership with the Department of Health for neighborhood residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to combat an increasing rodent population in Bushwick.</i>	DOHMH continues to conduct Rat Academy Trainings both virtually and in person. Our Pest Control team also attends events throughout the city to provide information to residents about how to prevent rats on their property. Feel free to contact us to attend a community event and share resources and/or to co-sponsor a Rat Academy training. You can also visit our website for a listing of upcoming virtual trainings.
09/19	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Hire additional personnel for the repair and maintenance of catch basins and rain gardens. The increase in neighborhood population and construction has burdened the current sewer system.</i>	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
10/19	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	<i>The larger parks in the neighborhood, such as Maria Hernandez Park and Irving Square Park have a high volume of visitors throughout the year, especially during the warmer weather months. Additional garbage collection is needed to prevent the encouragement of illegal dumping and to keep the park entrances clear/clean.</i>	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
11/19	OMB	Provide more community board staff	<i>Increase the baseline budget to allow for additional part-time or a full-time hire to support the board and help manage the work load.</i>	As of the FY 2025 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is being maintained.
12/19	EDC	Expand clean space initiatives for public sites and graffiti free removal program for private sites along commercial business corridors	<i>Expand the graffiti removal program to improve the response time to requests for removal. Currently, there are a limited amount of programs and supplies within the community that provide this service. Often this results in longer than average wait times to resolve the issue, which generally leads to worsening conditions.</i>	Inquiry needs to be directed elsewhere
13/19	DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	<i>Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board 4 area experiences significant delays in response time to light malfunctions and requests for repair. The average wait has increased to 15 days, which can lead to further safety risks and issues.</i>	This type of request should be entered into ARTS rather than the community budget process.
14/19	DHS	Expand street outreach	<i>Increase street outreach and support community partnerships at intersections that regularly draw a large homeless and/or at-risk populations, such as, but not limited to Maria Hernandez Park, the Myrtle-Broadway intersection, and the Myrtle-Knickerbocker Plaza.</i>	Street outreach services are available 24/7, 365 days a year. By calling 311 or using the 311 app when a homeless individual appears to be in need of assistance, any New Yorker can dispatch an outreach team to that person and help them move indoors. Funding for street outreach has more than doubled in recent years.
15/19	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	<i>Reinstate 5 day per week garbage collection at neighborhood institutions and community facilities, including, but not limited to, schools, early learn centers/pre-K programs, and senior citizen centers.</i>	NYC public schools receive a high-level of additional DSNY service. It is the school's responsibility to properly store and manage their waste between the frequent collection service.

16/19	SBS	Support merchant organizing	<i>Several years ago, joint efforts were taken to organize the merchants along the Broadway corridor. Further support and resources are critical to organizing capacity and sustainability.</i>	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.
17/19	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	<i>Additional programming for this population is required, especially for youth enrolled in public schools. Parents have limited options within the district and are often drawn to schools that offer a full day of learning and after school programming.</i>	Presently, there are a variety of agency-funded programs in the district for this target population. Additional programs are contingent upon available funding and will be distributed through an RFP process. Organizations are encouraged to apply.
18/19	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	<i>Implement and enhance diverse educational and recreational programming for seniors including the arts, technology, and inter-generational themes</i>	Approval of this request depends on sufficient Federal/State funds.
19/19	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	<i>The "Clean Up After Dog" Law needs additional strategic enforcement via working with local stakeholders, residents, and property owners.</i>	Although the Department of Sanitation supports this program, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.