

# CB6

BROOKLYN  
COMMUNITY BOARD 6

**Eric McClure**  
Chairperson  
**Mike Racioppo**  
District Manager

# FY2026 STATEMENT OF DISTRICT NEEDS

CB6 Budget Committee

**Dillon Shen-Cruz**

**Laura Osorio**

**Scott Middleton**

**Rebecca Kobert- CB6 Land Use**



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COMMUNITY BOARD 6

Eric McClure- Chair Mike Racioppo - District Manager

# FY 2026 STATEMENT OF NEEDS

November 14, 2024

Daniel Garodnick, Chair  
Department of City Planning  
120 Broadway, 31st Floor  
New York, New York 10271

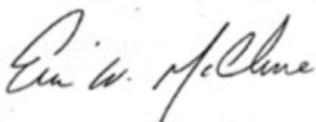
Dear Chairperson Garodnick:

Budgets are moral documents. Politics is who gets what, when, and how. These two statements combine to illustrate what governments care about most. New York City's budget for Fiscal Year 2026 and our (Brooklyn Community Board 6) recommendations, priorities, and role in the process through our Statement of Needs is no exception.

In the most simplified sense, **our priorities are additional housing, climate resilience, transportation, and increased access to social services**. In the following pages, you'll find more detailed information about these, **thanks to the great work of our budget committee led by Dillon Shen-Cruz, Laura Osorio, Scott Middleton, and Rebecca Kobert**.

We, Brooklyn Community Board 6, unanimously voted to approve our FY2026 Statement of District Needs at our November 2024 Full Board Meeting.

Sincerely,



Eric McClure  
Chairperson



Mike Racioppo  
District Manager<sup>2</sup>

# INTRODUCTION

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

## HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report represents the Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from June to November, 2024.

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

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:  
[CDNEEDS\\_DL@planning.nyc.gov](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 FY24 budget cycle; one list for capital and another for expense budget requests. For each budget request, community boards were able to provide a priority number, explanation, location, and supporters. OMB remains the definitive source on budget requests submitted to city agencies.

## Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2026. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

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

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

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

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## 1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Address: 250 Baltic Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Phone: 7186433027

Email: info@bkcb6.org

Website: <https://brooklyncb6.cityofnewyork.us/>

Chair: Eric McClure  
District Manager: Michael Racioppo

## 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	Point
<b>AGE</b>							
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
<b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b>							
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
<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>							
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	Point
<b>AGE</b>							
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
<b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b>							
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
<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>							
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 6

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Point
<b>AGE</b>							
Total population	104,709	100.00	113,933	100.00	9,224	8.8	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	19,181	18.3	23,278	20.4	4,097	21.4	2.1
<b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b>							
Total population	104,709	100.0	113,933	100.0	9,224	8.8	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	19,042	18.2	18,136	15.9	-906	-4.8	-2.3
White non-Hispanic	65,691	62.7	69,749	61.2	4,058	6.2	-1.5
Black non-Hispanic	10,967	10.5	10,285	9.0	-682	-6.2	-1.5
Asian non-Hispanic	5,533	5.3	8,372	7.3	2,839	51.3	2.0
Some other race, non-Hispanic	590	0.6	967	0.8	377	63.9	0.2
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	2,886	2.8	6,424	5.6	3,538	122.6	2.8
<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>							
Total housing units	50,268	100.0	53,365	100.0	3,097	6.2	0.0
Occupied housing units	47,188	93.9	49,623	93.0	2,435	5.2	-0.9
Vacant housing units	3,080	6.1	3,742	7.0	662	21.5	0.9

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

Brooklyn CB6 represents the neighborhoods of Carroll Gardens/South Brooklyn, Cobble Hill, Columbia Waterfront, Gowanus, Park Slope, and Red Hook -- from the Buttermilk Channel to Prospect Park. From 2010 to 2020, the population has increased by 9% (104,709 according to the 2010 Census figure; 113,933 in 2020 according to the New York City Population FactFinder, and even higher by some estimates). The district is one of the wealthiest, healthiest, and most educated community districts in New York City. Each of our neighborhoods possesses distinctive characteristics; collectively, they reflect our City's vibrant diversity. There are many strengths and assets across the district, including deeply engaged community members, exceptional community-based organizations, excellent (albeit inequitable) schools, physical assets such as the waterfront and parks, landmark districts, and robust economic activity, including essential industrial businesses. However, the data that the City relies on for budget allocations mask disparities across different sections of the community. This is most apparent based on comparisons of census tracts and neighborhoods: Additionally, we must continue to emphasize the issues underlying the City's commitments to specific aspects of the Gowanus rezoning, outlined in the Community Board's conditions for approval, as well as demands from many community organizations, elected officials, and Mayor Eric Adams. There are many specific requirements stated in our Gowanus Zoning Resolution approved on June 23, 2021, that we needn't present here because they were already explicitly conveyed through the DEIS Comments process and the 56-point Points of Agreement, which included requirements for neighborhood investments in housing, infrastructure, public space, community amenities, and workforce and business support programs to improve the quality of life for current and future residents. The document included conditions related to Accountability, Implementation, and Community Participation Public Housing Affordable Housing & Tenant Support Small Business & Workforce Industrial Business Zone Open Space & Waterfront Access Plan Sustainability & Resiliency Transportation & Streets Community Facilities We demand that City agencies and elected officials use that as a guide for investment and focus on affected communities. Although the agreements did not include Red Hook, the community has many of the same challenges, and the points in the agreement can be a guide for investments in Red Hook.

## 4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

### Brooklyn Community Board 6

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

#### **Affordable Housing**

Market forces such as high rental rates, which particularly impact seniors on fixed incomes among others, often lead to displacement from our communities. We need to not only plan to keep our community at home, but we need to ensure that the support networks are in place to allow them to prosper in their home neighborhoods. This also means that regardless of the rezoning of Gowanus, NYCHA properties in both Gowanus and Red Hook are improved and maintained not just in this fiscal year but in perpetuity.

#### **Economic recovery and development**

Businesses need support to be viable, and residents need economic opportunities. Empty storefronts plague our community. We would like to see additional time and energy spent on coming up with a solution that will enable our commercial strips and neighborhood-serving businesses to be viable. This also means that the City must focus on businesses in the IBZ - not only in Gowanus (in the context of rezoning), but also in the Red Hook IBZ and waterfront businesses. The complementary aspect is employment services so that residents --particularly youth and unemployed residents of the NYCHA developments in Red Hook and Gowanus - can have employment pathways. This is particularly critical now because of unemployment and pressures related to COVID. The youth in NYCHA developments need opportunities for training, placement, internships, and summer employment. NYCHA Red Hook residents are also far from the Workforce 1 site in downtown Brooklyn, necessitating more localized services in Red Hook storefronts plague our community. We would like to see additional time and energy spent on coming up with a solution that will enable our commercial strips and neighborhood-serving businesses to be viable. This also means that the City must focus on businesses in the IBZ - not only in Gowanus (in the context of rezoning) but also in the Red Hook IBZ and waterfront businesses. The complementary aspect is employment services so that residents - particularly youth and unemployed residents of the NYCHA developments in Red Hook and Gowanus - can have employment pathways. This is particularly critical now because of unemployment and pressures related to COVID. The youth in NYCHA developments need opportunities for training, placement, internships, and summer employment. NYCHA Red Hook residents are also far from the Workforce 1 site in downtown Brooklyn, necessitating more localized services in Red Hook

#### **Infrastructure resiliency**

Investing in sustainable infrastructure is critical to make our communities less vulnerable to climate risk and environmental hazards. Flooding, sewage overflow, and power outages are all becoming more frequent due to a lack of coastal hardening, inadequate stormwater management, and surging electricity demand. Two of the neighborhoods that make up our district are susceptible to extreme weather. Red Hook and Gowanus are within flood zones, and we urge the city to determine a means to protect our citizenry, businesses, and industrial community. Park Slope has an especially high-peaking electrical load that burdens the grid in a district where brownouts and blackouts are already rising. To protect our community's most critical assets, we must expand local power generation with solar and energy storage systems, ensure seniors are protected from power outages and focus on strengthening infrastructure throughout rezoning processes.

# Brooklyn Community Board 6: FY2026 Statement of District Needs

November 2024 • Co-authored by Dillon Shen-Cruz, Laura Osorio, and Scott Middleton, on behalf of Brooklyn Community Board 6

## Overarching Priorities

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## Overarching Priorities

### Theme 1: Additional Housing

Brooklyn Community District 6 faces a critical housing shortage that spans affordable, market-rate, temporary, and shelter housing. Addressing these needs is essential to ensuring stability, security and economic opportunity for all residents.

- **Affordable Housing:** The district has a significant gap in affordable housing options, particularly for low- and moderate-income residents. Rising rents and limited availability of affordable units have displaced long-term residents and left many households rent-burden (27.7% of the district's population spend 35% or more of their income in rent).<sup>1</sup> Expanding affordable housing options, both in terms of rental and ownership opportunities, is critical to sustaining the diverse, mixed-income population that defines this community.
- **Market-Rate Housing:** There is demand for responsibly developed market-rate housing that complements the district's infrastructure and affordability needs. Balancing the growth of market-rate units with affordable housing options is necessary to prevent exacerbating displacement and to support neighborhood diversity. Targeted zoning and incentives such as those included in the City of Yes Housing Opportunities package, which Community Board 6 supported for approval, can help create a balance, ensuring new developments contribute to housing diversity and stability.
- **Temporary Housing:** Access to temporary housing solutions, including supportive housing, is essential for residents facing short-term displacement or those transitioning from shelters. The district needs increased housing options that offer stability and supportive services to help

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<sup>1</sup> American Community Survey 2014–2018 5-Year Estimates for PUMA 4005, which is an approximation of BK CD6.

individuals regain permanent housing. Investment in these resources can prevent homelessness and support residents in crisis.

- **Shelter Housing & Other Housing:** The district requires expanded shelter facilities that provide not only safe space but also access to essential services such as healthcare, employment assistance, and mental health resources. Existing shelters are often at capacity, leading to unmet needs for vulnerable populations, including families, seniors and individuals with disabilities. Ensuring shelters are adequately funded and well-equipped is essential to meeting the immediate needs of these populations. Furthermore, we continue to urge the Department of Housing Preservation and Development to allocate for the FY's 2026 budget sufficient funds for the planning, site selection/acquisition, development, and construction of affordable senior housing and special needs households in the most needed sections of our district.

A coordinated response that prioritizes each of these housing categories is essential to meeting the diverse needs of Community District 6. By addressing the critical gaps in affordable, market-rate, temporary and shelter housing, the city can create a more inclusive, stable, economically resilient community. We recommend prioritizing these housing needs in the City's budget process to ensure the district can effectively serve its residents and reduce housing insecurity. We urge that City agencies create a comprehensive strategy to alleviate and address critical housing needs to improve the quality of life for all residents in the district.

## Theme 2: Climate Resilience

With over 6,000 dwelling units in the 100-year floodplain in Brooklyn Community District 6, thousands of district residents live with a 1% chance of experiencing a major disaster every year.<sup>2</sup> In 2012, Hurricane Sandy laid bare the reality that the most vulnerable New Yorkers are disproportionately hurt in major coastal flooding events. For instance, the storm caused significant damage to NYCHA's Red Hook Houses and even 12 years later, plans to recover and flood-proof the complex are yet to be completed. More recently, Hurricane Ida and Tropical Storm Ophelia revealed the extent to which climate change vulnerabilities impact coastal and upland neighborhoods alike; low-lying areas such as Fourth Avenue experience more and more severe flooding during sudden, heavy downpours known as cloudburst events. NYC Stormwater Flood Maps published by the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice show that rainfall of 1.77 inches per hour is likely to result in flooding of over one foot in several areas of the district, including 4th Avenue from 1st Street to President Street.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, New Yorkers observed historically low levels of rainfall and a higher incidence of wildfires in 2024, suggesting a need for greater drought resilience in the City's watershed and water infrastructure.

Preparing for the impacts of climate change is of the utmost importance to the district. Investing in green infrastructure is critical to making our communities less vulnerable to climate risk and environmental hazards. To address these rising concerns, the neighborhoods within the district need proactive investment in climate resilience measures, especially in the climate vulnerable communities of Red Hook and Gowanus. Top priorities include:

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<sup>2</sup> According to FEMA's 2015 Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (PFIRM) and the FEMA 2007 Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).

<sup>3</sup> NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice. Extreme Rainfall/NYC Stormwater Flood Maps. <https://climate.cityofnewyork.us/challenges/extreme-rainfall/>

- **Implementing coastal mitigation measures** to protect against flooding and storm surge, including building retrofits, seawalls, breakwaters, and soft shoreline stabilization techniques.
- **Expanding and designing urban greenery** and permeable surfaces to absorb stormwater, reduce the urban heat island effect, and resist the effects of drought
- **Installing gray infrastructure** such as sewer pipes and underground storage tanks to minimize damage to property and infrastructure during cloudburst events and increase local drought resilience, and modernizing sewer infrastructure to accommodate heavy rain and flooding
- **Protecting electric infrastructure** and expanding local power generation with solar and energy storage systems to protect residents from power outages
- **Strengthening social services and emergency preparedness** to help residents prepare for and cope with flooding, heat waves, droughts, wildfires, and cold snaps.

Several of these interventions are included in the Red Hook Coastal Resiliency project – a local coastal protection project that seeks to reduce flood risks due to coastal storm surge and sea level rise along Red Hook's waterfront. Similarly, the Department of Environmental Protection is currently working on sewer system upgrades associated with the Gowanus rezoning in 2021. These and other city-backed funding and initiatives will help the district adapt to climate challenges; foster a greener urban environment; and safeguard both infrastructure and residents.

### **Theme 3: Comprehensive Transportation Assessment**

We urge the City to examine a range of transportation issues which limit access to services and even exacerbate social and health issues in some neighborhoods. Red Hook's residents, for example, live in a transit desert, yet vehicle ownership is uncommon among those with lower incomes, and residents cannot easily rely on other modes of transportation. Walking and cycling, in particular, are not as safe or comfortable as they could be for all residents in our district, with rising traffic congestion, high vehicle speeds, a lack of pedestrian safety measures (e.g., daylighting at intersections), and a lack of protected bike lanes. Further, in the primarily industrial neighborhoods of Red Hook and Gowanus, heightened freight activity from local truck routes and last-mile warehouses also reduce air quality, increase noise levels, and exacerbate poor health outcomes.

We suggest a comprehensive transportation assessment of our district to holistically address these long-running issues. A comprehensive assessment should address road safety, walkability, and bike infrastructure needs. Any transportation recommendations that arise from this assessment should address the need for protected bike lanes, enhanced bike network connections, curb extensions, and high-visibility crosswalks to enhance safety for non-vehicular transportation options, while also addressing traffic congestion in both commercial and residential areas of the district. The assessment should also address barriers to access in both public transportation and active modes, including considerations for both physical access and affordability. Additionally, the assessment should address the concentrated impact of freight activity in neighborhoods like Red Hook and Gowanus.

## Theme 4: Greater Access to Social Services

Community profiles managed by several City agencies<sup>4</sup> show that Brooklyn Community District 6 performs well on a range of economic, social, and health indicators relative to other districts. But district-level data and statistics do not convey the breadth of experiences across our neighborhoods. On one hand, Park Slope's residents are among the most educated, wealthy, and employed in the City; similar observations could be made for Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens. On the other hand, over 60% of Red Hook's residents live in the Red Hook Houses, the City's second-largest NYCHA complex, where 48% of those under the age of 18 live below the federal poverty line and 19% of those over the age of 16 are unemployed, according to the American Community Survey. Similar disparities exist in NYCHA's Gowanus properties.

We strongly recommend the City to increase funding for social services in our district, with specific regard for our low-income and underserved residents in Red Hook and Gowanus. Greater budget allocation with targeted neighborhood investment is needed to fill gaps in healthcare, workforce development, childcare, senior assistance, housing livability, food access, and more. Top priorities include expansion of the following services:

- **Access to childcare** both in Red Hook and Gowanus and also throughout the district overall, which has 7,500 children under the age of 5, according to the 2020 US Census, yet only 5 childcare facilities that accept vouchers or cash assistance to support low-income families<sup>5</sup>
- **Workforce development programs** throughout Gowanus and Red Hook—neighborhoods that are slated to undergo significant economic development but do not provide adequate job training support for local residents, with 1 in 5 Red Hook residents reporting having trouble accessing job training or employment programs in 2018.<sup>6</sup>
- **Targeted health assessments and interventions** for Gowanus and Red Hook, neighborhoods which do not contain their own hospitals, are disproportionately affected by poor air and soil quality, and are in need of greater support for chronic conditions, mental health, substance abuse, and other health issues

Over time, our goal is to have the Community District 6 become a place of opportunity not only for the wealthy, but also for those in most need of services, and to empower all of our district's residents to live healthy, stable, and successful lives.

## Recommendations by Committee

### Committee 1: Land Use, Landmarks, & Housing

- **Affordable Housing Development:** Increase budget allocations for affordable housing construction and subsidies in areas experiencing the most need and displacement pressure, like Red Hook and Gowanus. Housing affordability and a sufficient housing supply are crucial to the

<sup>4</sup> These include the NYC Department of City Planning's Community District Profile (<https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/brooklyn/6#resources>) and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Community Health Profile (<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2015chp-bk6.pdf>).

<sup>5</sup> NYC Child Care Connect. <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/ChildCare/>.

<sup>6</sup> Red Hook Initiative. *Red Hook Community Health Report*, October 2018.

[https://rhcicenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/redhook\\_chnaa\\_oct2018\\_report\\_english.pdf](https://rhcicenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/redhook_chnaa_oct2018_report_english.pdf)

health of the City and its residents. The City's Housing Plan has not kept pace with housing demand. Brooklyn Community Board 6 recognizes the current need for affordable housing within New York City and that this City can and must do much more to expand affordable housing options that allow more residents to share the positive attributes of the district and help to create a more equitable city. Per the City's Department of Housing Preservation & Development, the 2024 New York City Area Median Income (AMI) for very low-income to moderate Income is 31 to 120% family income.<sup>7</sup>

- **Community Center Spaces, Facilities, and Open Spaces:** Allocate sufficient funds for community center spaces within large residential developments, including NYCHA complexes such as the Red Hook Houses, to compensate for the 457 trees, 14 water sprinkler systems and many community spaces eliminated as part of FEMA construction work. NYCHA should direct additional resources for the programming and maintenance of these and other community facilities so that they may provide robust and comprehensive programming for community members of all ages.
- **NYCHA Housing Maintenance:** Update and maintain NYCHA properties to serve a critical segment of the City's residents by allocating funds to improve NYCHA housing conditions, targeting mold remediation, plumbing repairs, and HVAC systems. The preservation and enhancement of NYCHA properties is imperative, and the City needs to do all it can to achieve these goals. As of our last Summary of Needs and Budget Request, NYCHA has responded that it will accommodate these issues within existing resources, therefore while understanding NYCHA is operating without the full funding it deserves, we want to reinforce that the declining quality of NYCHA housing in our district is threatening the health of district residents living in NYCHA complexes. The city must make sure that NYCHA's Comprehensive Modernization Program at the Gowanus and Wyckoff Houses provide critical maintenance for these housing complexes.
- **NYCHA Vision Setting:** While physical capital investment into NYCHA facilities is critical, inclusive, community-led visioning processes are necessary to generate fresh ideas for NYCHA campuses. Community visioning sessions have been held at Gowanus Houses and Wyckoff Gardens. Input from these and similar sessions should be incorporated into the development of all future RFPs from architectural, engineering, and construction work on NYCHA campuses in our district.<sup>8</sup>
- **Zoning Adjustments:** Budget for rezoning initiatives to increase affordable units in mixed-income developments, especially near transit corridors. Brooklyn Community Board 6 has urged the City to take strong measures to generate more affordable housing through new construction and regulatory changes in the district and city-wide. We would like to see the City maximize the number and affordability levels of new housing development, particularly in any new rezoned areas. Targeted zoning and incentives such as those under City of Yes Housing Opportunities, which Community Board 6 supported for approval, can help create a balance, ensuring new developments contribute to housing diversity and stability. District residents should have protections from displacement and cost of living burdens, due to increased property values in new development areas, and district wide.

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<sup>7</sup> Department of Housing Preservation and Development, *Area Median Income*.

[www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/area-median-income.page](http://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/area-median-income.page)

<sup>8</sup> NYCHA Gowanus Neighborhood Rezoning.

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/nycha/about/comp-mod/gowanus-neighborhood-rezoning.page>

## Committee 2: Transportation, Parks, and Public Infrastructure

- **Adequate Funding for NYC Parks:** Fully fund parks so that they may continue to function as key public spaces and resources for our district. Despite some recent victories, including the introduction of new second shift funding and one shot council funding for Urban Park Rangers, NYC Parks' budget has not been fully restored after the mayor's recent cuts. As a result, the agency has seen a \$20M reduction, and has 800 fewer staff than FY24, plus a hiring freeze and the lowest number of Parks Enforcement Officers in years (300 citywide). Restoring the agency's budget to appropriate levels is a top priority for this Community Board.
- **Comprehensive Transportation Planning:** Budget for a comprehensive transportation plan to address road safety, walkability, and bike infrastructure needs. The plan should address the need for protected bike lanes, enhanced bike network connections, curb extensions, and high-visibility crosswalks to enhance safety for non-vehicular transportation options. Additionally, the plan should address traffic congestion on district streets, which has been exacerbated by enormous growth in home delivery of goods and which could be improved with implementation of commercial and residential loading zones and better freight management.
- **Improved Affordability for Citibike:** Budget to expand the Reduced Fare Bike Share program to include public high school and CUNY students aged 16 and above, in order to help make biking an affordable transportation option for young people.
- **Flood Protection Infrastructure:** Allocate funds for fixed and deployable flood barriers in vulnerable areas to prevent damage during heavy storms, including as part of the Red Hook Coastal Resiliency initiative and the tentatively selected plan in the NY & NJ Harbor & Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study (HATS), which proposed a series of shoreline based measures for the Red Hook waterfront.<sup>9</sup>
- **Public Safety Traffic Enforcement:** Budget for critical enforcement action throughout the district. Trucks find their ways onto the more residential streets in the district more and more frequently, coming off of busy thoroughfares like Atlantic Avenue and 4th Avenue. Signage and enforcement are desperately needed throughout the district to protect pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in Red Hook, where a number of last-mile warehouses are currently operating and drawing significant truck traffic. Additionally, the lack of traffic enforcement, signage, and modern traffic design leaves our district's streets overcrowded with large vehicles, making emergency response extremely slow in residential neighborhoods.
- **Subway Enhancements:** Fund accessibility upgrades, such as elevators and ramps, at key subway stations serving the district, especially at the Smith-9th Street subway station, which lacks elevators despite being the highest elevation transit station in the entire world. Accessibility improvements are broadly needed; other than the 7th Avenue F/G station, no stations within the district are currently served by elevators. The district also lacks east-west bus service, and there is widespread support to reactivate the B71 route, which was discontinued in 2010. The district also suffers from slow bus speeds, and would benefit from implementation of transit-signal priority and other enhancements such as the bus lanes NYCDOT recently proposed for Flatbush Avenue, on the northeastern boundary of the district.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. NY & NJ Harbor & Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study Alternative 3B Summary Map. [https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Portals/37/HATS\\_100yrIntSLR\\_Risk\\_wAlt3B\\_500dpi.pdf](https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Portals/37/HATS_100yrIntSLR_Risk_wAlt3B_500dpi.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Khalifeh, Ramsey. "Dramatic redesign of Flatbush Ave would add bus lanes to gridlocked Brooklyn street." [gothamist.com/news/dramatic-redesign-of-flatbush-avenue-would-add-bus-lanes-to-gridlocked-brooklyn-street](http://gothamist.com/news/dramatic-redesign-of-flatbush-avenue-would-add-bus-lanes-to-gridlocked-brooklyn-street)

## Committee 3: Business Licenses & Affairs

- **Business Improvement Districts:** Increase program outreach, funding, and support for community-based development organizations to conduct a Commercial District Needs Assessment, define new Business Improvement Districts throughout the district, apply for Small Business Services funding, and make targeted improvements to the commercial districts throughout the district.
- **Cannabis Licenses:** Increase outreach and program support to accelerate the licensing of unlicensed marijuana retail stores throughout the district, especially for census tracts classified by New York State as “Communities Disproportionately Impacted” by cannabis enforcement, which historically have been located in Red Hook and Gowanus.<sup>11</sup>
- **Outdoor Spaces:** Maintain outreach, funding, and support for permitting and physical maintenance of outdoor sheds and spaces for local restaurants and bars, which provide a third space to those who are immunocompromised or disabled and support a thriving business community.
- **Workforce Development Programs:** Fund programs and centers for workforce development within Red Hook, Gowanus, and the NYCHA facilities that are located in those neighborhoods. This includes NYCHA direct-entry union training programs and workforce development programs related to local employment within Red Hook and Gowanus Industrial Business Zones, particularly as green manufacturing expands in the area.

## Committee 4: Human Services & Environmental Sustainability

- **Emergency Preparedness for Extreme Weather:** Fund emergency response resources, including heating and cooling centers, to assist residents during severe weather, particularly in low-lying or otherwise vulnerable areas of the district.
- **Expansion of Childcare Programs:** Increase the number of childcare programs for children under the age of 5 which are either fully funded by the city or subsidized using city vouchers and cash assistance. Expand the distribution of childcare subsidies.
- **Health Facility Funding:** Budget for permanent healthcare facilities in areas like Red Hook, Gowanus, and Columbia Waterfront, focusing on accessible, low-cost services. The district lacks any NYC Health + Hospitals facilities, and the only hospital within the district boundaries is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed.
- **Healthy Food Access Initiatives:** Provide budget for community gardens, urban farms, and affordable food programs to reduce food insecurity in underserved neighborhoods. Expand DOHMH’s Shop Healthy! food access programs to improve access to healthy affordable foods, especially in Red Hook, which is not currently eligible for these programs.
- **Homelessness Services:** Increase funding for shelters, mental health services, and job training programs to support homeless populations within the district. Community District 6 must house its fair share of the unhoused population, and to do so, more permanent facilities are needed. Beyond housing, additional job training and placement programs can help address the root issues for the unhoused population, including through support of relevant nonprofit groups.
- **Green Infrastructure and Stormwater System Upgrades:** Sufficient funds are requested for the areawide installation of green infrastructure including, but not limited to, bioswales, rain gardens, offline retention facilities, rain barrels, pervious surface treatments, and other best

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<sup>11</sup> <https://cannabis.ny.gov/communities-disproportionately-impacted>

management practices to aggressively prevent storm water from entering into the sewer system. Reduction of storm water entry into the system is necessary to reduce the amount of combined sewer overflow events that occur, particularly within the Gowanus watershed area. Many green infrastructure investments will also reduce the urban heat island effect and reduce the risk of heat-related injuries during more frequent and severe heat waves. Investments in improved stormwater infrastructure, including sewer capacity increases and street drainage, is also necessary to mitigate flood risks.

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

### HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Brooklyn Community Board 6

##### Most Important Issue Related to Healthcare and Human Services

###### **Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers**

While the District has needs relative to the areas outlined in each of the eleven possible responses, the Department of City Planning's prompt allows for only one selection. As such, we have selected Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers because the most major needs among the other possible answers (Access to healthy food/life style programs; chronic disease prevention; environmental health issues; health facilities; infections disease prevention and management to include COVID-19; mental health programs and substance abuse treatment/prevention programs; programs, services of facilities for seniors; services for domestic violence victims) should, under any reasonable, rational definition of action to address Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers, be addressed as well.

##### Community District Needs Related to Healthcare and Human Services

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

CB6 does not have a New York City Health + Hospitals facility and thus lacks access to H+H's rapid point-of-care testing. The only hospital within the district boundaries, Methodist, is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed. Mobile and pop-up units can be utilized for vaccinations, including seasonal flu shots; as such investments in such infrastructure has broader use. The loss of Long Island College Hospital has not been sufficiently addressed in the district.

###### **Needs for Older NYs**

There is a lack of facilities in the district that would allow some of the aging population to remain in their community as they continue to age and the district becomes more and more expensive to live in.

###### **Needs for Homeless**

While this Board has been in support of the Mayor's short term response to the homeless epidemic in the city, and believes strongly that we have a role to play in helping make sure the district houses its share of the unhoused population, clearly to project of renting hotel rooms for this population is not enough and more permanent facilities are needed. Beyond that, job training and placement programs to address the root issues for the unhoused population are lacking, and the few local resources available for this are typically non-profit in nature and lacking in critical funding, staffing, and programming.

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

New affordable housing, job training and placement programs, as well as much needed improvements to existing NYCHA properties and some mode of polticial infrustrcure that can demand more accountability from NYCHA broadly.

## HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
2 / 25	HHC	Provide a new or expanded health care facility

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
2 / 22	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program
7 / 22	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests
9 / 22	HRA	Other domestic violence services requests
11 / 22	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests
21 / 22	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations
22 / 22	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests

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

#### **Other - Write In (Required)**

While the Parks within the District have some needs that fall within any reasonable understanding of the fourteen possible responses provided by the Department of City Planning, we have selected "Other" because foundational issue that undergirds the needs we have in each of these categories is the City's austerity relative to the needs of the community.

Expansion of Childcare Programs: Increase the number of childcare programs for children under the age of 5 which are either fully funded by the city or subsidized using city vouchers and cash assistance. Expand the distribution of childcare subsidies.

- Health Facility Funding: Budget for permanent healthcare facilities in areas like Red Hook, Gowanus, and Columbia Waterfront, focusing on accessible, low-cost services. The district lacks any NYC Health + Hospitals facilities, and the only hospital within the district boundaries is not easily accessible to parts of the district, and private urgent care clinics are unevenly distributed.

- Healthy Food Access Initiatives: Provide budget for community gardens, urban farms, and affordable food programs to reduce food insecurity in underserved neighborhoods. Expand DOHMH's Shop Healthy! food access programs to improve access to healthy affordable foods, especially in Red Hook, which is not currently eligible for these programs.

- Homelessness Services: Increase funding for shelters, mental health services, and job training programs to support homeless populations within the district. Community District 6 must house its fair share of the unhoused population, and to do so, more permanent facilities are needed. Beyond housing, additional job training and placement programs can help address the root issues for the unhoused population, including through support of relevant nonprofit groups.

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

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

CB6 has historically high income inequality, which can often hide the needs of low-income youth behind unrepresentative averages. As the pandemic closed schools and asked parents to fill the gaps, low-income children in our district have borne the brunt of this exacerbated inequality, with many students experiencing food insecurity and unsafe living situations. We urge SCA to fund ventilation and outdoor infrastructure so public schools can operate more safely during public health crises. In the meantime, we urge DOE to continue to fund school meal programs, with pickup options if schools are closed, and high-speed internet access and computing devices for students who must learn from home and lack these essential resources. With 8% of CB6 residents under the age of 5 (a significantly higher rate than NYC as a whole), day care is an economic issue: parents without access to affordable day care for their children cannot work. We urge DOH to fund affordable day-care options, of which there are only 3 in our district. Finally, the pandemic has

caused cuts to youth employment and after-school programs, jeopardizing students' ability to build skills and bounce back after schools reopen. We urge DYCD to re-fund SYEP programs and increase funding to other youth-centered community building initiatives in our district.

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

See needs for Youth Education.

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

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

### **CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
12 / 25	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school
25 / 25	SCA	Renovate other site component

### **EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Title</b>
1 / 22	DOE	Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services
3 / 22	DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Brooklyn Community Board 6

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

##### **Traffic violations and enforcement**

Public Safety Traffic Enforcement: Budget for critical enforcement action throughout the district. Trucks find their ways onto the more residential streets in the district more and more frequently, coming off of busy thoroughfares like Atlantic Avenue and 4th Avenue. Signage and enforcement are desperately needed throughout the district to protect pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in Red Hook, where a number of last-mile warehouses are currently operating and drawing significant truck traffic. Additionally, the lack of traffic enforcement, signage, and modern traffic design leaves our district's streets overcrowded with large vehicles, making emergency response extremely slow in residential neighborhoods.

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

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

Traffic enforcement is critical throughout the district. Trucks find their ways onto the more residential streets in the district more and more frequently as the years pass, coming off of extremely busy thoroughfares like Atlantic Avenue and 4th Avenue. Signage and enforcement are desperately needed throughout the district to protect pedestrians and bicyclists. This is especially true for Red Hook, where a number of last-mile warehouses are beginning or planning to begin operation.

##### **Needs for Emergency Services**

The lack of traffic enforcement, signage, and modern traffic design leaves our district's streets overcrowded with large vehicles, making emergency response extremely slow in the most residential of our neighborhoods, which also happens to be the oldest of our neighborhoods.

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
17 / 25	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests
20 / 25	NYPD	Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests
CS	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
15 / 22	NYPD	Other NYPD staff resources requests
16 / 22	NYPD	Other NYPD programs requests

# CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

## Brooklyn Community Board 6

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

#### **Preparedness for extreme weather events (incl. coastal flooding, heat waves, cold snaps, heavy wind and rain)**

Resiliency and preparing for the impacts of long-term climate change are of the utmost importance not just to the shoreline of the Brooklyn Community Board 6 but also to the health and vitality of New York City and the country as a whole.

Theme 2: Climate Resilience

With over 6,000 dwelling units in the 100-year floodplain in Brooklyn Community District 6, thousands of

district residents live with a 1% chance of experiencing a major disaster every year.

2

In 2012, Hurricane

Sandy laid bare the reality that the most vulnerable New Yorkers are disproportionately hurt in major

coastal flooding events. For instance, the storm caused significant damage to NYCHA's Red Hook

Houses and even 12 years later, plans to recover and flood-proof the complex are yet to be completed.

More recently, Hurricane Ida and Tropical Storm Ophelia revealed the extent to which climate change

vulnerabilities impact coastal and upland neighborhoods alike; low-lying areas such as Fourth Avenue

experience more and more severe flooding during sudden, heavy downpours known as cloudburst events. NYC Stormwater Flood Maps published by the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice show that rainfall of 1.77 inches per hour is likely to result in flooding of over one foot in several

areas of the district, including 4th Avenue from 1st Street to President Street.

3 Additionally, New Yorkers

observed historically low levels of rainfall and a higher incidence of wildfires in 2024, suggesting a need

for greater drought resilience in the City's watershed and water infrastructure.

Preparing for the impacts of climate change is of the utmost importance to the district. Investing in green infrastructure is critical to making our communities less vulnerable to climate risk and environmental hazards. To address these rising concerns, the neighborhoods within the district need

proactive investment in climate resilience measures, especially in the climate vulnerable communities

of Red Hook and Gowanus. Top priorities include:

3 NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice. Extreme Rainfall/NYC Stormwater Flood Maps.

<https://climate.cityofnewyork.us/challenges/extreme-rainfall/>

2 According to FEMA's 2015 Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (PFIRM) and the FEMA 2007 Flood

Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).

- Implementing coastal mitigation measures to protect against flooding and storm surge, including building retrofits, seawalls, breakwaters, and soft shoreline stabilization techniques.
- Expanding and designing urban greenery and permeable surfaces to absorb stormwater, reduce the urban heat island effect, and resist the effects of drought
- Installing gray infrastructure such as sewer pipes and underground storage tanks to minimize damage to property and infrastructure during cloudburst events and increase local drought resilience, and modernizing sewer infrastructure to accommodate heavy rain and flooding
- Protecting electric infrastructure and expanding local power generation with solar and energy storage systems to protect residents from power outages
- Strengthening social services and emergency preparedness to help residents prepare for and cope with flooding, heat waves, droughts, wildfires, and cold snaps.

Several of these interventions are included in the Red Hook Coastal Resiliency project – a local coastal

protection project that seeks to reduce flood risks due to coastal storm surge and sea level rise along

Red Hook's waterfront. Similarly, the Department of Environmental Protection is currently working on

sewer system upgrades associated with the Gowanus rezoning in 2021. These and other city-backed

funding and initiatives will help the district adapt to climate challenges; foster a greener urban environment; and safeguard both infrastructure and residents.

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

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

Many sections of the BKCB-6 map are low-lying and experience frequent flooding during heavy rains and storms. This is especially true in Gowanus and Red Hook, neighborhoods.

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

Schools and institutions should be provided with more regular sanitation services such as garbage and recycling pick-up, and DSNY should work with these institutions on placement of containerized storage for waste. With plans to make the Gowanus neighborhood much more residential, DSNY needs to be prepared to offer more and better litter basket collection to the neighborhood.

## CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
23 / 25	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure
CS	DEP	Other capital budget request for DEP

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
19 / 22	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions

# HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

## Brooklyn Community Board 6

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

#### **Condition of public housing**

Continuing assessment of maintenance issues in NYCHA housing across the district.

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

#### **Needs for Housing**

See budget requests.

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

Brooklyn Community District 6 faces a critical housing shortage that spans affordable, market-rate, temporary, and shelter housing. Addressing these needs is essential to ensuring stability, security and economic opportunity for all residents.

- Affordable Housing: The district has a significant gap in affordable housing options, particularly for low- and moderate-income residents. Rising rents and limited availability of affordable units have displaced long-term residents and left many households rent-burden (27.7% of the district's population spend 35% or more of their income in rent).

#### 1 Expanding

affordable housing options, both in terms of rental and ownership opportunities, is critical to sustaining the diverse, mixed-income population that defines this community.

- Market-Rate Housing: There is demand for responsibly developed market-rate housing that complements the district's infrastructure and affordability needs. Balancing the growth of market-rate units with affordable housing options is necessary to prevent exacerbating displacement and to support neighborhood diversity. Targeted zoning and incentives such as those included in the City of Yes Housing Opportunities package, which Community Board 6 supported for approval, can help create a balance, ensuring new developments contribute to housing diversity and stability.

- Temporary Housing: Access to temporary housing solutions, including supportive housing, is essential for residents facing short-term displacement or those transitioning from shelters. The district needs increased housing options that offer stability and supportive services to help

1 American Community Survey 2014–2018 5-Year Estimates for PUMA 4005, which is an approximation of BK

CD6.

individuals regain permanent housing. Investment in these resources can prevent

homelessness and support residents in crisis.

- **Shelter Housing & Other Housing:** The district requires expanded shelter facilities that provide not only safe space but also access to essential services such as healthcare, employment assistance, and mental health resources. Existing shelters are often at capacity, leading to unmet needs for vulnerable populations, including families, seniors and individuals with disabilities. Ensuring shelters are adequately funded and well-equipped is essential to meeting the immediate needs of these populations. Furthermore, we continue to urge the Department of Housing Preservation and Development to allocate for the FY's 2026 budget sufficient funds for the planning, site selection/acquisition, development, and construction of affordable senior housing and special needs households in the most needed sections of our district.  
A coordinated response that prioritizes each of these housing categories is essential to meeting the diverse needs of Community District 6. By addressing the critical gaps in affordable, market-rate, temporary and shelter housing, the city can create a more inclusive, stable, economically resilient community. We recommend prioritizing these housing needs in the City's budget process to ensure the district can effectively serve its residents and reduce housing insecurity. We urge that City agencies create a comprehensive strategy to alleviate and address critical housing needs to improve the quality of life for all residents in the district.

### **Needs for Housing**

Housing affordability and a sufficient housing supply is crucial to the health of the City. New York City's Housing Plan has not kept pace with housing demand, increased jobs and employment numbers. Recent data, even accounting for Covid, still shows that the housing market is strong and has softened only at the very top margins. CB6 recognizes the current dire need for affordable housing within New York City and that this City can and must do much more to expand affordable housing options that allow more residents to share the positive attributes of the district and help to create a more equitable city. CB6 has urged the City to take strong measures to generate more affordable housing through new construction and regulatory changes in CB6 and city-wide. We would like to see the City maximize the number and affordability levels of new housing development, particularly in any new rezoned areas. CB6 residents should have protections from displacement and cost of living burdens, due to increased property values in new development areas, and district wide. The preservation and enhancement of NYCHA properties is imperative, and the City needs to do all it can to update and maintain NYCHA properties to serve a critical segment of the City's residents.

### **Needs for Economic Development**

There are two facets to Community District 6's economic development needs: Invest in Businesses and Invest in People 1) **Invest in Businesses:** Small businesses -- including retail and industrial/manufacturing -- need support to be viable. Empty storefronts plague our community - DCP's pre-COVID report, "Assessing Storefront Vacancy in NYC," characterized Park Slope and Cobble Hill in its "medium/high vacancy rate" category, and we have seen newly vacant storefronts increase since COVID. The district is also heavily reliant on restaurants, which makes the district even more vulnerable to closures and occupancy caps due to the pandemic. According to an

analysis reported in The Patch in October 2020, "The number of empty storefronts on Park Slope's Fifth Avenue more than doubled this year, bringing its vacancy rate to a decade-long high." (<https://patch.com/new-york/parkslope/coronavirus-crisis-doubles-empty-stores-park-slope-main-street>). We would like to see additional time and energy spent on coming up with solutions that will enable our commercial strips and neighborhood-serving businesses to be viable. This also means that the City must focus on businesses in manufacturing zones. This has been clearly stated as a priority within the Gowanus rezoning plans, but it also applies to Red Hook's industrial areas, including the IBZ and waterfront businesses. These businesses typically offer better pay than retail, and have more advancement opportunities. The City must invest time and resources in the industrial and manufacturing sector/ 2) Invest in People Residents -- particularly youth and unemployed residents of the NYCHA developments in Red Hook and Gowanus - need employment pathways. Unemployment was already high before the pandemic, and it has gotten worse. Youth have few employment pathways, as the Summer Youth Employment Program was almost eliminated last year, and it has become nearly impossible to obtain internships and entry-level jobs. Youth in NYCHA developments who need opportunities for training, placement, internships, summer employment and career support. NYCHA Red Hook residents are also far from the Workforce 1 site in downtown Brooklyn, necessitating more localized workforce services in Red Hook. We continue to want to see expansion of commercial corridor BIDs and increased technical assistance, as the BID model has proven to be a great success and is important during the pandemic (<https://commercialobserver.com/2020/05/in-the-wake-of-covid-19-new-yorks-bids-help-keep-their-neighborhoods-thriving/>). We also would like to see the City be proactive in exploring the formation of an Industrial BID (IBID) or other mechanisms to provide greater support to industrial businesses, including basic services and long-term investments in infrastructure that will support growth in local business districts and access to the districts extensive waterfront. Finally, it is essential to ensure that families have adequate affordable childcare so that parents can obtain and sustain employment.

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## HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
3 / 25	SBS	Other capital budget request for SBS
4 / 25	NYCHA	Other public housing upgrades or renovations requests
5 / 25	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space
15 / 25	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless
21 / 25	EDC	Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts
CS	EDC	Invest in capital projects to improve access to waterfront
CS	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
4 / 22	SBS	Other workforce development requests
6 / 22	EDC	Invest in planning for transportation-oriented infrastructure
8 / 22	SBS	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs
10 / 22	SBS	Conduct a commercial district needs assessment
12 / 22	SBS	Other expense budget request for SBS
13 / 22	NYCHA	Other housing support requests

## TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

### Brooklyn Community Board 6

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

##### **Other - Write In (Required)**

Overall Transportation Infrastructure - Roadway design that will improve pedestrian and cyclist safety are high priorities, including the implementation of curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks, and enhancement and connection of the bike lane network. Traffic congestion is a problem on many district streets, exacerbated by enormous growth in home delivery of goods, which can be improved with implementation of commercial and residential loading zones and better freight management. A comprehensive traffic study is necessary to address exploding growth in last-mile delivery facilities in Red Hook.

.We urge the City to examine various transportation issues that limit access to services and even exacerbate social and health issues in some neighborhoods. Red Hook's residents, for example, live in a transit desert; yet, vehicleownership is uncommon among those with lower incomes, and residents cannot easily rely on other modes of transportation. Walking and cycling, in particular, are not as safe or comfortable as they could be for all residents in our district, with rising traffic congestion, high vehicle speeds, a lack of pedestrian safety measures (e.g., daylighting at intersections), and a lack of protected bike lanes. Further, in the primarily industrial neighborhoods of Red Hook and Gowanus, heightened freight activity from local truck routes and last-mile warehouses also reduces air quality, increases noise levels, and exacerbates poor health outcomes. We suggest a comprehensive transportation assessment of our district to address these long-running issues holistically. A comprehensive assessment should address road safety, walkability, and bike infrastructure needs. Any transportation recommendations arising from this assessment should address the need for protected bike lanes, enhanced bike network connections, curb extensions, and high-visibility crosswalks to enhance safety for non-vehicular transportation options while also addressing traffic congestion in the district's commercial and residential areas. The assessment should also address barriers to access in both public transportation and active modes, including considerations for both physical access and affordability. Additionally, the assessment should address the concentrated impact of freight activity in neighborhoods like Red Hook and Gowanus.

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

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

See budget requests.

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

Roadway design that will improve pedestrian and cyclist safety are high priorities, including the implementation of curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks, and enhancement and connection of the bike lane network. Traffic congestion is a problem on many district streets, exacerbated by enormous growth in home delivery of goods, which can be improved with implementation of commercial and residential loading zones and better freight management. A comprehensive traffic study is necessary to address exploding growth in last-mile delivery facilities in Red Hook.

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

Subway accessibility is a key issue for residents of CB6, as no stations within the district are currently served by elevators. The district also lacks east-west bus service, and there is widespread support to reactivate and enhance the B71 route, which was discontinued in 2010. The district also suffers from slow bus speeds, and would benefit from implementation of transit-signal priority and other enhancements.

## TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
1 / 25	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.
6 / 25	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure
10 / 25	DOT	Reconstruct streets
11 / 25	DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)
14 / 25	DOT	Reconstruct streets
16 / 25	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests
18 / 25	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests
19 / 25	DOT	Repair or construct sidewalks, curbs, or pedestrian ramps
22 / 25	DOT	Reconstruct streets
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests
CS	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets
CS	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges
CS	NYCTA	Other transit infrastructure requests

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
20 / 22	DOT	Other traffic improvement requests

## PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### Brooklyn Community Board 6

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

##### **Other - Write In (Required)**

While the Parks within the District have some needs that fall within any reasonable understanding of the fourteen possible responses provided by the Department of City Planning, we have selected "Other" because foundational issue that undergirds the needs we have in each of these categories is the City's austerity relative to the needs of the community.

Adequate Funding for NYC Parks: Fully fund parks so that they may continue to function as key public spaces and resources for our district. Despite some recent victories, including the introduction of new second shift funding and one shot council funding for Urban Park Rangers, NYC Parks' budget has not been fully restored after the mayor's recent cuts. As a result, the agency has seen a \$20M reduction, and has 800 fewer staff than FY24, plus a hiring freeze and the lowest number of Parks Enforcement Officers in years (300 citywide). Restoring the agency's budget to appropriate levels is a top priority for this Community Board.

- Comprehensive Transportation Planning: Budget for a comprehensive transportation plan to address road safety, walkability, and bike infrastructure needs. The plan should address the need for protected bike lanes, enhanced bike network connections, curb extensions, and high-visibility crosswalks to enhance safety for non-vehicular transportation options. Additionally, the plan should address traffic congestion on district streets, which has been exacerbated by enormous growth in home delivery of goods and which could be improved with implementation of commercial and residential loading zones and better freight management.
- Improved Affordability for Citibike: Budget to expand the Reduced Fare Bike Share program to include public high school and CUNY students aged 16 and above,

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

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

See budget requests.

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

The Park department has responsibility for maintaining an ever expanding collection of parks and properties including pocket gardens, GreenStreets, Bioswales, and our street trees. They are expected to do this with a much reduced and declining percentage of the NYC budget. They are unable to hire and train permanent staff and must rely on temporary workfare recipients for much of their work. Most of our parks are just barely maintained and shabby compared to the Parks I have seen in Europe. It just comes down to pride of place and proper funding.

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

Both the Carroll Gardens and Park Slope branches of the Brooklyn Public Library are in need of various capital improvements, and as is the case with all other public buildings in the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ventilation systems in all of the District's library buildings should be

reassessed and replaced if need be.

### **Needs for Community Boards**

Community Boards have seen their responsibilities expand rapidly over the last decade, all without any update to their funding or staffing capacity. In just the last few years, District Office staff have been newly tasked with digital timesheet entry and confirmation and learning multiple purchase order and inventory programs, both projects that used to be handled by the Borough President's office. Additionally, District Office staff are now responsible for major digital projects, such as this District Needs and Capital/Expense Budget Priorities. All of this while the Boards themselves will start to lean on the District Office staff more than ever with the advent of Board Member term limits. To say that Community Board funding should be maintained at its current level is an especially gracious understatement.

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## PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
7 / 25	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park
8 / 25	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library
9 / 25	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment
13 / 25	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library
24 / 25	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)
CS	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
5 / 22	OMB	Provide more community board staff
14 / 22	DPR	Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers
17 / 22	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests
18 / 22	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests

## **6. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS**

This submission process does not allow for anything close to a comprehensive assessment of district needs or thorough budget recommendations. Revenue for the budget is left out of the process, as are adjustments to agency roles. For example, asking to increase funding for traffic enforcement should not require indicating support to increase resources for the NYPD.<sup>†</sup> After this is submitted, Brooklyn Community Board 6 intends to keep commenting and advocating for a better budget as we have in years past. There are seven months before FY 2024 begins, and things can certainly change a great deal between now and then, and this process should adjust accordingly.

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

### **CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS**

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

### **EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS**

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

## 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Title	Priority Agency	Request	Explanation
Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	1 / 25 NYCTA	<b>Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.</b>	<i>Due to the pending increase in population just one block north due to the now approved Gowanus Rezoning, and given that a significant portion of that new population expected to be seniors, sufficient funds are requested for the identification, design, and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Smith-9th Street subway station, which happens to be the highest elevated public transit point in the entire world. Despite a recent comprehensive station rehabilitation, escalators at this station are still prone to frequent service disruptions. This station is also the only subway stop nearest to the Red Hook community, a neighborhood woefully under-served by transportation options.</i>
Provide a new or expanded health care facility	2 / 25 HHC	<b>Provide a new or expanded health care facility</b>	<i>Funds are requested for the opening of a more permanent indoor Red Hook COVID testing and vaccination location. This could be resolved by reopening the H+H location at Red Hook Recreation Center. While we hope COVID-19 will continue to decrease, variants and waves show that flexibility is essential in order to reach high-need areas as surges happen and positivity rates change. The existing mobile vans are often absent or out of commission and there is no way to schedule a test nor call the van to check if it is there on a given day. For residents with disabilities, that means a potentially perilous walk in the cold or snow to see whether the van is there. CB6 does not have an H+H facility and thus lacks access to rapid point-of-care testing.</i>
Other capital budget request for SBS	3 / 25 SBS	<b>Other capital budget request for SBS</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition (if necessary), design and construction of a Red Hook workforce development center. Red Hook has seen the creation of hundreds of new jobs in the last few years from large-scale retail development, introduction of tourism-related industries, and induced</i>

*commercial development. Its residential population is in need of a local job center where employment training, recruiting and referral services can be offered in addition to courses that promote local entrepreneurship, and generally support the development of the local workforce preparing them for jobs. Because of its geographic isolation and transportation hurdles, Red Hook residents cannot easily access services in Downtown Brooklyn.*

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Other public housing upgrades or renovations requests	4 / 25 NYCHA	<b>Other public housing upgrades or renovations requests</b>	<i>Funds are requested to eliminate mold and other infrastructure problems in NYCHA buildings in CB6. NYCHA buildings in Red Hook were built in the 1930s and have had dangerous mold and infrastructure problems for years, which are only increasing with climate change. While we understand NYCHA is operating without the full funding it deserves, we want to reinforce that the declining quality of NYCHA housing in our district is threatening the health of our community members, adding extra respiratory risk to the most COVID-vulnerable among us who live in high-density housing.</i>
Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	5 / 25 NYCHA	<b>Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space</b>	<i>Funds are requested to improve outdoor public space and mitigate urban heat island effects at Red Hook Houses to compensate for the 457 trees, 14 water sprinkler systems and many community spaces eliminated as part of FEMA construction work. The heat generated by these removals has created dangerous health conditions for residents, especially young children and older residents. Specific remediation should be determined in consultation with residents but this may include replanting trees, installing new benches, soil testing and drainage study, and/or new outdoor recreation facilities.</i>
Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	6 / 25 NYCTA	<b>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</b>	<i>Sufficient funding is requested for the design and construction of handicapped access elements, preferably elevators, for the Grand Army Plaza subway station, which is not only an important intermodal transfer within the transit system but also provides primary access to a number of Brooklyn's most visited cultural institutions--such as the Grand</i>

*Army Plaza, Prospect Park, and the Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch-- and is a gateway to the Flatbush Avenue and Park Slope commercial corridors.*

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Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	7 / 25 DPR	<b>Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a comprehensive facility rehabilitation project for the Red Hook Recreation Center. Scope of work to include at a minimum upgraded programming space for users, office space for department personnel (i.e., painting, electrical, windows, lighting, etc.), perimeter improvements and outfitting with new recreation and office equipment to support both users and staff. It is essential that increasing demands for local recreational opportunities be met within the neighborhood as transportation options available within the neighborhood limit the extent to which local residents can take advantage of facilities in other neighborhoods.</i>
Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	8 / 25 BPL	<b>Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library</b>	<i>A total of \$6.35M is requested for infrastructure upgrades to the Carroll Gardens branch library, to specifically include exterior renovation and windows (\$1.0M), new boiler (\$750k), interior renovation (\$3.0M), new furniture &amp; equipment (\$750k), and safety and security enhancements (\$250k). The Carroll Gardens branch is an unrenovated, heavily-utilized Carnegie branch. The building's critical infrastructure needs to be upgraded.</i>
Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	9 / 25 DCAS	<b>Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a window replacement project for 250 Baltic Street in the Cobble Hill Historic District. This 1936 building still has the original single-paned and uninsulated windows making them highly inefficient energy-wasting devices which negatively contribute to the building tenants' comfort and safety. Modern, energy- efficient windows appropriately designed to area's historic district would go a long way toward reducing heating and cooling costs, improving safety, and creating a vastly improved work environment for the State, City and non- profit entities that occupy the space in this City- owned building. While the City-State have talked about changing ownership status</i>

*of this building for more than a decade, it will crumble*

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Reconstruct streets	10 / 25 DOT	<b>Reconstruct streets</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the reconstruction of Court Street from Atlantic to Hamilton Avenues with historic amenities. Preliminary Design Investigation to ascertain the condition of the infrastructure along the project limits. Relocate all utility service boxes below ground, repair/replace missing curb sections, reset curb elevations, repair concrete bus pads and repair defective sidewalk conditions. Use granite curb, bluestone or pigmented concrete sidewalks, historic replica street hardware including street lights, poles-in-ground, fire alarm boxes and hydrants. Also, the inclusion of appropriate traffic calming devices such as, but not limited to, neck downs, bus bulbs, etc. as called for in the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming project.</i>
Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	11 / 25 DOT	<b>Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)</b>	<i>Sufficient funds should be allocated toward the inclusion of special treatment street resurfacing work in the department's development of future contract work to incorporate the restoration, preservation and maintenance of cobblestone streets. This construction material serves as a traffic calming device, is far more durable than commonly used asphalt material, is a signature characteristic of streets in our Red Hook community and enhances the historic integrity of the community.</i>
Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	12 / 25 SCA	<b>Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 321 gymnasium at 180 7th Avenue in Park Slope. The poor acoustics in the gymnasium prevents it from being effectively used a multi-purpose space in a school that is historically crowded and in need of additional space. A relatively small project to soundproof the gymnasium would enhance school space utilization, making it more suitable for a wider variety of uses.</i>
Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an	13 / 25 BPL	<b>Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an</b>	<i>Funds in the amount of \$3.0M are requested for the design and construction of roof and restoration of</i>

existing public library	<b>existing public library</b>	<i>skylights (\$1.0M) and exterior renovations (\$2.0M) for the Park Slope branch library. The Park Slope library was recently reopened after an extensive interior renovation. This heavily-utilized branch and beloved community institution is one of the three landmarked Carnegie branches in the BPL system. A total exterior renovation would include brick work, refurbished wrought-iron fencing, stonework/repair of concrete entrance stairs, improved signage, landscaping, and sidewalk repair work.</i>
Reconstruct streets	14 / 25 DOT	<b>Reconstruct streets</b>  <i>Sufficient funds are requested to remediate the problems associated with the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Trench running through our district parallel to Hicks Street. The BQE Trench inhibits local access and mobility between the Columbia Waterfront, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill neighborhoods. The concentration of traffic flowing through the trench creates vibrations, noise, odors and other air emissions that impact the residential communities adjacent to the trench. The trench provides opportunities to create new open space and expand resiliency measures (photovoltaics, storm water capture/diversion, etc.). Building on the momentum of a prior study's findings, remedies and opportunities must now be considered, funded and constructed.</i>
Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless	15 / 25 HPD	<b>Provide more housing for special needs households, such as the formerly homeless</b>  <i>Sufficient funds are requested for the planning, site selection/acquisition, development and construction of affordable senior housing in the Carroll Gardens section of our district.</i>
Other transportation infrastructure requests	16 / 25 DOT	<b>Other transportation infrastructure requests</b>  <i>Sufficient funds are requested for the construction of traffic safety median islands in the Furman-Atlantic-Columbia transition area, the approach to Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6 public park, and area growing in popularity and increasingly traveled by pedestrians and recreation users. Prior to the opening of Pier 6, this area was generally unused by pedestrians and was almost exclusively a southbound route used by commuters seeking to avoid the Brooklyn-Queens</i>

*Expressway. Now, with the opening of Pier 6 and the two-way conversion of Furman Street, vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns have completely altered the use and complexion of this bustling area. Immediate in-house improvements have done a lot to improve safety, at the cost of aesthetics.*

Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests	17 / 25 NYPD	<b>Other NYPD facilities and equipment requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition of radar speed signs to provide advisories to motorists in areas where speeding is suspected or confirmed. Radar Speed Signs can provide a constant monitoring presence to help raise awareness and act as a potential deterrent. Compliance with the City's new 25MPH speed limit relies on an enforcement presence which, at best, can be challenging given limitations of manpower and competing deployment priorities; to some degree these signs can help augment these limitations.</i>
Other transportation infrastructure requests	18 / 25 DOT	<b>Other transportation infrastructure requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a replacement of the existing standard-issue cobra head street lights with appropriate historic replica street lights in the neighborhoods of Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens. Currently, only Atlantic Avenue, Clinton Street and Smith Street in these neighborhoods have such amenities. The balance of the neighborhood's street lights should be replaced to enhance and restore the historic integrity of these landmark districts and historically-sensitive areas.</i>
Repair or construct sidewalks, curbs, or pedestrian ramps	19 / 25 DOT	<b>Repair or construct sidewalks, curbs, or pedestrian ramps</b>	<i>In addition to the regular cement sidewalk replacement activity, we request that the department broaden its scope to include the option of restoring by contract those sidewalks which include special treatments, notably bluestone material. Not only is bluestone a more durable material with significantly longer life expectancy, it also serves to enhance the historic integrity and value of the community. Many property owners are willing to pay the extra cost to have this option, especially given the City's ability to leverage lower cost through bulk contracting.</i>
Other NYPD facilities and	20 / 25 NYPD	<b>Other NYPD facilities and</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition and deployment of Variable</i>

equipment requests

**equipment requests**

*Message Boards (VMBs), at least one per precinct, to be used to advise the public of upcoming street closures, events, alerts and other vital information that would enhance public safety and preparedness. The strategic placement of VMBs can provide important directions, reduce traffic congestion, and otherwise assist NYPD in messaging information to the public. Precinct Commanders should have the flexibility to deploy VMBs as needed and in response to ongoing changing conditions within the precinct.*

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Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts

21 / 25  
EDC

**Invest in infrastructure that will support growth in commercial business districts**

*Sufficient funds are requested for the planning and construction of a cross harbor freight tunnel to link New York and New Jersey by rail to 1) provide for the efficient movement of bulk goods through the region, 2) reduce the amount of truck traffic with its corresponding impacts on traffic volumes, air quality, public safety, etc., and 3) expand opportunities for economic growth in the region. Transportation is one of the most significant obstacles to growth in the region, as our bridges, tunnels and highways experience on a daily basis. Without taking advantage of the area's features - its waterfront and untapped rail potential - further economic growth in the region is threatened. Replacing truck use by rail and barge options should be our top priority. (REQUEST IS FOR PANYNJ!)*

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Reconstruct streets

22 / 25  
DOT

**Reconstruct streets**

*Sufficient funds are requested for the acquisition, mapping, design and construction of a new City street which would extend Conover Street northward from Pioneer Street to Hamilton Avenue in Red Hook. This new street will not only provide additional capacity to handle the new traffic volumes destined for the cruise ship terminal under construction at Pier 12, but will also provide an alternative for the relocation of the Van Brunt Street leg of the City's local Truck Route network in Red Hook. It will ensure that the local street grid is not only not negatively impacted by the cruise terminal traffic but that it will benefit from relieving Van Brunt Street of trucks and removing the existing conflict by directing trucks closer to the*

Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	23 / 25 DSNY	<b>Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the relocation of BK2 District Sanitation Garage and Broom Garage into the Community Board 2 district to comply with coterminality requirements of the Charter. In the interim, we encourage the department to explore alternatives at the current garage location at 127 2nd Avenue including the reconstruction of the existing garage (addition of a story?) to fully accommodate all fleet vehicles and equipment off the street and sidewalk and under one roof.</i>
Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	24 / 25 DPR	<b>Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a new park--Columbia Waterfront Park--on the City-owned properties along the westside of Columbia Street between Kane and Degraw Streets. These properties are currently in the Department of Transportation's portfolio but they have agreed to release them for the development of a future park to be built there. Much work has already gone into conceptualizing a park use of the space which, with an adequate budget, can be easily adapted into designs and construction plans.</i>
Renovate other site component	25 / 25 SCA	<b>Renovate other site component</b>	<i>Funds in the amount of at least \$150,000 are requested for the design and construction of a soundproofing project at the PS 39 cafeteria at 417 6th Avenue in Park Slope. The tiny cave-like basement cafeteria is the largest open space in the school. The low tin roof and cement walls do little to absorb the loud whir of giant freezers or the noise of the fans used to cool the space due to the lack of air conditioning and window space. When you add more than 350 students during lunchtime the sounds reverberate around the room. The noise drowns out any conversations happening at the tables. By adding wall &amp; ceiling mounted sound panels, extraneous noise will be lessened to manageable levels.</i>
Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	CS FDNY	<b>Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to equip every firehouse with an emergency generator to ensure continuous electrical supply. Firehouses serve as cooling stations during heat emergencies and, in</i>

*general, serve the public as a critical local public safety facility for emergency and medical services. Maintaining electrical supply is essential both from an operational standpoint and to maintain a high degree of public confidence in the department's ability to provide a safe haven during times of crisis. We lost service to one of our firehouses in Red Hook during Hurricane Sandy, and would suggest that this site become an immediate priority.*

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Other capital budget request for DEP	CS DEP	<b>Other capital budget request for DEP</b>	<i>DEP: Sufficient funds are requested for the area wide installation of green infrastructure including, but not limited to, bioswales, offline retention capacities, rain barrels, pervious surface treatments, and other best management practices, to aggressively prevent storm water from entering into the sewer system. Reduction of storm water entry into the system is necessary to reduce the amount of Combined Sewer Overflow events that occur, particularly within the Gowanus watershed area.</i>
Invest in capital projects to improve access to waterfront	CS EDC	<b>Invest in capital projects to improve access to waterfront</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of a maritime cultural use at the Atlantic Basin, as we previously suggested, discussed and promised by EDC during and since the development of their Piers 6-12 study for the Brooklyn Waterfront. Many years have lapsed since the study, yet there is no cultural use in place despite the agency's commitments to the community. Funds are needed to provide suitable docking facilities, upland connections and necessary infrastructure (electrical, water, sewage, etc.) to support such a use.</i>
Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	CS NYCHA	<b>Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a redesign and rehabilitation of the existing Wyckoff Gardens Community Center to allow for a more efficient and effective use of the space. Modernization should include but not be limited to such items as improved security system, new lighting/electrical systems, HVAC/plumbing upgrades, painting and masonry. A solar energy system should also be added to the rooftop as a sustainability and resiliency measure to enable the center to remain powered in the event of electrical grid</i>

Other transportation infrastructure requests	CS DOT	<b>Other transportation infrastructure requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>
Other transportation infrastructure requests	CS DOT	<b>Other transportation infrastructure requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to fully fund project #SEK20068 for preliminary design investigations, final design and ultimate repair of the 9th Street and Second Avenue corridors abutting the Gowanus Canal. Issues that need to be addressed include negative and insufficient curbs that have resulted in flooding and drainage problems, defective and missing sidewalks and episodic infrastructure failures on 2nd Ave. Frequent and substantial roadway ponding occurs along 9th Street--a mapped Coastal Evacuation Route--which, coupled with new and growing demands in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, requires that the street be a more reliable emergency traffic conveyor and able to withstand rainfall events without</i>
Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	CS DOT	<b>Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming</b>	<i>In conjunction with the city's infrastructure work being planned under HWK700B, sufficient funds are requested to undertake the design investigation and construction of appropriate amenities and traffic calming devices to facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians and traffic. Such amenities could include, but not be limited to, the reintroduction of cobblestone treatments, historic lighting, granite curbs, etc. The scope of the existing street reconstruction project should be expanded to include a full</i>

*electrical upgrade for all of Red Hook with the goal of burying the vulnerable, above-ground electrical lines and ensuring that the grid is modern and able to withstand future events like Hurricane Sandy which plunged the area into darkness for months.*

Reconstruct streets	CS DOT	<b>Reconstruct streets</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the design and construction of new traffic medians on 4th Avenue between Pacific Street and 8th Streets that would improve pedestrian and vehicular safety along this busy traffic corridor. New medians would include protected pedestrian refuge areas and raised, planted medians with irrigation systems, that would prevent unsafe and unpredictable pedestrian behavior which occurs frequently and is likely a contributing cause to high accident rates along the corridor.</i>
Reconstruct streets	CS DOT	<b>Reconstruct streets</b>	<i>Funds in the amount of \$26,300,000 are requested to undertake a reconstruction of the Union Street Bridge (HBK1213), a double-leaf Scherzer Bascule bridge which spans the Gowanus Canal. This bridge received a FAIR rating yet is one of the few east-west connectors that provide access and mobility throughout our district. It is a vital corridor that links our waterfront to inland points. Deferred public investment increases the vulnerability of this structure as unanticipated structural failures may occur, resulting in increased cost and time of repair and unwarranted impacts on the surrounding community. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.</i>
Rehabilitate bridges	CS DOT	<b>Rehabilitate bridges</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for a full rehabilitation of the 3rd Street Bridge (HBKC068), a double-leaf Bascule Bridge spanning the Gowanus Canal, to improve long- term viability of the structure. For the sake of access and mobility through the district, there are only a handful of east-west connectors that span the Gowanus Canal, on which the community is wholly reliant. Deferred investment increases the likelihood of structural failures, more costly repairs,</i>

*and longer periods of disruption and inconvenience to the community when the bridge is out of service. We would also like a modified riding surface for the bicycle lane section of the bridge to make it safer and more comfortable for the cyclists who use this segment of the network.*

Other transit infrastructure requests	CS NYCTA	<b>Other transit infrastructure requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the installation of cellular/Wi-Fi service in subways systems as a way of improving public safety by increasing channels of communication between riders and emergency service providers in the event that emergency assistance is needed.</i>
Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	CS DPR	<b>Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to undertake a series of Capital improvements to Prospect Park including, but not limited to: Lakeside Project (\$9 mil additional), Long Meadow ball fields (\$1.2 mil), lighting at Grand Army Plaza and the arch at Grand Army Plaza, and a continuation of traffic improvements at the Grand Army Plaza circle.</i>

## EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Title	Priority Agency	Request	Explanation
Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	1 / 22 DOE	<b>Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services</b>	<i>Funds are requested to expand access to free and low-cost day care services within CB6. There are only 3 child care facilities that take city vouchers within CB6. This is a critical economic issue: parents without access to affordable, high-quality, accessible day care for their children cannot work. Funding should increase the number of child care facilities in CB6 that accept vouchers, increase the amount of the vouchers, and make vouchers or other city-funded daycare options available to more residents.</i>
Funding for a new senior center program	2 / 22 DFTA	<b>Funding for a new senior center program</b>	<i>Sufficient funding is requested to increase baseline operating budget allocations in existing senior centers. At a minimum, additional funding is sought to help keep pace with cost of living increases which over time take more and</i>

			<i>more resources away from the base operating budgets from programming and salary monies. Effectively, by not providing for regular, modest increases the senior centers' budgets are being decreased over time as basic costs only go up. This need is especially pressing with an aging population, as more and more "baby boomers" will be placing increasing demands on these facilities, which is anticipated to increase in the near future.</i>
Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	3 / 22 DOE	<b>Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs</b>	<i>Conduct an assessment of alternatives to expand publicly funded early childhood programs in the Gowanus neighborhood: The EIS reports that rezoning would result in a significant adverse impact on publicly funded early childhood programs. As stated, "With the Proposed Actions, child care facilities would operate over capacity by approximately 1,700 slots and exhibit an increase in the utilization rate of approximately 25 percentage points over the No Action condition. Possible mitigation measures for this significant adverse impact may include provision of suitable space in projected developments for early childhood programs, provision of suitable locations within the study area that are also within a reasonable distance (at a rate affordable to NYC DOC providers).</i>
Other workforce development requests	4 / 22 SBS	<b>Other workforce development requests</b>	<i>Fund workforce development and training in Gowanus and Red Hook: The City must aggressively address unemployment levels in Red Hook and Gowanus, which are disproportionately high – not just relative the district overall, but to other neighborhoods in the City. For example, In Red Hook Houses, based on the most recently available income data for the census tract, 47% of residents live below the federal poverty line, and 31% of residents over 25 years old are unemployed. Residents of the Gowanus neighborhood – and particularly Gowanus Houses – also suffer from significant economic, educational and health disparities and historic City and Federal underinvestment that is manifested in housing quality and conditions.</i>
Provide more	5 / 22	<b>Provide more</b>	<i>Funding in the amount of \$450,000 is</i>

community board staff	OMB	<b>community board staff</b>	<i>requested in order for Community Boards to fulfill their Charter mandated roles to plan and advocate for neighborhood needs. An increase in funds will be used to fund the hiring of a full-time urban planner, to keep pace with cost of living adjustments which have never been applied to Community Boards, to upgrade complaint systems software which was previously supplied and supported by prior Administrations and to expand District Office functionality with the purchase of additional equipment and supplies. Increases to budget due to collective bargaining agreements and maintaining the budget at its current level do not address this request; both are effectively negative responses which should trigger a separate letter explaining the agency's position.</i>
Invest in planning for transportation-oriented infrastructure	6 / 22 EDC	<b>Invest in planning for transportation-oriented infrastructure</b>	<i>The public and private shoreline infrastructure along the industrial waterfront is aging and needs investment. This is particularly urgent because the City must require or encourage last-mile distribution warehouses to increase the use of water-borne delivery. This will require capital investment, but will also include expenses for non-infrastructure changes. This is not a new need, but has become more urgent as the new last-mile distribution warehouses will increase trucking through the neighborhood, with concomitant traffic safety, road wear, and environmental pollution. According to DCP's Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, "with advancements in the manufacturing, freight, and energy sectors, our city's waterfront industrial zones will remain important, multi-faceted hubs.</i>
Other programs to address public health issues requests	7 / 22 DOHMH	<b>Other programs to address public health issues requests</b>	<i>Expand health programs in Red Hook to address needs identified in the Red Hook Community Health Needs and Assets Assessment (CHNA). The CHNA was conducted with support from the NYU Langone Health Community Service Plan. The assessment was planned by a team of six organizations: The Alex House Project, Family Health Centers at NYU Langone, Good Shepherd Services, NYU</i>

*Langone Health Department of Population Health, Red Hook Community Justice Center, and the Red Hook Initiative. According to surveys, focus groups, and data research, top issues are asthma, mental health and diabetes*

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Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	8 / 22 SBS	<b>Provide or expand occupational skills training programs</b>	<i>Funds are requested to increase the capacity of NYCHA direct-entry union training programs. Membership in a union is a prerequisite for NYCHA residents to participate in the city's new community hiring program. The current program is extremely successful but its capacity is only 100 residents. Building extra capacity would unlock the life-changing benefits of this program for CB6 NYCHA residents.</i>
Other domestic violence services requests	9 / 22 HRA	<b>Other domestic violence services requests</b>	<i>Additional funding is requested to expand the spectrum of services that provide assistance to victims of domestic violence - from counseling to protection to shelter - in order to ensure that adequate resources exist to help this vulnerable population in need. Outreach and promotional materials are needed to reach the population, provide them with convenient access to services and help educate communities on the importance of these services to remove any fear and stigma that may be attached to these facilities.</i>
Conduct a commercial district needs assessment	10 / 22 SBS	<b>Conduct a commercial district needs assessment</b>	<i>Undertake a Commercial District Needs Assessment on the District's main shopping corridors: According to the DCP, "retail corridors subject to multiple cross-currents that influence retail mix and vacancy. These include the rise of ecommerce, demographic shifts, real estate market trends, local building stock, and other conditions that may vary from street to street. A deeper dive into local trends is needed to understand vacancy conditions. Many factors influence storefront use trends, and monitoring conditions can aid the development of effective policies. "" An October 2020 assessment in Patch reported that the : "Coronavirus crisis doubled empty stores on Park Slope's Fifth Avenue.</i>
Other programs to address	11 / 22 DOHMH	<b>Other programs to address public</b>	<i>Conduct narrowly targeted community health assessments in low-income</i>

public health issues requests		<b>health issues requests</b>	<i>sections of the district, rather than rely solely on district-wide data. The district's data (health, economic, social, and population health related) is based on the district as a whole (or in some cases at the zip code level); unfortunately, as a whole, the district has excellent health. However, this masks the inequities in specific communities within the district. The Community Health Needs and Assets study by NYU Langone and Red Hook community partners identified high rates and concerns about asthma, diabetes and heart disease.</i>
Other expense budget request for SBS	12 / 22 SBS	<b>Other expense budget request for SBS</b>	<i>SBS: Sufficient funds are requested to support existing and enable additional groups to embark on feasibility studies and supportive planning activities to move toward the formation of additional Business Improvement Districts (BID) in appropriate commercial and industrial areas. BIDs are proven to be an asset for the City insofar as they provide needed administrative infrastructure designed to support local commerce at the neighborhood level. Furthermore, the expansion of BIDs from the traditional commercial into the industrial sector will enable the City to better protect the fragile manufacturing sector, which often produces higher wage paying jobs, with specialty skills, and reduces the cost of goods in the City by making us less reliant on imports.</i>
Other housing support requests	13 / 22 NYCHA	<b>Other housing support requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the expansion of NYCHA Maintenance personnel staff, perhaps through the creation of an in-house training program that would take employable NYCHA residents and train them in the skilled trades in an apprenticeship program and workforce development initiative. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates could be placed in maintenance and construction positions in the private market through the NYCHA- REES program.</i>
Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers	14 / 22 DPR	<b>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</b>	<i>Funds are requested for upgrades including resumption of the compost program at Red Hook Community Farms, a youth-led food justice program. Since curbside composting programs were cut</i>

*due to the pandemic, the most-asked question at the farm has been "Are you all accepting food scraps for composting?" Red Hook has no farmer's market and so no access to even private food-scrap composting operations. As such, all food scraps are going to landfills (a city-wide increase of 100 million pounds / year) - food scraps that could instead be used to create rich compost at a local site that already has capacity and expertise, and increase community cohesion, youth empowerment to boot.*

Other NYPD staff resources requests	15 / 22 NYPD	<b>Other NYPD staff resources requests</b>	<i>Reallocate budget resources to restore NYPD bicycle patrols. Bicycle patrols provide a lowcost option for policing that combines the best elements of vehicular access with flexible patrol routes. With increased bicycling, and the call for better enforcement of bicycling rules, it would also provide a more convenient way for police to engage other bicyclists in the proper education and enforcement of the rules of the road. Previous bicycle patrols involved the use of vouchered and donated bicycles making this a cost-effective program that should be reinstated.</i>
Other NYPD programs requests	16 / 22 NYPD	<b>Other NYPD programs requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to provide for a substantial increase in dedicated Truck Enforcement Program personnel to meet the overwhelming demand in our community for aggressive truck enforcement. Adherence to Truck Routes is necessary to reduce conflicts with, and impact on residential safety and quality of life. To protect and preserve public safety, effective enforcement is needed to combat pervasive and dangerous violations. Clear, publicly visible truck route signage is also requested to help enforce these routes.</i>
Other park maintenance and safety requests	17 / 22 DPR	<b>Other park maintenance and safety requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Maintenance personnel to provide for vital maintenance and report of Parks facilities. With the added supervisory role Parks Maintenance workers perform through the departmental use of JTP and other volunteer workers, more staff are needed to continue to fulfill the traditional roles and tasks performed by Parks Maintenance staff.</i>

Other park maintenance and safety requests	18 / 22 DPR	<b>Other park maintenance and safety requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore Parks Recreation personnel to increase the inventory and range of recreation options available particularly to our teenage youth population. With fewer part-time job opportunities and shrinking afterschool programs we are looking to increase the number of constructive options for this population to keep them engaged in productive, supervised activities.</i>
Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	19 / 22 DSNY	<b>Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested to restore the frequency of litter basket service to a minimum of two collections per day, especially on weekends, along busy commercial corridors such as Van Brunt Street, Columbia Street, Court Street, Smith Street, 5th Avenue, 7th Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue. Overflowing litter baskets create additional work for the department in discretionary cleaning, contributes to the clogging of catch basins, and results in the unfair issuance of summonses to victims of the strewn litter. Litter on commercial strips negatively contributes to the consumer's shopping experience, detracts from the residents' quality of life, and forces the businesses to shoulder the burden for the City after the mess.</i>
Other traffic improvement requests	20 / 22 DOT	<b>Other traffic improvement requests</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for restoration of full- time (non-seasonal) work gangs to respond to year- round routine maintenance calls for potholes and street depressions. There has been a noticeable decrease in productivity and increase in response times in this area attributable to significant loss of manpower. There has also been a significant delay in pothole response times during the winter-spring transition which could be remedied by maintaining more year-round personnel to respond to complaints.</i>
Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	21 / 22 DOHMH	<b>Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations</b>	<i>Sufficient funds are requested for the hire of additional Health/Pest Control Inspectors for initial field evaluations and compliance inspections. At least one inspector per Community Board ought to be assigned to eliminate bottlenecks in Pest Control servicing, ensure that annual inspections of Health- Licensed</i>

*facilities can occur, improve agency's productivity and reduce response times for complaint investigation.*

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Other programs to address public health issues requests	22 / 22 DOHMH	<b>Other programs to address public health issues requests</b>	<i>Expand the DOHMH's healthy food access programs such as Shop Healthy, healthy corner stores, Green Carts and the FRESH programto include Red Hook. Access to healthy affordable foods has long been a challenge for residents of Red Hook, but the neighborhood is not eligible for these healthy food access programs. : In the 2018 Community Health Needs and Assets Assessment by NYU Langone, Red Hook Initiative, Good Shepherd Services and several other community partners, Healthy food options seem limited and too expensive to many Red Hook residents. 58% of survey respondents reported not having places in the neighborhood to buy affordable fresh fruits and vegetables.</i>
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