Statements of Community
District Needs
and
Community Board
Budget Requests

Fiscal Year 2022



Bronx Community District

# INTRODUCTION

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

# **HOW TO USE THIS REPORT**

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

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

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact: <u>CDNEEDS DL@planning.nyc.gov</u>

This report is broadly structured as follows:

### 1. Overarching Community District Needs

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

### 2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

#### 3. Community Board Budget Requests

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

#### Disclaimer

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

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

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

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

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# 1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

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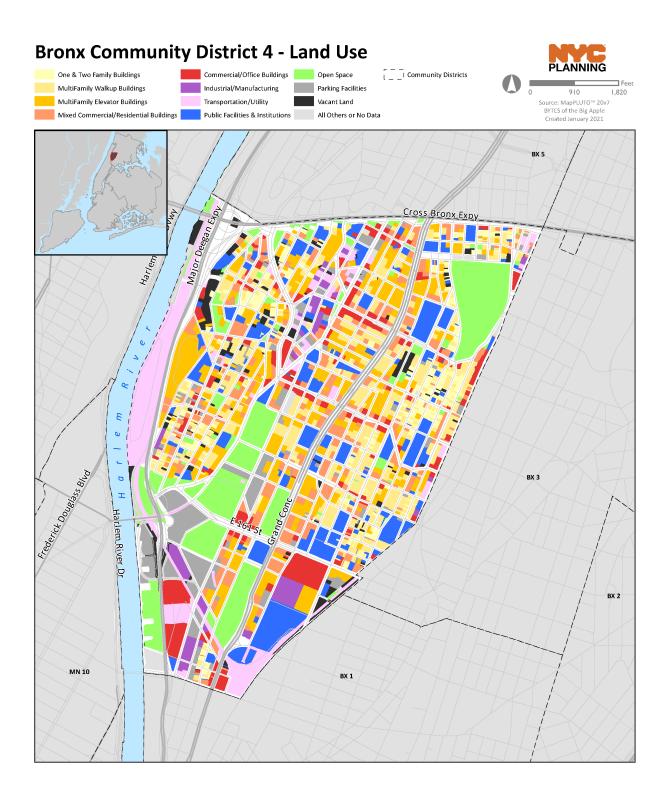
Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb4

Chair: Kathleen Saunders

District Manager: Paul Philps

# 2. COMMUNITY DISTRICT PROFILE AND LAND USE MAP

For the most up-to-date information about your Community District's built environment, socioeconomic, and demographic conditions, please visit NYC Department of City Planning's Community District Profiles tool at <a href="mailto:communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov">communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov</a>.



# 3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Community District Four, the Capital District, is made up of the following neighborhoods: Mt. Eden. Highbridge, West Concourse, East Concourse, and Concourse Village. Our district is bounded by the Cross Bronx Expressway to the North, East 149th Street to the South, Webster to Park Avenue on the East and the Harlem River on the West. Over 146,000 residents call Community District Four home. We celebrate their distinct cultures and points of view. Our district is a great place to visit, work and live. We are the host to the world-renown Yankee Stadium, Bronx Terminal Market/Gateway Center, the Borough's Court System, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the future home of the Bronx Children's Museum and NYCFC soccer team. Important architecture abounds and is foregrounded by an astounding array of revivalist styles such as Tudor, Renaissance, and Colonial Revival, and Art Deco buildings within the Grand Concourse Historic District. We continue to attract public and private investment leveraging our locational advantages; we are 20 minutes from midtown Manhattan, have excellent transit access including multiple subway lines, regional access with the Metro North and Major Deegan Expressway, and an extraordinary network of open space and recreational facilities. Bronx Point, which will be located along 149th Street and the Harlem River, will include new amenities at Mill Pond Park, 1,000 units of affordable housing and the future home of the Universal Hip Hop Museum. The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Plan approved by City Council in March 2018 resulted in \$189 million invested for the creation and preservation of affordable housing, design and construction of new open space and a new state-of-the art middle school. Advocacy to support the additional density resulted in the MTA announcing installation of an elevator at 170th Street station on #4 train as part of 2020-2024 Capital Plan. Many of those investments are well underway including the construction of nearly 1,000 units of affordable housing and design of Corporal Irwin Fischer and Grant Park.

While we welcome these investments, many of which are long overdue, we are now faced with an abundance of uncertainty and devastation due to COVID-19, racial injustice and lack of support and leadership at the Federal level. NYC faced a \$9 billion budget deficit for FY 2021. We do not expect those losses to be recouped during the next budget cycle. Residents are already feeling the effects as sanitation services have been cut and funding for parks staff is insufficient to address the increased use of local parks and time spent at home.

Unemployment nationally is 8.4% while the Bronx is 21%. Alarmingly, Community District Four it is closer to 30%. In a District where many people are struggling on a day-to-day basis, we need to invest and allocate more resources to job training/development and job creation to provide a robust employment network for area residents. While there is currently a moratorium on evictions, eventually that will come to an end meaning thousands of residents face eviction.

New York City has seen more than 2,800 small businesses shutter their doors over the last six months, 30% of those being restaurants. Bronx businesses were hit particularly hard with the absence of fans at Yankee baseball games and the unfortunate looting that took place, exacerbating the financial strain on local businesses. The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) administered two of the city's COVID-19 relief programs: the *NYC Business Continuity Loan Fund* and the *NYC Employee Retention Grant*. The loan fund had a total of \$20 million redistributed, while the grant had \$40 million. The Bronx received just 3% of the Continuity Loan funds and 2% of the Employee Retention Grant. Just like residential tenants, the fear of eviction for commercial tenants looms large.

Few districts, if any, were hit harder by COVID-19 than Community District Four. It has been well documented that COVID-19 has hit communities of color at an alarming and disproportionate rate. According to the CDC, hospitalization rates among Black and American Indian or Alaska Native people were about five times that of white people while the rate for Hispanic or Latino people is four times that of white people. The areas of Highbridge and Concourse had a total of 3,091 cases, 178 deaths, and a 132% positivity rate. Compare that to Fieldston/Riverdale, a far more affluent area with a dramatically different demographic and socio-economic profile, which to date had a total of 928 cases, 89 deaths and a 9% positivity rate.

Generally, we welcome the construction of new affordable housing at a wide range of incomes to serve everybody in the district. However, at this moment the preservation of our existing housing stock is on the critical path. Nearly 80% of all rental housing units in the district are rent stabilized. That being said, the rent moratorium will end on January 1, 2021 which will mean that hundreds of thousands of area residents could be facing eviction. The City must step up to assist residents in addressing rental arrears and assist landlords in maintaining their buildings.

Quality of life issues including crime, graffiti, public safety and sanitation are major concerns to area residents. While traffic is currently not a concern, when life resumes to normal activities such as Yankee games, concerts, football, soccer games and tour buses will increase the levels of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Indeed, investments in infrastructure is one of our greatest needs. Roads, subways and buses are bursting at the seams. The construction of the 153rd Street Bridge would not only provide relief for area traffic congestion; it would create significant economic development opportunities including jobs and transform the landscape of the South Bronx.

The nation and the city are facing unprecedented challenges economically, socially and politically. We have made extraordinary progress over the last two decades, rebounding from the devastation and disinvestment of the 1970's and 1980's. We demonstrated our resiliency then and we intend to replicate those efforts now. However our desire and fortitude alone will not achieve that goal. We need the cooperation and commitment of the City and City Agencies to recognize the gaps and act appropriately. United we stand, divided we fall.

# 4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

### Affordable housing

Nearly eighty percent of the housing stock in the district is rent-stabilized. The preservation of our current housing stock is on the critical path for area residents. The City must make a concerted effort to support those tenants in arrears and assist landlords in maintaining their buildings. The City invests hundreds of millions of dollars in construction of new affordable housing. Currently, HPD estimates more than 3,300 affordable housing units based on developer interest in their pipeline (According to latest estimates, October 2020). We urge the City to divert some of the funding for new construction to assist in the preservation of existing housing stock, specifically a grant program to assist tenants in arrears. We also implore the City to implement Area Median Income (AMI) Income Averaging to ensure that any new affordable housing constructed in the district encompasses a wider range and mix of incomes as opposed to strict income ranges that do not support economic diversity within new housing stock. Additionally, the vacancy rate for NYC apartments is the highest it has been since the 1990's. This represents an additional opportunity for the city to work with landlords to ensure that every resident has clean, safe affordable housing.

### Crime and public safety

Crime and public safety have become a hot-button issue across this nation, and NYC is no exception. The dissolution of the NYPD anti-crime unit has accelerated the unprecedented number of guns currently on our streets and increased crime across the city. This summer we suffered through one of the most violent and disruptive summers in decades. Area residents were subjected to fireworks well before and after the 4th of July. Unsanctioned block parties, barbeques in the park and on city streets became the norm. As the temperature increased so did the violence. As of October 4, 2020, year-to-date, NYC has seen a 36% increase in murder, 41% increase in burglary and 62% increase in Grand Larceny Auto (Compstat). The 44th precinct has seen a 42% % increase in murder, 39% increase in burglary and 57% increase in Grand Larceny Auto. This includes a 95% increase in shooting victims (45 versus 23) and a 400% increase in hate crimes. These numbers pale in comparison to the triple-digit increases across all categories experienced during the summer peak. The newly formed Public Safety Unit, which includes three sergeants and 24 officers, has been successful, but we need more officers in this unit as well as an increase in NCO officers to combat these on-going issues. The City needs to be strategic about diverting funds from NYPD at a time when we need them and support resources.

#### Quality of life issues (noise, graffiti, petty crime, etc.)

The ongoing issue of noise complaints-- (particularly in the summer months--) is a result of large groups of people congregating and hanging out on residential blocks thereby impeding residents' ability to coexist peacefully and enjoy the sanctity of their homes. The severe increase of on-street activity, parties, loud music and noise has time and time again tried the patience of local residents. 311 complaints are not being properly addressed or disseminated to the appropriate agency. Now more than ever we need the City to provide the resources and services that we deserve and need. during these critical moments.

# 5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

### **HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES**

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

### Chronic diseases prevention and management (diabetes, heart disease, etc.)

The prevalence of obesity which can lead to diabetes and hypertension factor prominently in the health profile of many local residents. Poverty also plays a key role, as thirty-two percent of area residents live in poverty as compared to twenty-percent of NYC residents. According to the 2018 Community Health Profile, the adult obesity rate is 34% higher than the rest of NYC. Obesity can lead to high-blood pressure, diabetes and other chronic diseases. Seventeen percent of residents have been diagnosed with diabetes and 42% of adults have been diagnosed with hypertension. These and other factors contribute to the high prevalence of chronic diseases that are not well managed in the district. It is well documented that those with pre-existing conditions are at higher risks to contract COVID-19 and it can have catastrophic effects during incubation and post recovery. It is also well documented that COVID-19 has affected communities of color far more than any other demographic. It is also important to note that our district has an AMI of roughly \$29,000, one of the lowest in the Borough and in NYC underscoring the level of poverty throughout the district. Devising interventions to combat these chronic illnesses should be a top priority as they are important to so many other facets of life. Health care facilities and health care for area residents should be a top priority. It impacts all other areas of life including employment (the ability to work) which ties directly to the housing and education. We advocate for community-based education, programming and services focused on health and wellness with a focus on access to healthy food and active living. COVID-19 has underscored the dire need for area residents to seek and obtain preventive care and improve their overall health profile. DOHMH in collaboration with CDOT and DPR and a strong network of community-based organizations can effectively work to improve the District's health profile. While we are asked to choose the "Most Important Issue" related to Health Care and Human Services in these unprecedented times we cannot ignore the needs related to food access and healthy foods, mental health, services for seniors, victims of domestic violence and other vulnerable populations. We are all in need but our health and wellness tie directly to our ability to be successful in all areas of life.

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

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

Lack of health care facilities and services available to area residents has taken center stage during the pandemic. High percentages of residents with pre-existing conditions and the high positivity rates and deaths related to COVID-19 make the siting of new health care facilities extremely important. In particular in the Highbridge neighborhood where residents are isolated with limited access to services and programming.

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

As the senior population grows in the Borough and the District we must ensure that we actively engage in programs and services to benefit our elderly population. We need to advocate for more affordable senior housing so that those who have worked and contributed to keep our district stable during the crisis decades can benefit from our transformation. We also need to ensure that programs are in place to address limited mobility for our seniors, particularly during the pandemic.

#### **Needs for Homeless**

Community District Four continues to lead all districts city-wide in the number of homeless facilities and homeless people it shelters. Homelessness is a serious issue in New York City and we have done our part in working with organizations that provide supportive housing in our community and taking on more than our fair share of these types of facilities. We are skeptical of the City's plan to reduce the homeless population and the number of facilities in our district from 3,700 to 2,500 by the end of calendar year

2021. In recent months, DHS announced they would be utilizing a Ramada Inn located on Gerard Avenue and 153rd Street to isolate some of the most vulnerable residents. This is contrary to a policy statement issued by the city several years ago stating they would no longer use commercial hotels to house the homeless? It should be noted that since its utilization as temporary housing for vulnerable shelter residents there have been numerous complaints of loitering, smoking and garbage.

COVID-19 has impeded thousands of people's ability to work and earn an income. While there is a moratorium on rent, it is only a matter of time before the arrears and Housing Court cases collide and thousands more people could be added to the existing homeless population. The concept of "fair share" is deeply flawed as there appears no real mechanism to enforce that policy. Numbers tell the story and Community District Four continues to lead all community districts in the number of shelter facilities and the number of homeless people sheltered in addition to having the only DHS intake facility in the borough, distinctions we are less than thrilled about. We will continue to reiterate our position that we are uninterested in the siting of any new facilities in our district or increasing the number of homeless families and individuals we house. DHS and the City must present a concrete plan that outlines step by step, brick by brick how they plan to allay the fears and concerns outlined. Furthermore, we request quarterly reports from DHS on the progress of their reduction plan and overall status of facilities in the district. We have been extremely patient with DHS and the City but there comes a point to where the plan in action and reality do not match up. We refuse to continue to accept the status quo. We deserve and demand far better.

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

Housing and food access have become extremely scarce for area residents during the pandemic. While the rent moratorium provides some relief, the reality is around the corner. This coupled with lack of employment, unemployment and the high cost of food paints a stark picture for area residents. The City should focus on a public service campaign encouraging students and their families to shop healthy (vegetables, fruit,etc) promoting the PEBT (Pandemic EBT)

There also needs to be a concerted interagency effort to support job training, development and placement. SBS, DHS,HRA, EDC and HPD should be working together to create a job pipeline for area residents.

# **Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/31	HHC	Provide a new or expanded health care facility	The gap in health programs and services necessitates the need to provide more facilities. There are any number of city-sponsored/funded projects where the City could partner with BronxCare or another provider to site new health centers in the district. Highbridge should be an area of focus.	
12/31	HRA	Other capital budget request for HRA	We recommend that DHS strengthen its partnership with HPD to increase the number of new affordable housing units made available to individuals and families. Currently the set aside for homeless families is 10%. This is particularly important as Community District Four has the largest number of cluster sights citywide, a high proportion of homeless facilities and a DHS intake center within its borders.	

# **Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services**

Priority Age	ency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/32 DO		Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	Actions to assist in the reduction in obesity and diabetes among residents in the district Promoting healthy eating options is critical. We support programs such as the DOHMHs Shop Healthy Initiative to help educate store owners on how to provide positive messaging, setup healthier alternatives, and work with distributors to bring healthier foods to the stores.	

17/32 HRA

Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs

Homelessness has reached historic levels in NYC. According to the Coalition for the Homeless, as of August 2019, there are 61,674 homeless people, including 21,934 homeless families with 21,802 homeless children, sleeping each night in the New York City municipal shelter system. Families make up nearly three-quarters of the homeless shelter population. The city is investing hundreds of millions of dollars in new affordable housing. We respectfully request that the City ramp up it's efforts to permanently house families and individuals living in the shelter system and increase access to the Section 8 voucher system. They should also work with HPD to increase the set aside for formerly homeless (currently 10%).

25/32 DOHMH Create or

Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment

We have a number of facilities throughout the district for formerly homeless individual and families. Many of these are individuals with a history of mental illness. While we do not advocate for any additional facilities of this type in our district we want to ensure that the individuals that are here receive proper care. This benefits the individuals and their families as well as area residents. DOHMH should work with DHS to identify these facilities and target those that would benefit from additional programming and/or services.

26/32 DOHMH

DOHMH Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.

As nearly forty percent of our population is under the age of 25 it is important to underscore the importance of nutrition, healthy eating and physical activity. We request that DOHMH increase outreach and education related to food and nutrition. There should be a focus on targeting middle schools and working with community-based organizations with youth programs and active tenant associations and groups. Virtual fitness classes/videos to promote health and wellness (These classes can also be recorded and offered to community at large) Virtual platforms should be leveraged to maximize audience reach.

28/32 HRA

Provide, expand, or enhance job training

Unemployment plays a key role in the socio-economic status of local residents. While unemployment both nationally and in the Bronx has hit record lows (7.9 percent and 21 percent) respectively. It has been suggested that unemployment in Community District Four is hovering anywhere near 30%-40%. The loss of jobs in retail and hospitality combined with slow downs in the construction industry and budget deficits create a bleak employment picture which will require long-term solutions. Community District Four advocates for HRA to work with SBS, the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) and community-based organizations to create better employment opportunities (training and job placement) for District residents. The city should also work with the Prisoner Re-entry Program.

30/32 DFTA

Increase transportation services capacity Access and mobility are major concerns for seniors in the District. We request that DOHMH collaborate with existing senior centers and care providers in the district to create additional programs that will allow seniors to get out for shopping, exercise and entertainment. Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen Council, Highbridge Community Development Corporation and BronxWorks are organizations that work with seniors and operate senior facilities in the District. We should expand these efforts as COVID-19 further hampers their mobility.

# YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

### **Bronx Community Board 4**

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

#### Remote learning and technology

In March of 2020 the world was turned upside down with the spread of COVID-19 worldwide. In an effort to keep us safe the Mayor and the Governor closed NYC schools and students and parents began to learn the technology of remote learning. This was a huge undertaking for the largest public school system in the country. Teachers, students and parents were immediately thrown into chaos. Six months later the development of a vaccine and a slow down of the spread of the virus seem in the distant future at best. We implore NYC DOE to truly invest in remote learning and technology not just during this crisis but for the future to ensure that our children receive the quality education they deserve and lay a solid foundation for their future.

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

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

In March of 2020 the world was turned upside down with the spread of COVID-19 worldwide. In an effort to keep us safe, the Mayor and Governor closed NYC schools; students and parents began to learn the technology of remote learning. This was a huge undertaking for the largest public-school system in the country. Teachers, students and parents were immediately thrown into chaos. Six months later, the development of a vaccine and a slowdown of the spread of the virus seem in the distant future at best. We implore NYC DOE to truly invest in remote learning and technology not just during this crisis but for the future to ensure that our children receive the quality education they deserve and lay a solid foundation for their future

We are currently living a very different and uncertain world. Everything from where and how we work to where and how we educate ourselves has changed. COVID-19 has underscored the importance of the upkeep and maintenance of our educational facilities. We have numerous facilities in the district requiring repairs and upgrades, and the need to properly ventilate buildings has become more of a priority with the spread of COVID-19.

Distance learning has become the norm and will continue to play a role in the education of children not only in NYC but around the world. NYC DOE must invest in the resources for students and teachers to effectively execute distance/remote learning. DOE must ensure an adequate supply of laptops for students to effectively engage in remote learning. Students in CSD's 7 and 9 face several challenges from poverty to unemployment to overcoming a language barrier as an immigrant. If you know better, you do better. We know our kids deserve better and it is incumbent upon us to do better for them. Every student is entitled to a quality education.

Distance learning requires greater attention to detail, more work for teachers and the need to ensure that students and teachers maintain their health at school and home. DOE needs to hire more nurses, teachers and teachers' aides to ensure that our students remain healthy and are learning. In addition, this will support NYC educators who now face the daunting task of teaching remotely in the largest public-school system in the country.

Unemployment continues to skyrocket. We need to create more pathways to employment for our young people. The reintegration of trade schools and trades into the curriculum will create more opportunities for all

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

Nearly thirty percent of Community District Four's residents are under the age of 18, and many of these residents are immigrants or children of immigrants who live below the poverty threshold. With an Area Median Income of \$29,000, the City must make every effort to support our district's low-income families in every way, via a wide variety of services and programs relating to children and child welfare. The City

should restore SYEP and expand the program to year-round. The City should also increase funding for the NYC Explorers and incorporate trades back into the public-school curriculum. It is imperative that we expand the career options to accommodate the skills and desires of all our young people. Additionally, more should be done to collaborate with the unions on apprenticeship programs as well as working with private companies on internship programs.

The District's many working families and single-parent households require no-cost after-school care. Free after-school care allows parents to work and maintain employment, keeps children safe and enhances children's educational attainment. It also allows families to use scarce financial resources on other pressing needs. Accordingly, we request that DYCD increase funding at existing organizations district-wide to provide after school programs. Given the current climate, DYCD and partner organizations should find creative ways to engage students during the pandemic safely.

Trades can provide an excellent career path for those who do not want to attend a two- or four-year college. Partnering with local unions on apprenticeship programs can provide exceptional opportunities for our youth.

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

	Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
	3/31	SCA	Provide technology upgrade	The pandemic has made it necessary for the majority of our students to either do 100% distance learning or a hybrid. Given the severity of the pandemic, we urge DOE to ensure that all low-income students are equipped with laptops/computers plus wi-fi access to help facilitate distance learning with special attention given to our young people who are in the shelter system.	
_	5/31	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Plan calls for construction of a new 458-seat primary school with a state-of-the art gym. CSD 7 is currently operating near capacity. As part of the Lower Concourse North project the city has agreed to construct a new 572 seat middle school. SCA has released its 2020-2024, likely resulting in additional deficits and capacity issues. We respectfully request siting and funding to address seat deficits in the next SCA capital plan.	
-	11/31	SCA	Renovate interior building component	Given the need for safe learning environments and the critical role that the HVAC systems plays in combating COVID-19 we urge the City to repair/upgrade the HVAC systems in all schools district wide.	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/32	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	Providing positive reinforcement to our youth is important and Summer Youth Employment is desperately needed particularly in a District with a meager Area Median Income (\$29,000) and nearly thirty-five percent of the population living at the poverty level. DYCD should continue to increase funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) and make it year round. DYCD should also work with local organizations and the Bronx Borough President's office to create additional work places to host youth for the summer and throughout the school year as well.	

8/32	DOE	Assign more non- teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	Distance learning requires greater attention to detail and more work for teachers in addition to the need to ensure that students and teachers maintain their health at school and away. DOE needs to hire more nurses and more teachers and teachers aides to ensure that our students remain healthy and are learning. In addition this will support NYC educators who now face the daunting task of teaching remotely in the largest public school system in the country.
11/32	DOE	Other expense budget request for DOE	Unemployment continues to skyrocket. We need to create more pathways to employment for our young people. The reintegration of trade schools and trades into the curriculum will create more opportunities for all students.
21/32	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for middle school students (grades 6-8)	Community District Four's many working families and single-parent households require no-cost after-school care. Free after-school care allows parents to work and maintain employment, keeps children safe, and enhances children's educational attainment. It also allows families to use scarce financial resources on other pressing needs. Accordingly, we request that DYCD increase funding at existing organizations district-wide to provide after school programs. They should also partner with local schools to provide additional funding to site after schools programs. Given the current climate DYCD and partner organizations should find creative ways to engage students during the pandemic in a safe way.
24/32	DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	Trades can provide an excellent career path for those who do not want to attend a two or four year college. Partnering with local unions on apprenticeship programs can provide exceptional opportunities for our young men and women.

### PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

#### General crime

In January 2019, it was reported that the 44th Precinct was one of six identified to have violent crime rates at least twice as high as the City average. The District has experienced a notable increase in shootings and gang-related activity. In addition to this startling statistic, COVID-19 and its impact on the physical and emotional health of community residents, the unemployment and marginal economic status of individuals leading to an inability to pay rent, other bills, buy food, and being seguestered at home to mitigate spread of the virus have also resulted in an increase in domestic violence, substance abuse, students inability to attend school, people working from home, the national movement for social justice reform and racial equality following the deaths of African Americans from interactions with law enforcement and the disproportionate deaths of minorities from COVID-19 have resulted in a profound increase in issues calling for the attention of the officers of the 44th Precinct. Year-to-date over 2019 there has been a 108.7% increase in shooting victims, an 81% increase in shooting incidents, and a 42.9% increase in murders. This relates directly to the recent disbanding of the City's Anti-Crime Unit, of which the main priority was to get guns off the streets. Burglaries are up by 38.2% and GLA by 61.2%. The 44th Precinct does an outstanding job with its available resources. Because of the previously cited events and consequences, the district has been negatively impacted. During the warmer weather, people being at home with limited options for outdoor recreation and entertainment has resulted in greater utilization of City parks and at times marked increases in street activity. This added to unsanitary conditions and even less ability to have more of a sense of personal space. An investment in more officers assigned as Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) and more to the newly formed Public Safety Unit will help to address our needs during this unique period in history.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

The Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) program (which is loosely based on the Senior Lead Officer Program in Los Angeles, where senior lead officers help organize and direct crime-fighting and quality-of-life initiatives in each of the Los Angeles Police Department's 22 divisions) has been extremely well-received by Community District Four. We continue to have an excellent rapport with the NYPD's 44th Precinct. They are committed, professional, and very responsive. We want them to be equipped with sufficient and adequate personnel to handle the activity in the District as we focus on working together with the precinct to stem all crimes, improve quality of life, and provide a safe environment for all community residents.

### **Needs for Emergency Services**

There are plans for a new EMS Station #17 to be built at 1257 Morris Avenue (Bronx Block 2450, Lot 42). This would replace the facility currently located at 1080 Ogden Avenue. We support the relocation of the existing facility and construction of the new facility to support the needs for FDNY EMS workers. In addition, we advocate for the creation of mixed-use development on the current site to include affordable housing and a youth/community center to serve the residents of Highbridge.

# **Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
22/31	FDNY	Provide new facilities such as a firehouse or EMS station	In a previous fiscal year, the City allocated funding for a new EMS Station#17. Currently this project is on hold. We want to underscore our support for this project and request that once the new facility is operational that the city engage the Community in a substantive conversation about the use of the site. We advocate for new affordable housing and a community center on the site.	

# **Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/32	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	The 44th precinct is one of the most active in the city. We request the City allocate funding for more permanent new officers in the next fiscal year. We specifically would like to see an increase in NCO's and officers in the Public Safety unit.	
7/32	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang- related, vice, etc.)	The increase in violent crime particularly shootings is alarming. We urge the city to deploy more resources to make our city streets safe once again.	

# CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

### **Bronx Community Board 4**

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

#### Cleanliness/trash collection

Overflowing garbage bags, sticky candy wrappers, used needles, broken beer bottles, shards of glass, dirty streets and filthy parks are not just a public nuisance; much like all else related to the pandemic and recession, they pollute and otherwise negatively affect New York's poorest areas—and residents disproportionately. Indeed, significant funding decreases due to the City's fiscal crisis has taken its toll on the cleanliness of our city streets. A \$100 million dollar decrease has resulted in mounds of garbage on every corner and a significant increase in rats. The results of the Scorecard Inspection program, which reports on street and sidewalk cleanliness across the city, illustrates how swiftly those cuts impacted our community. The Score for Sidewalks and Streets for the 1st Quarter of FY2021 indicates that sections BX041 and BX043 dropped from 97% to 86% and 87% respectively. While residents and civic leaders like Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. have responded admirably to the problem with ad hoc programs like "Meaningful Mondays" the City must do more to take care of its most vulnerable citizens. It is with that in mind that we request that the city support DSNY in creating public service campaigns related to cleanliness. We also urge the City to create partnerships with local organizations who can assist in keeping our streets clean. Additionally, we encourage the City to explore new/different types of receptacles that can hold more garbage as pickups have decreased but that are also safe and keep rodents out. There are best practices and examples in other cities and countries that could provide insight.

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

# Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection No comments

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

The cleanliness of the Capital District has taken a considerable turn for the worst in recent months. Garbage receptacles across the district overflow daily. Local parks are over run by mounds of garbage and rats are in command of local streets. We must get back to basics in terms of more regular pickups, street cleanings and more receptacles in high traffic areas. Community District Four experienced difficulties with irregular cleaning and maintenance schedules for the extraordinary number of underpasses, step streets and sitting areas located in our district. Now we are forced to deal with less service overall and a significant increase in garbage. We recommend a concerted inter-agency approach to address high traffic areas. While we understand that resources are limited we ask that given the increased levels of on-street activity due to the pandemic that high traffic areas be given considerable attention and that resources be allocated accordingly.

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

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

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/32	DSNY	Provide more on- street trash cans and recycling containers	We request additional trash receptacles in the following locations: -East 165th street between Grant and the Grand Concourse -East 169th and Clay Avenue -Grand Concourse / E 156th Street (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 700 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 770 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 770 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -165th Street / Between Jerome Avenue and River Avenue (mid-block Mullaly Park entrance N) -165th Street / Between Jerome Avenue and River Avenue (mid-block Mullaly Park entrance N) 166th Street and Grand Concourse (SW Corner)	
12/32	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up	E 166th Street (between Walton Ave and the Grand Concourse): Major dumping ground for appliances, old toilets. Walton Avenue (between McClellan and 165th Street): Low light area where dumping occurs. Walton Avenue (west slope of Franz Sigel Park): Major dumping ground. Jerome Slope	
16/32	DSNY	Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws	This should be concentrated along commercial corridors (East 167th Street, Ogden Avenue, East 170th Street and 161st Street area.)	

# HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

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

### Housing support services (for tenants and homeowners)

Nearly 80% of the housing stock in the district is rent-stabilized. The preservation of the existing affordable housing stock is essential for the long-term sustainability for area residents. The City must make a concerted effort to support those in arrears and assist landlords in maintaining their buildings. We urge the City to create a grant program for tenants and landlords to address rental arrears and allow buildings to be maintained. Currently the City invests hundreds of millions of dollars in the construction of new affordable housing. Subsequently, HPD estimates that there are more than 3,300 affordable housing units, based on developer interest, in their pipeline (According to HPD estimates, October 2020). We request that the City implement Area Median Income (AMI) Income Averaging to ensure that any new affordable housing constructed in the district encompasses a wider range and mix of incomes as opposed to strict income ranges that do not support economic diversity as it relates to new housing. We would be remiss if we did not mention the high unemployment rate in the district. The national unemployment rate is roughly 7.9% while unemployment in the Bronx overall is estimated at 21%. Unemployment in the district is estimated anywhere between 30-40%. The City must leverage every resource and opportunity available to create opportunities for job training and development. Partnerships with local employers such as BronxCare, the Yankee Organization and our strong network of non-profit organizations could help deliver hundreds if not thousands of good paying jobs to the district. We must also ensure that valuable resources such as cityowned property are utilized in a way that maximizes community benefit and that any future plans and proposals for these valuable resources involve a substantive community engagement process and ultimately any plans or proposals are reflective of community need.

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

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

Community District Four continues to evolve through a series of land use changes over the past several years including: Lower Concourse North (aka Bronx Point) and the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study. The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Plan has committed considerable resources to the development of affordable housing, new open space and improvements to transportation infrastructure. Bronx Point will lead to the development of more than 1,000 units of affordable housing, more than 2 additional acres of open space through the expansion of Mill Pond park and improvements to key intersections on 149th street and Exterior Street. Over time as these changes come to fruition, the landscape in these areas and surrounding blocks will be significantly altered.

Today more than 142,000 people reside in Community District Four. This growth will continue while the community faces a number of challenges including high unemployment, rising rents, access to fresh food, open space, transportation and mobility, health and wellness and affordable housing. The district has a number of city-owned properties currently used for parking. These properties are a woefully underutilized public resource. Many of the aforementioned issues and challenges could be addressed by changing the use of these parcels to better serve area residents.

In October 2019, on behalf of Community Board Four the Urban Land Institute (ULI) conducted a Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) to develop ideas/recommendations around the redevelopment of these city-owned parcels. Community Board Four supports the results of the panel's findings particularly those related to transportation, connectivity etc and encourages the City to pursue those recommendations regardless of development of a soccer stadium. Given the devastation to our district due to COVID-19 now more than ever it is critical that these properties are leveraged in a manner that reflects the current needs of the community and maximizes the return on valuable public resources.

When the City decides to redevelop these properties there are a number of initiatives we want included as part of any comprehensive plan for redevelopment of these sites. They include but are not limited to the following:

- Provide **paid apprenticeships** for Bronx and Community District Four residents to obtain viable pathways to skilled trades and high paying job opportunities within the construction field.
  - This should begin in earnest so that when construction begins area residents can be employed across the district in a variety of fields.
- Development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing
  - HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing.
- Conduct an on-street parking study throughout district and pilot a permit parking program to
  mitigate traffic and parking impacts during stadium events, as well as general solutions to parking
  issues district-wide.
- Creation of a youth-based campus along the waterfront parcels adjacent to the future home of the Bronx Children's Museum to include an innovation lab, middle school and high school as well as a youth/community center.
- · Creation of a Health & Wellness Center

#### **Needs for Housing**

Achieving economic diversity in the district is critical to it's growth and well-being; accordingly, we request that the City implement Area Median Income (AMI) Income Averaging to ensure that affordable housing constructed in the district encompasses a wider range and mix of incomes as opposed to strict income ranges that do not support economic diversity within new housing stock

Additionally we request that the City invest in the development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing: HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing.

Most importantly we ask that the City create a grant program to assist the thousands of area residents who are in arrears due to the pandemic. They should also create a similar program to help landlords maintain their buildings.

### **Needs for Economic Development**

The district benefits from the regional draw of the 161St Street/Capital District area, including: the Bronx County Court; Bronx Supreme Court; the 161st Street BID; waterfront access; Bronx Terminal Market's million square feet of retail; and Yankee Stadium, which normally draws more than 3.5 million visitors per year. Major employers include Bronx Lebanon Hospital, the Yankees and Hostos Community College. The pandemic has significantly altered the landscape. No fans were allowed at Yankee Stadium representing hundreds of millions of dollars in lost revenue for retail shops, bars and restaurants that rely on Yankee game patrons.

Unemployment rates in the district are at unprecedented levels not seen since the Great Depression. Furthermore, a large number of area residents are underemployed. In order to increase the income levels and improve the socio-economic status of local residents we request significant investments in job training, job placement, skills assessment and business development.

Related to jobs and skills development we advocate for skilled trade/licensed apprenticeships that can provide paid apprenticeships for Bronx and area residents to obtain skills for viable pathways to skilled trades and high paying job opportunities within the construction field and other well-paying careers.

Currently, the closest Workforce One Center is located in Hunts Point or on Fordham Road, both of which are inconvenient for area residents. In order to serve the thousands of job seekers, existing and future business owners the city should develop a new Workforce One Center. Such a center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on the linguistic and educational needs of the district's large Latin, Caribbean, African-American, and West African immigrant populations. In lieu of bricks and mortar we propose a virtual Workforce One Center to help people navigate city contracting, become an MWBE and develop job skills. We also request that SBS make their mobile unit available in various locations to bring their broad array of services and programs to the district.

Lastly, we request that EDC, HPD and SBS support the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) whose mission/goal is to bring about inclusive economic growth and sustainability for local residents, employers and workers impacted by the Jerome Avenue rezoning.

JARC has the following goals:

- Prepare current employers and workers for potential zoning-related impacts
- Increase the education and employment attainment of local residents, particularly in accessing zoning-related economic opportunity
- Advocate for a diversity of quality businesses among current and future employers

Collectively these interventions can begin to repair the damage unleashed by the pandemic.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/31	HPD	Other capital budget request for HPD	Development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing. HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing	
9/31	HPD	Other capital budget request for HPD	The city should create a grant to provide funding to tenants in arrears and for landlords who have lost revenue due to tenants inability to pay their rent in order to facilitate the upkeep and maintenance of their buildings.	
14/31	HPD	Provide more housing for medium income households	Implement Area Median Income (AMI) Income Averaging: ensure that affordable housing constructed in the district encompasses a wider range and mix of incomes as opposed to strict income ranges that do not support economic diversity within new housing stock. It is in the interest of our Community District to promote economic diversity within our community. We strongly advocate for City and State funds for the middle-income new construction program and the creation of independent living facilities for seniors. We strongly encourage the use of public funds at the city and state level for permanent affordable housing and home ownership, not supportive housing (DHS related).	
20/31	SBS	Other capital budget request for SBS	A Workforce One Center or an equivalent is still needed in our district, but its offerings should engage many sectors (not just the auto-industry) affected by the pandemic; the service and food/beverage industries were hit particularly hard by the loss of spring and summer business. The center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on local needs: large immigrant population (Latino and West African) and the auto-industry for example. This request could be accommodated on any number of cityowned sites in the district (SEE Housing & Land Use) or city-funded project.	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/32	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	The city should provide funds for individuals and families impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic to help pay arrears as a result of lost incomes and avoid displacement and evictions	
9/32	DCP	Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs	The ULI Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) conducted in October 2019, made a number of recommendations that would improve existing conditions in the district. a new development. While, not endorsing a soccer stadium, the Board likes the recommendations and implementation strategies in the report and urges the city to leverage the TAP as a guide for future development of the area. In particular we would like the city conduct a parking study for on-street parking throughout district, and implement a pilot program for on-street parking permits for area residents. (REPORT ATTACHED)	
10/32	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	We should support the sustainability of small businesses throughout the District. EDC and SBS should partner to help small businesses develop business plans and financing packages to support them. They should think outside the box to create new programs and incentives that address the needs of area residents. They should partner with local financial institutions like Spring Bank.	
13/32	SBS	Other workforce development requests	SBS, EDC and HPD should continue to support and collaborate with the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) to create economic development opportunities for area residents and small businesses.	
14/32	HPD	Other affordable housing programs requests	Development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing: HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing. They should explore the affordability levels for the "Open Door" term sheet to either create more flexibility in the income bands or create a new term sheet to address lower income tiers.	

20/32 SBS

Assist with onsite business compliance with City regulations The average merchant in the district is currently at least \$60,000 behind on rent by the end of June, according to Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz said. The unemployment rate in the Bronx in July, 2020 was 21.6 percent, more than four times as high as the year before. Work directly with business owners to remediate violations and licensing to increase their compliance.

### TRANSPORTATION

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

#### **Traffic congestion**

Once the pandemic ends, Community District Four will be faced with unmitigated traffic congestion. The District's traffic-related challenges will be exacerbated by new hotel, residential development, stadium life and an increase in film and television permits, if an investment in traffic management and mitigation measures is not undertaken immediately. While we welcome economic activity with enthusiasm, area residents must benefit and certainly not be further disadvantaged by that activity. We request clarification with respect to the traffic reconfiguration plan for the "Court Corridor" in addition to far better communication from all City agencies, particularly from the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment and the Mayors Office of Film and Television on street closures, alternate routes, and parking limitations. Traffic congestion is a serious issue that negatively impacts residents' quality of life and the end benefit for residents remains to be seen. We also request the placement of permanent traffic control agents along the 161st Street Corridor for traffic relief assistance at a minimum during peak periods and special events, such as Yankee Games, concerts, football games, Bronx Week, etc. We also request that those with parking placards not create additional parking in areas not designated for parking and adhere to the same rules as all other drivers. We ask for greater enforcement of double-parked vehicles along major arteries such as the Grand Concourse, 161st Street and 167th Street during events. We ask for cooperation from traffic enforcement to ensure the aforementioned and other rules and procedures are followed. Lastly and most importantly as previously stated in the Housing & Land Use section we request that DOT in collaboration with other city agencies conduct an on-street parking study throughout the district and create a pilot permit parking program in the district to mitigate traffic and parking impacts during stadium events, as well as general solutions to parking issues district-wide.

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

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

We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. While we understand the project remains in the projected capital plan, it is unfunded. We stand firm in our support for the bridge development, which we believe would ease traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets, as well as create much needed jobs and be an economic development driver for the district. In 2006 construction was to commence and the Department of Transportation received the Art Commission Award for Excellence in Design. The proposed bridge is a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end. It would have been the first new bridge built in 50 years and the first cable-stayed vehicular bridge in New York City. Bronx Point which will include 1,000 units of affordable housing, retail, office space and the Universal Hip Hop Museum, the Bronx Children's Museum and the potential redevelopment of city-owned land subleased to Bronx Parking Development, underscore the critical need to develop the 153rd Street Bridge. It should be noted that none of the aforementioned projects were contemplated at the time the bridge was slated to be constructed. We should also note that City Island, an area with far less density rejected a state-of-the art design for a bridge and subsequently settled on a more straight-forward bridge that was completed several years ago.

### **Needs for Transit Services**

Access and mobility throughout the area is key. The MTA currently operates at 468 subway stations citywide and 230 bus routes. More than 80 percent of District residents use public transportation to commute to work and for other official/personal engagements. This includes the #4 train (one of the busiest in the entire network, which currently operates over capacity with no quantifiable plans to mitigate the issue), the B/D trains, and the Bx1/2 (the 6th busiest bus route in the city). It should be noted that the Bronx has the largest bus ridership of the five boroughs. Additionally, the District's population has increased nearly 20 percent between 2000-2016, and continues to grow with recent rezonings and expansion of commercial facilities. Consequently, improvements to existing transportation infrastructure-including increased service; increased accessibility for residents living with disabilities and families

operating strollers; improvements to local streets; enhanced lighting, and the resurfacing of the 161st Street Corridor are top priorities. We request an increased investment in bus priority streetlights along Grand Concourse, 161<sup>st</sup> Street, 167<sup>th</sup> Street, 149<sup>th</sup> Street and 170<sup>th</sup> Street to move vehicles more quickly. We also request the city to study expanding subway ridership by extending the B train to the Bronx for all hours of operation and by exploring capital improvements such as creating a rail link under 149<sup>th</sup> Street to connect the 4 train to the 2 line so that the 3 train could be extended into the Bronx.

# **Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/31	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	153rd Street Bridge We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and so we continue to advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. We stand firm in our support for development of this bridge, which would alleviate traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets and local streets in the neighborhood. The proposed bridge would be a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end.	153rd Street and Park Ave
6/31	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	In February 2020, MTA announced the installation of an elevator on the #4 train at 170th Street. This is part of the \$54.8 billion 2020-2024 Capital Program. The project costs is \$39 million and will take 26 months to complete. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2020 and completion in 2022.	
7/31	DOT	Reconstruct streets	The entire 161 Street corridor should be resurfaced and is in need of major improvements. Removal and resurfacing asphalt and brick. The Board has complained about this for many years. The redbrick and asphalt along the corridor is cracked and is in serious need of repair. In addition, the texture of the brick does not allow for safe travel during inclement weather because it becomes very slippery and slick. The corridor sees increased vehicular and foot traffic with more tourism, filming and events. The resurfacing should focus on 161 and intersecting street segments from Macombs Dam Road to Park Avenue.	
15/31	DOT	Install streetscape improvements	We request streetscape improvements be made around commercial corridors including painting, lighting, seating and improved circulation and mobility. (167th Street, 170th Street and Mount Eden)	

23/31	DOT	Repair or build new step streets	There are a total of 17 step streets in the District. (7) are Top 20 priority Step Streets but as more than 70 percent of area residents use public transit or walk, connections and access are of the utmost importance. We request a schedule and timeline for rehabilitation of all step streets in the district and a discussion on priorities based on travel patterns and connections to transit, major institutions and employers. Priority should be given to the following: 1) Clay & 169th Street 2) Jerome near Anderson Behind PS 73 (include lighting) 3) 168th Street (Shakespeare to ELG) 4) Shakespeare and Anderson (167th Street) We also request that CDOT and DSNY collaborate on a comprehensive maintenance and clean up program for these step streets with regularly scheduled clean ups.	
24/31	DOT	Repair or construct new curbs or pedestrian ramps	Exterior Street from 150 Street to 153rd Street (exit ramp to Major Deegan Expressway North). We request identical treatments for curb cuts and pedestrian ramps as Bronx Point, particularly as the Bronx Children's Museum is scheduled to open in 2020.	Exterior Street 150 150
29/31	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Exterior Street from 150 Street to 153rd Street (exit ramp to Major Deegan Expressway North). We request that DOT mimic all new capital infrastructure investments being made as part of the Bronx Point, particularly as the Bronx Children's Museum is scheduled to open in fall 2021.	Exterior Street 150 150
CS	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Install higher intensity lighting along Jerome Avenue. This special lighting is needed due to the elevated rail lines that cause the area to be dark and unsafe due to the poor lighting.	Jerome Avenue 161 Street 161 Street

# **Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility**

Priority A	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
19/32 N	NYCTA	Provide a new bus service or Select Bus Service	Explore the possibility of a Select BX19 and Select BX1 to accommodate the continued growth along the Grand Concourse and along the 149th Street corridor.	

27/32 NYCTA

Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation Increased bus service in areas such as Highbridge to improve access for area residents and merchants -Bx3, BX11, Bx36 or Bx18, BX6, Bx35, BX36, extent line along BX32 to 167th street, BX40/41, BX42

# PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

# **Bronx Community Board 4**

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

#### Park care and maintenance

Community Board Four represents the Bronx's Capital District -- which includes the County Seat and significant parkland including Franz Sigel, Joyce Kilmer, Mullaly, Macombs Dam and Claremont parks. We are very excited about the future investments to Grant Park, expansion of Mill Pond Park and the development of Corporal Fischer. Given the existing open space network and pending additions to our parks portfolio, we respectfully request that the NYC Parks Department and local elected officials invest in the maintenance of the District's many parks, playgrounds, and green spaces. Community Board Four is also home to Yankee Stadium, which draws over three million visitors worldwide each year. The stadium hosts more than 80 home games, the annual Pinstripe Bowl (NCAA), college football games, boxing, hockey and soccer matches and concerts annually. In addition, a number of significant parks/cultural/community facility-related capital projects are underway in the District, including Bronx Point which includes upgrades and the expansion of Mill Pond Park and the Universal Hip Hop Museum, the opening of the Bronx Children's Museum and the expansion of the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The cleanliness and upkeep of the district's parks, cultural assets, and community facilities are essential to the overall health and well-being of the District and are critical to the enjoyment of area residents and millions of visitors to the area each year. In order to properly maintain our open space we support the Parks Department request for the following: additional staffing including Permanent City Parks Workers and City Seasonal Aides, who clean the park on a regular basis requesting additional Gardener's and Associate Park Service Workers, Park Supervisors and additional City Seasonal Aides for peak season work April through October, increased number of Park Enforcement Officers, Additional Playground Associates, Recreation Specialists for Recreation Centers and vehicles to replace aging fleet vehicles.

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

#### **Needs for Parks**

Open space and greening play an important role in quality of life for area residents and workers. Utilization of the district's green spaces has increased exponentially over the last few months. Community District Four benefits from some of the most active open space resources in the Borough with its proximity to Yankee Stadium which hosts baseball, soccer, hockey and football year-round and sees millions of visitors every year. We also have the greatest number of parks properties in the Borough (101) and counting. In recent years parks we have added Mill Pond Park to our portfolio, the redevelopment of Macomb's Dam Park and capital investments in various other parks throughout the District. As we look to increase our portfolio with the development and expansion of Grant Park, development of Corporal Fisher and the expansion of Mill Pond Park, maintenance and upkeep are critical for residents and visitors to benefit from our vast open space portfolio and to continue to attract tourists and public and private investment. Now more than ever the role of a Parks Administrator, additional PEP officers, maintenance and horticulture staff are on the critical path to maintaining the Capital District's competitive edge.

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

We need to expand the education and recreation opportunities available to everyone in the district, particularly our young people. The Bronx Museum of the Arts, BronxWorks, and the Bronx Children's Museum are valuable resources for arts and culture that provide a tremendous resource to the district and should receive consideration for additional staff and funding and programming. In addition to monetary resources, we encourage partnership with cultural groups to promote positive programming in neighborhood parks.

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

Community District Four has three branches of the New York Public Library (NYPL) system: Grand Concourse, High Bridge, and Melrose. According to NYPL statistics (below), in Fiscal Year 2018 the libraries in CB 4 had 340,986 visits. The District expects thousands more residents stemming from rezoning efforts. With programming ranging from early literacy classes and technology training, to

citizenship assistance and English language courses, as well as unlimited access to free internet and laptops and computers; NYPL consistently provides a depth and breadth of free, essential services that simply cannot be matched. These programs are extremely important to residents, especially our immigrant, elderly and underserved communities, as they often cannot otherwise afford access to commercial alternatives. As you know, libraries are often the first place that communities turn to for help and information, and our branches are uniquely positioned to provide relevant and up to date information to New York's most vulnerable populations. Libraries are a place for learning and for safe and open access to information.

### **Needs for Community Boards**

In FY 2020 and 2021 we received additional funding from NYC City Council to support community based programs and office upgrades. These funds were utilized to upgrade office equipment and support more than (14) community-based events. That being said without increased funding that is base lined to hire more staff it becomes more and more difficult to manage the increased day to day responsibilities. COVID-19 has transformed how we do business overnight. The internet, social media and virtual meeting platforms are now an integral part of our day-to-day operations. We are experiencing an economic downturn of epic proportions and the essential work of Community Board; service delivery and advocacy are essential. Now more than ever, we are called upon with greater urgency to fill the gaps without the adequate financial resources to support those endeavors. We are currently operating on an internal budget of \$233,911 for a district with more than 142,000 residents. Much of the Board's budget is pre-allocated for fixed expenses.

We are essential to community engagement and participation in all facets of city government and we believe wholeheartedly in fulfilling our mission to the best of our ability. We have tremendous and important work ahead of us as we pick up the shattered pieces of the district. With adequate fiscal support, Community Boards can go beyond essential service delivery and become an invaluable resource for the community, the borough and the city.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/31	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Corporal Irwin Fisher Park is approximately 1.5 acres of gated, unimproved NYC Parks green space that has never been accessible by the community since its acquisition some twenty years ago. The Community and the Community Board urge the city to fund the design and development of this park and target pre-teens (teenagers can use the ample Nelson Avenue Park facilities two blocks away.) This park will serve a community that continues to grow and provide recreational space that our children rightfully deserve. Through the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Development Fund (NDF) \$4.62 million was allocated.	WEST 169 ST
10/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Claremont Park-Concrete sidewalks, retention walls required repair. Basketball hoops required replacement. Benches required repair and / or replacement of weather wood seating	
13/31	DPR	New equipment for maintenance	Vehicles to replace aging fleet. The Parks Department relies on vehicles that are constantly out of service and over five years old. Parks also needs to service larger parks with smaller, safer, and more efficient small utility vehicles.	
16/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Mount Eden Mall: Benches required repair and / or replacement of weathered wood seating.	
17/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Add a barrier to protect patrons from highway	
18/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Macombs Dam Park-Reconstruction of synthetic turf field and add lighting.	

19/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Goble Playground Replace playground equipment and repave/paint asphalt.	
21/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Both the Skate park and bike park in Mullaly Park are in poor condition and need partial or complete renovation. We respectfully request funding for renovation for both.	
25/31	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	Community Boards play an integral role in dealing with land use and zoning matters, the City budget, municipal service delivery and many other matters critical to the quality of life of thousands of area residents. Our current location does not allow for such engagement, as mandated by the NYC Charter. We are currently located on the 11th floor of a residential building in (2) apartments adapted for office use. We respectfully request relocation of the Board office to a location more suitable for the agency's mission. We have had preliminary discussions with the Bronx Point development team as well the developer of Concourse Village West. Furthermore we request that the future redevelopment of any city-owned property be given consideration for new relocation	575 Exterior Street
26/31	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	Active development of a contiguous path joining the bike/run waterfront paths along Mill Pond Park (in Bronx CB4) to Roberto Clemente State Park (Bronx CB5) which also has a segment of a new bike/running path along the waterfront that ends at a chain linked fence separating the park land from property belonging to the Metro North/MTA train car cleaning facilities at the parks southern border. Using the precedent of the Riverbank Park in Manhattan, a similar greenway can be developed along the perimeter of the MTA's Bronx facility.	
27/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Claremont Park-Reconstruct/renovate both comfort stations	
28/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	There is a storage house/facility in Franz Sigel that is underutilized. CB4 recommends that this facility be rehabilitated and converted to concessions and used as a facility for outdoor concerts and performances.	

30/31	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	Additional BBQ zones within the District are requested along with better signage clearly stating the Parks Departments barbeque policy. Mill Pond is the only park within the entire District that is designed with barbeque grills on the park grounds. Mill Ponds limited grills, which are greatly enjoyed, fall short of the demand for such amenities throughout the District. This unmet demand is compounded by the fact that Mill Pond is remotely situated under the Major Deegan Expressway which, assuredly serves as a deterrent to travel to the location. Consequently, every weekend from late Spring through the end of Summer, the Districts marquis parks (Claremont, Franz Sigel, Mullaly and Joyce Kilmer) are overrun with unmanageable barbeque gatherings.
31/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Inwood Park - Asphalt and painting
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	We ask the city to maintain capital funding for our (3) branches Grand Concourse, Highbridge and Melrose. The capital funding will ensure that our branches can continue to meet the growing needs of our communities. Anticipated projects range from major renovations to targeted upgrades, including: - Heating and cooling system updates - New roof, windows and doors - Fire alarm, security and technology upgrades - ADA compliance - Elevator replacement Current priority capital needs in Bronx CB 4 - include: -Melrose Library \$ 1,220,000.
CS	DPR	Improve access to a building in a park	Grant Park was to be completed in stages to permit continued use by children of some areas of the park. However, the development of a series of large sink holes in the children's play area in the park's southwestern quadrant has effectively shut down the entire park indefinitely. This adversely impacts the entire community the park has historically served. Currently nearly \$30 million (\$25.7 through NDF) has been allocated for reconstruction of the park, roadbed, playground and basketball court.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	The Board request a budget line item for a CB4 Parks Administrator. Under the supervision of the Bronx Borough Commissioner this individual would manage CB4 parks system wide and would be responsible for the following: maintenance, special events, recreational facilities, personnel, developing and helping to establish Friends of groups to assist with maintenance, cleanup, beautification in high trafficked areas, manage grant application and funding streams for special projects, community relations/outreach and programming.	
15/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Increase City Park Workers for enhanced park maintenance. In order to increase the level of service and parks and to keep up with new additions to the parks system, 68 City Park Workers are requested to service the parks throughout the borough. These CPWs will be fix posts and be placed on mobile crews as well as cut grass.	
18/32	NYPL	Other expense budget request for NYPL	During the pandemic libraries served as polling sites, cooling centers, and COVID-19 testing sites. Moving forward, libraries will play a critical role in helping the City with their in-person and remote learning plan as schools reopen in the fall. Libraries are often the first place that communities turn to for help and information, and they will continue to play an important role as the city recovers and reopens. We ask that that city support our libraries by maintaining baseline funding and restoring non-baselined funding.	
23/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	CB4 respectfully requests additional PEP officers be assigned to Borough to assist in maintenance and upkeep particularly during the summer months.	
29/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Increase the number of Horticultural Employees. Over the years, the horticultural elements throughout the borough have increased in size and scale. These gardens and landscape have made the borough more beautiful, but they require an immense amount of maintenance. In order to maintain these gardens, 30 additional employees are needed.	

31/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Additional Playground Associates. Playground Associates are one of the best kept secrets during the summer months. Children can go to their neighborhood playground and have structured activities five days per week during the summer months when they are not in school. As we sorely lack, recreational and community centers, Thirty-Six (36) additional Playground Associates are requested for the entire borough.
32/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Recreation Specialists for Recreation Centers Our Recreation Centers are centers of culture, programming, fitness, and inclusion. They host great programming, summer camps, workout classes, and they are a place for children and adults to feel safe. Twelve (12) Recreation Specialists are requested to increase programming in the centers.

# 6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

#### **Other Capital Requests**

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

### **Other Expense Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
22/32	DOITT	Telecommunication related requests	sThe city must provide Community Board staff and Board members with the tools and resources to conduct business virtually. This includes high speed internet access, software and hardware.	

# 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

## **Capital Budget Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/31	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	153rd Street Bridge We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and so we continue to advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. We stand firm in our support for development of this bridge, which would alleviate traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets and local streets in the neighborhood. The proposed bridge would be a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end.	153rd Street and Park Ave
2/31	HHC	Provide a new or expanded health care facility	The gap in health programs and services necessitates the need to provide more facilities. There are any number of citysponsored/funded projects where the City could partner with BronxCare or another provider to site new health centers in the district. Highbridge should be an area of focus.	
3/31	SCA	Provide technology upgrade	The pandemic has made it necessary for the majority of our students to either do 100% distance learning or a hybrid. Given the severity of the pandemic, we urge DOE to ensure that all low-income students are equipped with laptops/computers plus wi-fi access to help facilitate distance learning with special attention given to our young people who are in the shelter system.	
4/31	HPD	Other capital budget request for HPD	Development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing. HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing	

5/31	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Plan calls for construction of a new 458-seat primary school with a state-of-the art gym. CSD 7 is currently operating near capacity. As part of the Lower Concourse North project the city has agreed to construct a new 572 seat middle school. SCA has released its 2020-2024, likely resulting in additional deficits and capacity issues. We respectfully request siting and funding to address seat deficits in the next SCA capital plan.	
6/31	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	In February 2020, MTA announced the installation of an elevator on the #4 train at 170th Street. This is part of the \$54.8 billion 2020-2024 Capital Program. The project costs is \$39 million and will take 26 months to complete. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2020 and completion in 2022.	
7/31	DOT	Reconstruct	The entire 161 Street corridor should be resurfaced and is in need of major improvements. Removal and resurfacing asphalt and brick. The Board has complained about this for many years. The redbrick and asphalt along the corridor is cracked and is in serious need of repair. In addition, the texture of the brick does not allow for safe travel during inclement weather because it becomes very slippery and slick. The corridor sees increased vehicular and foot traffic with more tourism, filming and events. The resurfacing should focus on 161 and intersecting street segments from Macombs Dam Road to Park Avenue.	
8/31	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Corporal Irwin Fisher Park is approximately 1.5 acres of gated, unimproved NYC Parks green space that has never been accessible by the community since its acquisition some twenty years ago. The Community and the Community Board urge the city to fund the design and development of this park and target pre-teens (teenagers can use the ample Nelson Avenue Park facilities two blocks away.) This park will serve a community that continues to grow and provide recreational space that our children rightfully deserve. Through the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Development Fund (NDF) \$4.62 million was allocated.	WEST 169 ST

9/31	HPD	Other capital budget request for HPD	The city should create a grant to provide funding to tenants in arrears and for landlords who have lost revenue due to tenants inability to pay their rent in order to facilitate the upkeep and maintenance of their buildings.
10/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Claremont Park-Concrete sidewalks, retention walls required repair. Basketball hoops required replacement. Benches required repair and / or replacement of weather wood seating
11/31	SCA	Renovate interior building component	Given the need for safe learning environments and the critical role that the HVAC systems plays in combating COVID-19 we urge the City to repair/upgrade the HVAC systems in all schools district wide.
12/31	HRA	Other capital budget request for HRA	We recommend that DHS strengthen its partnership with HPD to increase the number of new affordable housing units made available to individuals and families. Currently the set aside for homeless families is 10%. This is particularly important as Community District Four has the largest number of cluster sights citywide, a high proportion of homeless facilities and a DHS intake center within its borders.
13/31	DPR	New equipment for maintenance	Vehicles to replace aging fleet. The Parks Department relies on vehicles that are constantly out of service and over five years old. Parks also needs to service larger parks with smaller, safer, and more efficient small utility vehicles.
14/31	HPD	Provide more housing for medium income households	Implement Area Median Income (AMI) Income Averaging: ensure that affordable housing constructed in the district encompasses a wider range and mix of incomes as opposed to strict income ranges that do not support economic diversity within new housing stock. It is in the interest of our Community District to promote economic diversity within our community. We strongly advocate for City and State funds for the middle-income new construction program and the creation of independent living facilities for seniors. We strongly encourage the use of public funds at the city and state level for permanent affordable housing and home ownership, not supportive housing (DHS related).

15/31	DOT	Install streetscape improvements	We request streetscape improvements be made around commercial corridors including painting, lighting, seating and improved circulation and mobility. (167th Street, 170th Street and Mount Eden)
16/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Mount Eden Mall: Benches required repair and / or replacement of weathered wood seating.
17/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Add a barrier to protect patrons from highway
18/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Macombs Dam Park-Reconstruction of synthetic turf field and add lighting.
19/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Goble Playground Replace playground equipment and repave/paint asphalt.
20/31	SBS	Other capital budget request for SBS	A Workforce One Center or an equivalent is still needed in our district, but its offerings should engage many sectors (not just the auto-industry) affected by the pandemic; the service and food/beverage industries were hit particularly hard by the loss of spring and summer business. The center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on local needs: large immigrant population (Latino and West African) and the auto-industry for example. This request could be accommodated on any number of cityowned sites in the district (SEE Housing & Land Use) or city-funded project.
21/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Both the Skate park and bike park in Mullaly Park are in poor condition and need partial or complete renovation. We respectfully request funding for renovation for both.

22/31	FDNY	Provide new facilities such as a firehouse or EMS station	In a previous fiscal year, the City allocated funding for a new EMS Station#17. Currently this project is on hold. We want to underscore our support for this project and request that once the new facility is operational that the city engage the Community in a substantive conversation about the use of the site. We advocate for new affordable housing and a community center on the site.	
23/31	DOT	Repair or build new step streets	There are a total of 17 step streets in the District. (7) are Top 20 priority Step Streets but as more than 70 percent of area residents use public transit or walk, connections and access are of the utmost importance. We request a schedule and timeline for rehabilitation of all step streets in the district and a discussion on priorities based on travel patterns and connections to transit, major institutions and employers. Priority should be given to the following: 1) Clay & 169th Street 2) Jerome near Anderson Behind PS 73 (include lighting) 3) 168th Street (Shakespeare to ELG) 4) Shakespeare and Anderson (167th Street) We also request that CDOT and DSNY collaborate on a comprehensive maintenance and clean up program for these step streets with regularly scheduled clean ups.	
24/31	DOT	Repair or construct new curbs or pedestrian ramps	Exterior Street from 150 Street to 153rd Street (exit ramp to Major Deegan Expressway North). We request identical treatments for curb cuts and pedestrian ramps as Bronx Point, particularly as the Bronx Children's Museum is scheduled to open in 2020.	Exterior Street 150 150

25/31	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	Community Boards play an integral role in dealing with land use and zoning matters, the City budget, municipal service delivery and many other matters critical to the quality of life of thousands of area residents. Our current location does not allow for such engagement, as mandated by the NYC Charter. We are currently located on the 11th floor of a residential building in (2) apartments adapted for office use. We respectfully request relocation of the Board office to a location more suitable for the agency's mission. We have had preliminary discussions with the Bronx Point development team as well the developer of Concourse Village West. Furthermore we request that the future redevelopment of any city-owned property be given consideration for new relocation	575 Exterior Street
26/31	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	Active development of a contiguous path joining the bike/run waterfront paths along Mill Pond Park (in Bronx CB4) to Roberto Clemente State Park (Bronx CB5) which also has a segment of a new bike/running path along the waterfront that ends at a chain linked fence separating the park land from property belonging to the Metro North/MTA train car cleaning facilities at the parks southern border. Using the precedent of the Riverbank Park in Manhattan, a similar greenway can be developed along the perimeter of the MTA's Bronx facility.	
27/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Claremont Park-Reconstruct/renovate both comfort stations	
28/31	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	There is a storage house/facility in Franz Sigel that is underutilized. CB4 recommends that this facility be rehabilitated and converted to concessions and used as a facility for outdoor concerts and performances.	
29/31	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Exterior Street from 150 Street to 153rd Street (exit ramp to Major Deegan Expressway North). We request that DOT mimic all new capital infrastructure investments being made as part of the Bronx Point, particularly as the Bronx Children's Museum is scheduled to open in fall 2021.	Exterior Street 150 150

30/31	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	Additional BBQ zones within the District are requested along with better signage clearly stating the Parks Departments barbeque policy. Mill Pond is the only park within the entire District that is designed with barbeque grills on the park grounds. Mill Ponds limited grills, which are greatly enjoyed, fall short of the demand for such amenities throughout the District. This unmet demand is compounded by the fact that Mill Pond is remotely situated under the Major Deegan Expressway which, assuredly serves as a deterrent to travel to the location. Consequently, every weekend from late Spring through the end of Summer, the Districts marquis parks (Claremont, Franz Sigel, Mullaly and Joyce Kilmer) are overrun with unmanageable barbeque gatherings.	
31/31	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Inwood Park - Asphalt and painting	
CS	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Install higher intensity lighting along Jerome Avenue. This special lighting is needed due to the elevated rail lines that cause the area to be dark and unsafe due to the poor lighting.	Jerome Avenue 161 Street 161 Street
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	We ask the city to maintain capital funding for our (3) branches Grand Concourse, Highbridge and Melrose. The capital funding will ensure that our branches can continue to meet the growing needs of our communities. Anticipated projects range from major renovations to targeted upgrades, including: - Heating and cooling system updates - New roof, windows and doors - Fire alarm, security and technology upgrades - ADA compliance - Elevator replacement Current priority capital needs in Bronx CB 4 - include: -Melrose Library \$ 1,220,000.	

CS DPR

Improve access to a building in a park

Grant Park was to be completed in stages to permit continued use by children of some areas of the park. However, the development of a series of large sink holes in the children's play area in the park's southwestern quadrant has effectively shut down the entire park indefinitely. This adversely impacts the entire community the park has historically served. Currently nearly \$30 million (\$25.7 through NDF) has been allocated for reconstruction of the park, roadbed, playground and basketball court.

### **Expense Budget Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	The Board request a budget line item for a CB4 Parks Administrator. Under the supervision of the Bronx Borough Commissioner this individual would manage CB4 parks system wide and would be responsible for the following: maintenance, special events, recreational facilities, personnel, developing and helping to establish Friends of groups to assist with maintenance, cleanup, beautification in high trafficked areas, manage grant application and funding streams for special projects, community relations/outreach and programming.	
2/32	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	The 44th precinct is one of the most active in the city. We request the City allocate funding for more permanent new officers in the next fiscal year. We specifically would like to see an increase in NCO's and officers in the Public Safety unit.	
3/32	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	Actions to assist in the reduction in obesity and diabetes among residents in the district Promoting healthy eating options is critical. We support programs such as the DOHMHs Shop Healthy Initiative to help educate store owners on how to provide positive messaging, setup healthier alternatives, and work with distributors to bring healthier foods to the stores.	
4/32	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	Providing positive reinforcement to our youth is important and Summer Youth Employment is desperately needed particularly in a District with a meager Area Median Income (\$29,000) and nearly thirty-five percent of the population living at the poverty level. DYCD should continue to increase funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) and make it year round. DYCD should also work with local organizations and the Bronx Borough President's office to create additional work places to host youth for the summer and throughout the school year as well.	

5/32	DSNY	Provide more on- street trash cans and recycling containers	We request additional trash receptacles in the following locations: -East 165th street between Grant and the Grand Concourse - East 169th and Clay Avenue -Grand Concourse / E 156th Street (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 700 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 770 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse / Across from to 770 -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -Grand Concourse (west side Franz Sigel Park) -165th Street / Between Jerome Avenue and River Avenue (mid-block Mullaly Park entrance N) -165th Street / Between Jerome Avenue (mid-block Mullaly Park entrance N) 166th Street and Grand Concourse (SW Corner)
6/32	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	The city should provide funds for individuals and families impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic to help pay arrears as a result of lost incomes and avoid displacement and evictions
7/32	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gangrelated, vice, etc.)	The increase in violent crime particularly shootings is alarming. We urge the city to deploy more resources to make our city streets safe once again.
8/32	DOE	Assign more non- teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services	Distance learning requires greater attention to detail and more work for teachers in addition to the need to ensure that students and teachers maintain their health at school and away. DOE needs to hire more nurses and more teachers and teachers aides to ensure that our students remain healthy and are learning. In addition this will support NYC educators who now face the daunting task of teaching remotely in the largest public school system in the country.

9/32	DCP	Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs	The ULI Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) conducted in October 2019, made a number of recommendations that would improve existing conditions in the district. a new development. While, not endorsing a soccer stadium, the Board likes the recommendations and implementation strategies in the report and urges the city to leverage the TAP as a guide for future development of the area. In particular we would like the city conduct a parking study for on-street parking throughout district, and implement a pilot program for on-street parking permits for area residents. (REPORT ATTACHED)
10/32	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	We should support the sustainability of small businesses throughout the District. EDC and SBS should partner to help small businesses develop business plans and financing packages to support them. They should think outside the box to create new programs and incentives that address the needs of area residents. They should partner with local financial institutions like Spring Bank.
11/32	DOE	Other expense budget request for DOE	Unemployment continues to skyrocket. We need to create more pathways to employment for our young people. The reintegration of trade schools and trades into the curriculum will create more opportunities for all students.
12/32	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick- up	E 166th Street (between Walton Ave and the Grand Concourse): Major dumping ground for appliances, old toilets. Walton Avenue (between McClellan and 165th Street): Low light area where dumping occurs. Walton Avenue (west slope of Franz Sigel Park): Major dumping ground. Jerome Slope
13/32	SBS	Other workforce development requests	SBS, EDC and HPD should continue to support and collaborate with the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) to create economic development opportunities for area residents and small businesses.

14/32	HPD	Other affordable housing programs requests	Development of cooperative-owned housing units in addition to affordable rental housing: HPD should allocate housing subsidy to facilitate affordable owner-occupied housing opportunities in newly constructed buildings in addition to rental housing. They should explore the affordability levels for the "Open Door" term sheet to either create more flexibility in the income bands or create a new term sheet to address lower income tiers.
15/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Increase City Park Workers for enhanced park maintenance. In order to increase the level of service and parks and to keep up with new additions to the parks system, 68 City Park Workers are requested to service the parks throughout the borough. These CPWs will be fix posts and be placed on mobile crews as well as cut grass.
16/32	DSNY	Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws	This should be concentrated along commercial corridors (East 167th Street, Ogden Avenue, East 170th Street and 161st Street area.)
17/32	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs	Homelessness has reached historic levels in NYC. According to the Coalition for the Homeless, as of August 2019, there are 61,674 homeless people, including 21,934 homeless families with 21,802 homeless children, sleeping each night in the New York City municipal shelter system. Families make up nearly three-quarters of the homeless shelter population. The city is investing hundreds of millions of dollars in new affordable housing. We respectfully request that the City ramp up it's efforts to permanently house families and individuals living in the shelter system and increase access to the Section 8 voucher system. They should also work with HPD to increase the set aside for formerly homeless (currently 10%).

18/32	NYPL	Other expense budget request for NYPL	During the pandemic libraries served as polling sites, cooling centers, and COVID-19 testing sites. Moving forward, libraries will play a critical role in helping the City with their in-person and remote learning plan as schools reopen in the fall. Libraries are often the first place that communities turn to for help and information, and they will continue to play an important role as the city recovers and reopens. We ask that that city support our libraries by maintaining baseline funding and restoring non-baselined funding.
19/32	NYCTA	Provide a new bus service or Select Bus Service	Explore the possibility of a Select BX19 and Select BX1 to accommodate the continued growth along the Grand Concourse and along the 149th Street corridor.
20/32	SBS	Assist with on- site business compliance with City regulations	The average merchant in the district is currently at least \$60,000 behind on rent by the end of June, according to Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz said. The unemployment rate in the Bronx in July, 2020 was 21.6 percent, more than four times as high as the year before. Work directly with business owners to remediate violations and licensing to increase their compliance.
21/32	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for middle school students (grades 6-8)	Community District Four's many working families and single-parent households require no-cost after-school care. Free after-school care allows parents to work and maintain employment, keeps children safe, and enhances children's educational attainment. It also allows families to use scarce financial resources on other pressing needs. Accordingly, we request that DYCD increase funding at existing organizations district-wide to provide after school programs. They should also partner with local schools to provide additional funding to site after schools programs. Given the current climate DYCD and partner organizations should find creative ways to engage students during the pandemic in a safe way.
22/32	DOITT	Telecommunication related requests	ns The city must provide Community Board staff and Board members with the tools and resources to conduct business virtually. This includes high speed internet access, software and hardware.

23/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	CB4 respectfully requests additional PEP officers be assigned to Borough to assist in maintenance and upkeep particularly during the summer months.
24/32	DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	Trades can provide an excellent career path for those who do not want to attend a two or four year college. Partnering with local unions on apprenticeship programs can provide exceptional opportunities for our young men and women.
25/32	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	We have a number of facilities throughout the district for formerly homeless individual and families. Many of these are individuals with a history of mental illness. While we do not advocate for any additional facilities of this type in our district we want to ensure that the individuals that are here receive proper care. This benefits the individuals and their families as well as area residents. DOHMH should work with DHS to identify these facilities and target those that would benefit from additional programming and/or services.
26/32	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	As nearly forty percent of our population is under the age of 25 it is important to underscore the importance of nutrition, healthy eating and physical activity. We request that DOHMH increase outreach and education related to food and nutrition. There should be a focus on targeting middle schools and working with community-based organizations with youth programs and active tenant associations and groups. Virtual fitness classes/videos to promote health and wellness (These classes can also be recorded and offered to community at large) Virtual platforms should be leveraged to maximize audience reach.
27/32	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	Increased bus service in areas such as Highbridge to improve access for area residents and merchants -Bx3, BX11, Bx36 or Bx18, BX6, Bx35, BX36,extent line along BX32 to 167th street, BX40/41, BX42

28/32	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance job training	Unemployment plays a key role in the socio-economic status of local residents. While unemployment both nationally and in the Bronx has hit record lows (7.9 percent and 21 percent) respectively. It has been suggested that unemployment in Community District Four is hovering anywhere near 30%-40%. The loss of jobs in retail and hospitality combined with slow downs in the construction industry and budget deficits create a bleak employment picture which will require long-term solutions. Community District Four advocates for HRA to work with SBS, the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) and community-based organizations to create better employment opportunities (training and job placement) for District residents. The city should also work with the Prisoner Re-entry Program.
29/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Increase the number of Horticultural Employees. Over the years, the horticultural elements throughout the borough have increased in size and scale. These gardens and landscape have made the borough more beautiful, but they require an immense amount of maintenance. In order to maintain these gardens, 30 additional employees are needed.
30/32	DFTA	Increase transportation services capacity	Access and mobility are major concerns for seniors in the District. We request that DOHMH collaborate with existing senior centers and care providers in the district to create additional programs that will allow seniors to get out for shopping, exercise and entertainment. Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen Council, Highbridge Community Development Corporation and BronxWorks are organizations that work with seniors and operate senior facilities in the District. We should expand these efforts as COVID-19 further hampers their mobility.
31/32	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Additional Playground Associates. Playground Associates are one of the best kept secrets during the summer months. Children can go to their neighborhood playground and have structured activities five days per week during the summer months when they are not in school. As we sorely lack, recreational and community centers, Thirty-Six (36) additional Playground Associates are requested for the entire borough.

32/32

DPR

Provide better park maintenance

Recreation Specialists for Recreation Centers Our Recreation Centers are centers of culture, programming, fitness, and inclusion. They host great programming, summer camps, workout classes, and they are a place for children and adults to feel safe. Twelve (12) Recreation Specialists are requested to increase programming in the centers.