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THE CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD 12

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FY27 District Needs & Priorities

Capital & Expense Budget Requests

Presented at the

November Board Meeting

November 25, 2025

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) 2027. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from June to November, 2025.

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

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

This report is broadly structured as follows:

1. **Overarching Community District Needs**

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

2. **Policy Area-Specific District Needs**

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

3. **Community Board Budget Requests**

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

Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2027. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

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

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

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

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1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 12

Address: 5910-13th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11219

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Phone: 7188510800

District Manager: Barry Spitzer

Email: bk12@cb.nyc.gov

Website: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb12/index.page>

2. 2020 CENSUS DATA

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

New York City

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

Brooklyn

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

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

Brooklyn Community District 12

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	191,382	100.00	205,377	100.00	13,995	7.3	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	65,329	34.1	71,693	34.9	6,364	9.7	0.8
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	191,382	100.0	205,377	100.0	13,995	7.3	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	24,854	13.0	25,170	12.3	316	1.3	-0.7
White non-Hispanic	125,152	65.4	121,295	59.1	-3,857	-3.1	-6.3
Black non-Hispanic	4,338	2.3	4,794	2.3	456	10.5	0.0
Asian non-Hispanic	33,856	17.7	42,293	20.6	8,437	24.9	2.9
Some other race, non-Hispanic	847	0.4	6,275	3.1	5,428	640.9	2.7
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	2,335	1.2	5,550	2.7	3,215	137.7	1.5
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	61,101	100.0	62,782	100.0	1,681	2.8	0.0
Occupied housing units	56,154	91.9	58,552	93.3	2,398	4.3	1.4
Vacant housing units	4,947	8.1	4,230	6.7	-717	-14.5	-1.4

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

Statement on Data Accuracy

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

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

3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Brooklyn Community Board 12 includes the neighborhoods of Borough Park, parts of Kensington, Sunset Park, and Midwood. Borough Park is known for its large Hasidic Jewish community. Kensington is home to a rapidly growing population of Pakistani and Bangladeshi residents. Sunset Park, particularly 8th Avenue, which borders both District 12 and District 7, is home to Brooklyn's Chinatown. Midwood's Ocean Parkway stretches 4.86 miles, connecting Coney Island Beach to Prospect Park.

Community Board 12 serves a diverse population with a wide range of needs. These differences require us to address and accommodate the unique challenges faced by various groups within our district. Notable variations can be found in the 2023 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as the 2019 and 2023 ACS data from the NYU Furman Center and the 2020 Decennial Census data.

The 2023 Census Reporter reports a birth rate of 9.9% in this district, more than double the New York City average of 4.9% (calculated as the percentage of women ages 15-50 who gave birth in the previous year). This results in a higher proportion of infants, children, and youth who require childcare and other youth services. In fact, 19.8% of the population in this district is under the age of 18, the highest percentage of any community district in NYC (according to NYC Planning Population FactFinder). These children, many of whom attend non-public schools, are entitled to the full range of city services, including regular trash collection. Our residents should not have to deal with excessive garbage in the streets, especially around school areas.

In Community Board 12, 70.3% of residents speak English as a second language (ESL) at home as their primary shared language. The most common non-English Language spoken in households in Community District 12 was 42.2% Yiddish, Pennsylvania Dutch or Other West Germanic Languages significantly higher than the New York City average of 9% and the national average of 22%.

Notably, Yiddish, the primary language of the Hasidic community, as well as languages from the Indian subcontinent, are part of this Indo-European group. According to the 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Community Board 12 is the only district in NYC where Yiddish is the most spoken non-English language. This presents a challenge, as the city lacks sufficient accommodations for ESL speakers who use Yiddish. While services are well-developed for Spanish-speaking ESL residents, those whose primary language is Yiddish often encounter poorly translated materials, with awkward wording and syntax that can be difficult to understand. This district requires services that are tailored to the specific needs of its diverse, non-English-speaking residents, ensuring they receive information in a language and format they can easily comprehend.

Community Board 12 is home to a diverse array of cultural and ethnic communities. According to the 2023 DATA USA, 30.2% of the population in Kensington, a neighborhood within CB12, identifies as ethnically Asian, reflecting the vibrant Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Indian communities in the area. The 2020 Census revealed that this demographic grew to 24.9% in the district. Kensington has also become a popular destination for new families, many of whom have young children.

Brooklyn's Chinatown is located along 8th Avenue, which forms the boundary between Community Board 7 and Community Board 12. Over time, this area has seen a shift in its ethnic makeup, evolving to reflect the growing Asian cultural presence. On certain streets between 8th and 9th Avenues, 75% to 90% of residents now identify as ethnically Asian, highlighting the area's status as a dynamic and desirable cultural enclave.

Due to the religious and cultural needs unique to the diverse communities in this district, Community District 12 has become a highly sought-after place to live. All areas of the district are seeing an influx of large families, which is increasing the overall density. As a result, the district faces challenges such as traffic congestion, insufficient parking, sanitation issues, and

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Traffic congestion in the district is largely a result of its high density. For example, an estimated 300-350 school buses are needed daily to transport children to school. While traffic and parking challenges are common in dense urban areas, we believe there are a few practical, cost-effective solutions that can help alleviate some of the congestion. The ongoing growth of the community, coupled with continuous construction and infrastructure upgrades, only intensifies the issue. Although the Department of Transportation (DOT) requires permits for such work, the stipulations designed to maintain traffic flow are often ignored. These illegal street closures create chaos and add to the already significant traffic burden. Increasing DOT HIQA oversight would help ensure construction is managed as efficiently as possible. With the additional strain of BQE construction detouring traffic through our district this year, we expect traffic to worsen even further.

We also propose exploring innovative solutions to address traffic congestion. Some of the busiest streets in our district experience traffic patterns that vary depending on the time of day. Therefore, we recommend implementing a middle lane that can change direction based on morning and evening rush hour traffic patterns. This approach, already used in other major cities, would help better manage the flow of traffic during peak commute times. Additionally, we urge serious consideration of residential parking permits to help ease the parking burden on our district's residents.

Borough Park and Kensington are in urgent need of affordable housing to support its growing population, many of whom are drawn to the area for its cultural richness rather than its financial opportunities. A significant portion of the population lives in poverty and cannot afford the high market prices for housing. According to the Fruman Cener, the poverty rate in Borough Park was 26.6% in 2023 compared to 18.2% citywide. The 2023 data from the Furman Center reveals that 35.4% of renter households in Borough Park are "severely rent-burdened," spending more than 50% of their household income on rent.

Many children, comprising a large percentage of the district's population, are largely educated in religious private schools. Ever since *Everson v Board of Education* (1947), the largely held legal opinion was that *all* school children are entitled to essential services:

*"cutting off church schools from these services * so separate and so indisputably marked off from the religious function would make it far more difficult for the schools to operate. But such is obviously not the purpose of the First Amendment. That Amendment requires the state to be a neutral in its relations with groups of religious believers and nonbelievers; it does not require the state to be their adversary."*

*this statement was made in reference to transportation needs.

While New York City prides itself on its cultural and religious diversity, the Department of Sanitation does not provide the same level of service to private schools as it does to public schools. Private schools are serviced only twice a week, the same as residential pickups, but this becomes a significant issue in Borough Park, which is home to the largest concentration of private schools in the city. Some of these schools serve between 2,000 to 5,000 children—many times larger than local district schools. As a result, garbage piles up quickly and spills onto the streets. During the summer months, this leads to unpleasant odors. Sanitation workers often cannot fit all the waste into their trucks, leaving piles behind until the next scheduled pickup. This impacts the overall cleanliness of the area and significantly reduces the quality of life for residents. Given that private schools also provide three meals a day, generating large amounts of rapidly decaying waste, daily trash collection is essential. Community Board 12 met with former Sanitation Commissioners Tish and Garcia, who acknowledged the validity of this request and the negative impact the lack of service has on street cleanliness.

A major concern for residents in the district is the lack of effective oversight in sanitation services. Many reports finding large amounts of trash scattered in the streets after what should be routine trash collection. The reality is that some sanitation workers are negligent in performing their duties. At the same time, residents complain about being ticketed for minor infractions, such as candy wrappers blown onto their sidewalks after they've already cleaned in front of their homes. Despite the addition of more supervisors, this issue persists. We propose installing cameras on all sanitation trucks so that supervisors can monitor and review the work of their crews (similar to the body cameras worn by police officers) and be able to properly respond when a complaint comes in to our office, an elected official's office or 311. It's also time for the sanitation department to provide photo evidence with every ticket issued. The accountability these cameras would provide will help ensure more responsible trash collection and proper enforcement. This technology already exists and is successfully being used by other agencies to guarantee the proper delivery of other essential services.

Community Board 12 is, and continues to be, an important contributor to the city's tax base. However, the unique demographics of the district present distinct challenges. The role of the Community Board, as outlined in the NYC Charter, is to ensure the delivery of essential services, and as the most localized form of government, the Board is uniquely positioned to do so. The makeup of this district is vastly different from other areas, with diverse cultural, familial, and social characteristics. As such, the district requires a tailored approach to communication with the government. The government should work more closely with the Community Board, which possesses the in-depth knowledge of the community's specific needs and how best to communicate effectively. We are part of this community, we work within it, and we are ready, willing, and able to support New York City in its efforts to promote and celebrate diversity.

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4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Brooklyn Community Board 12

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Traffic

Community Board 12 serves a dynamic, rapidly growing, and diverse population. This growth has contributed to severe traffic congestion, as many residents own motor vehicles, leading to a significant parking shortage. The high volume of school buses (both morning and afternoon), combined with other traffic, puts considerable strain on the roads, often resulting in frequent breakdowns. While intermittent pothole repairs and resurfacing provide temporary relief, they do not address the underlying issues. We recommend conducting comprehensive studies of traffic and parking flow across the district to identify cost-effective solutions for modernizing traffic patterns and bringing the infrastructure up to 21st-century standards.

Trash removal and cleanliness

Community Board 12 has long struggled with sanitation issues that not only affect the quality of life but also pose serious public health and safety risks. Illegal dumping is a major concern, with hazardous materials sometimes being discarded carelessly, putting passersby—especially young children—at risk. This district has a significantly larger number of private schools compared to public schools, and as a result, the student population in private schools far exceeds that of public schools. However, while public schools receive daily trash collection, private schools do not. The lack of daily service creates a health and quality of life hazard, particularly due to the buildup of rotting waste left for days at a time.

Affordable Housing

Community Board 12 is a densely populated area with many large families, including one of the largest Jewish religious communities in the city, which naturally attracts many members to the neighborhood. This vibrant community is in high demand as a center that meets the unique religious, social, and community needs of its residents. As a result, the housing supply is limited while demand remains high, driving property values up and making affordable housing nearly impossible to find. The shortage of available properties—both for sale and for rent—has made homeownership out of reach for most families, and finding reasonably priced rental units is extremely difficult. The lack of sufficient, reliable public transportation means that most families rely on private vehicles, making parking a crucial consideration for any new housing. However, many developers seeking to profit from the district often build small units without parking spaces, exacerbating the housing shortage and failing to address the needs of current residents. It is vital to explore realistic solutions for affordable housing to meet the needs of this community.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers

In previous years, we have requested the establishment of an HRA service center in our district. While we understand that funding for this request may not be feasible, we are now asking that HRA provide resources and personnel at our office, including a specialized scanning machine for clients to upload documents. ACCESS HRA is a valuable tool for those with internet and smartphone access, but for many residents of CB 12, who lack these resources, it becomes a significant barrier. These individuals are left with no choice but to travel to distant job centers, which is both inconvenient and burdensome. Since we are a city agency with the capacity to provide these services, HRA should be able to support our community by offering these essential resources locally. We have the space and capability to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our residents.

Community District Needs Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

Our district faces a persistent mosquito problem from spring through fall, with swarms throughout the streets. We urgently need increased mosquito spraying to address this issue. Small pools of standing water throughout the area serve as breeding grounds, making regular spraying essential to keep the mosquito population at manageable levels.

Rats also contribute to property damage by gnawing on wires, insulation, and other building materials. The surge in the rat population, combined with the ongoing mosquito issue, creates a public health concern that requires urgent attention. Effective pest control strategies, including enhanced waste management and targeted rodent control measures, are essential to mitigate the impact of both pests on the community.

We are getting a major increase of calls related to skunks in many areas of the district. Currently, DOH only deals with rats. We are requesting that DOH's responsibilities be expanded to include removal of larger rodents like skunks and possums.

Needs for Older NYs

- The senior centers in our district are in urgent need of funding to support essential programming for older adults. As the senior population evolves, centers have worked to modernize their offerings to meet the needs of a younger generation of seniors (ages 65-75) who are recently retired or have lost their jobs due to COVID-19. These seniors, many of whom are second-generation children of Holocaust survivors, require stimulating programs, counseling, and specialized services to enhance their lives. Additionally, our kosher residents rely on kosher centers, which are currently severely underfunded, and extra funding is needed to cover the increased cost of kosher food. The shifting demographics of the senior population also call for adjustments—for example, there is an increasing number of Polish-speaking seniors, requiring translation services. While we were informed last year that further study is needed, we request that this study be conducted as soon as possible to ensure that our senior centers can adapt to these changing needs.

- We also request additional funding for caregiver support services, as many caregivers in our community are experiencing emotional, physical, and financial strain while caring for aging family members. This funding would help provide respite care, counseling, and training programs to ensure caregivers can continue their vital role without burnout.
- Our community-based organizations are requesting an increase in funding for the SOS (Supporting Our Seniors) Initiative due to the growing number of younger seniors in the community. This initiative is specifically designed to assist seniors with navigating the process of applying for programs they are newly eligible for, such as Medicare, SSI, Social Security benefits, and other need-based programs like Medicaid and SNAP, which they may qualify for due to a reduction in income. Additionally, there is a pressing need for funding to support social events and activities that help seniors stay connected, engaged, and active within the community. This funding is crucial to ensure our seniors continue to receive the support and opportunities they need to thrive.
- We are requesting funding for health education programs, which are essential for improving the health and well-being of our community. These programs help people learn how to take better care of their health, prevent diseases, and live healthier lives. By supporting health education, we can reduce health problems, encourage healthier habits, and build a stronger community. Your help will make sure these programs reach those who need them most and have a lasting positive impact.

Needs for Low Income NYs

A large number of residents in our district do not have college degrees, and many also face language barriers. Investing in targeted vocational training, along with NYOD English language classes, is a priority that could help raise the low incomes many families are currently experiencing. Our residents are intelligent and capable, and they would benefit from training focused on high-paying, in-demand skills, as well as improving their English proficiency. Currently, there are no Work Force 1 (WF1) centers nearby to serve our district, so providing funding to fill this gap would be a valuable investment. We are requesting that Work Force 1 collaborate with our local CBO, the Boro Park Jewish Community Council, and our local public libraries to provide these vital services to our community.

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DFTA	1 / 2	Funding for a new senior center program
DFTA	2 / 2	Other senior center program requests
DOHMH	1 / 1	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations
HRA	1 / 1	Other expense budget request for HRA

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Brooklyn Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Youth workforce development and summer youth employment

Our Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) rely heavily on DYCD funding to sustain their essential programs, which are a critical lifeline for our residents. Several programs, in particular, require increased funding to meet growing demand. These include food pantry services, crisis intervention programs, and general social services. Additionally, our CBOs offer valuable digital literacy programs that are currently underfunded. Enhancing digital literacy is key to improving access to information, which in turn can positively impact many aspects of daily life. Increased support for these programs would have a far-reaching effect on the well-being and empowerment of our community.

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

Our Community Based Organizations provide children with skills to help form a solid foundation for the rest of their lives.

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DYCD	1 / 1	Other expense budget request for DYCD

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Public safety facilities (precinct, fire houses, etc.)

The request for a new 66th Precinct Station House has been included in budget proposals for over 38 years. However, funding for the construction of a new station house was eliminated in the FY12 budget. Currently, the 66th Precinct operates out of what is likely the smallest precinct house in the city, which is insufficient for the needs of its officers.

Additionally, the current station house experiences frequent flooding issues during heavy rain, further complicating operations and creating unsafe working conditions. The building urgently requires either an expansion, a complete rebuild, or relocation to a larger and more resilient facility.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

- We are requesting an increase in officers dedicated to the enforcement of regulations regarding mopeds, electric bikes, and electric scooters on sidewalks and streets. With the rise of moped-sharing services and other electric-powered bikes, the instances of pedestrian injury have significantly increased. These vehicles should be operating safely and obeying all traffic laws. Yet, it has become nearly impossible to walk even a few blocks without having to dodge them on city sidewalks or nearly causing accidents with other motor vehicles due to the disobeying of traffic laws. Additionally, the safety of cyclists on the Ocean Parkway bike lane is being compromised. Bike lanes are designed for cyclists, including e-bikes, not mopeds. In light of the growing emphasis on alternative transportation, it is crucial to ensure that our bike lanes are safe. Unfortunately, incidents of cyclists being hit by mopeds are becoming all too common.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
NYPD	1 / 3	Hire additional traffic enforcement agents
NYPD	2 / 3	Other NYPD programs requests
NYPD	3 / 3	Hire additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)

Brooklyn Community Board 12

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

Cleanliness/trash collection

Community Board 12 district is in dire need of more collection services and dumping enforcement. Children make up a significant portion of Community District 12's population, and many of them attend religious private schools. Under *Everson v. Board of Education* (1947), the long-standing legal interpretation affirms that all schoolchildren, whether enrolled in public or parochial institutions, are entitled to essential municipal services. Although the original case addressed transportation, the ruling established the broader principle that government must remain neutral and cannot deny basic services to non-public school students. Despite New York City's commitment to serving diverse communities, the Department of Sanitation does not provide private schools with the same level of service offered to public schools. Public schools receive daily trash collection, while private schools serving an estimated 100,000 children in Community Board 12 each day, all of whom receive three meals, are serviced only twice a week, the same as residential pickups. This presents a significant problem in Borough Park, which has the largest concentration of private schools in New York City, many enrolling between 2,000 and 5,000 students per building. The amount of perishable waste generated is substantial, and twice-weekly collection is not sufficient to manage rapidly decaying food. Waste accumulates within a short time, spills onto the streets, creates strong odors during warmer months, and often cannot fit into sanitation trucks, resulting in piles left behind until the next scheduled pickup. These conditions reduce the quality of life for residents and pose public health concerns. Community Board 12 has raised these issues for years, and both former Commissioners Kathryn Garcia and Jessica Tisch acknowledged the validity and urgency of establishing daily collection during meetings with the Board. The district historically received daily service for its largest schools, but this was discontinued under Commissioner Garcia. At minimum, this level of service should be reinstated until the Department of Sanitation is able to provide district-wide daily collection for all schools.

Sanitation oversight remains one of the most consistent complaints from residents. Constituents frequently report that after routine pickups, streets are left with scattered trash, spillage, and debris, while residents simultaneously receive violations for minor litter such as candy wrappers blown onto their sidewalks even after they have cleaned in front of their homes. Although the Department of Sanitation has increased supervisory staff in the district, service inconsistencies persist. Community Board 12 recommends installing cameras on all sanitation trucks, similar to body-worn cameras used by the New York City Police Department, so supervisors can review collection practices and respond accurately to complaints. Requiring photographic evidence with every sanitation ticket would also ensure fair and documented enforcement. Expanding the placement of mobile dumping cameras at known hotspots is equally important, as illegal dumping continues to contribute to rodent activity, unsanitary conditions, and ongoing quality of life issues.

Community Board 12 is an important contributor to the city's tax base, yet the district's unique demographic, cultural, and linguistic characteristics require a more tailored approach to service delivery. As the most local level of government, the Board has direct knowledge of the community's needs and is uniquely positioned to guide City agencies in providing equitable and effective service. The City should work more closely with Community Board 12 to ensure that essential sanitation services, including high-frequency school pickups, improved street cleanliness, and fair enforcement practices, are delivered appropriately to all residents and schoolchildren throughout the district.

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

- Regular cleaning of catch basins is crucial. Recent storms have highlighted that the current reactive approach to cleaning is ineffective. Every time it rains, we experience consistent flooding throughout the district, and the flooding often disrupts daily life for days. Catch basins should be cleaned every year rather than once every three years, before issues are reported. Catch basins should be cleaned annually rather than once every three years, and the cleaning should be done proactively before issues are reported. The city's infrastructure is severely lacking in its ability to manage rainfall, as demonstrated by the severe impacts recent storms have had. One straightforward way to ease the strain on our already inadequate stormwater system is to ensure that the drains are clear and unobstructed.

The areas around 18th Avenue and 60th Street, as well as the length of 13th Avenue, are particularly hard-hit by heavy rains, with many videos circulating on social media showing the extent of the flooding. These are high-traffic areas, and the flooding makes it difficult for both residents and city buses to navigate through knee-deep water. It's clear that these areas may require not only regular catch basin cleaning but also infrastructure upgrades, as the problem has been worsening over time.

- The population in Boro Park has been steadily growing, and our current water pipes are struggling to keep up with this increase. This issue is becoming more pressing as the demand for water continues to rise. We are requesting that the DEP Engineering conduct a study of the water pipes in the Boro Park section of our district to assess their capacity and ensure they meet the needs of our expanding community.

Needs for Sanitation Services

Illegal dumping has significantly increased in our district, with several hotspots requiring consistent attention. An increase in enforcement is critical to serve as a deterrent. If the threat of a \$4,000 fine and vehicle impound becomes a genuine possibility, we may see a reduction in the frequency of cleanup requests. One of the most common complaints we receive concerns the unsanitary conditions and rodent infestations near these dumping sites. This has become a serious quality of life issue. Notable hotspots include the areas around Washington Cemetery (21st Ave., Bay Pkwy., McDonald Ave.), the LIRR freight line on 61st St. between 11th and 12th Ave., 56th St. between 15th and 16th Ave., 55th St. between 16th and 17th Ave, and 37th Street (along Greenwood Cemetery). While we appreciate the installation of two mobile cameras, we request two additional mobile cameras to be deployed – at the direction of the superintendent – to strategic locations to further combat illegal dumping. This is an urgent quality of life issue, contributing to a surge in vermin, including rats and roaches. We strongly urge funding for this initiative, as the fines collected should offset the costs. DSNY's camera program has proven effective in identifying offenders, and we believe expanding this effort will significantly reduce illegal dumping in our district.

Public schools receive daily trash collection, but private schools in our district—serving approximately 100,000 children who receive three meals a day, including perishables—only get trash picked up twice a week. The amount of trash generated, particularly from perishable food waste, is substantial, and twice-weekly pickups are insufficient to address the health and quality of life concerns related to decaying food. In FY22 (212202001E), the request was not considered a budget item, and DSNY has continued to deny service, citing funding constraints. Last year, in FY23 (212202301E), the request was again not recommended for funding. However, during a meeting with (former) DSNY Commissioner Tisch, she acknowledged the impact this lack of service has on our community and stated it would be carefully reviewed. We are reiterating the urgency of this request and urge the city to prioritize daily trash collection for all schools in CB12. Historically, we had daily pickups just for the largest schools in our district, which was discontinued under Commissioner Garcia. We are asking that at least this be reimplemented until DSNY can fulfil our request to have all schools picked up daily

We are also requesting funding for a dedicated school truck for Bk12. Currently, Bk12 shares its school truck with other districts. Due to the large number of schools in Bk12, the shared school truck is not sufficient in servicing all Bk12 schools. Therefore, it is essential that Bk12 gets a dedicated school truck.

We are requesting the Empire Bins for every public and private school in the district. These bins will help maintain cleaner sidewalks, reduce rodent activity, and improve overall sanitation around school perimeters. Given the volume of waste generated by school facilities and the need to model proper waste management for students, providing Empire Bins to all schools is an essential investment in community cleanliness and public health.

We are asking to increase the number of brooms from five to six to be able to complete the broom routes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and increase the Wednesday broom route from three to four. DSNY has claimed in the past that there are no available resources to accommodate this request.

In Manhattan and some parts of Brooklyn there are 3-times-a-week pickups. Since our district is very congested and consists of large families, which makes us unable to comply with the new bin rules, we are requesting – in certain areas of the district – garbage pickup three times a week. With more trash pickup days, garbage won't be overflowing and thus our district would be able to comply with the new rules.

We are also requesting the reinstatement of the mechanical sweeper on the midnight shift (12:00 AM to 8:00 AM), six days a week. Our district consistently receives low ratings on the cleanliness scorecard, and restoring this service would greatly help improve this situation. DSNY continues to state that no resources are available for this service.

We are requesting the return of a dedicated cleaning officer for the district. Currently, CB12 lacks a permanent cleaning officer. Having such an officer would significantly help address the chronic littering issues in high-traffic, litter-prone areas.

We are requesting the installation of cameras on sanitation trucks to ensure that essential services are carried out properly. Similar to the body worn cameras worn by police officers, having such footage will ensure that duties are carried out properly and we'll be able to substantiate any complaints we and our elected officials get.

Similarly, we ask for photographic evidence to be included with sanitation violation notices issued to residents. This would provide accountability and ensure that violations are documented with clear proof.

We are asking for a dedicated MLP (Mobile Litter Patrol) to be used daily in BK12 to help keep our area clean. According to DSNY officials, this will go a long way in helping keep our district clean and help address troubled areas.

In the past, there were more public trash cans placed throughout the district, but many have been removed over time. The lack of litter baskets has led to an increase in street litter, particularly in high-traffic areas. The community requests that additional trash cans be installed in busy locations, such as East 3rd Street and Avenue C, to help maintain cleaner streets and improve sanitation across the district.

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DEP	1 / 2	Inspect storm sewer on specific street segment and service, repair or replace as needed
DEP	2 / 2	Clean catch basins
DSNY	1 / 6	Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws
DSNY	2 / 6	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions
DSNY	3 / 6	Other garbage collection and recycling requests
DSNY	4 / 6	Other cleaning requests
DSNY	5 / 6	Other garbage collection and recycling requests
DSNY	6 / 6	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up

Brooklyn Community Board 12

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

Affordable housing creation

Community Board 12 is a densely populated area with many large families, including one of the largest Jewish religious communities in the city, which naturally attracts many members to the neighborhood. This vibrant community is in high demand as a center that meets the unique religious, social, and community needs of its residents. As a result, the housing supply is limited while demand remains high, driving property values up and making affordable housing nearly impossible to find. The shortage of available properties—both for sale and for rent—has made homeownership out of reach for most families, and finding reasonably priced rental units is extremely difficult. The lack of sufficient, reliable public transportation means that most families rely on private vehicles, making parking a crucial consideration for any new housing. However, many developers seeking to profit from the district often build small units without parking spaces, exacerbating the housing shortage and failing to address the needs of current residents. It is vital to explore realistic solutions for affordable housing to meet the needs of this community.

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

Needs for Land Use

- A major issue in our district is the lack of affordable housing. We are asking for studies to be done on the commercial areas, especially along 60th and 61st Streets, to explore the possibility of rezoning them for residential development, with a strong focus on affordable housing. (To be clear, we are not asking for high-rises to be built in low density areas, just for underdeveloped areas to be identified for housing.)

Needs for Housing

Borough Park and Kensington are in urgent need of affordable housing to support its growing population, many of whom are drawn to the area for its cultural richness rather than its financial opportunities. A significant portion of the population lives in poverty and cannot afford the high market prices for housing. According to the Furman Center the poverty rate in Borough Park was 26.6% in 2023 compared to 18.2% citywide. The 2023 data from the Furman Center reveals that 35.4% of renter households in Borough Park are "severely rent-burdened," spending more than 50% of their household income on rent.

Needs for Economic Development

Workforce development is a prime concern in our area.

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DCP	1 / 1	Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs
SBS	1 / 1	Other workforce development requests

Brooklyn Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Traffic congestion

Due to the large number of young children, senior citizens, parents with strollers, and individuals with mobility challenges (including those using walkers or wheelchairs), many residents struggle to access train platforms. There is an urgent need to install elevators at the D and F lines. While some stations got or are slated to get accessibility improvements, the 18th and McDonald Avenue stations are key transfer points to several bus lines and remain inaccessible. Additionally, the 50th and 55th Street stations on New Utrecht Avenue on the D line, which is the closest subway stop to Maimonides Medical Center—a major trauma center and one of New York State's busiest birth centers—also requires accessibility upgrades. We urge NYCTA to prioritize these stations for accessibility improvements. These requests have been made for some time, and despite announcements of increased accessibility at other stations, these particular locations remain underserved. Governor Hochul's recent statements on expanding accessible stations are encouraging, but adding these critical locations to the list would greatly alleviate the accessibility challenges faced by our residents. These concerns have been shared with all relevant government agencies advocating for the necessary improvements.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

- Due to the large number of young children, senior citizens, parents with strollers, and individuals with mobility challenges (including those using walkers or wheelchairs), many residents struggle to access train platforms. There is an urgent need to install elevators at the D and F lines. While some stations got or are slated to get accessibility improvements, the 18th and McDonald Avenue stations are key transfer points to several bus lines and remain inaccessible. Additionally, the 50th and 55th Street stations on New Utrecht Avenue on the D line, which is the closest subway stop to Maimonides Medical Center—a major trauma center and one of New York State's busiest birth centers—also requires accessibility upgrades. We urge NYCTA to prioritize these stations for accessibility improvements. These requests have been made for some time, and despite announcements of increased accessibility at other stations, these particular locations remain underserved. Governor Hochul's recent statements on expanding accessible stations are encouraging, but adding these critical locations to the list would greatly alleviate the accessibility challenges faced by our residents. These concerns have been shared with all relevant government agencies advocating for the necessary improvements.

Needs for Transit Services

- Due to the large number of young children, senior citizens, parents with strollers, and individuals with mobility challenges (including those using walkers or wheelchairs), many residents struggle to access train platforms. There is an urgent need to install elevators at the D and F lines. While some stations got or are slated to get accessibility improvements, the 18th and McDonald Avenue stations are key transfer points to several bus lines and remain inaccessible. Additionally, the 50th and 55th Street stations on New Utrecht Avenue on the D line, which is the closest subway stop to Maimonides Medical Center—a major trauma center and one of New York State's busiest birth centers—also requires accessibility upgrades. We urge NYCTA to prioritize these stations for accessibility improvements. These requests have been made for some time, and despite announcements of increased accessibility at other stations, these particular locations remain underserved. Governor Hochul's recent statements on expanding accessible stations are

encouraging, but adding these critical locations to the list would greatly alleviate the accessibility challenges faced by our residents. These concerns have been shared with all relevant government agencies advocating for the necessary improvements.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DOT	1 / 4	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)
DOT	2 / 4	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming
DOT	3 / 4	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming
DOT	4 / 4	Reconstruct streets
NYCTA	1 / 1	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DOT	1 / 10	Other traffic improvement requests
DOT	2 / 10	Other traffic improvement requests
DOT	3 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	4 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	5 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	6 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	7 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	8 / 10	Conduct traffic or parking studies
DOT	9 / 10	Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals
DOT	10 / 10	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Brooklyn Community Board 12

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

Park care and maintenance

- We are requesting funding for additional Parks personnel to secure and lock all parks in our district after dusk like Gravesend Park due to many incidents happening at nighttime. Elected officials have invested significant funds to upgrade our parks into state-of-the-art facilities that provide safe, enjoyable outdoor spaces for children. However, the absence of proper security has led to undesirable activity in these parks, which discourages young people from engaging in positive, recreational activities. It is unfortunate that these substantial investments are at risk of being undermined due to security issues.
- Ocean Parkway is a Special District. We request increased use of Parks Personnel and Resources along Ocean Parkway. This request was made FY15 (212198703E). While we were told "The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources," unfortunately not much has changed since. The beauty of Ocean Parkway must not be allowed to deteriorate. Maintenance must be ongoing to make sure upgrades and beautification are a priority. We request additional cleaning along ocean parkway malls to address the buildup of litter and debris.
- The bike path is cracked and bumpy from the tree roots growing. This is dangerous. Bicycles need to keep their eyes ahead to navigate other bikes and pedestrians, not on the ground to avoid bumps. A crew should be assigned to maintain the area, to alleviate homelessness and to ensure general order. The Malls and trees must receive regular and concentrated attention so that the Parkway can be properly maintained. Last year we were told it would require a larger expense budget. So be it. It is a year since then and the conditions on Ocean Parkway have deteriorated.
- While PARKS follows a multi-year pruning cycle, many trees fall into disrepair long before that time frame. The number of incidents involving falling trees or branches has been increasing in our district, due to delays in the treatment and removal of diseased or dying trees. Recent storms have underscored the serious damage caused by falling trees, not only to personal and public property but also to downed power lines. These outages are both disruptive and costly. It should not be the burden of NYC residents to pay out-of-pocket for tree trimming. Our community is forced to make an unfair choice: either allow the trees to damage their property and disrupt their surroundings or spend money they may not have—and likely won't recoup—on trimming overgrown, invasive trees. This is further complicated by a permitting process that is often confusing and difficult to navigate. We are requesting additional resources to ensure a safer, more proactive approach to tree maintenance, with a specific focus on monitoring tree health and preventing falls during severe weather. Additionally, the current timeline for replacing trees is far too long. We request more resources to expedite this process. It is the city's responsibility to maintain its trees in a way that ensures the safety of its residents, preventing the risk of falling branches and other hazards.
- PARKS has informed us that a contract will be in place this year to fund the repair of sidewalks damaged by trees. The number of locations that need to be repaired (and have already been evaluated by Parks) have increased. However, this contract has not yet led to any actual repairs. We urge PARKS to follow through on their commitment to fix the damaged sidewalks. Some of these areas are a significant safety hazard for pedestrians and have needed repair for an unreasonably long time.

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

Needs for Parks

A comfort station is urgently needed in the playground area. Currently, many children and adults must cross East 5th Street to reach the restrooms on the other side of the park. This is a busy, heavily trafficked street, and requiring park-goers to cross it to use the restroom creates unnecessary risks. A restroom located within the playground area, especially for the children using the park, is essential for their comfort and safety.

Rappaport Park (at 53rd Street & Fort Hamilton Parkway) is the last remaining roller hockey rink in Brooklyn and is in urgent need of renovation. The hockey rink, fencing, and seating have not been renovated in at least 30 years. Additionally, the playground at Rappaport Park needs a complete reconstruction, redesign and upgrade. This includes play equipment, safety surface, bollard spray shower, drainage, pavement, benches, drinking fountains, landscaping, drinking fountains, and landscaping, reconstruction basketball and handball courts. The Parks Department has recognized this as one of the top capital project needs for our district.

The Ocean Parkway Malls, which runs through our entire district, are in need of major reconstruction and restoration to improve safety, accessibility, and aesthetics for pedestrians and cyclists. The project should include the reconstruction of five blocks on the northbound (east) malls, featuring new pavement, benches, trees, landscaping, drainage improvements, ground stencils, and signage. Additionally, the reconstruction of five blocks on the southbound (west) malls is needed, including new asphalt and concrete pavement, benches, protective metal tree guards, landscaping, drainage enhancements, ground stencils, signage, bike racks, and a bike repair station. These improvements are essential to preserve the historic Ocean Parkway Malls, enhance pedestrian safety, and support increased bicycle use and community recreation. We are also requesting a dedicated mini packer specifically for servicing the Ocean Parkway Malls. This would be a new vehicle assigned solely to this route. Ocean Parkway, a nearly five-mile-long bike and pedestrian path running through a high-density residential area, is often neglected and rarely maintained. It serves as a vital green corridor for elderly residents, dog walkers, joggers, and cyclists, likely the most frequented bike path in the area. However, the space remains in poor condition, with litter, overgrowth, cracked pavement, and general neglect.

We are requesting a dedicated mini packer specifically for servicing Ocean Parkway. This would be a new vehicle for the job. Ocean Parkway Malls is often neglected and rarely maintained, despite being a nearly 5-mile-long bike and pedestrian path running through a high-density area with many taller-than-usual buildings. It serves as a popular park for elderly residents, dog walkers, joggers, and cyclists—likely the most frequented bike path in the area. However, this space is in poor condition, with litter, overgrowth, cracked pavement, and general neglect. After successfully advocating for the installation of waste baskets, we have discovered that a malfunctioning mini packer is causing frequent trash overflow. After successfully advocating for the installation of waste baskets, it was discovered that a malfunctioning mini packer is causing frequent trash overflow. Our residents deserve better maintenance of this important public space. While Ocean Parkway may be an unconventional park, it is critical to the quality of life for thousands of residents. This is a basic city service, and our community should be able to rely on the regular city budget to maintain it properly.

Albemarle Playground has gone the longest of all playgrounds in our district without a capital upgrade. This request is especially important due to it being next to a school and utilized by many children. We are requesting a completely new playground with updated equipment and spray shower.

Friends Field is in need of a major reconstruction to enhance its usability, safety, and accessibility for residents. The proposed project includes two options: reconstructing the field with natural turf and installing an above-ground watering system with a new perimeter track and bleachers or converting the field to synthetic turf suitable for multiple sports with a perimeter mondo track, small

bleachers, and dugouts. In addition, the McDonald Avenue entrance should be redesigned with new benches, upgraded seating areas, improved drainage, and outdoor adult fitness equipment to better serve the community.

Brizzi Playground is heavily used by children and families but lacks restroom facilities. The construction of a Portland Loo public restroom with full utility connections is requested to meet the needs of visitors and improve accessibility and hygiene at the site.

Dome Playground requires the installation of a Portland Loo public restroom with all necessary utilities. Providing restroom access will enhance the quality of the park experience for families, children, and seniors who regularly use this playground.

Needs for Library Services

We are requesting more funding for Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) branches to improve and expand the programs they offer. Right now, each branch has a basic set of programs, but with extra funding, they can provide more. This could include things like Creative

Aging art classes for older adults, kids' events with paid performers, author talks for

schools, and workshops like podcasting that need special equipment. Each branch decides which programs and supplies they need based on their community's interests. Some branches already get extra funding from local elected officials to help with these kinds of programs. More funding will allow BPL branches to better serve our communities with more programs and better resources for everyone.

Needs for Community Boards

Community boards are in desperate need of a base-line budget increase. Current community boards' budgets leave little room for competitive salaries, making recruitment and retention of professional staff difficult. At a recent NYC Council hearing, many Boards testified that they only have one or two employees, some of them working only part time. This makes our main function of service delivery very difficult. The cost of goods and services has also increased, which further eats into our meager budgets.

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
DPR	1 / 3	New equipment for maintenance
DPR	2 / 3	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)
DPR	3 / 3	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Agency	Priority	Title
BPL	1 / 1	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs
DPR	1 / 4	Provide better park maintenance
DPR	2 / 4	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance
DPR	3 / 4	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance
DPR	4 / 4	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)
OMB	1 / 1	Other community board facilities and staff requests

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

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

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Department of Transportation (DOT)

1 of 4 Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)
Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)

DOT

We request an increase in funding for annual street repaving. Not enough of our broken streets are repaired. This damages passing vehicles and underground infrastructure and is a safety hazard for pedestrians.

2 of 4 Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming
Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming

DOT

Location: Ocean Parkway - Avenue K & Avenue K

We request a pedestrian crossing for the Ave. K & Ocean Parkway intersection. As of now there is no pedestrian crossing for 2/5th of a mile, from Ave. J to Ave. L. It is a matter of public safety to install a traffic light that allows pedestrians to cross safely. A traffic light will slow traffic on this stretch where cars routinely speed up because there are no traffic calming measures in place. There has been an increase in midnight drag racing, donuts, and speeding. A traffic light and crosswalk would go a long way to solving this problem. This item was recommended for further study last year, we request the same.

3 of 4 Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming
Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming

DOT

There is a large school near 13th Ave and 36th St. that necessitates crossing 36th St. for most students. And although the area has been dedicated a school zone, there is no traffic calming devices for the entire stretch of 36th St. from Church Ave. (past Clara, Tehama, and Louisa Street) all the way until 12th Ave. Another school is coming to this area, which will make it even more important to have the area safe. We need a crosswalk at 36th St. and 13th Ave., with some mechanism to have cars stop for pedestrians to cross.

4 of 4 Reconstruct streets
Reconstruct streets

DOT

Location: 37th street - 14th Ave & 14th Ave

37th Street between 14th and 15th Avenues is in urgent need of reconstruction. Community Board 12 has requested funding for this project in multiple years (FY 2018 212201807C, FY 2022 212202204C, FY 2023 212202305C). However, we were informed that it does not qualify for standard street repaving due to unique features of this street, such as the lack of curb cuts. This section is plagued by potholes, sinkholes, cracked pavement, and lack of sidewalks which pose a danger to both drivers and pedestrians. The untreated potholes and depressions lead to frequent flooding with every rainstorm. The Department of Transportation (DOT) recommended funding for this request last year, and we continue to stress that this infrastructure upgrade is essential.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

1 of 3 New equipment for maintenance
New equipment for maintenance

DPR

We are requesting a dedicated mini packer specifically for servicing Ocean Parkway. This would be a new vehicle for the job. Ocean Parkway Malls is often neglected and rarely maintained, despite being a nearly 5-mile-long bike and pedestrian path running through a high-density area with many taller-than-usual buildings. It serves as a popular park for elderly residents, dog walkers, joggers, and cyclists, likely the most frequented bike path in the area. However, this space is in poor condition, with litter, overgrowth, cracked pavement, and general neglect. After successfully advocating for the installation of waste baskets, we have discovered that a malfunctioning mini packer is causing frequent trash overflow. After successfully advocating for the installation of waste baskets, it was discovered that a malfunctioning mini packer is causing frequent trash overflow. Our residents deserve better maintenance of this important public space. While Ocean Parkway may be an unconventional park, it is critical to the quality of life for thousands of residents. This is a basic city service, and our community should be able to rely on the regular city budget to maintain it properly.

2 of 3 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)**DPR**

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

COL. MARCUS PARK - A comfort station is urgently needed in the playground area. Currently, many children and adults must cross East 5th Street to reach the restrooms on the other side of the park. This is a busy, heavily trafficked street, and requiring park-goers to cross it to use the restroom creates unnecessary risks. A restroom located within the playground area, especially for the children using the park, is essential for their comfort and safety.

3 of 3 Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)**DPR**

Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Location: Fort Hamilton Parkway

Rappaport Park (at 53rd Street & Fort Hamilton Parkway) is the last remaining roller hockey rink in Brooklyn and is in urgent need of renovation. The hockey rink, fencing, and seating have not been renovated in at least 30 years. Additionally, the playground at Rappaport Park needs a complete reconstruction, redesign and upgrade. This includes play equipment, safety surface, bollard spray shower, drainage, pavement, benches, drinking fountains, landscaping, drinking fountains, and landscaping, reconstruction basketball and handball courts. The Parks Department has recognized this as one of the top capital project needs for our district.

New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA)**1 of 1 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

Due to the large number of young children, senior citizens, parents with strollers, and individuals with mobility challenges (including those using walkers or wheelchairs), many residents struggle to access train platforms. There is an urgent need to install elevators at the D and F lines. While some stations got or are slated to get accessibility improvements, the 18th and McDonald Avenue stations are key transfer points to several bus lines and remain inaccessible. Additionally, the 50th and 55th Street stations on New Utrecht Avenue on the D line, which is the closest subway stop to Maimonides Medical Center, a major trauma center and one of New York State's busiest birth centers, also requires accessibility upgrades. We urge NYCTA to prioritize these stations for accessibility improvements. These requests have been made for some time, and despite announcements of increased accessibility at other stations, these particular locations remain underserved. Governor Hochul's recent statements on expanding accessible stations are encouraging, but adding these critical locations to the list would greatly alleviate the accessibility challenges faced by our residents. These concerns have been shared with all relevant government agencies advocating for the necessary improvements.

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS**Department of Sanitation (DSNY)****1 of 6 Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws****DSNY**

Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws

There has been an increase in dumping. A few hotspots require consistent attention. Increasing enforcement is an essential deterrent. A \$4,000 violation as an actual probability, instead of a mythological possibility, may deter would-be violators. The dumping breeds unsanitary conditions and rodents. Since then DSNY has implemented a camera program to catch offenders, we request funding to place a few more cameras in strategic locations to help alleviate this problem. We need enforcement to work closely with the Super and CB12 to best place cameras.

2 of 6 Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions**DSNY**

Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions

Public schools have daily trash collection. Private schools that serve ~100k children 3 meals daily year-round have twice weekly pickups. We request funding for sanitation employees to service daily trash collection for ALL schoolchildren in CB12. Enrollment in private schools outnumbers public school enrollment here. Daily school trash pickups must be implemented to remedy the quality of life and public health concerns of decaying foods. The FY22 (212202001E) response was that this is not a budget request, yet DSNY continues to deny this service claiming a lack of funding. Last year, FY23 (212202301E), this was not recommended for funding. We respectfully request reconsideration.

3 of 6 Other garbage collection and recycling requests**DSNY**

Other garbage collection and recycling requests

We are requesting the return of a permanent cleaning officer to the district. Currently BK12 does not have a dedicated cleaning officer. Such an officer would go a long way to remedy the chronic littering in high litter areas.

4 of 6 Other cleaning requests**DSNY**

Other cleaning requests

We are asking to increase the number of brooms from five to six to be able to complete the broom routes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and increase the Wednesday broom route from three to four. DSNY has claimed in the past that there are no available resources to accommodate this request.

5 of 6 Other garbage collection and recycling requests**DSNY**

Other garbage collection and recycling requests

We request cameras mounted on Sanitation Truck to ensure essential services are provided properly. We also request photos attached to sanitation violations when issued to residents.

6 of 6 Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up**DSNY**

Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up

We are also requesting the reinstatement of the mechanical sweeper on the midnight shift (12:00 AM to 8:00 AM), six days a week. Our district consistently receives low ratings on the cleanliness scorecard, and restoring this service would greatly help improve this situation. DSNY continues to state that no resources are available for this service.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)**1 of 4 Provide better park maintenance****DPR**

Provide better park maintenance

Ocean Parkway is a highly trafficked Special District that must not be allowed to deteriorate. Some of our elected officials have designated monies for the upgrade and beautification of the Malls. Maintenance must be ongoing to make sure the upgrades and beautification remain intact. In order to maintain this arena in a sanitary and groomed condition, a crew should be assigned to maintain this thoroughfare and prevent homeless people from sleeping on the benches. An additional crew cab truck is requested to transport them the length and breadth of this roadway. The Malls and trees must receive regular attention. Last year the response to this ask was that a larger expense budget would be required, the conditions have deteriorated since. For some, this is the only accessible green space

2 of 4 Forestry services, including street tree maintenance**DPR**

Forestry services, including street tree maintenance

While PARKS follows a multi-year pruning cycle, many trees fall into disrepair long before that time frame. The number of incidents involving falling trees or branches has been increasing in our district, due to delays in the treatment and removal of diseased or dying trees. Recent storms have underscored the serious damage caused by falling trees, not only to personal and public property but also to downed power lines. These outages are both disruptive and costly. It should not be the burden of NYC residents to pay out-of-pocket for tree trimming. Our community is forced to make an unfair choice: either allow the trees to damage their property and disrupt their surroundings or spend money they may not have, and likely won't recoup, on trimming overgrown, invasive trees. This is further complicated by a permitting process that is often confusing and difficult to navigate. We are requesting additional resources to ensure a safer, more proactive approach to tree maintenance, with a specific focus on monitoring tree health and preventing falls during severe weather. Additionally, the current timeline for replacing trees is far too long. We request more resources to expedite this process. It is the city's responsibility to maintain its trees in a way that ensures the safety of its residents, preventing the risk of falling branches and other hazards.

3 of 4 Forestry services, including street tree maintenance**DPR**

Forestry services, including street tree maintenance

PARKS advised that the funds to repair sidewalks damaged by trees was increased. However, this increased funding has not yet resulted in actual repairs. We request PARKS repair the sidewalks damaged by trees as they said they would. Some of these areas are extremely dangerous for pedestrians and have been waiting for repairs for an exceptionally long time.

4 of 4 Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)**DPR**

Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)

We are requesting funding for additional Parks personnel to secure and lock all parks in our district after dusk like Gravesend Park due to many incidents happening at nighttime. Elected officials have invested significant funds to upgrade our parks into state-of-the-art facilities that provide safe, enjoyable outdoor spaces for children. However, the absence of proper security has led to undesirable activity in these parks, which discourages young people from engaging in positive, recreational activities. It is unfortunate that these substantial investments are at risk of being undermined due to security issues.

Department of Transportation (DOT)**1 of 10 Other traffic improvement requests****DOT**

Other traffic improvement requests

There are simply not enough HIQA inspectors to make an impact. HIQA's mission is to "increase the level of safety for both pedestrian and vehicle travel" and to "expedite the flow of traffic around construction zones." However, permit stipulations are frequently ignored, resulting in significant disruptions. Sometimes our district comes to a complete standstill because violators feel they have a right to close any street anytime they want. To address this issue, it is essential to increase the number of HIQA inspectors to ensure better enforcement and compliance. Often, DOT inspectors are not dispatched quickly enough to be effective, with many arriving only after construction is completed. More inspectors, and therefore faster response times, would be highly beneficial. Additionally, we request that a dedicated inspector be permanently assigned to the CB12 area and work in close coordination with the Community Board, which is often the first to identify permit violations. This request was denied last year, but the problem persists and requires a solution.

2 of 10 Other traffic improvement requests**DOT**

Other traffic improvement requests

Location: 60th Street and 13th Ave

We request DOT upgrade street signs and markings as needed. Specifically, the traffic light on 60th St and 13th Ave. Drivers on 13th Ave heading south must turn left or right when they get to the 60th St intersection because 13th Ave. becomes a ONE-WAY street. Multiple vehicles go the wrong way southbound from 60th St to 59th St. Drivers need easily visible direction ON the traffic light; either a sign indicating only turns are allowed or lights with arrows turning right or left. The problem persists and can be fixed with a sign directed to the drivers who drive the wrong way. We asked the Boro Commissioner, per the response when this request was denied, to no avail. Community Board 12 wonders how many injuries or death are required for DOT to recognize the necessity of this.

3 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

Location: 18th Avenue - 45th Street & 45th Street

Traffic is very congested along 18th Ave., specifically from 45th Street to Ocean Parkway and especially during morning hours. 18th Ave., an already major thoroughfare, intersects with McDonald Ave. where the F line subway station is. This creates both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. We are requesting a thorough engineering study to determine the feasibility of certain measures to alleviate the strain. For instance, the possibility of adding an additional lane with interchangeable directions depending on the time of day (as is done at various locations in other cities) or adding turning lanes.

4 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

13th Avenue is the commercial heart of CB12, attracting shoppers from all over due to its unique ethnic vibe. On any given day, over 10,000 people pass through this bustling shopping strip. With parking at a premium, it can take up to an hour to travel the 23 blocks. The avenue hasn't seen any major redesign in over 21 years, and it's in urgent need of a comprehensive engineering study to identify solutions for the severe traffic and parking congestion, particularly during rush hours. We are requesting such a study to explore potential improvements, such as adding a reversible lane based on time of day, creating dedicated turning lanes, or possibly restricting parking at certain times to improve traffic flow. While we were informed that more data is needed before any decision can be made, we have yet to receive the necessary information to proceed.

5 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

Location: Avenue J - McDonald Avenue & McDonald Avenue

A complete traffic study on Avenue J from McDonald Avenue to Coney Island Avenue is needed as well, especially at the intersection of Avenue J and Bay Parkway where there is a constant bottleneck. The streets aren't aligned so sometimes drivers may find themselves continuing into a non-existent lane. There is severe congestion during both AM and PM rush hours. It can take a very long to travel this strip, especially from the Bay Parkway intersection to Ocean Parkway.

6 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

Location: Avenue I - McDonald Avenue & McDonald Avenue

A complete traffic study on Avenue I from McDonald Avenue to Coney Island Avenue is needed. There is severe congestion as well as horn honking during both AM and PM rush Hours. It can take up to one hour during rush hours to travel this strip.

7 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

There are many private and public schools along Fourteenth Avenue that transport children to and from school by buses. This leads to congestion during morning and afternoon bus traffic. A study is needed to explore the best methods to ease the congestion.

8 of 10 Conduct traffic or parking studies**DOT**

Conduct traffic or parking studies

15th AVENUE and 16th AVENUE- These are both two-way Avenues that are always busy and plagued by double parked vehicles making the street virtually impassable. A study exploring the possibility of converting it to a one way street, or another solution, to ease traffic is needed.

9 of 10 Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals**DOT**

Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals

Expand the Traffic Engineering Department to be able to conduct traffic studies more expeditiously. The response to all our DOT expense requests was that further study is required. This is what we ask.

10 of 10 Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming**DOT**

Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming

We request speed mitigation systems added to the 12th Avenue feeder to Dahill Road, and on the intersection of Caton Avenue and Dahill Road. There have been numerous speeding cars that have resulted in fatalities and severe injuries to cyclists and pedestrians. Notably, this is directly on the road next to PS230.

New York Police Department (NYPD)

1 of 3 Hire additional traffic enforcement agents**NYPD**

Hire additional traffic enforcement agents

Our district is in urgent need of Traffic Control Agents who can be assigned to address areas of concern throughout the community. Specific locations of high concern include 18th Avenue from 45th Street to Ocean Parkway, 15th Avenue from 42nd Street to 45th Street, 14th Avenue from 49th Street to 42nd Street, 13th Avenue from 39th Street to 54th Street, Avenues I and J from McDonald Avenue to Coney Island Avenue, and Fort Hamilton Parkway from 36th Street to 46th Street. These are some of the most congested areas, though other locations may require attention based on seasonal traffic fluctuations and other variables. Traffic congestion and excessive horn honking are particularly problematic during the AM and PM rush hours.

2 of 3 Other NYPD programs requests**NYPD**

Other NYPD programs requests

We request resources to remove vehicles that are parked on residential streets. We need increased use of, or a dedicated, NYPD tow truck to remove offending vehicles. Parking is scarce in our district, and illegally parked vehicles make it more so. Laws are ineffective if not enforced. These vehicles create unsafe conditions when large trucks park on dark, quiet streets. Large groups hanging out and lewd behavior are hidden by trucks on quiet streets, which creates a perfect scenario for people with bad intentions. Our residents deserve to park at night and walk at night without fear. We've been told to bring this to the attention of the precinct. We have, repeatedly. We ask for a top-down approach to resolve this issue.

3 of 3 Hire additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)**NYPD**

Hire additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)

We are requesting an increase in officers to focus specifically on enforcement of mopeds, electric bikes, and electric assist bicycles on sidewalks and bike paths. With the explosion of moped share companies and other electric capable bikes comes the risk of pedestrian injury. These riders should be on the streets- but it is impossible to walk 3 blocks on city sidewalks without needing to dodge such vehicles. Another problem is the danger to cyclists on the Ocean Parkway bike lane. Bike lanes are meant for cyclists, e-bikes included, not mopeds. In this climate of transportation alternatives advocacy it is incumbent upon us to make the existing bike lanes safe. But, cyclists getting hit by mopeds is a too frequent situation.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)**1 of 2 Inspect storm sewer on specific street segment and service, repair or replace as needed****DEP**

Inspect storm sewer on specific street segment and service, repair or replace as needed

The areas around 18th Avenue and 60th Street, as well as the length of 13th Avenue, are particularly hard-hit by heavy rains, with many videos circulating on social media showing the extent of the flooding. These are high-traffic areas, and the flooding makes it difficult for both residents and city buses to navigate through knee-deep water. It's clear that these areas may require not only regular catch basin cleaning but also infrastructure upgrades, as the problem has been worsening over time.

2 of 2 Clean catch basins**DEP**

Clean catch basins

Regular cleaning of catch basins is crucial. Recent storms have highlighted that the current reactive approach to cleaning is ineffective. Every time it rains, we experience consistent flooding throughout the district, and the flooding often disrupts daily life for days. Catch basins should be cleaned every year rather than once every three years, before issues are reported. Catch basins should be cleaned annually rather than once every three years, and the cleaning should be done proactively before issues are reported. The city's infrastructure is severely lacking in its ability to manage rainfall, as demonstrated by the severe impacts recent storms have had. One straightforward way to ease the strain on our already inadequate storm water system is to ensure that the drains are clear and unobstructed.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

1 of 1 Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations**DOHMH**

Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations

Our district faces a persistent mosquito problem from spring through fall, with swarms throughout the streets. We urgently need increased mosquito spraying to address this issue. Small pools of standing water throughout the area serve as breeding grounds, making regular spraying essential to keep the mosquito population at manageable levels. Rats also contribute to property damage by gnawing on wires, insulation, and other building materials. The surge in the rat population, combined with the ongoing mosquito issue, creates a public health concern that requires urgent attention. Effective pest control strategies, including enhanced waste management and targeted rodent control measures, are essential to mitigate the impact of both pests on the community. We are getting a major increase of calls related to skunks in many areas of the district. Currently, DOH only deals with rats. We are requesting that DOH's responsibilities be expanded to include removal of larger rodents like skunks and possums.

Department of Small Business Services (SBS)**1 of 1 Other workforce development requests****SBS**

Other workforce development requests

A large number of residents in our district do not have college degrees, and many also face language barriers. Investing in targeted vocational training, along with NYOD English language classes, is a priority that could help raise the low incomes many families are currently experiencing. Our residents are intelligent and capable, and they would benefit from training focused on high-paying, in-demand skills, as well as improving their English proficiency. Currently, there are no Work Force 1 (WF1) centers nearby to serve our district, so providing funding to fill this gap would be a valuable investment. We are requesting that Work Force 1 collaborate with our local CBO, the Boro Park Jewish Community Council, and our local public libraries to provide these vital services to our community.

Human Resources Administration (HRA)**1 of 1 Other expense budget request for HRA****HRA**

Other expense budget request for HRA

In previous years, we have requested the establishment of an HRA service center in our district. While we understand that funding for this request may not be feasible, we are now asking that HRA provide resources and personnel at our office, including a specialized scanning machine for clients to upload documents. ACCESS HRA is a valuable tool for those with internet and smartphone access, but for many residents of CB 12, who lack these resources, it becomes a significant barrier. These individuals are left with no choice but to travel to distant job centers, which is both inconvenient and burdensome. Since we are a city agency with the capacity to provide these services, HRA should be able to support our community by offering these essential resources locally. We have the space and capability to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our residents.

Department of City Planning (DCP)**1 of 1 Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs****DCP**

Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs

One of the major issues plaguing the district is the lack of affordable housing. To that end, we request some long overdue studies of commercial areas in our district, specifically the commercial strip spanning 60th street, for the purposes of being rezoned for residential development with a major focus on affordable housing.

Department for the Aging (DFTA)**1 of 2 Funding for a new senior center program****DFTA**

Funding for a new senior center program

The senior centers in our district are in urgent need of funding to support essential programming for older adults. As the senior population evolves, centers have worked to modernize their offerings to meet the needs of a younger generation of seniors (ages 65-75) who are recently retired or have lost their jobs due to COVID-19. These seniors, many of whom are second-generation children of Holocaust survivors, require stimulating programs, counseling, and specialized services to enhance their lives. Additionally, our kosher residents rely on kosher centers, which are currently severely underfunded, and extra funding is needed to cover the increased cost of kosher food. The shifting demographics of the senior population also call for adjustments, for example, there is an increasing number of Polish-speaking seniors, requiring translation services. While we were informed last year that further study is needed, we request that this study be conducted as soon as possible to ensure that our senior centers can adapt to these changing needs.

2 of 2 Other senior center program requests**DFTA**

Other senior center program requests

Our community-based organizations are requesting an increase in funding for the SOS (Supporting Our Seniors) Initiative due to the growing number of younger seniors in the community. This initiative is specifically designed to assist seniors with navigating the process of applying for programs they are newly eligible for, such as Medicare, SSI, Social Security benefits, and other need-based programs like Medicaid and SNAP, which they may qualify for due to a reduction in income. Additionally, there is a pressing need for funding to support social events and activities that help seniors stay connected, engaged, and active within the community. This funding is crucial to ensure our seniors continue to receive the support and opportunities they need to thrive.

Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD)**1 of 1 Other expense budget request for DYCD****DYCD**

Other expense budget request for DYCD

Our Community-Based Organizations rely heavily on DYCD funding to sustain their essential programs, which are a critical lifeline for our residents. Several programs, in particular, require increased funding to meet growing demand. These include food pantry services, crisis intervention programs, and general social services. Additionally, our CBOs offer valuable digital literacy programs that are currently underfunded. Enhancing digital literacy is key to improving access to information, which in turn can positively impact many aspects of daily life. Increased support for these programs would have a far-reaching effect on the well-being and empowerment of our community.

Brooklyn Public Library (BPL)**1 of 1 Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs****BPL**

Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs

We are requesting more funding for Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) branches to improve and expand the programs they offer. Right now, each branch has a basic set of programs, but with extra funding, they can provide more. This could include things like Creative Aging art classes for older adults, kids' events with paid performers, author talks for schools, and workshops like podcasting that need special equipment. Each branch decides which programs and supplies they need based on their community's interests. Some branches already get extra funding from local elected officials to help with these kinds of programs. More funding will allow BPL branches to better serve our communities with more programs and better resources for everyone.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**1 of 1 Other community board facilities and staff requests****OMB**

Other community board facilities and staff requests

community Boards are in desperate need of a base-line budget increase. Current community boards' budgets leave little room for competitive salaries, making recruitment and retention of professional staff difficult. As a recent NYC Council hearing, many Boards testified that they only have one or two employees, some of them only working part time. This makes our function of service delivery very difficult. We have charter mandated requirements without the ability to hire the qualified staff needed to meet the requirements. The cost of goods and services has also increased, which further erodes our meager budgets.