

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

Fiscal Year
2024

Created by the
Community Board, in
collaboration with:

NYC
PLANNING

February 2023

**Bronx
Community District
12**

Letter from DCP Director Daniel Garodnick

To my fellow New Yorkers:

Every year, each of New York City's 59 community boards advocate for the needs of its residents and stakeholders by preparing a Statement of Community District (CD) Needs and Community Board Budget Requests. Through this process, community boards share the top issues impacting their neighborhoods and propose capital and expense requests to address those identified needs. I'd like to thank the volunteer members of our community boards and the District Managers who work so hard in leading this essential process and in preparing these reports.

The annual CD Needs process is the product of months of collaboration and public input and is a valuable tool for New Yorkers to participate in neighborhood planning. At the broadest levels, CD Needs offers a critical window into the challenges faced by New Yorkers, and how those challenges may differ across neighborhoods. At a granular level, it provides a forum through which community leaders specify those needs and make recommendations for spending -- which in turn are used by City agencies, elected officials, advocacy groups, and non-profit service providers, among others, to better understand and meet the individual needs of each community board.

Through this year's submissions, we heard the stories of our communities' biggest challenges, such as the human impacts of our housing crisis. In that vein, community boards again selected affordable housing as the most pressing issue citywide, followed by crime and public safety, and parks and open space. Through our online form, community boards generated more than 3,700 budget requests, and for each, one of 28 City agencies responded to indicate whether the request could be accommodated within the upcoming annual budget. This year, in line with our commitment to increasing transparency across the CD Needs process, we are publishing agency responses to these requests in the final section of these reports.

DCP deeply values our partnership with community boards. We remain committed to supporting them by increasing participation in, and improving the transparency of, the CD Needs process. We have received valuable feedback from our community board partners, and we are excited to work with them to continue improving our online submission form, to connect boards with agencies to advance budget request proposals, and to open the form earlier in the calendar year to allow more time for public input and preparation. We look forward to advancing this work with both community boards and City agencies to ensure this is a valuable and productive way to improve our City's neighborhoods and to respond to local community needs.

Sincerely,



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) 2024. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from July to November, 2022.

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 2024. 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

1. Community Board Information

2. 2020 Census Data

3. Overview of Community District

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Health Care and Human Services

Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Transportation

Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

6. Other Budget Requests

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

8. Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses

1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Bronx Community Board 12

Address: 4101 White Plains Road

Phone: (718) 944-3300

Email:

Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb12

Chair: Dr. William Hall

District Manager: George Torres

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

The Bronx

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	1,385,108	100.00	1,472,654	100.00	87,546	6.3	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	368,196	26.6	349,579	23.7	-18,617	-5.1	-2.9
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	1,385,108	100.0	1,472,654	100.0	87,546	6.3	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	741,413	53.5	806,463	54.8	65,050	8.8	1.3
White non-Hispanic	151,209	10.9	130,796	8.9	-20,413	-13.5	-2.0
Black non-Hispanic	416,695	30.1	419,393	28.5	2,698	0.6	-1.6
Asian non-Hispanic	47,335	3.4	67,766	4.6	20,431	43.2	1.2
Some other race, non-Hispanic	12,494	0.9	19,866	1.3	7,372	59.0	0.4
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	15,962	1.2	28,370	1.9	12,408	77.7	0.7
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	511,896	100.0	547,030	100.0	35,134	6.9	0.0
Occupied housing units	483,449	94.4	522,450	95.5	39,001	8.1	1.1
Vacant housing units	28,447	5.6	24,580	4.5	-3,867	-13.6	-1.1

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

Bronx Community District 12

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	152,344	100.00	163,489	100.00	11,145	7.3	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	39,509	25.9	36,764	22.5	-2,745	-6.9	-3.4
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	152,344	100.0	163,489	100.0	11,145	7.3	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	34,910	22.9	44,168	27.0	9,258	26.5	4.1
White non-Hispanic	10,869	7.1	9,347	5.7	-1,522	-14.0	-1.4
Black non-Hispanic	99,083	65.0	98,995	60.6	-88	-0.1	-4.4
Asian non-Hispanic	2,872	1.9	3,440	2.1	568	19.8	0.2
Some other race, non-Hispanic	2,112	1.4	3,008	1.8	896	42.4	0.4
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	2,498	1.6	4,531	2.8	2,033	81.4	1.2
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	57,351	100.0	60,856	100.0	3,505	6.1	0.0
Occupied housing units	53,720	93.7	57,603	94.7	3,883	7.2	1.0
Vacant housing units	3,631	6.3	3,253	5.3	-378	-10.4	-1.0

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

Statement on Data Accuracy

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

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

3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

The greatest joy of serving our friends and neighbors at Community Board 12, The Bronx is that of meeting them and being able to assist them in a variety of ways. Whether it involves solving a difficulty arising between local residents, rectifying a problem relative to the delivery of government services, or just lending an open and understanding ear to one who is looking to be heard, it is a blessing to get to know people and have the opportunity to work on their behalf. These sentiments are shared, we know, by all who work at our Town Hall Headquarters. Over our many years of service at Town Hall, we have strived to make local government effective and truly accessible to neighborhood citizens. The ongoing refurbishment and renovation of Town Hall and of our Carriage House, with the aid and the support of our elected officials, is a significant accomplishment in this regard. Important as well are our engagement in innumerable meetings, frequent telephone calls, and copious correspondence that cause the hours of a typical day at the Community Board to fly by so quickly. Our objective is to keep in touch with our community and to make them aware of how much we value hearing from them. Community Board 12 is composed of several distinct neighborhoods, each one unique and vibrant in its own way. Community Board 12 is an extremely diverse community welcoming both newly arrived Irish immigrants into Woodlawn and West Indian immigrants into Baychester. This rich diversity of cultures makes Community Board 12 a desirable community. Baychester is located in the eastern part of the district, consists of low and flat land that used to be marshland and valleys. Its boundaries are East 222nd Street to the north, Pelham Parkway to the south and Bronxwood Avenue to the west. Eastchester Road is the main commercial thoroughfare. The local subway is the IRT Dyre Avenue number 5 line. Eastchester covers roughly half a square mile. Its boundaries are the Bronx-Westchester County border to the north, the New England thruway to the east, Baychester Avenue to the south, and the intersection of East 233 Street and Baychester Avenue to the west. Boston Road is the primary thoroughfare, and Dyre Avenue is the main commercial strip. The neighborhood includes an industrial district and one New York City Housing Authority development, Boston Sector Houses. It is also home to Seton Falls Park, known as the “Grand Canyon” of the Bronx. Situated on more than 30 acres of land, this nature preserve offers a respite from its urban surroundings with a waterside walking trail, a manmade waterfall, and a bird sanctuary. Also boasting several playgrounds, Seton Falls Park offers recreation options for the whole family. Edenwald is located north of Baychester, south of Wakefield, east of Bronxwood Avenue, and west of Boston Post Road. It is home to the 47th precinct of the New York City Police Department, and to two NYCHA public developments, Baychester Houses and Edenwald Houses. Fishbay is a small, quaint neighborhood which covers approximately one-fifth of a square mile, and has a population of just under 8,000. The community is bounded by Laconia Ave. to the west and Boston Road to the east. Haffen Park, at the intersection of Gunther and Burke Avenues, has frequently been praised as a “kid-friendly playground” and has a pool. Olinville is today considered part of the Williamsbridge neighborhood, and shares the 10467 zip code. It is situated west of White Plains Road between Allerton Avenue and Gun Hill Road, and is served by the IRT White Plains Road number 2 and 5 subway lines. Wakefield was once woods and farmland like the rest of the northern Bronx. The boundaries of the 1.3 square mile neighborhood are the Westchester County border at East 243rd Street the north, East 222nd Street to the south, and the Bronx River, the Bronx River Parkway and the Metro-North Railroad tracks to the west. Wakefield is home to a number of parks, the most popular of which is Shoelace Park, the northern section of Bronx Park. Shoelace Park hugs the banks of the Bronx River, and includes a kayak launch at East 219th Street. The neighborhood, is served by the IRT White Plains Road number 2 and 5 subway lines, MetroNorth's Harlem Line, and the BxM11 express bus line. White Plains Road is the main shopping district, popular for its many fresh produce markets and Spanish, West Indian, and East Indian specialty food shops. Williamsbridge is located in the northeast section of the Bronx, and covers roughly a mile and a half. Its boundaries are East 222 Street to the north, Boston Road to the east, East Gun Hill Road to the south, and the Bronx River to the west. White Plains Road is the primary thoroughfare of Williamsbridge. The local subways are the IRT White Plains Road number 2 and 5 lines, and MetroNorth's Harlem Line also provides service to the neighborhood. Woodlawn is at the very north end of the Bronx. Its boundaries are McLean Avenue to the north -- which is also the New York/Westchester County Line -- the Bronx River to the east, Woodlawn Cemetery to the south, and Van Cortlandt Park to the west. The main commercial thoroughfare is Katonah Avenue, which runs north-south through the heart of Woodlawn, and is a popular destination for its many fine restaurants and specialty shops. Woodlawn Cemetery is known as the resting place of many of history's greats and has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Bronx Community Board 12

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Parks and open space

BxCB12 is requesting more resources for the Parks Department to deal with the many complaints we receive regarding trees. Our Parks can always be made better, but our request would direct monies to maintenance; specifically street tree maintenance. Our Community Board is besieged by phone calls from residents concerned about street trees. Our complaints range from requests for tree pruning to the removal of dead trees or branches that constituents worry will do them harm or their properties. It is our understanding after discussing many of our concerns with the Parks Department that they do not have the monies necessary to increase routine maintenance. It is our understanding that the tree pruning program is now done on a seven-year rotation. We would like that time frame shortened to a three-year rotation as it used to be many years ago. Additionally, we understand that there is no budget for stump removal. Tree stumps are only removed when a new tree is being planted in its place. The concern is that tree stumps can remain for several years before being addressed. Moreover, the Parks Department implemented a rating system used to assess the risk a dangerous tree poses to the public. Similarly, they also have a system to assess sidewalks damaged by tree roots. Both systems assign a rating and the Parks Department fixes the worst rated trees and sidewalks. The concern is that the program runs out of money before they can get to all the damaged trees or sidewalks. The request would be for the administration to adequately fund these programs to zero out the pool of damaged sidewalks and trees.

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

Like most communities our biggest complaints come in a variety of Quality of Life concerns aimed at neighbor to neighbor noise complaints, street cleaning, parking and public safety. Some of these issues we address by asking agencies for specific items like asking the NYPD to equip each patrol car with a sound meter to appropriately deal with noise complaints. It is our understanding that while the NYPD responds to these types of complaints enforcement is very rare since each precinct is only outfitted with one noise meter. Moreover, there is usually a limited number of officers that are trained properly to use it. Another concern regarding the NYPD is the enforcement of speeding. Our Board has a large number of requests before DOT for speed reducers called speed humps. It can take up to two years for DOT to study the request for a speed hump due to backlog of request. While speed humps are installed to slow vehicles down it is not a failsafe and we need more enforcement from the NYPD. The last issue we need more help on is the illegal truck parking on our streets. We understand parking can be a sensitive issue for many but we have tractor trailers parking on our residential streets. We work very closely with the Precinct to conduct tow efforts but the NYPD limits what they can do monthly. We need a coordinated and sustained effort to get these trucks off our streets. These trucks can be seen parked near our schools cutting off visibility when children are crossing the street. Additionally, many of these trucks are carrying municipal waste which poses other problems with the stench it creates attracting rodents and wildlife. We need the NYPD to invest. Finally, another concern for BxCB12 is the cleanliness of our district but I will deal with that in our next bullet. in more heavy tow vehicles to deal with this ongoing problem.

Trash removal & cleanliness

The cleanliness of our commercial districts is a major Quality of Life concern for Community Board. Our commercial businesses on White Plains Road, Dyre Avenue, Boston Road, East 233rd Street, Webster Avenue and East Gun Hill Road must do a better job of keeping their sidewalks and streets clean. We have asked the Department of Sanitation to step up their enforcement efforts in addition to asking for more liter basket pick-ups. Our elected officials have been very helpful in trying to address our concerns. Assembly Member Carl Heastie is funding the Doe Fund to keep White Plains Road clean. We need more of these types of clean-up initiatives to keep these corridors clear of debris especially on the weekends.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bronx Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Services to reduce or prevent homelessness

Our concern is not with services for the homeless but rather the siting of these facilities in communities like ours. The Department of Social Services (DHS/HRA) has not been forthright with our Board regarding these facilities. The previous administration released Turning the Tide to address homelessness and a plan to site 90 new shelter facilities in a more equitable manner. We view this statement and goal as being at odds with itself. The Bloomberg administration, in an effort to curb homelessness, greatly expanded the Cluster Site program in the Bronx. In other boroughs, there was a combination of using hotels as transient housing for homeless individuals. The current administration no longer publishes the Turning the Tide Map on its website that indicated the placement of these facilities throughout the City. Our concern is the leadership of DHS continues to be less than forthright on the placement of these sites. Like the previous administration the Adam's administration has not been honest in their dealings with local communities in the Bronx. The Bronx continues to shoulder the burden of housing homeless individuals. Moreover, the Bronx has the most permanent shelters built under the "Master Lease Program." Community Boards are not often notified in a timely manner. It seems even the staff at DHS does not know what the Adam's administration is doing as they are negotiating directly with providers. This strategy burdens communities already saddled with clusters sites. I use this terminology loosely to say this strategy also employs private 1-2 family homes in my district and converts them into illegal Single Room Occupancy housing using City monies to house homeless individuals. My Community Board was never given notification on the siting of these SRO's or where the cluster sites were located before turning them into permanent housing for homeless people. This Board and the Bronx has done its Fair Share. It is high time that the rest of the City do what is required and shoulder the burden of homelessness equitable.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

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

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/6	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	<i>Request: Provide Funding for Additional PEP Officers or Transfer money to the NYPD so that they take the roll of the PEP Officers in all NYC Parks. Explanation: Additional PEP officers are needed to patrol our parks and playgrounds. Vandalism has increased and there is a need for additional PEP officers to patrol the parks. It is inconceivable that year after year, park patrons in Community Board #12 have to endure numerous quality of life issues because existing PEP officers are not present. We request that the Department hire more officers in order to protect our parks and their patrons.</i>	

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Bronx Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Youth workforce development and summer youth employment

Increased funding is needed for the SYEP program to meet the demand of the youth that apply for these jobs. Summer jobs are a primary and effective means in developing skills in our youth. We encourage DYCD and the City to find meaningful internships that take advantage of New York City's stature as the greatest City on Earth. The City is the media capital of the world in addition to Wall Street, high-end law firms and any number of unique small businesses. The City should partner with these firms to target all children that might not otherwise get a foot in the door.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/5	SCA	Renovate or upgrade an elementary school	<i>Request: Provide Funding for cameras in Seton Falls Park, Shoelace Park and Haffen Park in order to deter crime. Explanation: Community Board 12 believes that installing cameras can act as a deterrent to crimes and provide evidence that could aid law enforcement officials in the prosecution of crime in these parks. The Board asks that the Department of Parks and Recreation purchase these cameras in order to address this significant public safety issue.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

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

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bronx Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Traffic violations and enforcement

We need better enforcement of speeding laws. Community Board 12 has been littered with speed cameras and safety corridors. Yet with all these safety measures put in place residents still complain of vehicles speeding in the district. Residents of BxCB12 requests Speed Humps in order to reduce this public nuisance. DOT cannot keep up with the demand in the Bronx. It takes two years for a request to be approved. We would not have to go through this if the NYPD enforced the speeding laws.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Bronx Community Board 12

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

Noise pollution

We are requesting as a pilot program to let DEP Enforcement Agents use their noise meters to monitor and summons noise complaints made between neighbors. This would free up the NYPD to handle more pressing matters.

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

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

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/6	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Community Board 12 is asking for increased enforcement of our dirty streets and sidewalks especially around our commercial districts. We are asking for increased services from not for profits like the Doe Fund or FedCap that focus on litter pick up and waste basket patrol all week long including weekends.</i>	
4/6	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Community Board 12 requests that the NYPD equip each patrol vehicle with a sound meter to better facilitate noise complaints. It is our understanding that usually there is only one sound meter assigned to each precinct. Additionally it is often calibrated and cannot be used during this lengthy process. Finally, we understand that each officer should be trained to handle these meters to respond to 311 complaints.</i>	

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Bronx Community Board 12

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

Commercial district revitalization

CB12 has several commercial districts with many vacant storefronts. Moreover, there is no diversification of the types of services in those storefronts that are occupied. Many of our retail establishments are of the food services type; restaurants or convenience stores. We would like to see more offerings from retailers. Considering the number of national retailers leaving Manhattan zip codes because of the high rents we would suggest EDC or SBS create a strategy to encourage these retailers to move to districts like the Bronx. The rents are cheaper and people who shop there live in these neighborhoods rather than living in Manhattan.

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

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

Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/6	SBS	Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade Shoelace Park and the Bronx River Greenway. The Parks Department has a Master Plan for the reconstruction and modernization of Shoelace Park. Many of the playgrounds and facilities lie in the flood plane of the Bronx River. CB12 is asking for a plan on how best to implement the Master Plan. Considering the project cannot begin unless it is fully funded is it best to parcel the Master Plan into more project ready phases.</i>	
2/6	SBS	Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program	<i>Community Board 12 is an incredible resource to the community at large. We are fortunate to be a building that has an open space. For the last several years CB12 has poured money into upgrading our technology and facilities. We still require more funding to upgrade our windows and lighting in the Carriage House. We are also asking for DCAS to make the Carriage House a Public Assembly space with the proper DOB permits.</i>	4101 White Plains Road

TRANSPORTATION

Bronx Community Board 12

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Open space & street activation (Open Streets, Open Restaurants, plazas, etc.)

BxCB12 DOT to fund more traffic engineers for the Bronx Office. It currently takes two years for traffic studies to be completed due to the volume of requests. It is my understanding that there are no lag times for studies for some other boroughs like Manhattan.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/5	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Please increase funding for Community Boards. We ask that the City baseline the City Council funding. We would go so far as to request that the Boards budget be increased to \$350,000 so that Boards will have the adequate resources to provide the Charter-mandated services to their Districts.</i>	
2/5	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Request for additional funding for more services like additional Mobile Liter Patrols and Basket Service pick-ups.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

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

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Bronx Community Board 12

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

Park care and maintenance

It is our hope that the quality of care and maintenance in the Bronx does not suffer due to Covid-19 budget cuts. Irreparable harm would be done if the Parks Department were not allowed to maintain the Parks in our Borough due to insufficient funds. Many of our Parks are new and need constant care for upkeep.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/5	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Increase funding for SYEP and look to end the yearly budget dance. Base line the increases so that those participating in the program can build upon their programs to offer better outcomes and services for our youth. We should look to models used in other City's like Philadelphia and work with the private sector to offer more meaningful summer jobs to youth. Use the SYEP program as the doorway to internships that would otherwise not be available to those of us that do not have someone advocating on their behalf. Offer multi-year placements so that our youth have an opportunity to grow with one particular employer. End the lottery system to make sure that once a youth enters the SYEP program they can stay in it. Incentivize the hiring of youth similar to what SBS does.</i>	
5/5	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>CB12 has served as a satellite facility for HRA's outreach efforts on Food Stamps/SNAP. Every Tuesday and Wednesday CB12's offices become a hub of activity of those seeking HRA's assistance for Food Stamps/SNAP benefits. We encourage an expansion of these services to five days a week and that additional services are offered like APS. In years past HRA has said that further study was required of the agency. We met with officials from HRA and thought we were close to negotiating an expansion of services at our office. Unfortunately, those conversations ended with no change or expansion to the current services. We would like to know what happened.</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
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**Forestry services,
including street tree
maintenance**

Provide funding for cameras throughout Edenwald, Boston Secor, Baychester, NYCHA Developments in order to deter crime. Crime in our N.Y.C.H.A. Housing Developments persists as a major problem and concern. The installation of cameras has only partially taken place in some projects. A complete monitoring system must be installed in each of our N.Y.C.H.A. Developments for the safety of the tenants. It is our understanding that the monies for these projects were allocated. We would like a detailed explanation on when NYCHA plans on getting these cameras installed. The monies were allocated several budget cycles in the past. We want to ensure that these monies are not redirected to other projects.

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Other Capital Requests

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

Other Expense Requests

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

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

Capital Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/5	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Please increase funding for Community Boards. We ask that the City baseline the City Council funding. We would go so far as to request that the Boards budget be increased to \$350,000 so that Boards will have the adequate resources to provide the Charter-mandated services to their Districts.</i>	
2/5	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	<i>Request for additional funding for more services like additional Mobile Liter Patrols and Basket Service pick-ups.</i>	
3/5	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	<i>Increase funding for SYEP and look to end the yearly budget dance. Base line the increases so that those participating in the program can build upon their programs to offer better outcomes and services for our youth. We should look to models used in other City's like Philadelphia and work with the private sector to offer more meaningful summer jobs to youth. Use the SYEP program as the doorway to internships that would otherwise not be available to those of us that do not have someone advocating on their behalf. Offer multi-year placements so that our youth have an opportunity to grow with one particular employer. End the lottery system to make sure that once a youth enters the SYEP program they can stay in it. Incentivize the hiring of youth similar to what SBS does.</i>	

4/5	SCA	Renovate or upgrade an elementary school	<i>Request: Provide Funding for cameras in Seton Falls Park, Shoelace Park and Haffen Park in order to deter crime. Explanation: Community Board 12 believes that installing cameras can act as a deterrent to crimes and provide evidence that could aid law enforcement officials in the prosecution of crime in these parks. The Board asks that the Department of Parks and Recreation purchase these cameras in order to address this significant public safety issue.</i>
5/5	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>CB12 has served as a satellite facility for HRA's outreach efforts on Food Stamps/SNAP. Every Tuesday and Wednesday CB12's offices become a hub of activity of those seeking HRA's assistance for Food Stamps/SNAP benefits. We encourage an expansion of these services to five days a week and that additional services are offered like APS. In years past HRA has said that further study was required of the agency. We met with officials from HRA and thought we were close to negotiating an expansion of services at our office. Unfortunately, those conversations ended with no change or expansion to the current services. We would like to know what happened.</i>

Expense Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/6	SBS	Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade Shoelace Park and the Bronx River Greenway. The Parks Department has a Master Plan for the reconstruction and modernization of Shoelace Park. Many of the playgrounds and facilities lie in the flood plane of the Bronx River. CB12 is asking for a plan on how best to implement the Master Plan. Considering the project cannot begin unless it is fully funded is it best to parcel the Master Plan into more project ready phases.</i>	
2/6	SBS	Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program	<i>Community Board 12 is an incredible resource to the community at large. We are fortunate to be a building that has an open space. For the last several years CB12 has poured money into upgrading our technology and facilities. We still require more funding to upgrade our windows and lighting in the Carriage House. We are also asking for DCAS to make the Carriage House a Public Assembly space with the proper DOB permits.</i>	4101 White Plains Road
3/6	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Community Board 12 is asking for increased enforcement of our dirty streets and sidewalks especially around our commercial districts. We are asking for increased services from not for profits like the Doe Fund or FedCap that focus on litter pick up and waste basket patrol all week long including weekends.</i>	
4/6	DEP	Clean catch basins	<i>Community Board 12 requests that the NYPD equip each patrol vehicle with a sound meter to better facilitate noise complaints. It is our understanding that usually there is only one sound meter assigned to each precinct. Additionally it is often calibrated and cannot be used during this lengthy process. Finally, we understand that each officer should be trained to handle these meters to respond to 311 complaints.</i>	

5/6	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	<i>Provide funding for cameras throughout Edenwald, Boston Secor, Baychester, NYCHA Developments in order to deter crime. Crime in our N.Y.C.H.A. Housing Developments persists as a major problem and concern. The installation of cameras has only partially taken place in some projects. A complete monitoring system must be installed in each of our N.Y.C.H.A. Developments for the safety of the tenants. It is our understanding that the monies for these projects were allocated. We would like a detailed explanation on when NYCHA plans on getting these cameras installed. The monies were allocated several budget cycles in the past. We want to ensure that these monies are not redirected to other projects.</i>
6/6	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.	<i>Request: Provide Funding for Additional PEP Officers or Transfer money to the NYPD so that they take the roll of the PEP Officers in all NYC Parks. Explanation: Additional PEP officers are needed to patrol our parks and playgrounds. Vandalism has increased and there is a need for additional PEP officers to patrol the parks. It is inconceivable that year after year, park patrons in Community Board #12 have to endure numerous quality of life issues because existing PEP officers are not present. We request that the Department hire more officers in order to protect our parks and their patrons.</i>

8. COMMUNITY BOARD BUDGET REQUESTS *WITH AGENCY RESPONSES*

Capital Requests

PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01/5	OMB	Increase Funding for Community Boards	<i>Please increase funding for Community Boards. We ask that the City baseline the City Council funding. We would go so far as to request that the Boards budget be increased to \$350,000 so that Boards will have the adequate resources to provide the Charter-mandated services to their Districts.</i>	As of the FY 2024 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is \$257,507.
02/5	OMB	Increase Funding for Services	<i>Request for additional funding for more services like additional Mobile Liter Patrols and Basket Service pickups.</i>	As of the FY 2024 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is \$257,507.
03/5	DYCD	Increase Funding for SYEP	<i>Increase funding for SYEP and look to end the yearly budget dance. Base line the increases so that those participating in the program can build upon their programs to offer better outcomes and services for our youth. We should look to models used in other City's like Philadelphia and work with the private sector to offer more meaningful summer jobs to youth. Use the SYEP program as the doorway to internships that would otherwise not be available to those of us that do not have someone advocating on their behalf. Offer multi-year placements so that our youth have an opportunity to grow with one particular employer. End the lottery system to make sure that once a youth enters the SYEP program they can stay in it. Incentivize the hiring of youth similar to what SBS does.</i>	DYCD has increased funding in this service area.
04/5	DPR	Upgrade for parks	<i>Request: Provide Funding for cameras in Seton Falls Park, Shoelace Park and Haffen Park in order to deter crime. Explanation: Community Board 12 believes that installing cameras can act as a deterrent to crimes and provide evidence that could aid law enforcement officials in the prosecution of crime in these parks. The Board asks that the Department of Parks and Recreation purchase these cameras in order to address this significant public safety issue.</i>	Further study by the agency of this request is needed.
05/5	HRA	Expansion of Services of HRA outreach	<i>CB12 has served as a satellite facility for HRA's outreach efforts on Food Stamps/SNAP. Every Tuesday and Wednesday CB12's offices become a hub of activity of those seeking HRA's assistance for Food Stamps/SNAP benefits. We encourage an expansion of these services to five days a week and that additional services are offered like APS. In years past HRA has said that further study was required of the agency. We met with officials from HRA and thought we were close to negotiating an expansion of services at our office. Unfortunately, those conversations ended with no change or expansion to the current services. We would like to know what happened.</i>	Please note, particularly during the COVID pandemic, HRA benefits are available on-line through AccessHRA. HRA has hundreds of community partners that enroll community residents in a vast number of programs through this portal, which is more efficient than in-person transactions. The organization can utilize the portal itself to help its residents expeditiously.

Expense Requests

PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01/6	DPR	Reconstruction and Upgrade of Parks	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade Shoelace Park and the Bronx River Greenway. The Parks Department has a Master Plan for the reconstruction and modernization of Shoelace Park. Many of the playgrounds and facilities lie in the flood plane of the Bronx River. CB12 is asking for a plan on how best to implement the Master Plan. Considering the project cannot begin unless it is fully funded is it best to parcel the Master Plan into more project ready phases.</i>	Parks Department funds are insufficient for this purpose. We recommend this request be brought to the attention of your Council Members.
02/6	DCAS	Upgrade of Buildings	<i>Community Board 12 is an incredible resource to the community at large. We are fortunate to be a building that has an open space. For the last several years CB12 has poured money into upgrading our technology and facilities. We still require more funding to upgrade our windows and lighting in the Carriage House. We are also asking for DCAS to make the Carriage House a Public Assembly space with the proper DOB permits.</i>	DCAS Real Estate Services has not received a Space Request Form from the Community Board. A completed form is required in order for DCAS to begin to initiate a new project review. The CB should contact DCAS Real Estate Services, Fabiana Meacham at FabMeacham@dcas.nyc.gov for information on completing a Space Request Form
03/6	DSNY	Increase cleaning services	<i>Community Board 12 is asking for increased enforcement of our dirty streets and sidewalks especially around our commercial districts. We are asking for increased services from not for profits like the Doe Fund or FedCap that focus on litter pick up and waste basket patrol all week long including weekends.</i>	This is not a budget request. The matter in question is an issue of service delivery and/or agency policy. Contact the Department of Sanitation to determine how best to resolve this issue.
04/6	NYPD	Increase in Help in Noise Complaints	<i>Community Board 12 requests that the NYPD equip each patrol vehicle with a sound meter to better facilitate noise complaints. It is our understanding that usually there is only one sound meter assigned to each precinct. Additionally it is often calibrated and cannot be used during this lengthy process. Finally, we understand that each officer should be trained to handle these meters to respond to 311 complaints.</i>	Each Patrol Borough possesses an adequate number of sound level meters along with training personnel in their use. The NYPD has newer sound level meters which measure ambient bass to enforce updated noise laws (July 2007). The Department will continue to purchase and replace sound level meters as necessary.
05/6	NYCHA	Increase Security in different Housing	<i>Provide funding for cameras throughout Edenwald, Boston Secor, Baychester, NYCHA Developments in order to deter crime. Crime in our N.Y.C.H.A. Housing Developments persists as a major problem and concern. The installation of cameras has only partially taken place in some projects. A complete monitoring system must be installed in each of our N.Y.C.H.A. Developments for the safety of the tenants. It is our understanding that the monies for these projects were allocated. We would like a detailed explanation on when NYCHA plans on getting these cameras installed. The monies were allocated several budget cycles in the past. We want to ensure that these monies are not redirected to other projects.</i>	Elected officials have provided funding for this NYCHA initiative in prior fiscal years. Contact elected officials to ensure the appropriations of proposed funding so that all work can be completed.

06/6	DPR	Increase Funding for PEP Officers	<i>Request: Provide Funding for Additional PEP Officers or Transfer money to the NYPD so that they take the roll of the PEP Officers in all NYC Parks. Explanation: Additional PEP officers are needed to patrol our parks and playgrounds. Vandalism has increased and there is a need for additional PEP officers to patrol the parks. It is inconceivable that year after year, park patrons in Community Board #12 have to endure numerous quality of life issues because existing PEP officers are not present. We request that the Department hire more officers in order to protect our parks and their patrons.</i>	The Parks Department would support this request for personnel.
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