

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

Fiscal Year
2026

**Manhattan
Community District**

2

November 2024



3. Overview of Community District

Community Board 2 Manhattan (“CB2”) remains a diverse community of contrasts. Home to some of the most valuable residential and commercial real estate in the Country and residents of notable affluence, not all of CB2’s residents share in the affluence for which it is now renowned, and the District also remains home to those who witnessed the explosion of property values and income levels without participating in them. As a result, housing affordability is a constant issue in our community. In our District, it is thus equally necessary to preserve all existing forms of affordable housing, as well as to seize and maximize every opportunity to increase the supply of affordable housing using every tool and program available.

The District is challenged by the presence and unmet needs of a significant population of chronically unhoused residents, as well as those addicted to various substances, and those who suffer from various forms and degrees of mental illness. CB2 recognizes that these are separate populations with distinct sets of needs, and with behaviors and reactions that occasionally overlap but are at their core different. To this mix are added those who prey mercilessly upon these vulnerable populations.

The impacts of the presence of these vulnerable populations is real and growing. While statistics demonstrate that our District is recovering from the pandemic-era spikes in the most serious types of criminal activity, defined by the “index crimes” tracked by Compstat (e.g. murder, rape, felony assault, robbery, burglary, grand larceny and grand larceny-auto), the perception that our communities are not safe due to the aggressive behavior, obstructions and encampments, and collateral impacts of the presence of these challenging populations is growing.

The service providers and outreach specialists who are on our streets and in our Parks every day building relationships and seeking to persuade the affected populations to accept services have experienced significant successes and regularly exceed targets for placement of vulnerable individuals in appropriate programs and settings. The growth in those needing those services, however, seems to outpace the rate at which service providers can place these individuals.

New initiatives such as Intensive Mobile Treatment teams are essential to expand the delivery of services. Long term, the efforts of those serving those suffering with mental illness and with homelessness require a massive increase in the availability of short-term and long-term facilities for treatment, and an equally dramatic increase in affordable housing as the end-point in the cycle of services.

Recently, the formation of a multi-agency hub or task force has been announced by the Mayor’s Office in coordination with the Office of the New York County District Attorney. The program, modeled on successful multi-agency initiatives in other areas of Manhattan, promises a renewed effort to address both the human needs of the vulnerable populations and the need to address aggressive and violent behavior and anti-social presence and behavior that impacts the quality of life and sense of safety and security of residents and businesses.

The creation of this hub and task force, still in formation, represents a marked change in approach to the perceptions of the lack of safety of our District.

The District also is at the forefront of rapidly evolving changes in our society. The first licensed cannabis dispensaries under the State’s programs to legalize recreational marijuana use are located in our District, as are additional dispensaries licensed under the portion of the legalization program that focus on dispensaries operated either by not-for-profits or those previously involved in the justice system due to non-violent marijuana offenses. When the State rushed to expand the potential availability of dispensary licenses to a broader group of would-be licensees, our District was again at the fore, with over 75 applications competing for limited spaces and opportunities in a single month. CB2’s Cannabis Licensing

Committee, created to address these impacts and develop procedures and criteria to evaluate and make recommendations on this flood of applications while upholding the equity and social justice impetus for the legalization legislation, is continuing to balance the residential and business communities' needs and concerns with the still-unclear directives from the relevant State agencies.

The second half of Fiscal Year 2024 and much of Fiscal Year 2025 are also defined by the transition from the Covid-era Temporary outdoor dining program to the now-permanent Dining Out NYC program. The Temporary Program saw a virtually unrestricted panoply of outdoor dining structures, many of which were at odds with the rules then in place for their size, materials, arrangement and assortment.

Dining Out NYC replaced the Temporary program, establishing new rules that promise to change the size, materials and appearance of roadway setups; alter sidewalk café arrangements to ensure a clear pedestrian path whose width corresponds to the nature of the corridor on which they are located, and are configured in ways that enhance the ability to clean on and under their surfaces and interdict rat and vermin infestations. The new permanent program also limits roadway cafés to the period from April through November, and establishes both filing fees and square footage rental fees for the use of the public realm.

The regulations call for review and opportunities for comment and recommendations from the local Community Board. Despite comments CB2 and other Boards and officials when the new regulations were being drafted, however, the length of time allotted for Community Board review (30 days for roadway cafes; 40 days for sidewalk cafes to include a public hearing) are inconsistent with the ability of Community Boards to receive an application, hear it at a Committee meeting, advance a resolution from a Committee Hearing through a Full Board vote, and forward the resolution for consideration in time to be incorporated in DoT's decision-making.

Planning is further complicated by the inability of DoT to provide Community Boards with access to the portal through which DoT accepts and tracks applications by restaurants. CB2 is grateful that DoT recently shared that there are over 500 pending applications in our District alone, which we believe to be the greatest number of any District. This was predictable, as CB2 was home to the greatest number of Covid-era sidewalk and roadway cafes under the Covid-era Temporary program. Fulfilling CB2's mandate to consider each of these Dining Out NYC applications within the timing required by the regulations will remain an on-going logistical and practical challenge.

The flood of Dining Out NYC applications is expected to be matched by an equivalent flood of applications to the State Liquor Authority for licenses to serve alcohol in outdoor dining cafes. During the Covid-era Temporary program, a licensee was permitted to serve alcohol in any outdoor dining setup appurtenant to its establishment. Under current regulations, all SLA licensees who wish to serve alcohol in sidewalk and roadway cafes are required to seek an alteration to their existing license extending the premises on which alcohol service can be had to the outdoor areas. As one of a few Districts that regularly receives the greatest number of SLA applications, the addition of hundreds of alteration applications for outdoor dining will further complicate an already difficult administrative process.

In addition to these societal and governmental challenges, the residents and service providers living and operating in CB2 continue to struggle to meet the needs and address the impacts of those who suffer from severe mental illness, those who are chemically addicted, those who are chronically unhoused (with significant perceived overlaps among those populations), as well as those who prey upon these vulnerable populations. The persistence of incidents of aggressive behavior toward residents, businesses, students and tourists, among many others, occasionally resulting in tragedies but always impacting the ability to feel safe and be safe, form a troubling counterpoint to the success of law enforcement to reduce the incidence of more serious index crimes such as murder, arson, felony assault and grand larceny.

There is much work ahead to build and rebuild a sustainable community.

I. DISTRICT OVERVIEW

A. Geography

Community Board 2 is a diverse district, bounded on the north by 14th Street, the south by Canal Street, the east by the Bowery/Fourth Avenue, and the west by the Hudson River. It is a unique and rapidly expanding community that includes the vibrant neighborhoods of Little Italy, part of Chinatown, SoHo, NoHo, Nolita, Greenwich Village, the West Village, Gansevoort Market, the South Village and Hudson Square.

B. Population

The population of Community Board 2 has been steadily rising since 2010, with an estimated population of 92,445, according to the 2020 Census, which is an increase of 2.7% since 2010. While there was some concern that the COVID-19 pandemic would result in a decrease in population, the 2020 Census indicates those concerns may have been unfounded. It should also be noted that the five major universities in the district - New York University, the New School, the Cooper Union, Hebrew Union College, and Cardozo Law School typically add a substantial non-permanent population to our neighborhoods, which are returning to occupancy in the post-pandemic world. With both NYU and The New School continuing to expand, we expect the student populations to grow further in the years ahead. While the students that join us every year are welcome, it is clear that the city needs to consider their numbers when looking to allocate services to Community District 2.

C. Income structure

Much of the architecture and history of our district has been maintained by residents who are determined to preserve the middle class, live-work, merchant and artisan atmosphere of our neighborhoods, past and future, but socioeconomic patterns are changing drastically. According to the 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey (ACS), the median income for District 2 was \$127,116, while the poverty rate was 8.0% and the unemployment rate was 2.8%. The gap between those who define the affluence of our Community, and those who witness that growth of affluence without any direct participation in or benefit from it, is expected to continue to widen.

D. Housing

In recent years, the median monthly rent in District 2 increased to the highest in the City at \$2,311, according to the 2015 – 2019 ACS with 39% of renters in Community District 2 considered rent burdened (spent at least 30% of household income on rent) and 18.5% of renters in Community District 2 considered severely rent burdened (spent more than 50% of household income on rent).

E. Tourism/Visitors

The proliferation of bars, restaurants and other hospitality venues, combined with world-class entertainment and cultural resources and equally renown institutions of higher learning, have enabled Community District 2 to rebound from the brutal economic consequences of the government-mandated shutdown during the early stages of the Covid pandemic. Balancing those positive impacts on the local economy, as well as the enhanced safety created by vibrant life on our streets, against the negative externalities of the recovery in order to build a fully sustainable new community model is the next and on-going challenge to be met by the community, to which the Community Board is committed to contributing.

F. Climate Change

The consequences of climate change have included an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather conditions. Those storms, once thought to be rare, have occasioned the need to re-think everything from access to the subways and other underground facilities to the vulnerability of the shoreline along our rivers to storm surges and unusual tidal events. CB2 is fully engaged with the science and community concerns relating to measures to address the way in which our City meets the climate challenge.

G. Resilience

CD2 is a coastal district, with over a mile of waterfront along the Hudson River and over 10,000 residents living within the FEMA 0.2% chance floodplain. The district was impacted by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, with a portion of the district being inundated by floodwaters, causing significant property damage. As sea levels are projected to continue rising in the coming decades, storm-surge related risks are expected to increase.

Additionally, in summer and fall of 2021, as well as in several instances during the summer and fall of 2023, a series of heavy rain events resulted in significant flooding across much of the city. The effects of climate change are likely to increase the frequency of such events in the future.

The US Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) has recently released a study of the New York-New Jersey area which includes resiliency recommendations which fall within CD2. However, due to the complexity of overlapping jurisdictions within the floodplain along the Hudson, CB2 believes a more comprehensive, localized study of resiliency and flood risk along Manhattan’s West Side needs to be undertaken. That study should incorporate the wide range of relevant stakeholders including the Community Boards, City agencies (especially DOT and DEP), State agencies (especially DOT and DEC), relevant utilities such as Consolidated Edison, and the Hudson River Park Trust. Additionally, with the growing combined risk of coastal and rainwater flooding, CB2 encourages the city to continue working with community stakeholders to develop an overall plan for resiliency within the District (including but not limited to coastal protection), which could include, among other things, greater investment in green infrastructure. Additionally, it is crucial that any allocation of funding for resiliency projects within CD2, as well as the specific design elements of such projects, be coordinated with significant local community review and input, from the earliest planning stages through the completion of such projects.

H. Environment and Sanitation

New residents who are replacing the manufacturers who previously hired private carters must now rely on collection by the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY). Tourism is experiencing a resurgence to pre-pandemic levels, further straining sanitation services. Sanitation District 2's limited staff is hard-pressed to meet the community's growing needs as the area has increasingly become home to a twenty-four hour population. In particular, the agency’s decision a few years ago to cut the number of supervisors in each district has made it more difficult to clean the streets as thoroughly as they had been cleaned in the past. While the city has restored many cuts made to sanitation services during COVID-19, sanitation does not adequately service corner garbage bins that see increased usage in many areas from weekend use especially from to-go food and drink containers.

The continued availability of outdoor dining both on roadways and the sidewalks has also created impacts on local residential trash pickups and missed collections. The now-permanent option of roadway café dining setups are also anticipated to have significant impacts on snow removal operations throughout CB2, in particular on narrow streets and areas where there are multiple eating and drinking establishments on the same block.

We are pleased the City has dedicated significant resources and is now taking a proactive approach in combating the rat population in our City. In particular, we applaud the Rat Indexing Initiative. We urge the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and particularly the Parks Department to continue these aggressive efforts and to coordinate these efforts to address the recent increase in the rat population due to the growth of the Temporary Open Restaurant program. Additionally, we encourage the city to continue with the expansion of programs that have the potential to further combat the increase in rats as well as improve the overall sanitation situation in CD2, such as “clean curbs” style containerization programs, containerized curbside composting, containerization of residential and commercial trash, and more frequent pickups of residential waste and corner bins. In particular, it will be important to monitor the effectiveness in combating the rat population of new regulations beginning in fall 2024 that require trash containerization and universal curbside composting.

Finally, CB2 continues to believe that the restoration of more frequent residential waste pick-ups, as was done in the past, and quicker pick-up of curbside waste at night, would help minimize the amount of time that waste sits on the curb and thus further assist in the effort to reduce the rat population.

Light pollution is another environmental concern which has been growing in severity over the last few years. New methods of outdoor advertising devices, including LED lights, neon signs, bright television screens displayed in windows, vehicles serving as “moving billboards” with LED signs attached, and ads projected onto the sides of buildings, can all be found frequently throughout CD2. Many of these advertisements are already against DOB, DOT and LPC rules and should be subject to enforcement from these agencies.

I. Sidewalks, Street Activities and Pedestrian Plazas

-- Street Activities

CB2 probably hosts more street fairs, street activations, outdoor product launches, and block parties, etc. than any other district in Manhattan. Although street fairs are a longstanding tradition in our neighborhoods, there are too many generic, promoter-based multi-block events that have no indigenous relationship to our neighborhoods. These long multi-block events take business away from the merchants who pay rent and taxes all year long, and generally detract from the quality of life of our residents. We appreciate that there is a citywide moratorium on new multi-block fairs, but we urge the City to look for ways to better ensure sponsors are indeed functional organizations and are viable members of the immediate community.

CB2 remains disturbed by the endless proliferation of promotional and commercial events, some permitted and some not, which are occurring regularly in SoHo and, to a lesser extent. These events compress already-clogged sidewalks and streets and often result in chaotic street scenes costing the City money and resources as it struggles to bring order to the mayhem. Residents are inconvenienced and neighboring businesses are hurt as temporary “pop-up” shops commandeer the sidewalks and curb lanes, close streets and often blast music that illegally impacts the quality of life of the neighbors.

The City needs to focus on this growing problem and come up with ways to successfully address and contain it.

CB2 values the opportunity to review proposed street activities during our monthly meetings. However, under current SAPO policy, it is possible for certain street event applications to be submitted fewer than 30 days prior to the proposed event (in some cases as little as 10 or 15 days ahead of the event) which means there is no meaningful way for CB2 to review such events. While understanding that some of these short-dated applications are minor, many have impacts on a scale beyond their apparent import. CB2

seeks to ensure that we have the opportunity to review any event that could have a significantly impact on the Quality of Life of the surrounding residents and businesses.

-- Pedestrian Plazas

Community District 2 is home to three pedestrian plazas that were created under the Department of Transportation's Plaza Program; Gansevoort Plaza (Plaza Partner-Meatpacking BID), Astor Place (Plaza Partner-Village Alliance), and Cooper Square (Plaza Partner-Grace Church School). Recently, Community Board 2 has received applications from the Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO) for large, long-duration commercial events within the pedestrian plazas. The substantial event fees paid by the applicants is used by each BID to provide enhanced maintenance and programming of the pedestrian plazas, and the City receives substantial revenue as well. The Plaza Program was created to provide "vibrant, accessible public spaces and walkable destinations" for the community. Programming is intended to make the plazas vibrant centers of activity and should include activities such as holiday events, food or craft markets, temporary public art installations or exhibits, and music and dancing. Pursuant to Plaza Program requirements, advertising is not permitted in the plazas. However, the Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza, in particular, has seen a proliferation of events from corporate entities like Disney, Netflix, Dior, Kate Spade, and more. Often, the events continue for multiple days and feature an abundance of branding and advertising. In certain instances, SAPO has approved commercial events even after the Community Board recommended denial because of the over-commercialization of public space. Community Board 2 will continue to monitor the use of our pedestrian plazas, especially to prevent advertising which is not permitted in the plazas pursuant to Plaza Program requirements.

INTRODUCTION

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

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

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

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

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

This report is broadly structured as follows:

1. **Overarching Community District Needs**

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

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

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

3. **Community Board Budget Requests**

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

Disclaimer

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

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

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

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

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1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Manhattan Community Board 2

Address: 3 Washington Square Village #1A
Phone: 2129792272
Email: info@manhattancb2.org
Website: manhattancb2.org

Chair: Susan Kent
District Manager: Mark Diller

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

Manhattan

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	1,585,873	100.00	1,694,251	100.00	108,378	6.8	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	234,435	14.8	232,511	13.7	-1,924	-0.8	-1.1
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	1,585,873	100.0	1,694,251	100.0	108,378	6.8	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	403,577	25.4	402,640	23.8	-937	-0.2	-1.6
White non-Hispanic	761,493	48.0	793,294	46.8	31,801	4.2	-1.2
Black non-Hispanic	205,340	12.9	199,592	11.8	-5,748	-2.8	-1.1
Asian non-Hispanic	177,624	11.2	219,624	13.0	42,000	23.6	1.8
Some other race, non-Hispanic	7,882	0.5	16,112	1.0	8,230	104.4	0.5
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	29,957	1.9	62,989	3.7	33,032	110.3	1.8
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	847,090	100.0	913,926	100.0	66,836	7.9	0.0
Occupied housing units	763,846	90.2	817,782	89.5	53,936	7.1	-0.7
Vacant housing units	83,244	9.8	96,144	10.5	12,900	15.5	0.7

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

Manhattan Community District 2

	2010		2020		Change, 2010-2020		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percentage Point
AGE							
Total population	90,016	100.00	92,445	100.00	2,429	2.7	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	7,936	8.8	8,587	9.3	651	8.2	0.5
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total population	90,016	100.0	92,445	100.0	2,429	2.7	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	5,593	6.2	7,303	7.9	1,710	30.6	1.7
White non-Hispanic	67,769	75.3	65,968	71.4	-1,801	-2.7	-3.9
Black non-Hispanic	1,650	1.8	2,271	2.5	621	37.6	0.7
Asian non-Hispanic	12,493	13.9	11,922	12.9	-571	-4.6	-1.0
Some other race, non-Hispanic	401	0.4	828	0.9	427	106.5	0.5
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	2,110	2.3	4,153	4.5	2,043	96.8	2.2
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total housing units	56,211	100.0	58,418	100.0	2,207	3.9	0.0
Occupied housing units	50,759	90.3	50,806	87.0	47	0.1	-3.3
Vacant housing units	5,452	9.7	7,612	13.0	2,160	39.6	3.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files
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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

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The District is challenged by the presence and unmet needs of a significant population of chronically unhoused residents, as well as those addicted to various substances, and those who suffer from various forms and degrees of mental illness. CB2 recognizes that these are separate populations with distinct sets of needs, and with behaviors and reactions that occasionally overlap but are at their core different. To this mix are added those who prey mercilessly upon these vulnerable populations.

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The District also is at the forefront of rapidly evolving changes in our society. The first licensed cannabis dispensaries under the State's programs to legalize recreational marijuana use are located in our District, as are additional dispensaries licensed under the portion of the legalization program that focus on dispensaries operated either by not-for-profits or those previously involved in the justice system due to non-violent marijuana offenses. When the State rushed to expand the potential availability of dispensary licenses to a broader group of would-be licensees, our District was again at the fore, with over 75 applications competing for limited spaces and opportunities in a single month. CB2's Cannabis Licensing Committee, created to address these impacts and develop procedures and criteria to evaluate and make recommendations on this flood of applications while

upholding the equity and social justice impetus for the legalization legislation, is continuing to balance the residential and business communities' needs and concerns with the still-unclear directives from the relevant State agencies.

The second half of Fiscal Year 2024 and much of Fiscal Year 2025 are also defined by the transition from the Covid-era Temporary outdoor dining program to the now-permanent Dining Out NYC program. The Temporary Program saw a virtually unrestricted panoply of outdoor dining structures, many of which were at odds with the rules then in place for their size, materials, arrangement and assortment.

Dining Out NYC replaced the Temporary program, establishing new rules that promise to change the size, materials and appearance of roadway setups; alter sidewalk café arrangements to ensure a clear pedestrian path whose width corresponds to the nature of the corridor on which they are located, and are configured in ways that enhance the ability to clean on and under their surfaces and interdict rat and vermin infestations. The new permanent program also limits roadway cafés to the period from April through November, and establishes both filing fees and square footage rental fees for the use of the public realm.

The regulations call for review and opportunities for comment and recommendations from the local Community Board. Despite comments CB2 and other Boards and officials when the new regulations were being drafted, however, the length of time allotted for Community Board review (30 days for roadway cafes; 40 days for sidewalk cafes to include a public hearing) are inconsistent with the ability of Community Boards to receive an application, hear it at a Committee meeting, advance a resolution from a Committee Hearing through a Full Board vote, and forward the resolution for consideration in time to be incorporated in DoT's decision-making.

Planning is further complicated by the inability of DoT to provide Community Boards with access to the portal through which DoT accepts and tracks applications by restaurants. CB2 is grateful that DoT recently shared that there are over 500 pending applications in our District alone, which we believe to be the greatest number of any District. This was predictable, as CB2 was home to the greatest number of Covid-era sidewalk and roadway cafes under the Covid-era Temporary program. Fulfilling CB2's mandate to consider each of these Dining Out NYC applications within the timing required by the regulations will remain an on-going logistical and practical challenge.

The flood of Dining Out NYC applications is expected to be matched by an equivalent flood of applications to the State Liquor Authority for licenses to serve alcohol in outdoor dining cafes. During the Covid-era Temporary program, a licensee was permitted to serve alcohol in any outdoor dining setup appurtenant to its establishment. Under current regulations, all SLA licensees who wish to serve alcohol in sidewalk and roadway cafes are required to seek an alteration to their existing license extending the premises on which alcohol service can be had to the outdoor areas. As one of a few Districts that regularly receives the greatest number of SLA applications, the addition of hundreds of alteration applications for outdoor dining will further complicate an already difficult administrative process.

In addition to these societal and governmental challenges, the residents and service providers living and operating in CB2 continue to struggle to meet the needs and address the impacts of those who suffer from severe mental illness, those who are chemically addicted, those who are chronically unhoused (with significant perceived overlaps among those populations), as well as those who prey upon these vulnerable populations. The persistence of incidents of aggressive behavior toward residents, businesses, students and tourists, among many others, occasionally resulting in tragedies but always impacting the ability to feel safe and be safe, form a troubling counterpoint to the success of law enforcement to reduce the incidence of more serious index crimes such as murder, arson, felony assault and grand larceny.

There is much work ahead to build and rebuild a sustainable community.

Please review the attached document "DNS FY 2026 - Overview of Community District Item 3" for our complete description and update on the status of our District.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Manhattan Community Board 2

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Homelessness

#1: Mental Health Services. Addressing serious mental health issues, especially among unhoused residents, through enhanced Intensive Mobile Treatment outreach. Perhaps the most challenging confluence of needs in our District is found in the impact on residential, commercial, academic and tourist segments of our community from those afflicted by serious mental health needs. Those needs are often but not exclusively manifested among the chronically unhoused and those with chemical or substance addictions. This need could just as easily have been classified under the rubrics of "homelessness" or "crime and public safety," as the impacts transcend categories. Frequently those with serious mental illness exhibit behavior that is dangerous to others or themselves, creating both a perception and a reality that the neighborhoods where those with such mental health needs congregate are unsafe. That perception and reality can be enhanced by those who in one form or another come to our District to prey upon those with unmet mental health needs through drug sales and activity and other problematic behavior. These circumstances and behaviors materially and negatively degrade the quality of life of virtually all segments of the community, including area residents (including the unhoused), businesses and those who frequent them, tourists and visitors, as well as those passing through. One immediate effect of these unmet mental health needs can include an increase in the severity of the needs of those who are chronically homeless, as well as an increase in the difficulty in addressing them. For example, the unmet needs of those with serious mental health and chemical addiction issues ineluctably lead to the presence of those who supply the illicit drugs and substances to feed these addictions. The illegal drug trade, often brazenly in public view, nearly always includes those armed or otherwise ready to protect the sellers and suppliers from physical violence in this all-cash outdoor business. The illegal drugs and substances to which those afflicted by serious mental health issues, and the chronically homeless who are too often swept up in the wake of the drug trade, make exceedingly more difficult the task of outreach aimed at offering supportive services to address these needs. In response to this cycle of unmet mental health need and its consequences, a new initiative is in the early stages of formation that would create a multi-agency task force to increase the availability of services to those in need, and the urgency to persuade those in need of those services to accept them. The task force is being formed under the aegis of the Mayor's Office and the New York County District Attorney. As a means of addressing the unmet mental health needs that propel the issues noted above, Community Board 2 prioritizes the creation of an Intensive Mobile Treatment ("IMT") team for our District. Research and experience have proved the efficacy of IMT programs as a tool in addressing serious mental health issues. IMT programs create a pathway to the services needed to address the severe mental health disorders that trap this affected population. While no one program can cure all of the impacts of the pernicious cycle of aggressive and antisocial behavior visited on the Community, addressing the most desperate of needs with programs proven to work is a welcome and worthy alternative to the increasingly frustrating cycle of too few resources attempting to address these problems through law enforcement and incarceration.

Affordable Housing

#2: Affordable Housing. Create and Preserve Affordable Housing in our District. CB2 remains committed to creating new affordable housing units, and is aggressively pursuing any opportunity for such new units in our District. The reality is that at present there are only a very few undeveloped or underdeveloped sites on City-owned or government-owned sites on which new affordable housing units could be created; fewer still in the SoHo/Little Italy/Chinatown neighborhoods of our District. CB2 is prioritizing the City's acquisition of the site at 2 Howard Street in our District and its redevelopment as affordable housing. The site is already government-owned: the federal government currently owns and controls the site, but it is currently an unneeded parking garage exclusively for federal government uses. The best and highest use of that site would be to redevelop it as 100% permanently affordable housing under whichever inclusionary

housing program would yield the greatest number of affordable units in an appropriate mix of sizes and layouts. Even without substantial up-zoning, the 12,700 square foot lot could be redeveloped into a significant number of affordable housing units under the right circumstances. The lynchpin to such redevelopment would be the transfer of the entire site from the federal government to the City. Only through such an effort would the Department of Housing Preservation and Development be able to organize and implement a project with appropriate subsidies to ensure that all of the units built at the site would be 100% permanently affordable, instead of a fraction of that total if left to private development under either the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program or other potentially applicable programs. CB2 renews its call for this transfer, with coordinated funding added to HPD's budget to ensure that the City can acquire the site and support the development of the maximum possible affordable housing benefit to the Community and the City. CB2 is equally focused on ensuring that other available sites maximize the construction of new permanently affordable units. Examples of such sites are the portion of the vacant City-owned land at 388 Hudson Street not needed for water infrastructure maintenance and operations by the Department of Environmental Protection, and the recently announced potential for affordable housing as part of a re-envisioning of land currently used as part of the Gansevoort Meat Market. Given the relative dearth of vacant government-controlled land for new wholesale development of affordable housing, CB2's commitment to affordable housing also includes protecting and preserving the affordable housing stock that we already have. This includes traditional rent stabilized units, Joint Live-Work Quarters for Artists (JLWQA) units, Interim Multiple Dwelling (IMD) units currently under the supervision of the Loft Board, previous IMD loft units that are now rent stabilized, Mitchell Lama housing units and project-based Section-8 buildings. The passage of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protections Act of 2019 strengthened existing rent stabilization laws and included provisions to end high-rent vacancy deregulation, narrowed the preferential rent loophole, and put in place more protections against unnecessary major capital improvements (MCIs) and individual apartment improvements (IAI). These provisions on balance have slowed but not reversed the trend of losing rent regulated units in our District. CB2 supports anti-displacement provisions that: a) prohibit upzoning of any site that has rent-regulated or loft law units because this will create financial incentives for demolition; b) eliminate sites where additional FAR can only be used to add vertical enlargements because this will result in penthouse additions and no affordable housing; and c) include Certification of No Harassment provisions before applying for a permit for a change in use or demolition.

Schools

#3. Supporting Our Public Schools. Fully staffed and properly resourced public schools with adequate space for all programmatic needs and a full complement of academic, remedial and enrichment programs are among the most essential elements of a sustainable community. The needs of the public schools in our District are many – some of which are susceptible of immediate redress; others require and deserve a longer-term commitment. All are worthy of funding that ensures the needs of our students, families, faculty and staff are met not just in this fiscal year, but sustainably and reliably baselined into the future. CB2/M places as its first public school priority the need to ensure that high school students in our District have immediate access to the most basic tools essential both for a rich academic experience and for future career and higher education opportunities. In a world in which everything from the telemetry of the ISS to a menu at a café is available to the public through internet portals and codes, facility as a digital native with the every-changing tools for managing and manipulating access to online content and information is no longer optional. Equity demands that all schools provide meaningful access to these technology resources, yet the reality is that some schools, through access to parent contributions, grant funding and other sources, enjoy greater access to such technology. As a first step in leveling this playing field, CB2/M prioritizes a capital investment in two high schools in our District. At Harvey Milk High School (M586), these basic needs begin with 30 laptop computers. For Harvest Collegiate High School (M534), the basic needs include 30 laptop computers, plus tablets, peripheral devices and the equipment needed for connectivity. While CB2/M is highlighting above the most easily addressed needs, these technology deficits are far from the only unmet needs among our CB2/M Schools. From the Capital Budget, longer term but no less essential projects include: • Harvest Collegiate High School (M534) needs a chain link fence above the existing wall around the outdoor space so it can be used for recreational purposes. • NY iSchool (M376) and the

co-located Chelsea career and Technical School (Charter school) need an upgrade to the shared gymnasium. • PS3 – the Charette School (M003) needs a sensory gym to address the special needs of students in the ASD Horizon program. • Broome Street Academy (M522) needs a new library. • PS 130 (the DeSoto School) (M130) requires physical plant upgrades including windows and light fixtures. • Manhattan School for Career Development (751M@323)'s needs include a health & wellness studio, a student success lounge, and a sensory hallway. In the longer term, CB2/M needs additional capacity. While recent lease renewals and option extensions have postponed the urgency of the request, CB2/M continues to require the additional seats and modernized facilities promised to be a part of the Bleecker Street School to be built at the corner of Bleecker and LaGuardia based on an option ceded to the City during the 2012 upzoning concerning NYU's expansion. Among other things, that additional capacity is beyond essential to provide space for programs that address the too-often overlooked problem of dyslexia (too often left undiagnosed) and to meet the State mandates for class size reduction. From the Expense Budget Side, the following needs crave funding: • Class Size reduction through hiring additional teachers. • Recruiting, training and retaining teachers through the "NYC Men Teach" program. • Professional development in the currently-used reading and writing curricula employing a structured literacy approach. • Baseline funding for arts instruction during the classroom day. • Adapting and updating the algorithms and tools needed to predict enrollment trends to meet future overcrowding needs.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Manhattan Community Board 2

Most Important Issue Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs

The top Human Services concern for CB2 is those who are living without shelter, who suffer severe mental illness, and/or who are addicted to drugs. These are three separate populations, but with significant overlap, and with similar and overlapping impacts on the District. These populations are frequently associated with aggressive and anti-social behavior - in some instances these individuals create such behavior; in others they are the targets for such behavior.

The Manhattan Outreach Consortium advises that it can typically take scores of contacts and engagements to build sufficient trust with these individuals to persuade them to accept services such as temporary off-street lodging, mental health services, eventual placement in a transient shelter facility, and various other forms of supportive services, including medical, employment, educational services.

These humanitarian concerns also impact the quality of life of everyone in the District, including those who live, own businesses, shop, dine, visit and sight-see, attend school or teach in our District. These issues also affect public safety - both the incidents of inappropriate and aggressive behavior and the perception of the lack of safety beyond the statistics. Even seemingly passive behavior by those who occupy stairways and building entranceways can create a perception of a lack of safety even without overt aggressive behavior.

CB2 notes with appreciation the initiative in the process of creation under the guidance of the Mayor's Office and with the active coordination and facilitation of the New York County District Attorney's Office that will form a multi-agency hub to coordinate outreach and the coordination of social services as well as enforcement and diversion alternatives, all using models that have proven successful in other neighborhoods elsewhere in Manhattan.

To the mix of social service options to be included in the multi-agency hub referenced above CB2 recommends the addition of Intensive Mobile Treatment units and the Assertive Community Treatment program set forth in our Tope Needs. These additional programs/initiatives offer the best hope for help to the vulnerable populations about whom this discussion pertains. These programs should be expanded until the waiting list for access is eliminated. The District is not alone in needing additional long-term mental health care beds in facilities, as well as the types of immediate, short-term and transient off-street housing options such as Safe Havens, drop-in centers and longer-term shelters. The success of Paul's Place in our District demonstrates the importance of a low-threshold model that provides rest, food and hygiene, and increased case management services. Neighborhood spillover effects of Paul's Place are being conscientiously addressed by operator CUCS through a Community Advisory Board that is responsive to residents and business owners' concerns. CB2 posits that some needs of unsheltered New Yorkers could be met with mobile units in addition to facilities such as Paul's Place. Showers, toilet facilities, laundry and haircuts might be supplied with low-cost, innovative means.

The influx of migrant populations, whether asylum-seekers or other newly arrived immigrants, continues to stress the responsiveness of City Agencies to the breaking point. The Citywide need and effort required are daunting, and the resources needed to provide appropriately for this growing population remain undersupplied.

Seniors account for 16.5% of our population, a figure that is slightly higher than the city average of 14.1%. Older adults traditionally arrived in Greenwich Village long before it became an affluent neighborhood of extremely high living and housing costs. Our primary provider of adult services is Greenwich House, which provides programming through its network of senior centers (which have been established thanks to revised City contract guidelines). CB2 welcomes increased emphasis on health and wellness and supports funding a shuttle that would facilitate transportation between its centers.

The young people who are served by The Door come from all over the City. CB2 supports the expansion of its mental health facility in the face of growing need in this area, as well as the expansion of its food service program, which is already fully subscribed.

CB2 applauds the use of the Northern Dispensary building by God's Love We Deliver to advance its mission of home delivery of meals and fellowship to vulnerable populations.

Lenox Health Greenwich Village, the first stand-alone emergency department in Manhattan, occupies a portion of the site where St. Vincent's, a full-service hospital, served our community for 160 years. Ten years after a post-closing impact assessment, a follow-up impact study to assess the success of this model in serving the needs of our community is overdue.

Community District Needs Related to Healthcare and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

Perhaps the most challenging confluence of needs in our District is found in the impact on residential, commercial, academic and tourist segments of our community from those afflicted by serious mental health needs. Those needs are often but not exclusively manifested among the chronically unhoused and those with chemical or substance addictions. This need could just as easily been classified under the rubrics of "homelessness" or "crime and public safety," as the impacts transcend categories. Frequently those with serious mental illness exhibit behavior that is dangerous to others or themselves, and which materially and negatively degrades the quality of life of virtually all other segments of the community. The immediate collateral effect of these unmet mental health needs include the collateral impact of those who are chronically homeless, increasing both the severity of their needs and the difficulty in addressing them. For example, the unmet needs of those with serious mental health and chemical addiction issues ineluctably lead to the presence of those who supply the illicit drugs and substances to feed these addictions. The illegal drug trade, often brazenly in public view, nearly always includes those armed or otherwise ready to protect the sellers and suppliers from physical violence in this all-cash outdoor business. The illegal drugs and substances to which those afflicted by serious mental health issues, and the chronically homeless who are too often swept up in the wake of the drug trade, not only make exceedingly more difficult the task of outreach aimed at offering supportive services to address these needs. The drug use that this omnipresent illicit trade fosters often leads to aggressive behavior both in the search for funds to support the habit and in the antisocial behavior while under the influence. Rather than focus on the endlessly revolving door of the enforcement of criminal laws, Community Board 2 prioritizes addressing one of the root causes of this cycle. Research and experience have proved the efficacy of Intensive Mobile Treatment ("IMT") programs as a tool in addressing serious mental health issues. The IMT programs have demonstrated successes in removing individuals from the unhealthy environment that reinforces the cycle of addiction and deprives to which this population is prey, and creates a pathway to the services needed to address the severe mental health disorders in which they are trapped. While no one program can cure all of the impacts of the pernicious cycle of aggressive and antisocial behavior visited on residents, businesses, students and tourists, addressing the most desperate of needs with programs proven to work is a welcome and worthy alternative to the increasingly frustrating cycle of too few resources attempting to address these problems through law enforcement and incarceration. COVID-19, while declared to be no longer an "emergency," continues to have a dramatic impact on New York City and CB2 at this time, which is currently difficult to evaluate except that it is clear that the impacts have been disproportionate across communities of color and income levels. Our community board continues to work diligently with the World Trade Center Environmental Health Center's Community Advisory Council to pass federal legislation that would provide permanent funding for this center along with

the other centers dedicated to those affected by 9/11. In the interim, it is important that the City continue its funding and support of these centers. We are very interested in ensuring that the number of new HIV infections in the City decreases and that those living with HIV and AIDS receive the services they need to remain healthy and to have stable living environments. It is essential that the City fund - and advocate forcefully with the State and Federal governments to fund - new methods to help prevent new infections, research into how to effectively reach the populations that are seeing higher infection rates, and support for the non-profit service providers who are the best responders to the epidemic and yet are losing government funding.

Needs for Older NYs

Many elders in our district have decided to age in place, but services for our older residents have been cut drastically. The meal program at one of our centers (First Presbyterian) was eliminated a few years ago, and our other centers are overcrowded, with multiple seatings. An important part of the meal program, social contact, seems to be ignored completely. We would like to understand the goals of the Department for the Aging because they do not seem to be in accord with our understanding of the needs. CB2 joins with our elected officials to work to solve this problem, but we need the City to support Visiting Neighbors, as well as adult day care facilities, in order to allow seniors to live independently in their own homes. Our elderly are vulnerable to the rampant building boom in our community, when landlords seek to push seniors out. New building permits must accommodate the elderly. Many of our seniors continue to live in rent-regulated walk-up apartments. Renovation, not removal, is needed.

Needs for Homeless

CB2 applauds the outreach efforts of Goddard-Riverside and the Manhattan Outreach Consortium. It takes multiple scores of interactions with many unhoused clients to convince them to accept any form of support, including a temporary safe haven placement, shelter, or any form of physical or mental health services. Any meaningful attempt to meet the needs of the chronically unhoused and those often found on our streets exhibiting aggressive behavior and/or chemical addiction benefits from the these services.

Needs for Low Income NYs

CB2 continues to lead efforts to create affordable housing and associated low-cost services in every parcel where such development is possible. CB2 is aggressively seeking to maximize the number and diversity of affordable units at every potential development site.

HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
1 / 52	DOHMH	Create new Intensive Mobile Treatment teams
9 / 52	HRA	Support the "Bridging The Gap" Program
16 / 52	DFTA	Support the Maintenance of an Older Adult Facility
21 / 52	DHS	Support Paul's Place Drop-in Center and Safe Haven
40 / 52	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment

Manhattan Community Board 2

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

School and educational facilities (Capacity)

Fully staffed and properly resourced public schools with adequate space for all programmatic needs and a full complement of academic, remedial and enrichment programs are among the most essential elements of a sustainable community.

The needs of the public schools in our District are many – some of which are susceptible of immediate redress; others require and deserve a longer-term commitment. All are worthy of funding that ensures the needs of our students, families, faculty and staff are met not just in this fiscal year, but sustainably and reliably baselined into the future.

CB2/M places as its first public school priority the need to ensure that high school students in our District have immediate access to the most basic tools essential both for a rich academic experience and for future career and higher education opportunities. In a world in which everything from the telemetry of the ISS to a menu at a café is available to the public through internet portals and codes, facility as a digital native with the every-changing tools for managing and manipulating access to online content and information is no longer optional.

Equity demands that all schools provide meaningful access to these technology resources, yet the reality is that some schools, through access to parent contributions, grant funding and other sources, enjoy greater access to such technology.

As a first step in leveling this playing field, CB2/M prioritizes a capital investment in two high schools in our District. At Harvey Milk High School (M586), these basic needs begin with 30 laptop computers. For Harvest Collegiate High School (M534), the basic needs include 30 laptop computers, plus tablets, peripheral devices and the equipment needed for connectivity.

While CB2/M is highlighting above the most easily addressed needs, these technology deficits are far from the only unmet needs among our CB2/M Schools.

From the Capital Budget, longer term but no less essential projects include:

- Harvest Collegiate High School (M534) needs a chain link fence above the existing wall around the outdoor space so it can be used for recreational purposes.
- NY iSchool (M376) and the co-located Chelsea career and Technical School (Charter school) need an upgrade to the shared gymnasium.
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In the longer term, CB2/M needs additional capacity. While recent lease renewals and option extensions have postponed the urgency of the request, CB2/M continues to require the additional seats and modernized facilities promised to be a part of the Bleecker Street School to be built at the corner of Bleecker and LaGuardia based on an option ceded to the City during the 2012

upzoning concerning NYU's expansion. Among other things, that additional capacity is beyond essential to provide space for programs that address the too-often overlooked problem of dyslexia (too often left undiagnosed) and to meet the State mandates for class size reduction.

From the Expense Budget Side, the following needs crave funding:

- Class Size reduction through hiring additional teachers.
- Recruiting, training and retaining teachers through the "NYC Men Teach" program.
- Professional development in the currently-used reading and writing curricula employing a structured literacy approach.
- Baseline funding for arts instruction during the classroom day.
- Adapting and updating the algorithms and tools needed to predict enrollment trends to meet future overcrowding needs.

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

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- Adapting and updating the algorithms and tools needed to predict enrollment trends to meet future overcrowding needs.

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

Positive afterschool experiences, whether academic, sports or games, are essential to keeping our youth engaged, away from troubling negative influences, and ready for school and progress. These services are needed in CB2's District to ensure that the children of those who do not enjoy the affluence and financial benefits for which the District is known will have a level playing field with those who do.

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
2 / 19	SCA	Provide technology upgrades to High Schools in our District
5 / 19	DYCD	Restore The Door - Fund the Restoration of The Door's Exterior Facade
7 / 19	SCA	Create Recreational Space at Harvest Collegiate HS
9 / 19	SCA	Upgrade the Gymnasium shared by Co-Located High Schools
11 / 19	SCA	Create a sensory gym in PS 3
12 / 19	SCA	Create a library in the Broome Street Academy
13 / 19	SCA	Upgrade windows and light fixtures at PS 130
14 / 19	SCA	Upgrades needed for Manhattan School for Career Development
15 / 19	SCA	Create a HS for Students with Dyslexia and other LBLDs
16 / 19	SCA	Create the Bleecker Street School

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
3 / 52	DOE	Reduce Class Sizes
6 / 52	DOE	Men Teach Program - Increase Funding
19 / 52	DOE	Teacher Professional Development and Training
23 / 52	DOE	Arts Education - Fully Fund and Baseline the Allocation
26 / 52	DYCD	Support The Door's Food Service Program
32 / 52	DYCD	Increase funding for free before-school and after-school programs
33 / 52	DOE	Special Education Services in 3-K and UPK
41 / 52	DOE	Hire more bilingual and multi-lingual staff in schools.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Manhattan Community Board 2

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Other - Write In (Required)

Incidents of aggressive behavior, open drug sales and drug use, and individuals with serious mental illness (some unhoused, some not) have combined to create a pervasive feeling among a wide cross-section of our Community that our streets and neighborhoods are not safe for individual residents, families, patrons of local businesses, students and academics, and visitors.

CB2 applauds the creation of a multi-agency hub organized under the aegis of the Mayor's Office and coordinated and facilitated by the New York County District Attorney's Office to seek a comprehensive effort to address the root causes of the anti-social and aggressive behavior that has been the subject of consistent community activism for many months.

There are zones within our District, including the northwest corner of Washington Square Park, the 6th Avenue corridor between Bleecker and West 14th Streets and along West 8th Street, Crosby Street adjacent to Houston, and others, at which both quality of life issues such as public drug use (and sales), aggressive behavior and unsanitary practices, and encampments challenge both law enforcement and providers of mental and physical health services and the efforts of the Departments of Homeless Services, Sanitation, and Health and Mental Hygiene, among others. The brazen manner in which some of this behavior is visited on residents, businesses, students and faculty, and those visiting our District erodes the quality of life and at times presents serious threats to person and property.

The multi-agency initiative is in the formation stage, and requires significant investment both of human capital by the respective agencies as well as capital and expense funding to ensure that, for example, a success in persuading an unhoused or vulnerable individual to accept shelter or mental health services is not in vain for lack of an appropriate placement or bed in an appropriate facility.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

Our District's needs for public safety focus on the provision of properly resourced and deployed services for the seriously mentally ill, the users of addictive drugs, and the unhoused. Please see the discussions above relating to public safety and human services.

While CB2 is aware that our local NYPD Precincts (the 1st, 5th, 6th and 9th Precincts) are all understaffed relative to their pre-pandemic levels, we are advised that increases in overall NYPD numbers of officers Citywide are unlikely to be assigned in great numbers in our District. We are grateful for the efforts of our 4 Commanding Officers to secure additional uniformed officers.

Needs for Emergency Services

CB2 continues to be concerned that our uniformed services (NYPD, FDNY and EMT) have the full resources they require. Our Precincts have lost significant head counts since pre-pandemic staffing levels. The reality that increasing the budget for NYPD officers will result in additional uniformed officers being hired and then deployed in other communities in no way diminishes CB2's belief that our Precincts should be fully staffed.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

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

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Manhattan Community Board 2

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

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

CD2 is a coastal district, with over a mile of waterfront along the Hudson River and over 10,000 residents living within the FEMA 0.2% chance floodplain. The district was impacted by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, with a portion of the district being inundated by floodwaters, causing significant property damage. As sea levels are projected to continue rising in the coming decades, storm-surge related risks are expected to increase.

Additionally, in summer and fall of 2021, as well as in several instances during the summer and fall of 2023, a series of heavy rain events resulted in significant flooding across much of the city. The effects of climate change are likely to increase the frequency of such events in the future.

The US Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") has recently released a study of the NY-NJ area which includes resiliency recommendations which fall within CD2. However, due to the complexity of overlapping jurisdictions within the floodplain along the Hudson, CB2 believes a more comprehensive, localized study of resiliency and flood risk along the West Side may need to be undertaken that incorporates the wide range of relevant stakeholders including the Community Boards, City agencies (DOT and DEP), State agencies (DOT and DEC), relevant utilities such as Consolidated Edison, and the Hudson River Park Trust. Additionally, with the growing combined risk of coastal and rainwater flooding, CB2 encourages the city to continue working with community stakeholders to develop an overall plan for resiliency within the district (including but not limited to coastal protection), which could include, among other things, greater investment in green infrastructure. Additionally, it is crucial that any allocation of funding for resiliency projects within CD2, as well as the specific design elements of such projects, be coordinated with significant local community review and input, from the earliest planning stages through the completion of such projects.

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

New residents, replacing the manufacturers who previously hired private carters, must now rely on collection by the NYC Sanitation Department. With the reopening of international travel and the end of COVID-19 restrictions, tourism is expected to return to pre-pandemic levels and further straining sanitation services. Sanitation District 2's limited staff is hard pressed to meet the community's growing needs as the area has increasingly become home to a twenty-four hour population. In particular, the agency's decision a few years ago to cut the number of supervisors in each district has made it more difficult to clean the streets as thoroughly as they had been cleaned in the past.

While the city has restored many cuts made to sanitation services during COVID-19, sanitation does not adequately service corner garbage bins that see increased usage in many areas from weekend use especially from to go food and drink containers.

The advent of roadside dining has also created impacts on local residential trash pickups and missed collections and roadside dining structures are anticipated to have significant impacts on snow removal operations throughout CB2, in particular on narrow streets and areas where there are multiple eating and drinking establishments on the same block.

We are pleased the City has dedicated significant resources and is now taking a pro-active approach in combating the rat population in our City. In particular, we applaud the Rat Indexing Initiative. We urge the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and particularly the Parks Department to continue these aggressive efforts and to coordinate these efforts to address the recent increase in the rat population due to the growth of the Temporary Open Restaurant program.

Additionally, we encourage the city to continue with the expansion of programs that have the potential to further combat the increase in rats as well as improve the overall sanitation situation in CD2, such as "clean curbs" style containerization programs, containerized curbside composting, and more frequent pickups of residential waste and corner bins. In particular, it will be important to monitor the effectiveness in combating the rat population of new regulations beginning in fall 2024 that require trash containerization and universal curbside composting.

Finally, CB2 continues to believe that the restoration of more frequent residential waste pick-ups, as was done in the past, and quicker pick-up of curbside waste at night, would help minimize the amount of time that waste sits on the curb and thus further assist in the effort to reduce the rat population.

Light pollution is another environmental concern which has been growing in severity over the last few years. New methods of advertising including LED lights, neon signs, bright television screens displayed in windows, vehicles serving as "moving billboards" with LED signs attached, and ads projected onto the sides of buildings, can all be found frequently throughout CD2. Many of these advertisements are already against DOB, DOT and LPC rules and should be subject to enforcement from these agencies.

Needs for Sanitation Services

The recent changes from DSNY, including the containerization requirements for residential and commercial trash collection, as well as the expansion of curbside organics recycling / composting, are welcome steps forward in attempting to address the overwhelming and discouraging scourge of rat infestations. To be effective, these efforts must combine progressive policies with outreach and education to convey the common-sense need to halt the outdoor smorgasbord from which rats and vermin feed.

One aspect of these changes that continues to require a meaningful solution is where these various containers are to be placed. Especially in the Greenwich Village, SoHo, NoHo and Little Italy/Nolita areas, which often have compact residential buildings with no basement or indoor storage space for such containers, and are situated on narrow sidewalks, challenge the ability of the containerization movement to achieve its worthy goals.

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CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
2 / 52	DEP	Coastal Resiliency - Conduct a study of the Hudson Waterfront and Resiliency Options
7 / 52	DSNY	Study Trash Containerization and Collection
14 / 52	DSNY	Study NYC "Smart" Composting Bins
24 / 52	DEP	Build Additional Green Infrastructure
46 / 52	DSNY	Expand Curbside Composting

Manhattan Community Board 2

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

Affordable housing creation

CB2 remains committed to protecting and preserving the affordable housing that we have and supporting opportunities to build new affordable housing where practicable and appropriate. We urge the City to increase direct city investment in 100% affordable housing construction, adaptive reuse of existing buildings, and revise requirements that mandate far greater numbers of affordable housing units with lower median incomes and fewer loopholes than currently under the City's Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program CB2's resolution in response to the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity expresses the importance of affordable housing in our District and City. The City Council's recent addition to that discussion of additional capital funding for affordable housing is an important contribution to this on-going discussion.

CB2 has been leading the effort to maximize the number of affordable units with an appropriate mix of apartment sizes at 388 Hudson Street, one of the very few open lots available for development in our District, and one that is already owned by the City.

CB2 is also engaged in the early stages of a proposed development of new housing units - some of which are planned to be affordable - at the City-owned parcel in the Gansevoort Meat Market area. While it is too early to opine on the project, which has not yet been finalized and submitted for ULURP, CB2 will again focus on maximizing the delivery of affordable housing in addition to all other essential aspects of the proposal.

CB2 is already home to thousands of existing affordable housing units of various other types. Among them are traditional rent stabilized units, Joint Live-Work Quarters for Artists (JLWQA) units in rent stabilization, Interim Multiple Dwelling (IMD) units currently under the supervision of the Loft Board, previous IMD loft units that are now rent stabilized, Mitchell Lama housing units and project-based Section-8 buildings. Rent stabilized units can be found in great numbers throughout CB2 in almost all of our neighborhoods including in Greenwich Village, the West Village, South Village, SoHo, NoHo, Little Italy, Nolita and Chinatown, and to a lesser extent in the Meatpacking District, Union Square South, and Hudson Square.

The passage of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protections Act of 2019 strengthened existing rent stabilization laws and included provisions to end high-rent vacancy deregulation, narrowed the preferential rent loophole, and put in place more protections against unnecessary major capital improvements (MCIs) and individual apartment improvements (IAI). A recent report derived from tax bills indicates that between 2007 and 2020 there was an increase of 1,975 rent stabilized units in CB2. During that same time period, 6,407 units were removed from rent stabilization yielding a net loss of 4,432 affordable units. CB2 supports anti-displacement provisions that: a) prohibit upzoning of any site that has rent-regulated or loft law units because this will create financial incentives for demolition; b) eliminate sites where additional FAR can only be used to add vertical enlargements because this will result in penthouse additions and no affordable housing; and c) include Certification of No Harassment provisions before applying for a permit for a change in use or demolition. Reliance on legal remedies that can take years to work their way through the courts to cure displacement by construction, neglect or harassment requires tenants to take often-unavailable time to find and consult with attorney and take off from work to provide testimony and attend related appointments--all while the tenants and their families experience dangerous, sometimes barely livable conditions.

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

Needs for Housing

See budget requests.

Needs for Land Use

The recent re-invigoration of the opportunity to build affordable housing on vacant, City-owned land located at 388 Hudson Street underscores the interrelation between zoning and land use regulations and practices and the achievement of virtually all other social and programmatic goals for our District. While very much still a work in progress, using existing provisions of the Zoning Resolution, and working with partners in the various City Agencies whose jurisdiction overlap with respect to this parcel, demonstrates that Land Use decisions will carry enormous weight in determining the degree to which we will be successful in using the limited opportunities at our disposal to meet the needs of those most affected by the pernicious shortage of affordable housing.

A like focus will be employed by CB2 on using the tools of zoning and land use regulations to maximize the delivery of affordable housing at the Gansevoort Meat Market project.

Needs for Housing

CB2 remains committed to protecting and preserving the affordable housing that we have and supporting opportunities to build affordable housing where practicable and appropriate. We urge the city to increase direct city investment in 100% affordable housing construction, adaptive reuse of existing buildings, and revise requirements that mandate far greater numbers of affordable housing units with lower median incomes and fewer loopholes than currently under the city's Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program Current Affordable Housing Stock in CB2. We are already home to thousands of affordable housing units of various types. Among them are traditional rent stabilized units, Joint Live-Work Quarters for Artists (JLWQA) units in rent stabilization, Interim Multiple Dwelling (IMD) units currently under the supervision of the Loft Board, previous IMD loft units that are now rent stabilized, Mitchell Lama housing units and project-based Section-8 buildings. Rent stabilized units can be found in great numbers throughout CB2 in almost all of our neighborhoods including in Greenwich Village, the West Village, South Village, SoHo, NoHo, Little Italy, Nolita and Chinatown, and to a lesser extent in the Meatpacking District, Union Square South, and Hudson Square. The passage of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protections Act of 2019 strengthened existing rent stabilization laws and included provisions to end high-rent vacancy deregulation, narrowed the preferential rent loophole, and put in place more protections against unnecessary major capital improvements (MCIs) and individual apartment improvements (IAI). A recent report derived from tax bills indicates that between 2007 and 2020 there was an increase of 1,975 rent stabilized units in CB2. During that same time period, 6,407 units were removed from rent stabilization yielding a net loss of 4,432 affordable units. CB2 supports anti-displacement provisions that: a) prohibit upzoning of any site that has rent-regulated or loft law units because this will create financial incentives for demolition; b) eliminate sites where additional FAR can only be used to add vertical enlargements because this will result in penthouse additions and no affordable housing; and c) include Certification of No Harassment provisions before applying for a permit for a change in use or demolition. Reliance on legal remedies that can take years to work their way through the courts to cure displacement by construction, neglect or harassment requires tenants to take often-unavailable time to find and consult with attorney and take off from work to provide testimony and attend related appointments--all while the tenants and their families experience dangerous, sometimes barely livable conditions. Apart from the foregoing discussion of 388 Hudson Street in the section concerning Land Use, CB2 has few undeveloped sites left that are appropriate for large-scale development. Exceptions include St. John's Terminal and the Special Hudson Square District. In 2013, the City approved the Special Hudson Square District in the southwestern portion of our district. This rezoning created a mixed-use district by incentivizing residential development in combination with affordable/inclusionary housing, expanded community facility uses, ground-floor retail, and limiting as-of-right hotel development, while at the same time ensuring that commercial and manufacturing uses are retained. The proposal also included height limits and set-back regulations that will help to preserve the unique identity of the district. We are starting to see applications for conversions to residential from this neighborhood, many of which include affordable units under the auspices of the Inclusionary Housing program. Our goal is to not only encourage projects that provide affordable housing, but also encourage a sense of community and social interactions. Developer amenity packages pose a significant challenge in this regard. Another challenge is the loss of affordable units due to luxury and vacancy decontrols as well as

tenant harassment, illegal landlord behavior especially with respect to construction and false DOB filings. In light of the mayor's mandate to add affordable units, the community has been encouraging consideration of a large site that provides access and repair of the underground water infrastructure at 388 Hudson Street (next to a park) as a possible and appropriate affordable housing development site. We had strongly urged the City to consider this site in lieu of the tiny site in Little Italy known as the Elizabeth Street Garden. Our preference has gone unheeded and we continue to pursue the protection of a vital and much-loved garden in a neighborhood starved for open space.

Needs for Economic Development

CB2 continues to prioritize support for local small businesses. The discussions elsewhere in our District Needs Statements about support for unhoused individuals, those with serious mental illness, those addicted to drugs and those engaging in aggressive behaviors are both humanitarian concerns as well as issues that impact the success and vibrancy of our commercial corridors. Support for these human services proposals is also support for our businesses.

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
1 / 19	HPD	Build Affordable Housing at 2 Howard Street

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
8 / 52	DCP	Study the effectiveness of the Hudson Square Rezoning
15 / 52	HPD	Compile and Share a Dataset of Rent-Regulated Units
25 / 52	HPD	Study Units Converted to Residential Uses from Commercial and Manufacturing
39 / 52	HPD	Create a list of government-owned properties as potential sites for affordable housing.
44 / 52	DCP	Study and Report on "Soft Sites"

Manhattan Community Board 2

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

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

The safety of all street users continues to be the most pressing Transportation concern in our District. The Holland Tunnel is still one of CB2's major traffic problems with heavy vehicular congestion around the entrance, exit and on the way to the Tunnel which also brings great volumes of private vehicles into the city. The problem is magnified by automotive traffic from all entryways into the city that keeps growing as more and more people choose to drive rather than use mass transit, with increasing crashes, injuries and fatalities. We were looking forward to congestion pricing to help turn this tide, by making our streets safer and quieter with cleaner air and helping to provide necessary support for transit. We are still hopeful that it can be quickly resolved and reinstated.

Trucks remain a major concern, using our narrow streets to travel from the Hudson River to the F.D.R. Drive, south to the Financial District and to the outer boroughs. Online shopping has led to extensive local commercial deliveries that flood our streets and consume our curb space. Our fragile network of narrow streets is vulnerable to these trucks' heavy impact on our infrastructure, while those who walk our streets are at risk of colliding with them, which already has resulted in serious injuries and fatalities. We've been asking for the use of cargo bike/delivery cart bicycle vehicles and, if trucks must be used, to employ smaller, electrically powered ones with "Direct Vision" cabs that give total visibility to activities outside the trucks. We also support off-hours deliveries, at night if feasible, and Neighborhood Loading Zones. We are encouraged by DOT's new Smart Curbs program that focuses on balancing curb space for other uses besides parking, e.g. loading zones, bike corrals, seating and planters.

Our District is also swept up in the on-going debate concerning a host of delivery and other electric-powered vehicles, too many of whom do not cede sidewalks to pedestrians, and who ride in ways that create a feeling of great danger in pedestrians even where the actual risk is materially different from the perceived risk. The absence of appropriate enforcement exacerbates this concern.

The proliferation of tour buses on our small, historic streets has produced a host of negative impacts, including dangerous conflicts with pedestrians, air and noise pollution, traffic congestion, and broken street beds. CB2 calls for increased regulation, enforcement, and relocation of tour bus routes to larger, more accommodating thoroughfares. A new tour bus route-plan is long overdue.

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

See budget requests.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

There is a growing need for an equitable balance of street space to accommodate the diverse mobility modes that now exist and are changing our street environment. Just as the advent of the motor vehicle necessitated a complete restructuring of public space and transportation operations, the advent of new micro-mobility modes and an emphasis on alternatives to driving requires a similar retooling. We support in-depth assessment of how our streets are currently being used with evaluation of how they should be redesigned to meet current multi-modal needs, e.g., with what types of parking spaces and how many, size and allocation of travel lanes, required signage and signalization, fitting amenities, and especially, adequate provision of safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling access and facilities, with pilot testing, followed by quick implementation.

The importance of responding and adapting to change to better serve the community also is revealed on Route 9A/West Street which is very different now from when it was constructed 30 years ago. The Hudson River Park and Greenway, adjacent to 9A, are now built out, and there's a vast increase in pedestrians and cyclists who require safety measures to protect them both moving across 9A and along the Greenway, especially from e-bikes and fast delivery bikes. There's the danger of flooding (increased by climate change), and with the large population increase from new residential, commercial and recreational activity, there's now a need to extend the M12 bus route south of 14th Street. A study to revamp the area is required to meet these current needs, which is being conducted by the NY State Dept. of Transportation and which we welcome.

Needs for Transit Services

Disabled access in our subway stations is greatly lacking, with not even a handful of stations in the CB2 District providing either elevators and/or escalators to enable the many physically challenged in our area to use the subways. Although MTA now plans to have 95% of NYC's subway stations ADA accessible by 2055, that is far in the future and still won't include every station. Every one of the subway stations in CB2 should be furnished with the elevators and escalators that will give all of our citizens the rightful access they need to get around. In addition, every effort needs to be made to repair and rehabilitate our deteriorating subway stations for users' comfort and safety.

Community District 2 has several internationally known tourist destinations that encourage heavy nighttime and weekend usage of the district's streets, by both cars and pedestrians. New York City Transit should be initiating a major effort to increase the use of public transportation in this context as well as in general by making it more comfortable, convenient, accessible and frequent, and making transit access points more user friendly for both visitors and residents. Public transportation makes more efficient use of space and energy, significantly reduces air and noise pollution, and minimizes pedestrian/vehicular conflicts. Opportunities must be explored and followed through in providing new transit access and routes in areas of need, and sources of funding for our suffering transit system must be pinpointed and secured. In the same way we were looking to congestion pricing to help make our streets more livable, we also were depending upon it to support improvements in our transit system. We continue to hope for a comeback.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
6 / 19	DOT	Make the Morton Street Bike Lane Safer
8 / 19	DOT	Repair the Belgian Block Surface on Bond Street
17 / 19	DOT	Repair and Reconstruct Clarkson Street

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
4 / 52	DOT	Complete the Study "Reimagining Petrosino Square
10 / 52	DOT	Install a Crosswalk and Traffic Light at Wooster and Houston
13 / 52	DOT	Install protective barriers for an existing bike lane
20 / 52	DOT	Improve the safety of the multi-street intersection at Mulry Square
29 / 52	NYCTA	Extend the M12 Bus Route Along Route 9A / West Street
36 / 52	DOT	Improve Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Near the Stonewall National Monument
37 / 52	DOT	Address traffic congestion on 9th Avenue at West 14th Street
38 / 52	DOT	Address traffic congestion on East 12th Street
42 / 52	DOT	Create a Fully Shared Street on University Place
45 / 52	DOT	Study the Total Effects of Open Streets
47 / 52	DOT	Improve pedestrian safety conditions at West 8th Street and Sixth Avenue
49 / 52	DOT	Study blocks with dangerous traffic conditions

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Manhattan Community Board 2

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

Insufficient park or open space

Preserve Elizabeth Street Garden and Build More Affordable Senior Housing at Alternative Site.

Since 2013, CB2 has held seven public hearings and passed five resolutions in support of the permanent preservation of Elizabeth Street Garden in its entirety as public open, green space and urges the City to transfer jurisdiction over this lot to the Parks Department. CB2 also supports the development of affordable housing at an alternative city-owned site at Hudson and Clarkson Streets where up to five times as much senior housing can be built, but only if Elizabeth Street Garden is preserved in its entirety.

Neighborhood Underserved by Open Space.

The neighborhood around Elizabeth Street Garden lacks open space. Little Italy and SoHo account for 23% of CB2's population but have only 3% of its open space, virtually 100% paved, for an open space ratio of only 0.07 acres per 1,000 residents, as compared with the City Planning goal of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Furthermore, the majority of CB2's open space is in Washington Square and Hudson River Parks, nearly a mile and 1.2 miles from the Garden, respectively. Residents in Little Italy and SoHo are less likely to use these spaces with frequency. Furthermore, Elizabeth Street Garden is located in the only downtown Manhattan neighborhood that the NYC Parks Department defines as "underserved" by open space.

About the Garden.

Elizabeth Street Garden is a unique community park and green space with open lawn, majestic trees, flowering garden beds, and sculptural artworks located in the Little Italy neighborhood of Manhattan, between Prince and Spring Streets. City-owned and privately leased, the Garden attracts more than 100,000 visitors each year, including local elementary students, families and seniors, as well as residents from around the city and tourists from around the world, who learn about the Garden from several travel websites and guidebooks. The Garden is open to the public, weather permitting and volunteers provide free public and educational programming. The Garden's design, size and configuration make it ideally suited for movies, music, yoga, community festivals, arts performances, educational programs, gardening and quiet meditation that are not offered in any other nearby public community space.

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

Needs for Parks

See budget requests.

Needs for Parks

With only about .58 acres of parkland per 1000 residents, our District has one of the lowest ratios of public open space in the City, and with next-to-no unbuilt lots and the property values for our fully built up land being in the stratosphere, the City standard of 2.5 acres is an unobtainable goal.

Meeting the needs of our community for both passive and active recreation space is thus a priority and a challenge. One means to address these needs is to provide a fully functional Recreation Center in the West Village.

Our community requires a Recreation Center and an outdoor pool. The Tony Dapolito Recreation Center has been closed for years. The outdoor pool next to the building has been closed for several summers and will remain closed for several more because the wall of the rec center building is unstable and collapse of it could injure pool users.

We are separating our discussion of the re-opening of the Tony Dapolito Recreation Center into 2 requests and CB2 wants to be part of the process that the city will run to make these decisions:

- o Rec Center: In July of 2024, Community Board 2 passed a resolution asking that the new proposed affordable housing building at 388 Hudson "include a NYC Parks recreation center of at least three floors at the base of the building footprint". Our capital request is to deliver on this request, if funding is required from the city; it is thought that the chosen developers of the new building might provide the funding for the rec center themselves. The July 2024 resolution built upon a series of previous resolutions over more than a decade to restore the crucially needed services of a fully functional and safe Rec Center to our underserved Community.

- o Outdoor pool and mural: preserve and protect the existing Keith Haring mural and preserve or replace the outdoor pool as part of the preservation of the existing Dapolito structure, which is a contributing building in the designated Landmark Historic District in which it is located.

Despite these challenges, important progress has been made in recent years. There has been a steady and ongoing stream of improvements to the quality and condition of our parks with recently completed renovations at Passanante Playground and DeSalvio Playground (thanks to support from our elected officials and an active and energetic group of parents) as well as the opening of new improvements at Pier 40 and the Hudson River. The community looks forward to the realization of usable open space at Duarte Square, for which funding is in place, as well as passive open space at a portion of the 388 Hudson Street site. Funding and design work has progressed for upgrades at Father Fagan Park and Jackson Square. These initiatives will make our parks more attractive and safer, thereby providing more people a better park experience.

These additions and improvements are critical, but they have not been sufficient because the population of families with young children continues to rise in our district, increasing the overcrowding of our active play spaces. In addition, several large-scale development projects and major rezoning proposals recently have been approved, and others are in the planning stages, which collectively will add to the pressure on our parks and playgrounds and exacerbate the need for more open space, particularly those in which active recreation will be possible. We now see a need to strive to take advantage of every opportunity to create new open space. We thank our elected officials and City agencies for their support and we urge them to continue to help us protect, preserve and improve the public open space while we ask that they work with us to pursue every opportunity for creating new open space in our district.

In addition, the replacement of lost street trees remains a priority for the overall quality of life especially in areas distant from true open space. A recent 5-Borough President initiative provides much-needed support for that effort, and we are grateful to our Council Members for highlighting locations where additional street trees are needed.

Needs for Cultural Services

Community Board 2 is proud to claim as our own the artistic and cultural resource that the Whitney Museum of American Art in the Gansevoort Market district has infused into our district since opening its doors in May 2015, and also appreciates the institution's regular communications with and support of our Board.

This important institution, which was originally founded in our district, is a great asset to the Far West Village and has helped to re-focus the neighborhood as an art and design district. The Museum is an exciting center of art, with exterior exhibition spaces as well the traditional interior spaces. The Whitney's innovative and cross-genre programming and installations are at the cutting edge of many movements.

Integrated with the High Line Park that runs along the eastern face of the building, the museum offers restaurants, gathering places, and other public areas as part of its overall design, and draws patrons and audiences to other commercial and artistic venues throughout our District. In addition, our district has several other fine museums, including the NYC Fire Museum, the Children's

Museum of the Arts, the Museum of Chinese in America, the Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, the Merchant's House Museum, The Drawing Center, and the Jackie Robinson Museum, among others.

Community District 2 is also home to a unique array of performance spaces, Off-Broadway and independent theaters, film centers, and dance organizations. We take tremendous pride in the vibrant cultural scene that these organizations provide our community. These cultural organizations include: HB Playwrights; Cherry Lane Theatre; HERE; Rattlestick Playwrights Theater; Greenwich House & Greenwich House Pottery; The Gym at Judson; IRT Theater; IFC Center; Film Forum; Angelika; Cinema Village; Quad Theater; Actors Playhouse ; 13th Street Rep; Minetta Lane Theater; Westbeth Center; New Ohio; The Public Theater; Joe's Pub; Ars Nova; Axis Theater; The Duplex; Cornelia Street Cafe, Peridance; Martha Graham Dance Studio; Soho Playhouse; The Greene Space (WNYC Radio); Tenri Cultural Institute; New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture; Lucille Lortel Theater; Village Vanguard; Institutional theaters of NYU and The New School, among others.

While we have a vibrant arts and culture scene in our area, we continue to be concerned about the impact on the downtown arts scene due to the closure of so many of the district's Off-Broadway and small theaters and other cultural spaces. The main causes are the exponential increase in rents and ongoing funding challenges faced by non-profits. Some years ago, we supported a proposal to use tax incentives that would encourage landlords to retain live performance space.

In addition, CB2 strongly supports funding for the arts both in our area and citywide, and increased arts education in public schools, as a growing body of studies presents compelling evidence connecting student learning in the arts to a wide array of academic and social benefits. For example, these various studies continue to indicate that the arts help to improve visual analysis skills and critical judgment, inspire creativity and improve motivation, collaboration, attitudes and attendance.

Arts Advocacy: Advocating for arts organizations and artists located within CB2 and for those that produce, program or present arts and culture within CB2 has been, and remains, a top priority for our board. Our Board has consistently supported non-profit arts organizations located within our district that are seeking funding or restoration of funding from grant organizations and city agencies. We were also the first community board City-wide to write a letter of support for New York City's first comprehensive cultural plan. In addition, we speak out against entities and agencies that seek to utilize our local parks and public spaces for arts-related projects that do not have wide community support, while strongly supporting public arts projects that are in alignment with the spirit of our community and neighborhoods. We also strive to foster connections among arts organizations located within our district to forge stronger cultural alliances.

Finally, as is widely known, CB2 has historically been the home of a wide array of talented artists and, as such, our Board remains dedicated to advocating that the work of these local artists is a part of planned arts programming within our district whenever possible.

Needs for Library Services

CB2 celebrates the renovations and upgrades to the Jefferson Market Library. On that note, we also think it is time for a master plan to renovate the Hudson Park branch library to make its amenities more available. It is an amazing, albeit, somewhat inaccessible facility that has great potential if it was more readily used by the community-at-large.

Finally, we continue to be concerned that the funding necessary to fully staff our branch libraries is not baselined, and must be negotiated and restored year after year. Maintaining consistent hours of operation supported by professional staff is essential to all library users. Branch libraries are a crucial resource to all ages - from young children gaining literacy skills, to teens in need of a safe and welcoming place especially in afterschool and weekend hours, to those seeking employment services and supports to the elderly seeking all of the above resources. We continue to request that additional funds be allocated to keep the libraries and their community rooms open for as many hours as possible. We also ask that the New York Public Library provide a dedicated staff to create special youth programming.

Needs for Community Boards

Community Board budgets have not received an increase to their baseline funding in years, and yet Community Boards are required to do more with less every year. Community Boards adapted to virtual meetings during the pandemic. The end of the Covid-era emergency declarations required CBs to return to in-person meetings, but the public now expects fully interactive hybrid meetings. We are required to locate venues for large-scale meetings monthly and in response to a succession of public initiatives, yet are provided no resources with which to secure such venues.

CB2 receives as many or more applications for SLA liquor licenses, DoT Dining Out NYC outdoor cafe licenses, and Cannabis Dispensary licenses than any other Community Board in the Five Boroughs. The growth in our workload has not been matched with additional resources with which to handle this demand.

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
3 / 19	DPR	Repair JJ Walker Park courts, playgrounds and pathways
4 / 19	DPR	Renovate, restore and reuse the Dapolito Recreation Center
10 / 19	DPR	Permanently preserve and enhance Elizabeth Street Garden
18 / 19	DPR	Include a fully equipped Recreation Center at 388 Hudson Street
19 / 19	DPR	Renovate Vesuvio Playground
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
11 / 52	DPR	Identify alternative spaces for skateboarders
12 / 52	LPC	Hire additional professional staff
17 / 52	DPR	Install additional benches in "pocket parks" along 6th Avenue
18 / 52	DPR	Identify Locations For Dog Parks and Dog Runs
22 / 52	DPR	LaGuardia Garden - Eliminate Ponding
27 / 52	DPR	Rat Infestation Interdiction
31 / 52	DPR	Increase PEP Officer Coverage in Washington Square Park
48 / 52	DPR	Re-imagining Playground of the Avenue of the Americas
51 / 52	DPR	Study the "Time" Landscape
52 / 52	NYPL	Fund NYPL to preserve Full Service

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

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

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Priority	Agency	Title
5 / 52	SBS	Create a grant program to fund architectural services for Dining Out NYC Applicants
28 / 52	SCA	Review and Revise CEQR Process and Criteria for New School Enrollment Projections
30 / 52	CECM	Study the Effects of Full Street Closures for Commercial Events
34 / 52	Other	Expand Services for Immigrants
35 / 52	DFTA	Support Greenwich House Programming
43 / 52	MOME	Enforcement of MOME Permit Specifics
50 / 52	OMB	Fund Community Board Needs for Hybrid Meetings

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Title	Priority Agency	Request	Explanation
Build Affordable Housing at 2 Howard Street	1 / 19 HPD	Other capital budget request for HPD	<i>C1 Allocate funds to (a) acquire the land at 2 Howard Street from the federal government, and (b) develop 100% permanently affordable housing at that site 2 Howard St. once the site is transferred to the City. This underused, federally-owned parking garage would make an ideal location for affordable housing. CB2 is a strong supporter of affordable housing and believes money allocated to purchase this property and to develop affordable housing on the site would constitute a significant benefit to our District and our City. CB2 calls on the Mayor's Office to work with the federal government and all federal elected officials to transfer ownership of 2 Howard Street to NYC HPD for development of 100% permanently affordable housing.</i>
Provide technology upgrades to High Schools in our District	2 / 19 SCA	Provide technology upgrade	<i>C2 Equity demands that all schools provide meaningful access to these technology resources, yet the reality is that some schools, through access to parent contributions, grant funding and other sources, enjoy greater access to such technology than others. As a first step in leveling this playing field, CB2/M prioritizes a capital investment in two high schools in our District. -- At Harvey Milk High School (M586), fund the acquisition of 30 laptop computers. -- For Harvest Collegiate High School (M534), fund the acquisition of 30 laptop computers, plus tablets, peripheral devices and the equipment needed for connectivity.</i>
Repair JJ Walker Park courts, playgrounds and pathways	3 / 19 DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	<i>C3. Repair JJ Walker courts and park. Allocate funds to repair the playground and the pathway between the field and the playground and courts at James J Walker Park, recognizing that a "master plan" for the full block may result from any process relating to the space currently occupied by the building that is the Tony Dapolito Recreation Center.</i>

State Senator Hoylman-Sigal previously allocated \$62,500 through participatory budgeting to convert one handball court into a basketball court; repair or replace the netting atop the handball courts; repair or replace the scoreboard; and install "no smoking" signs in the park. We are grateful for this support, but much more is needed to bring this Park to the level needed by the surrounding community.

Renovate, restore and reuse the Dapolito Recreation Center	4 / 19 DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	<i>C4 The existing Tony Dapolito Recreation Center has been allowed to fall into disrepair, including its interior facilities and its outdoor pool and amenities. A fully functioning recreation center, including an outdoor pool, is urgently needed. The building also deserves renovation, restoration and reuse as it is a contributing building to a designated landmark historic district. Funds are needed to renovate, restore, and return to the public (a) the outdoor pool, (b) the Keith Haring Mural on the facilities' wall, and (c) rededicate the renovated building to an appropriate civic use.</i>
Restore The Door - Fund the Restoration of The Door's Exterior Facade	5 / 19 DYCD	Other capital budget request for DYCD	<i>C5. The Door provides essential services to vulnerable youth and young adults. The exterior facade of their facility is in desperate need of restoration, including architectural repairs and asbestos abatement.</i>
Make the Morton Street Bike Lane Safer	6 / 19 DOT	Reconstruct streets	Location: Morton Street - West Street & Washington Street <i>C6. Allocate funds to install a granite strip bicycle lane on Morton Street between West Street and Washington Street. The Belgian block surface is unsuitable for bikes, resulting in cyclists riding on the sidewalks, hazardous for pedestrians. Morton Street is a main thoroughfare from the Hudson River Park (West St) going east, calling for an eastbound bicycle lane, granite between West and Washington Streets and striped eastward from Washington. The new 75 Morton Street school makes it even more urgent to keep bicycles safely off the sidewalks and provide for safe bicycling for all.</i>
Create	7 / 19	Renovate other	<i>C7. Students at Harvest Collegiate HS</i>

Recreational Space at Harvest Collegiate HS	SCA	site component	<i>(M534) need outdoor recreation space. Installing a chain link fence above the existing wall enclosing outdoor space will enable it to be used for recreational purposes.</i>
Repair the Belgian Block Surface on Bond Street	8 / 19 DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	Location: Bond Street - Houston Street & Canal Street <i>C8. Allocate funds to repair and replace Belgian blocks on Bond St., between Broadway and the Bowery, on Wooster St. between Houston and Canal Streets., on Gansevoort and Little West 12th Streets between 9A and 8th Ave., and on 14th St. between 9th Ave. and Route 9A. Belgian Blocks are either badly damaged, missing or both and need to be restored and/or replaced. In some cases the structural base is so deteriorated, reconstruction is needed. Current poor condition is hazardous to pedestrians and a blight to the historic districts. The restoration of these streets with Belgian blocks is essential in keeping with the nature of these historically important areas</i>
Upgrade the Gymnasium shared by Co-located High Schools	9 / 19 SCA	Renovate or upgrade a high school	<i>C9. Upgrade the gymnasium by (a) improving the air conditioning system, and (b) leveling the flooring and replacing seats with bleachers in the building shared by Chelsea CTE High School (M615) and NYC iSchool (M376).</i>
Permanently preserve and enhance Elizabeth Street Garden	10 / 19 DPR	Other capital budget request for DPR	Location: Elizabeth Street <i>C10. Permanently preserve and enhance Elizabeth Street Garden, in its entirety, on City-owned land currently administered through the NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development, on a through-lot between Elizabeth and Mott Streets, between Prince and Spring Streets. CB2 urges HPD to transfer jurisdiction over this lot to the Parks Department without further delay. The neighborhood around Elizabeth Street Garden lacks open space. The Little Italy and SoHo neighborhoods account for 23% of CB 2's population, but have only 3% of its open space, virtually all of which is 100% paved, for an open space ratio of only 0.07 acres per 1,000 residents. The Elizabeth Street Garden is located in the only downtown Manhattan neighborhood that the NYC Parks Department defines</i>

as underserved by open space. The Garden enjoys robust Community support and is home to programming deeply valued among residents.

Create a sensory gym in PS 3	11 / 19 SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>C11. The students in the ASD Horizon D2 program at the PS 3 Charrette School need a "sensory gym" facility. This type of specialized space is designed to provide a safe and stimulating environment for kids with sensory processing challenges and other neurodivergent populations, including those with autism, ADHD or other learning differences such as those served by the ASH Horizon Program at PS3.</i>
Create a library in the Broome Street Academy	12 / 19 SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>C12. The Broome Street Academy charter high school needs a new library on-site to meet the needs of its students and their curriculum.</i>
Upgrade windows and light fixtures at PS 130	13 / 19 SCA	Renovate or upgrade an elementary school	<i>C13. Renovations needed at PS 130 (the DeSoto School): (a) upgrade the windows on the building; and (b) install modern, functioning and energy-efficient light fixtures .</i>
Upgrades needed for Manhattan School for Career Development	14 / 19 SCA	Renovate interior building component	<i>C14. The Manhattan School for Career Development (751M@323) requires the following facilities to serve its specialized population: (a) Health & Wellness studio - a multi-purpose recreational space for students to participate in movement and mindfulness; (b) Student Success Lounge - a space to promote literacy, digital citizenship, and success on assessments, requiring electrical reconfiguration, adaptive seating, and technology enhancements; and (c) Sensory Hallway - to include built-in sensory activities in hallways to help students self-regulate as part of the School's SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) Supports for students.</i>
Create a HS for Students with Dyslexia and other LBLDs	15 / 19 SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing high school	<i>C15. Students with dyslexia and other language-based learning disabilities (LBLDs) face enormous challenges, starting with the inconsistent and inequitable frequency of testing to diagnose and assess these learning differences, and continuing with inconsistent and inequitable availability</i>

of facilities, curriculum and appropriately experienced staff to meet those needs. A new high school is needed in our District that is equipped and staffed to meet those needs, without displacing other currently situated students or needs.

Create the Bleecker Street School	16 / 19 SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	<i>C16. Create a new elementary school of at least 100,000 square feet to fulfill the long-promised addition of a Bleecker Street School. As part of the New York University 2012 up-zoning, NYU's committed to create an option to build the Bleecker School to serve the needs of our District and beyond. While the lease on the existing site at Bleecker and LaGuardia was recently renewed, and the Bleecker Street School Option was extended accordingly, the need for the school remains and should be met, and the value of the commitment made by NYU to the Community should be preserved.</i>
Repair and Reconstruct Clarkson Street	17 / 19 DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	Location: Clarkson Street - West Street & Greenwich Street <i>C17 Allocate funds to reconstruct Clarkson Street from West Street to Greenwich Street, including the repair & replacement of its Belgian blocks and the installation of a granite strip to serve as a bicycle lane. The Belgian block street bed on Clarkson Street between West and Greenwich Streets is in great need of repair with loose, broken, scattered and missing blocks, large uncovered spaces, exposed manholes, and deep ridges, posing a major hazard to pedestrians, those in wheelchairs or with other mobility challenges, and those with strollers, as well as to bicyclists and drivers. Bicyclists opt to use the sidewalk instead, endangering those for whom sidewalks are intended. A granite strip bike lane will provide comfortable, direct bike access along this important artery from Hudson River Park and the Greenway, and will keep bike riders off the sidewalk.</i>
Include a fully equipped Recreation Center at 388 Hudson Street	18 / 19 DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>C18. Include a fully equipper Parks Department Recreation Center of at least 3 floors, with a pool, at the base of the affordable housing building to be constructed at 388 Hudson Street.</i>

Renovate Vesuvio Playground	19 / 19 DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	<i>C19. Renovate Vesuvio Playground, including repairing the drain and moving forward with the complete renovation. A first priority is to address the lack of function of the drain at the southwest corner of Vesuvio Playground until it is feasible to connect the drain to the common sewer system. The number of children using Vesuvio Playground continues to grow. The current design was completed in 2006 and was not adequate to meet the needs of the surrounding community even at the time of opening. Further, the current design does not maximize the possibilities in the envelope of the square footage available to the public and much of it is worn down and not functioning.</i>
Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	CS NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	<i>Allocate funds for a full branch renovation of the Hudson Park Library. The public health, social, and economic challenges of the current moment have rendered NYPL's work more essential than ever. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Library expanded its online presence to ensure access to information, resources, and programs for all New Yorkers through webinars, classes, book clubs, live tutoring, and career/financial counseling that supported schools, job-seekers, and students, among others. Due to the digital divide, NYPL also supplemented these offerings with limited in-person services, maintenance of its WiFi networks, and the distribution of thousands of reading materials.</i>

EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

Title	Priority Agency	Request	Explanation
Create new Intensive Mobile Treatment teams	1 / 52 DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	Location: Sixth Avenue; Crosby Street - Prince Street & West 9th Street <i>E1. Intensive Mobile Treatment - create additional intensive mobile treatment teams, including one to serve Community District 2 / Manhattan, especially in the 6th Avenue corridor and the adjacent Northwest Corner of Washington Square Park, as well as the</i>

Crosby Street corridor adjacent to Houston Street, to address the pernicious cycle of unmet serious mental health needs of those engaging in aggressive behavior and/or chemical addictions. Research and experience have proved the efficacy of IMT programs as a tool in addressing serious mental health issues. IMT programs create a pathway to the services needed to address the severe mental health disorders that trap this affected population. While no one program can cure all of the impacts of the pernicious cycle of aggressive and antisocial behavior visited on the Community, addressing the most desperate of needs with programs proven to work is a welcome and worthy alternative to the increasingly frustrating cycle of too few resources attempting to address these problems through law enforcement and incarceration.

Coastal Resiliency - Conduct a study of the Hudson Waterfront and Resiliency Options	2 / 52 DEP	Other expense budget request for DEP	<p>Location: West Street - Canal Street & West 14 Street</p> <p><i>E2. Conduct a localized study of coastal resiliency options for the west side of the District along Hudson River Park, coordinating with relevant constituencies including the Hudson River Park Trust and the State Department of Transportation, to allow for more effective resiliency efforts. Ever since the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, compounded by Climate Change, it has become clear that the Hudson River waterfront is dangerously vulnerable to storm surges, extreme weather and tidal events. There has, however, been opposition to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' proposals for abatement of the effects of these phenomena, because among other things the USACE recommendations do not take into account local conditions. The newly created Waterfront Code Committee could also potentially be part of this process. After making this request in previous years, the agency response was that further study of the request was needed - without undertaking such a study or indicating what aspects of the problem should be studied. This effort needs City sponsorship to coordinate among all relevant constituencies.</i></p>
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Reduce Class Sizes	3 / 52 DOE	Other expense budget request for DOE	<i>E3. Reduce class sizes city-wide with an initial increase of an estimated cost of \$137 million for hiring teachers. While this outlaw is expected to cover only about 1,300 out of the estimated 10,000 to 12,000 teachers needed, it will be a significant start, and should prioritize elementary schools, then middle schools, then high schools within District 2 within the mandated five-year phase-in period ending in 2028.</i>
Complete the Study "Reimagining Petrosino Square	4 / 52 DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	Location: Petrosino Square - Cleveland Place - Spring Street & Kenmare Street <i>E4. Complete the study promised in 2021 re "Re-Imaging Petrosino Square." The Study is an important first step in the effort to redesign Petrosino Square that could also include the ability to restore the rotating public art installation program at Petrosino's north end, as intended, and relocate elsewhere the Citi Bike station that is currently occupying a portion of the site. The square redesign is necessary to reclaim for residents and local businesses an area that experiences frequent usurpation of the public realm by events that exceed or eschew public permits, as well as others claiming control over the roadways and sidewalks and the enclosed park.</i>
Create a grant program to fund architectural services for Dining Out NYC Applicants	5 / 52 SBS	Other expense request for SBS	<i>E5. Establish funding for a grant program that provides restaurant operators with financial support to cover architectural services for developing site plans as part of their Dining Out NYC applications.</i>
Men Teach Program - Increase Funding	6 / 52 DOE	Other expense budget request for DOE	<i>E6. Increase funds allocated for the NYC Men Teach program to recruit, train and retain talented non-traditional public school educators in order to close the representation gap between our students and those that teach them.</i>
Study Trash Containerization and Collection	7 / 52 DSNY	Other expense budget request for DSNY	<i>E7. Evaluate the quantity and condition of trash and recycling containers, as well as evaluate collection schedules, and to make adjustments as necessary. In particular, DSNY should monitor the effects of the new containerization rules coming into effect in the fall of 2024. Within CD2 and other districts with a historic streetscape and a heterogeneous</i>

landscape of narrow sidewalks and streets, special study is needed to determine the optimal way to containerize trash without placing an undue burden on residents and without impeding the pedestrian right-of-way. There is also a particular interest in studying the "big bin" containerization pilot program and its potential applicability to CD2. In addition, new designs are needed for rat resistant trash containers. Rat remediation also requires more frequent litter basket collection, especially on weekends and around spaces that attract large numbers of people.

Study the effectiveness of the Hudson Square Rezoning	8 / 52 DCP	Study land use and zoning to better provide for future neighborhood needs like affordable housing and job growth	<i>E8. Study the Effectiveness of the Hudson Square Rezoning against its original goals, with a focus on housing creation Study the development projects that have actually been planned and/or completed within the boundaries of the 2013 Hudson Square Rezoning. The report should identify the number of residential units, floor area of residential, number of affordable and market rate, and for the affordable units, identify the duration of the affordability (e.g., permanent, 20-year, etc). Per building, the report should identify the AMI levels for the affordable housing, and differentiate between rentals and home ownership units. The report should also identify those buildings that were proposed as residential, but resulted in commercial development. The report should evaluate the success of the Hudson Square Rezoning in terms of its original goals, particularly the creation of housing stock (affordable and market rate). Based on the results of the study, identify methods available to rebalance or course-correct the rezoning in order to produce additional residential housing stock, with a focus on affordable versus market rate. Identify what tools (e.g., tax abatements, affordable housing frameworks) would be appropriate in order to achieve these goals.</i>
Support the "Bridging The Gap" Program	9 / 52 HRA	Other request for services to support low-income New Yorkers	<i>E9. Support the operating needs of the Bridging the Gap program developed by Red Door Place – a non-contracted not-for-profit that aims to connect food pantry clients to additional social</i>

Install a Crosswalk and Traffic Light at Wooster and Houston	10 / 52 DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	Location: West Houston Street & Wooster Street <i>E10. Traffic light and crosswalk at West Houston and Wooster Streets. Allocate funds to install a traffic light and crosswalk at Houston and Wooster Streets, the only Houston Street intersection without a light. The intersection is always hazardous, now more so with a heavy traffic increase due in part to increased student use of NYU's Paulson Center building. It is used by pedestrians and cyclists as a crossing route, creating the need to provide a safe crossing to its numerous users, many of whom are vulnerable, in accessing the multifold activities along that corridor.</i>
Identify alternative spaces for skateboarders	11 / 52 DPR	Provide new type and/or specific type of program	<i>E11. Allocate funds to determine where to locate a place for skateboarders to congregate and skate/ride since they are not supposed to utilize Open Streets and certain open spaces, and they are currently using inappropriate spaces such as Washington Square Park, Petrosino Square and Mercer Playground.</i>
Hire additional professional staff	12 / 52 LPC	Other expense budget request for LPC	<i>E12. Increase staff funding to ensure: (1) prompt calendaring and consideration of buildings and districts that are proposed for designation to make certain that modifications are not made that would render the consideration moot, (2) monitoring of approved applications to confirm that the work is carried out in accordance with the approved plans and that the final work conforms to the approved application, (3) identification and subsequent follow up by staff of buildings with violations for work done without commission approval, (4) follow up of violations brought to the Commission by the public.</i>
Install protective barriers for an existing bike lane	13 / 52 DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	Location: West Houston Street - West Street & West Street <i>E13. Allocate funds to install temporary protective barriers along the bike lane on West Houston Street between Washington and West Streets to provide safer access to the Hudson River Park Greenway, until more permanent safety</i>

improvements can be added. The bike lane at this location is wedged between right- and left-turn lanes, and cyclists are often caught between trucks at great hazard.

Study NYC "Smart" Composting Bins	14 / 52 DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	<i>E14. Allocate funds to study the future utility and need for "Smart" Composting Bins after curbside compost collection is fully implemented, with a particular focus on communities such as CD2/M that include many streets with narrow sidewalks and smaller residential buildings that may make challenging the storing and placing out for collection the curbside composting "brown bins."</i>
Compile and Share a Dataset of Rent-Regulated Units	15 / 52 HPD	Other expense budget request for HPD	<i>E15. Allocate funds to develop a citywide dataset, going back to at least 2008, of the number of rent-stabilized and rent-controlled units (by building), including building-level data such as house number, street name, BBL, BIN, and community district, using data such as Department of Finance tax bills, to be included on the Open Data portal in dataset and map formats, to be updated annually. Where necessary, this dataset should include an extract from the appropriate State-level agency (e.g., NYS Department of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR)) in order to identify these units.</i>
Support the Maintenance of an Older Adult Facility	16 / 52 DFTA	Other senior center program requests	<i>E.16. Funding is needed to support the on-going costs for the upkeep and maintenance of the exterior facades of Greenwich House's Historic building.</i>
Install additional benches in "pocket parks" along 6th Avenue	17 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	Location: Sixth Avenue - West Houston Street & West 8th Street <i>E17. Allocate funds to add benches at 3 "pocket parks." Three "pocket parks" on 6th Avenue require additional benches -- Minetta Triangle Park, Minetta Playground/Golden Swan Park, and Minetta Green.</i>
Identify Locations For Dog Parks and Dog Runs	18 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	<i>E18. Funds for dog-related spaces. Allocate funds to investigate opportunities to add more dog parks and dog runs, including some with natural grass, in our Community.</i>
Teacher Professional	19 / 52 DOE	Other expense budget request	<i>E19. Allocate funds for teacher training and reading and writing curricula that</i>

Development and Training		for DOE	<i>use a structured literacy approach.</i>
Improve the safety of the multi-street intersection at Mulry Square	20 / 52 DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	Location: Seventh Avenue South & Greenwich Avenue <i>E20. Safety Improvements at Mulry Square Study the hazardous conditions at Mulry Square (the intersection of 7th Avenue South, Greenwich Avenue and West 11th Street) to identify and implement solutions to safeguard crossing pedestrians and clarify permissible vehicular movement, including design, signalization and pavement marking changes.</i>
Support Paul's Place Drop-in Center and Safe Haven	21 / 52 DHS	Other request for services for the homeless	<i>E21. Paul's Place is a Drop-in Center and Safe Haven. Funding is needed to provide clothing and toiletries to its clients. Drop-in centers and Safe Havens are regarded as essential assets for outreach workers seeking to persuade those living on the street or under difficult circumstances to accept shelter and services. Having such centers equipped to meet their clients' needs increases the chance of success for all.</i>
LaGuardia Garden - Eliminate Ponding	22 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	<i>E22. Allocate funds to repair the drainage problem apparently resulting from the installation of new fences at the LaGuardia Corner Garden (on the East side of LaGuardia Place between Bleecker and West Houston Streets). "Ponding" occurs on the east side of the Garden adjacent to the Morton Williams store, resulting in sinking of the terrain within the gardens. During cold weather months, water freezes into black ice and creates safety problems for pedestrians, including many seniors in the neighborhood. The "ponding" issue appears to have originated with the installation of new fencing at the LaGuardia gardens .</i>
Arts Education - Fully Fund and Baseline the Allocation	23 / 52 DOE	Other educational programs requests	<i>E23. Maintain and baseline the most recent funding for arts education during the classroom day (\$41 million in FY 2025) as a floor for FY 2026 arts resource allocations and beyond. The benefits of arts education and its positive influence on students at every level, including but not limited to: academic attainment, social/emotional development and future employment,</i>

have been widely recognized.

Build Additional Green Infrastructure	24 / 52 DEP	Other expense budget request for DEP	<i>E23. Allocate funds to explore funding and building green infrastructure within CB2.</i>
Study Units Converted to Residential Uses from Commercial and Manufacturing	25 / 52 HPD	Other expense budget request for HPD	<i>E.25. HPD should commission the NYC Loft Board to create a report identifying the number of units that have been converted from commercial and manufacturing spaces to rent-stabilized residential uses since the creation of the Loft Board. The report should identify building-level detail such as house number, street name, BBL, BIN, and community district. The Loft Board should identify all units that are still in the process of conversion.</i>
Support The Door's Food Service Program	26 / 52 DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	<i>E26. Support the expansion of The Door's Food and Nutrition Services program to help it meet its goal of distributing 12,000+ meals.</i>
Rat Infestation Interdiction	27 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	<i>E27. Allocate funds for effective rat control throughout Community District 2 parks. Despite efforts by the Department of Parks and Recreation to address the problem of rat infestation, the CB2 office constantly receives complaints about rats in Washington Square Park and the parks along Avenue of the Americas (Minetta Triangle, Minetta Playground and Golden Swan). CB2/M requests additional resources targeting rat infestations in parks, noting that special focus should be paid to rat burrows and tunneling in and around trees because damage to the root base is causing trees to lean and eventually damaged trees will need to be removed because of the hazard of them falling.</i>
Review and Revise CEQR Process and Criteria for New School Enrollment Projections	28 / 52 SCA	Other expense request for SCA	<i>E28. Review and revise as needed the City Environment Quality Review (CEQR) process on funding, siting and building new public schools, including reviewing and revising the algorithm and criteria with respect to enrollment projections.</i>
Extend the M12 Bus Route Along Route 9A / West Street	29 / 52 NYCTA	Provide a new bus service or Select Bus Service	Location: West Street - West 14 Street & Chambers Street <i>E29. Implement a continuous bus route moving both north and south of West 14th Street along Route 9A / West Street</i>

by extending the M12 bus route south from West 14th Street to Chambers Street (currently the M12 only proceeds north of West 14th Street to West 57th Street)

Study the Effects of Full Street Closures for Commercial Events	30 / 52 CECM	Other expense budget request for CECM	<i>E30. Allocate funds to enable SAPO (the Street Activities Permit Office) to study the effects that full street closures for commercial events have on neighboring businesses and residents. CB2 remains disturbed by the endless proliferation of promotional and commercial events, some with permits; some not; which are occurring regularly especially in SoHo and NoHo. The study should include the impacts on pedestrian access, traffic flow, and the creation of "hot spots" at the confluence of multiple street closures in close proximity, as compared with other Districts.</i>
Increase PEP Officer Coverage in Washington Square Park	31 / 52 DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	<i>E31. Increase the number of hours per day/week during which Parks Enforcement Patrol officers are deployed in Washington Square Park.</i>
Increase funding for free before-school and after-school programs	32 / 52 DYCD	Other expense budget request for DYCD	<i>E32. Allocate additional funds for an array of before- and after-school programs across all grade levels that are free of charge to students and families. Before-school and after-school programs are essential to working families with younger children, and to the safety and positive influences needed to direct the lives of pre-teens and teens.</i>
Special Education Services in 3-K and UPK	33 / 52 DOE	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Child Care and Head Start programs	<i>E33. Allocate funding to assess needs and expand access to special education services as part of early childhood programming for Pre-K, 3-K and preschool students.</i>
Expand Services for Immigrants	34 / 52 Other	Other expense request	<i>E34. Provide The Door with Funds to support its expansion of immigrant services to meet growing need - including legal, translation, language access and education specialists. Involve the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.</i>
Support Greenwich	35 / 52 DFTA	Other expense request for DFTA	<i>E35. Support Greenwich House with sufficient Funds to continue and expand</i>

its mission, including increased community engagement, access to the arts, and its Lifelong Skills and Opportunity Center. Support hiring of a Community Engagement Manager to increase membership and ensure that GH is meeting the needs and wishes of the community.

Improve Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Near the Stonewall National Monument	36 / 52 DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	Location: Waverly Place - Christopher Street & Grove Street <i>E36. Funds for traffic safety improvements around the Stonewall National Monument area. Allocate funds to install traffic safety improvements at the intersection of Waverly Place Christopher and Grove Streets. (Stonewall Natl Monument and Visitor Center area), including neckdowns, sidewalk extensions, daylighting, stop signs, improved directional signage, while also incorporating improvements to reduce pedestrian/vehicular conflicts at the nearby southwest side of Christopher St. and Greenwich Ave., the major approach to the Stonewall area.</i>
Address traffic congestion on 9th Avenue at West 14th Street	37 / 52 DOT	Address traffic congestion	Location: West 14th Street - 9th Avenue & West Street <i>E37. Allocate funds to conduct a study of the 9th Avenue and West 14th Street intersection to improve traffic signalization to avoid excessive backups and ensure safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.</i>
Address traffic congestion on East 12th Street	38 / 52 DOT	Address traffic congestion	Location: East 12th Street - Broadway & 5th Avenue <i>E38. Allocate funds to address continuing congestion problems on E. 12th Street, focusing on 12th between Broadway and 5th Avenue problem areas and placard parking abuses on 12th between University Place and Broadway. East 12th Street is an essential ambulance route from Lenox Health Greenwich Village on 7th Avenue to hospitals on the east side.</i>
Create a list of government-owned properties as potential sites for affordable housing.	39 / 52 HPD	Other expense budget request for HPD	<i>E39. Create a list of government-owned properties as potential sites for affordable housing. Task the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP), NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) Department of Real Estate, and/or the NYC Department of</i>

Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) to develop a report (periodically updated) or a tool that can identify all government-owned properties (city, state, federal) where affordable housing could be constructed (including sites such as police and fire stations). This list should identify any restrictive covenants or easements on the properties. While addressed to HPD, the agencies needed to cooperate in creating a meaningful and useful list include the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP), and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS).

Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	40 / 52 DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	<i>E40. Assertive Community Treatment - create an additional community assertive team to focus on Community District 2/Manhattan, especially the 6th Avenue corridor from Bleecker Street to West 14th Street, as well as the Crosby Street corridor adjacent to Houston Street</i>
Hire more bilingual and multi-lingual staff in schools.	41 / 52 DOE	Other educational programs requests	<i>E41. Hire more bilingual and multi-lingual staff in schools. The recent addition of students from other countries, whether children of refugees, asylum-seekers or displaced populations, has only served to heighten the need for teachers and staff who can meet the needs of those who do not speak English as a first language. The positive educational effects of heterogeneous cohorts with varying language acquisition skills benefit all students, not just those with limited English proficiency.</i>
Create a Fully Shared Street on University Place	42 / 52 DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	Location: University Place - 14th Street & Washington Square North <i>E42. Allocate funds to install a fully continuous shared street on University Pl. all the way from 14th St. to W. 4th St., as soon as feasible, considering provision for deliveries, drop-off/pickups, emergency and other necessary access. A fully shared street would create a calm and safe neighborhood environment that further enhances the street's use and enjoyment, which could be even more enhanced by a subsequent greenway.</i>
Enforcement of MOME Permit	43 / 52 MOME	Other expense budget request	<i>E43. Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment. Allocate funds to enable</i>

Specifics		for MOME	MOME to conduct enforcement and require compliance with film and television permit specifics. As the number of film shoots in our District continues to proliferate, so does the number of complaints from our residents and businesses. CB2 feels strongly that MOME needs to have enforcement staff that track film shoots in real time and proactively ensures that all holders comply with all permit specifics.
Study and Report on "Soft Sites"	44 / 52 DCP	Other zoning and land use requests	E44. Allocate funds for a study of "soft" sites (i.e., sites with less than 50% of current FAR) in CD2 that have the potential for redevelopment. Options for redevelopment could include rezoning that would qualify for Mandatory Inclusionary Housing, Voluntary Inclusionary Housing or for standard development. This inventory should include all parts of the District and be organized by subdistrict and by current zoning, as well as by those sites that are underutilized, and sites that would also co-location with services such as NYPD stations, FDNY stations, or schools.
Study the Total Effects of Open Streets	45 / 52 DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	E45. Allocate funds to conduct a comprehensive study of Open Streets in CB2 concerning their placement in relation to surrounding streets, organizing them in a coordinated network, how they're used and can be effectively managed, and which don't work and warrant removal.
Expand Curbside Composting	46 / 52 DSNY	Expand Curbside Composting	E46. Educate residents and businesses on the composting process in advance of the institution of curbside composting in CB2.
Improve pedestrian safety conditions at West 8th Street and Sixth Avenue	47 / 52 DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	Location: West 8th Street - Greenwich Avenue & 6th Avenue E47. Allocate funds to reduce speeding and directional impacts at the pedestrian crossing on the east side of W. 8th Street at 6th Ave. and at the intersection of West 8th Street, 6th and Greenwich Avenues, considering solutions such as the installation of a traffic diverter on the northern lane of Greenwich Avenue at 6th Avenue and/or continuing the 6th Avenue protected bike lane south with an extended median. The exceptionally wide open and irregularly angled

intersection creates confusion, causes turning conflicts, facilitates speeding and hinders visibility, putting pedestrians in grave danger, exemplified by the recent horrific pedestrian fatality.

Re-imagining Playground of the Avenue of the Americas	48 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	Location: Sixth Avenue & West Houston Street <i>E48. Re-imagining Playground of the Avenue of the Americas. Allocate funds for a re-imagining of the Playground of the Avenue of the Americas, including robust community outreach and input.</i>
Study blocks with dangerous traffic conditions	49 / 52 DOT	Other traffic improvement requests	Location: Jane Street - Greenwich Avenue & 8th Avenue <i>E49. Study blocks with dangerous traffic conditions. Allocate funds to conduct a study of the blocks with and/or impacted by design changes related to dangerous traffic conditions on Jane St. btw. Greenwich and 8th Aves. and at the W. 13th St./Greenwich Ave./Horatio St. intersection, including Jane btw. Greenwich and 8th Aves., Greenwich btw. 8th Ave. & Jane, Horatio btw. W. 4th St. and 8th Ave. and W. 13th approaching Greenwich Ave./Horatio St.</i>
Fund Community Board Needs for Hybrid Meetings	50 / 52 OMB	Other expense request	<i>E50. Allocate additional funds to the Manhattan Borough President (and all Borough Presidents) for community boards to conduct hybrid meetings, including providing free space of sufficient size to accommodate CB Community meetings.</i>
Study the "Time" Landscape	51 / 52 DPR	Other expense budget request for DPR	Location: LaGuardia Place - West Houston Street & Bleecker Street <i>E51. Allocate funds to review the purpose and the most effective use of the spaces at the Time Landscape, including re-thinking the area completely.</i>
Fund NYPL to preserve Full Service	52 / 52 NYPL	Other expense budget request for NYPL	<i>E52. Allocate funds to maintain prior year expense funding for all CB2 libraries.</i>