

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

Fiscal Year
2019



Submitted to:

NYC
PLANNING

January 2018

**Bronx
Community District 04**

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 Bronx Community Board 4's *Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019*. 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 2017.

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:

a) 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.

b) 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.

c) Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY19 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 Bronx Community Board 4 for Fiscal Year 2019. 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.

LETTER FROM THE COMMUNITY BOARD



The City of New York
COMMUNITY BOARD 4
1650 Selwyn Avenue, Suite 11A
The Bronx, New York 10457
Tel: 718-299-0800 Fax: 718-294-7870
Email: bx04@cb.nyc.gov

HONORABLE RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
Bronx Borough President

Ms. KATHLEEN SAUNDERS
Board Chair

MR. PAUL A. PHILPS
District Manager

Each year we embark on the very important and critical function of developing a set of priorities for both capital and expense. This is a responsibility that we take very seriously as a Board and a community. The immediate goal is to address areas of concern and improvement as it relates to service delivery and the overall composition of the District and ultimately to lay a solid foundation for the future of our District. The process is conducted in close consultation with countless city agencies who are our strategic partners in assuring that the constituents of Community Board Four receive appropriate consideration from the city as it relates to capital and expense priorities.

Community District Four, the Capital District is made up of the following neighborhoods: *Mt. Eden, Highbridge, West Concourse, East Concourse, Morrisania and Concourse Village*. The district is bounded by East 174th Street to the north, East 149th Street to the south, Webster and Park Avenue to the east and the Harlem River to the west. The district is easily accessible via the NYC public transit system, regional rail and highway access facilitating easy connections to midtown Manhattan, New Jersey, Long Island and Westchester. More than 144,000 people call Community District Four home.

We are fortunate to host the world renowned Yankee Organization, more than 176 acres of parkland including Mill Pond Park and Macombs Park, The Bronx Terminal Market, the Borough's Court System, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the future Bronx Children's Museum and the Grand Concourse Historic District which includes many beautiful Art Deco buildings.

The preparation of the District Needs Statement is a reminder of the responsibility and the role of municipal government to ensure that Community District Four receives the appropriate services and resources to achieve its' vast and diverse goals. We have benefitted from tremendous investments on both the capital and expense side over the last several decades. That being said, there is still a tremendous gap on both sides particularly as it relates to open space infrastructure and programming and services for youth, seniors and the general health and well-being of area residents.

We will continue to advocate vigorously on behalf of Community District Four to ensure that the Capital District receives all the resources it rightfully deserves.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Philps
District Manager
Community Board Four

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1. Community Board Information

Bronx Community Board 4

Address: 1650 Selwyn Avenue, 11A

Phone: 718 299-0800

Email: paphilps@cb.nyc.gov

Website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/bxcb4/html/home/home.shtml>

Chair: Ms. Kathleen Saunders

District Manager: Paul Philps

Community Board Officers:

Rev. Earl McKay, Housing Committee Chair

Ms. Martha Reyes, Health Committee Chair

Mr. Gregory Delts, Youth Committee Chair

Mr. John Howard-Algarin, Esq., Parks Committee Chair

Ms. Mildred James, 2nd Vice Chair

Ms. Lilliam Rosa, Recording Secretary

Mr. Robert Garmendiz, 1st Vice Chair

Ms. Zonia Ortiz, Municipal Services Chair

Mr. Barry Nissen, Treasurer

Ms. Beverly Bond, Economic Committee Chair

2. Community District Profile

Visit the Community District Profiles to view data, maps, and other resources describing New York City's 59 community districts at: <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/>

Bronx Community District 4



Neighborhoods¹: Concourse, Concourse Village, East Concourse, Highbridge, Mount Eden, West Concourse

| POPULATION & DENSITY | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 2000 ² | 2010 ³ | 2000-2010 |
| 139,563 | 146,441 | +5% |
| 2011-2015 Estimate ⁴ | | 141,348 |
| Square Miles | | 2.0 |
| Population Density | | 73,221/sq mi |



COMMUNITY BOARD PERSPECTIVES

Top 3 pressing issues identified by Bronx Community Board 4 in 2017:

1. Affordable housing
2. Parks
3. Youth and children's services

To learn more, please read [Bronx CD 4's Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2018](#).

Website: www.nyc.gov/html/bxcb4
Email: bx04@cb.nyc.gov

| Land Use Category | # Lots | % Lot Area |
|------------------------|--------|------------|
| 1 & 2 Family Bldgs | 748 | 5% |
| Multifamily Walk-up | 1,095 | 12% |
| Multifamily Elevator | 305 | 16% |
| Mixed Use | 317 | 9% |
| Commercial | 194 | 7% |
| Industrial | 37 | 3% |
| Transportation/Utility | 59 | 6% |
| Public/Institutional | 164 | 12% |
| Open Space | 92 | 18% |
| Parking | 181 | 7% |
| Vacant | 198 | 4% |
| Other | 25 | 1% |

[Click here for a more detailed land use map of Bronx CD 4](#)

A Snapshot of Key Community Indicators

| COMMUNITY ASSETS ⁵ | |
|--|----|
| Public Schools | 77 |
| Public Libraries | 3 |
| Hospitals and Clinics | 26 |
| Parks | 33 |
| Click to visit the NYC Facilities Explorer | |

| RENT BURDEN ^{4, 6} | |
|---|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 56% | 51% |
| of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent | NYC |
| | 45% |

| ACCESS TO PARKS ⁷ | |
|---|-----------------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Citywide Target |
| 100% | 85% |
| of residents live within walking distance of a park or open space | |

| MEAN COMMUTE TO WORK ^{4, 8} | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 40 | 43 minutes |
| minutes | NYC |
| | 40 minutes |

| LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY ⁴ | |
|--|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 34% | 26% |
| of residents 5 years or older have limited English proficiency | NYC |
| | 23% |

| CRIME RATE ⁹ | |
|--|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 16.1 | 14.3 |
| major felonies were reported per 1,000 residents in 2016 | NYC |
| | 11.8 |

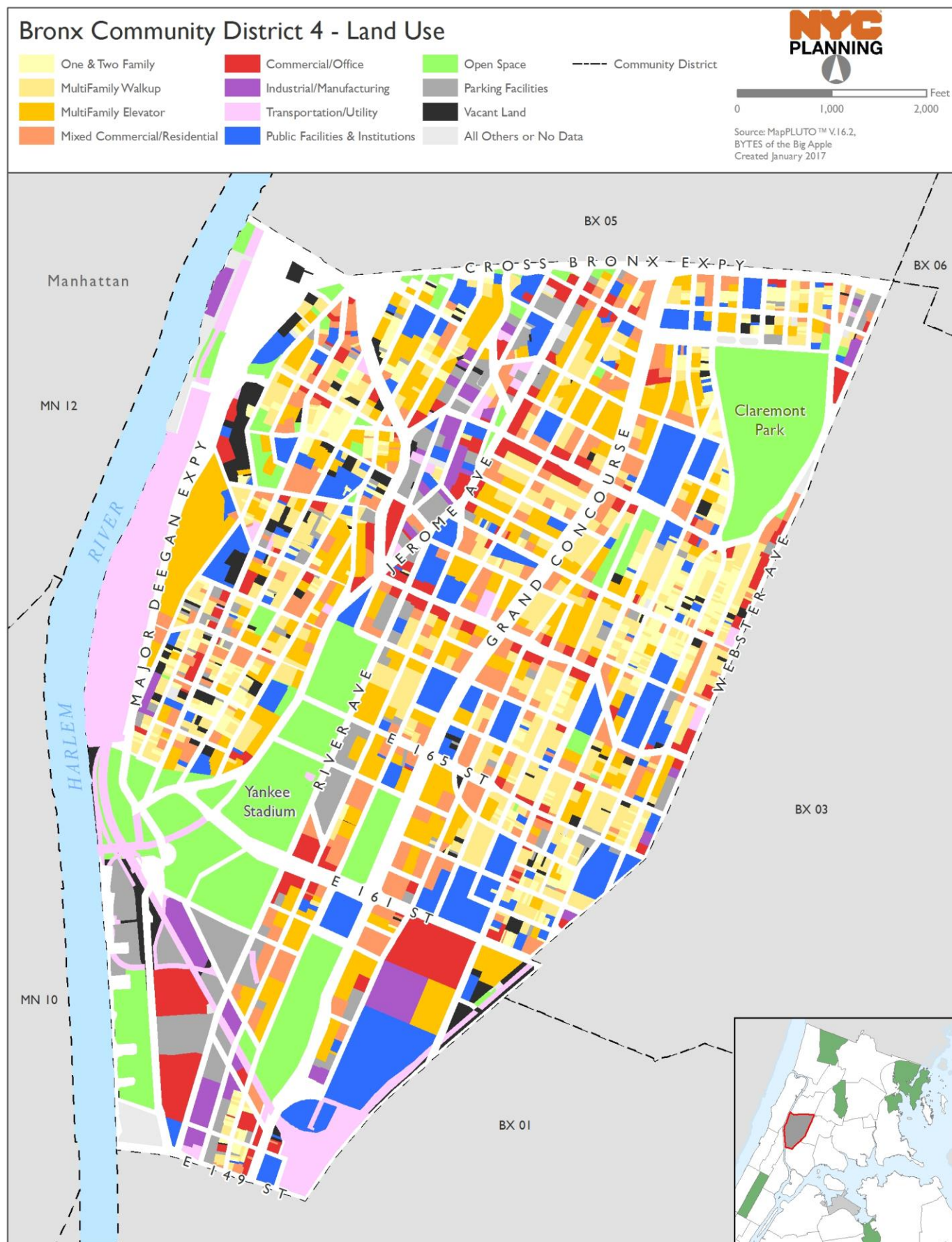
| EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ^{4, 10} | |
|--|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 14% | 19% |
| of residents 25 years or older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher | NYC |
| | 36% |

| UNEMPLOYMENT ^{4, 10} | |
|---|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 14.5% | 14% |
| of the civilian labor force was unemployed on average from 2011 to 2015 | NYC |
| | 9.5% |

| NYCgov POVERTY MEASURE ¹¹ | |
|--|-------|
| Bronx CD 4 | Bronx |
| 33% | 28% |
| of residents have incomes below the NYCgov poverty threshold. See the federal poverty rate here. | NYC |
| | 21% |

¹Neighborhoods may be in multiple districts. Names and boundaries are not officially designated. ²2000 US Census; ³2010 US Census; ⁴American Community Survey 2011-2015 5-Year Estimates, calculated for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs). PUMAs are geographic approximations of community districts. ⁵NYC Dept of City Planning Facilities Database (2017); ⁶Differences of less than 3 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ⁷NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (2016). DPR considers walking distance to be 1/4 mile for parks less than 6 acres, and 1/2 mile for larger parks and pools. ⁸Differences of less than 2 minutes are not statistically meaningful. ⁹NYPD CompStat, Historic Complaint Data (2017); ¹⁰Differences of less than 2 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ¹¹2011-2015 NYCgov Poverty Measure by PUMA. This metric from the Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity accounts for NYC's high cost of housing, as well as other costs of living and anti-poverty benefits.

2. Community District Land Use



3. Overview of Community District

Community District Four, the Capital District is made up of the following neighborhoods: Mt. Eden, Highbridge, West Concourse, East Concourse, and Concourse Village. Our district is bounded by the Cross Bronx Expressway to the North, East 149th Street to the South, Webster to Park Avenue on the East and the Harlem River on the West. Over 154,000 residents call Community District Four home. We celebrate their distinct cultures and points of view.

Our district is a great place to visit, work and live. We are the host to the world renown, Yankee Stadium, Bronx Terminal Market/Gateway Center, the Borough's Court System, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the future home of the Bronx Children's Museum and many Art Deco buildings along the Grand Concourse Historic District. Our community has enjoyed newly renovated recreational facilities, such as, tennis courts, a state of the art track & field and a new water front park. We continue to attract public and private investment leveraging our locational advantages (20 minutes from midtown Manhattan) excellent transit access, regional access with the Metro North and Major Deegan Expressway, combined with our extraordinary network of open space and recreational facilities, Community District Four is an ideal location to live and work.

We are at the very center of the metropolitan region, only minutes from Manhattan, New Jersey, Long Island, and Westchester. We are the administrative center of the County, housing the offices of the Borough President, The District Attorney, the Courts and the County Clerk. There is easy access through major rail lines, roadways, and public transit, both surface and underground. Sleek silhouettes of art-deco buildings are a short stroll away from lovely small homes. Acre for acre we have more parks throughout our two square miles than any other district.

Community District Four has been the beneficiary of significant public and private investment in recent years. We are excited about the number of ongoing, completed and planned capital projects, in the District. Many of the capital improvement projects underway, or slated for development are a direct result of our persistence in itemizing projects as part of our budget priorities, year after year.

While we are ecstatic about the number of capital investments being made, we will continue to advocate for more, particularly as it relates to expense. In order to serve existing residents and workers and accommodate growth it is imperative that the level of investment meets the growing and diverse needs of the district. In order to maintain the appropriate levels of service across the district, our budget priorities include increases in personnel critical to fulfill our mission as well as funding to support programming (new and existing). Without this complement to capital we will fall short of our varied goals. We have a responsibility to care and plan for every segment represented in our district, including the young, the elderly, the native born, the foreign born, the poor, and the disabled.

Community Boards must continue to be a voice for the voiceless and a strong advocate for every constituent. It is the responsibility of municipal government to provide the services and resources to the community districts in this city that will enable them to grow, prosper and thrive and meet their goals. Investment in human capital must be a top priority to allow our district to continue to flourish.

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Bronx Community Board 4 are:

- *Quality of life issues (noise, graffiti, petty crime, etc.)*
- *Schools*
- *Traffic*

More than seventy percent of the housing stock in Community District Four was constructed prior to 1947. Furthermore the District has a large inventory of rent-regulated housing units (more than 60 percent). Given that the South Bronx is one of the last affordable frontiers in the city and that Community District Four has excellent transit access and is extremely affordable it is imperative that that City make every effort to protect the tenants in these units and preserve affordability. The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study has placed the District at the forefront of the Mayor's Housing Plan making the preservation of affordable housing stock and tenant protection a top priority in the district.

With 174 acres of parkland in the Capital District we must maintain the beauty and cleanliness of our parks for residents and visitors. The Department of Parks and Recreation Bronx Office is extremely understaffed in terms of Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) officers, maintenance staff and horticulturalist. This becomes vastly important when you consider that the 174 acres is spread across 101 parks properties. We continue to advocate for a dedicated Parks Administrator under the supervision of the Borough Commissioner, who would be able to spearhead fund raising and manage and allocate funds for CD4 District parks projects and programs. The upcoming expansion of Mill Pond Park, the rehabilitation of existing open spaces and development of new open space resources support this request.

Our youth are the future and as such we must provide them with a solid foundation to be able to succeed in a highly competitive global market. Educational attainment is extremely poor and we must plan for more schools and school seats and ensure that these facilities provide our children with top notch, quality education. The recent expansion of Universal Pre-K and forthcoming 3K across the District will provide our children with the head start they so desperately need and deserve. In addition, a concentrated focus on programming and services for youth as well as the development of a youth center(s), an expansion of the library system and planning and funding for new state of the art educational facilities are top priority to ensure that we provide our young people with every tool they need to be successful.



Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Chronic diseases (diabetes, heart disease, etc.)

We are home to a young, predominantly minority population. Compared to the U.S., the prevalence of some health risk factors, including obesity, lack of fruits and vegetables, and not having health insurance, as well as diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, diabetes, and asthma are worse in the service area. Poverty plays a key role as thirty-six percent of area residents live below the poverty level (5th highest among all Community Districts). A report by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) indicated the following key health indicators: • Adults in Highbridge and Concourse are more likely to consume sugary drinks and much less likely to consume fruits and vegetables • Obesity rate is three times that of Stuyvesant Town and Turtle Bay • Diabetes 15 percent higher than NYC and five times the rate of Stuyvesant Town and Turtle Bay • Hospitalization for asthma among children 5-14 is over one and half times the citywide rate These and other factors contribute to the high prevalence of chronic diseases that are not well managed in the district. Education plays an important role and we are advocating for a significant increase in funding for community-based education, programming and services focused on health and wellness with a focus on access to healthy food and active living. DOHMH in collaboration with CDOT and DPR and a strong network of community-based organizations can effectively begin to stem the tide here, and improve the District's health profile.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.

[selections.community.health](https://www.selections.community.health)

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Programming for Older New Yorkers

As the senior population grows in the Borough and the District we must ensure that we actively engage in programs and services to benefit our elderly population.

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Services for the Homeless

Bronx Community District Four does not want to be viewed as a community that is insensitive to needs of the homeless. Homelessness is a serious issue in New York City and we have done our part in working with organizations that provide supportive housing in our community and taking on more than our fair share of these types of facilities. We continue to express concerns to DHS, chief among them, is the communication and notification process. There have been a number of policy and procedural changes that we support, however, we must be viewed as partners. We want to fully understand the scope of changes being proposed by the Department and the City and how they will be implemented to address the issue of homelessness. We are extremely concerned about the number of new hotels proposed in our district and have deep concerns that these may be used to house the homeless. Again this is not to diminish the importance of housing this vulnerable population but rather that this type of transience does not stabilize and strengthen our neighborhoods. We would like a commitment from DHS and the City that this will not be the case. Furthermore, we will continue to evaluate and review each request on a case by case basis as we ascertain our fair share and ensure that we are not inundated with housing that overburdens the community at large.

Community District Needs Related to Services and Programming for Low-Income and Vulnerable New Yorkers

Nearly fifty percent of area residents received Food Stamps/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months.



Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 25/25 | HRA | <i>Other homelessness prevention program request</i> | <i>We recommend the reinstatement of the Advantage Program and funding to the Homeless Eviction Prevention Program to ensure that residents secure permanent housing and decrease the number of transient individuals and families in our districts.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



Health Care and Human Services

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------------|
| 11/35 | DFTA | Increase transportation services capacity | Access and mobility is a major concern for seniors in the District. DOHMH in collaboration with existing senior centers and care providers should create additional programs to allow seniors to get out for shopping, exercise and entertainment. Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen Council, Highbridge Community Development Corporation and BronxWorks all work with seniors and operate senior facilities in the District. | Community Wide |
| 12/35 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc. | Actions to assist in the reduction in obesity and diabetes among residents in the district 1. Promote healthy eating options. a. Throughout the district, there are limited options for purchasing healthier foods at grocery stores and restaurants, particularly in our commercial corridors. We support programs such as the DOHMHs Shop Healthy Initiative help to educate store owners on how to provide positive messaging, setup healthier alternatives, and work with distributors to bring healthier foods to the stores. b. We also ask the NYCEDC to support the DOHMHs mission of expanding access to healthier foods by considering significant modifications to the Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH) program. These modifications should include smaller and varied tax break options. | Community Wide |
| 13/35 | DOHMH | Reduce rat populations | As we continue to approve new construction and infrastructure projects throughout the District we will disturb the natural habitat of rats increasing their prevalence throughout the District. DOHMH should collaborate with DOB and other agencies to create a comprehensive strategy for baiting in these areas before, during and after completion of major capital/construction projects. Consider creating a fund that developers pay into to fund baiting. This is even more critical as there were three reported cases and one death due to leptospirosis. | Community Wide |
| 17/35 | DOHMH | Other programs to address public health issues requests | As part of "Take Care new York: 2020" Teen pregnancy was voted as one of the top 5 priorities by community members. According to the 2015 Community Health Profile, we rank #2 in the number of Teen Births (ages 15-19). DOHMH should work with community-based organizations and youth programs in the District to increase awareness and prevention programming for teen pregnancy. | Community Wide |
| 23/35 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment | We have a number of facilities throughout the district for formerly homeless individual and families. Many of these are individuals with a history of mental illness. While we do not advocate for any additional facilities of this type in our district we want to ensure that the individuals that are here receive proper care. This benefits the individuals and their families as well as area residents. DOHMH should work with DHS to identify these facilities and target those that would benefit from additional programming and/or services. | Community Wide |

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



Health Care and Human Services

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------------|
| 27/35 | HRA | Assist low income households in paying for energy costs | Almost forty percent of all households in the district were rent burdened meaning their gross rent was more than 35 percent of their household. HRA should work with Con Edison, DEP and HPD to create literature and conduct outreach educating tenants on how to save energy and lower energy costs. Additionally, HPD should target older buildings in need of upgrades and offer low interest loans to upgrade energy systems throughout - with the understanding that the cost of these upgrades are not to be shouldered by tenants. | Community Wide |
| 29/35 | DOHMH | Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services | While we continue to make great strides in terms of education related to HIV, (according to the DOHMH health profile 82 percent of adults were tested for HIV) we must continue to do more related to prevention and testing. We advocate for more programming, testing, mobile health van particularly in neighborhoods such as Highbridge where residents are somewhat isolated from major hospitals and health centers. | Community Wide |
| 30/35 | HRA | Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs | Homelessness has reached historic levels in NYC. As of March 2017, there were 62,000 homeless people, which includes 15,802 families and 23,962 children. We recommend the reinstatement of the Advantage Program and funding to the Homeless Eviction Prevention Program to ensure that residents secure permanent housing and decrease the number of transient individuals and families in our districts. | Community Wide |
| 31/35 | HRA | Provide, expand, or enhance job training | Unemployment plays a key role in the socio-economic status of local residents. While unemployment both nationally and in the Bronx has hit record lows (4.4 percent and 5.7 percent) respectively, the residents of Community Districts Four are still contending with this issue. Unemployment in Community District Four is slightly higher at 6.8 percent. While the number has consistently gone down we must continue to create jobs and economic opportunities for area residents. It should also be noted these numbers do not account for the tens of thousands of residents who are underemployed. Community District Four advocates for HRA to work with SBS, EDC and community based organizations to create better employment opportunities for area residents. | Community Wide |
| 34/35 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc. | As nearly forty percent of our population is under the age of 25 it is important to underscore the importance of nutrition, healthy eating and physical activity. We request that DOHMH increase outreach and education related to food and nutrition. There should be a focus on targeting middle schools and working with community-based organizations with youth programs and active tenant associations and groups. Bronx Lebanon Hospital and Hostos Community College should be leveraged as resources. | Community Wide |



Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

School and educational facilities (Capacity)

Our children are not performing at the most basic levels for math and English proficiency. SCA identifies a number of unfunded seats in their FY2015 – 2019 Capital Plan. It should be noted that we are at the very bottom among all community districts city-wide in terms of those twenty-five years of age without a high school diploma. A major city-sponsored initiative that could potentially produce over 1,000 new units of housing was approved by City Council in October 2017 and another with the potential for another 1,200 units will likely be approved in early 2018. In addition, we continue to discuss growth and migration to the district which further underscores the need to focus our attention and efforts on Youth, Education and Child Welfare.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

Roughly 40 percent of the total population in the district is under 18 years of age, which ranks #7 out of all 59 Community Districts in that category. Only 25.9 percent of students in English, language arts were performing grade level (51 out of 59 Community Districts) and 25 percent in mathematics (47 out of 59 Community Districts). Educational attainment plays an important role in an individual's employment profile and their capacity for career advancement. However, the physical condition and location of educational facilities, while not a holistic solution is an important component of that formula. It can address issues of overcrowding and infuse state of the art facilities which in turn can positively affect how children learn and advance. The district lags behind the Bronx and NYC in terms of percentage of residents with Bachelors and Graduate degrees. It is therefore imperative that the Department of Education and the School Construction Authority address the educational needs of our children immediately. State of New York City's Housing and Neighborhoods in 2016, NYU Furman Center

Community District Needs Related to Services for Children and Child Welfare

With an Area Median Income of \$26,410 we need to make every effort to support our low-income families in every way possible through services and programs.

Community District Needs Related to Youth and Community Services and Programs

With poor educational attainment and with more than 40 percent of the population classified as foreign born, we should create a multi-tiered approach to increase education, literacy and other programs to support youth and their families throughout the District.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 2/25 | SCA | <i>Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school</i> | <i>According to the current Area Elementary School Enrollment, Capacity, and Utilization for the 2015-2016 Academic Year, CSD 9 Sub-district 2 elementary schools have an existing utilization rate of approximately 123.2 percent with a shortfall of 774 seats. The current estimate is based on projections that do not account for anticipated growth as a result of the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study. Community Board Four request that the city allocate funding for design and construction of all unfunded seats identified in the current capital plan, and allocate funding for design and construction of an additional 1,000 seats in the next capital plan.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |



Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|--|----------------|
| 4/35 | DYCD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for middle school students (grades 6-8)</i> | <i>With the number of working families and single-parent households providing no-cost after school care is critical to the basic survival of families in our district. It also allows families to stretch their dollar further for other basic needs. We request that DYCD increase funding at existing organizations district-wide to provide after school programs. They should also partner with local schools to provide additional funding to site after schools programs.</i> | Community Wide |
| 18/35 | DYCD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) services</i> | <i>More than 40 percent of population is foreign born and 70 percent of that population speaks a language other than English making language proficiency critical to the success of area residents and their families. DYCD should partner with MOIA to offer ESOL for children and their families. They should increase funding for community-based organization's already providing these services so that they can hire more staff to provide this essential service throughout the District.</i> | Community Wide |
| 32/35 | DYCD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program</i> | <i>As stated previously we have one of the highest teen birth rates and some of the lowest numbers in terms of English and Math proficiency. Providing positive reinforcement to our youth is important and Summer Youth Employment is desperately needed particularly in a District with a meager Area Median Income (\$26,410) and nearly 40 percent of the population living at the poverty level. DYCD should continue to increase funding for Summer Youth Employment. DYCD should work with local organizations and the Bronx Borough President's office to create additional work places to host youth for the summer and throughout the school year as well.</i> | Community Wide |
| 35/35 | ACS | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance funding for youth programs for 18 to 21 year olds who have aged out or been discharged from foster care services</i> | <i>Youth aging out of foster care play an important role in the district. Without any structure in place many of these children are left without guidance and ultimately may end up on the wrong side of the law. We request an increase in funding for local organizations currently working in this field to expand their staff and programming to better serve the youth of this district.</i> | Community Wide |



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services*Youth crime*

While crime statistics demonstrate continued improvements, the fact remains that we have seen an increase in shootings and gang related activity. Gang-related activity continues to plague certain areas within the district and significantly impede on resident's quality of life. In addition, we have witnessed an increase in low-level quality of life offenses and discrete conditions of disorder in certain neighborhoods. We need to pay particular attention to the youth in the district. Youth-based programming needs to be increased and we desperately need more facilities to accommodate youth programming. These strategies in combination with others will go a long way in improving quality of life but more importantly providing positive reinforcement for the young people of Community District Four.

Community District Needs Related to Policing and Crime

The Neighborhood Coordinating Officers (NCOs) program which is loosely based on the Senior Lead Officer Program in Los Angeles, where senior lead officers help organize and direct crime-fighting and quality-of-life initiatives in each of the Los Angeles Police Department's 22 divisions has been extremely well-received in Community District Four. Two NCOs in conjunction with the Community Affairs Department are a valuable resources in addressing lower level crime, noise, drug dealing and gang activity. We had a major drug bust here in the District.

<http://nypost.com/2016/10/05/violent-drug-trafficking-ring-busted-in-the-bronx/> We continue to have an excellent report with the 44th precinct. They are committed, professional and very responsive. We want them to be equipped from a personnel perspective to handle the activity in the District as we look to continue to stem all crimes, improve quality of life and provide a safe environment for all community residents.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 12/25 | NYPD | Add NYPD parking facilities | Parking is an enormous issue district-wide. The 44th precinct currently has vehicles parked on the streets, sidewalks etc. There are a number of lots and garages nearby. We request that the city purchase one of those for the sole purpose to store NYPD vehicles and NYPD officers personal vehicles to alleviate congestion, provide more on-street spaces for residents and create a safer, pedestrian friendly environment. | East 169th Street Jerome Avenue East 168th Street |

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| 9/35 | NYPD | Assign additional uniformed officers | The 44th precinct is one of the most active in the city. We recently received new recruits from the academy but as the District grows we need growth in our key service sectors to keep pace. We request the City allocate funding for more permanent new officers in the next fiscal year. The Community Affairs Division is fantastic and with more officers in the division there is a great opportunity to increase their presence and awareness district wide and increase positive relations between police and the community. We request an increase in officers as well in the next fiscal year. | Community Wide |

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Cleanliness/trash collection

As part of Clean NYC, CM Gibson secured 51 new Green High end trash receptacles for heavily trafficked commercial areas, as well as 32 silver bullet receptacles to replace wire baskets along the Grand Concourse, in addition to increased pickup service and cleaning. That being said we want to continue to increase our SCORECARD number particularly focused on dog cleanup. It is important that sanitation and sanitation enforcement be appropriately staffed to handle the continued increase in population.

Community District Needs Related to Sanitation Services

The cleanliness of the Capital District is critical as we see more than 3.5 million tourists each year and counting. In order to continue to attract investment and economic opportunity it is on the critical path that we enhance our image as one that is clean and safe. We urge the restoration of DSNY personnel, including "hand" cleaners, to adequately maintain our streets and sidewalks. Community District Four experiences difficulties with irregular cleaning and maintenance schedules for the extraordinary number of underpasses, step streets and sitting areas located in our district. We recommend a concerted inter-agency approach to address high traffic areas. While we understand that resources are limited we ask that the explosive growth in our district and level of activity in terms of events, tourism and transit ridership be given consideration and that significant additional resources be allocated.

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 14/25 | DEP | <i>Replace or upgrade water mains</i> | <i>We have a number of CDOT capital projects managed by DDC. We encourage CDOT to continue to work with DEP and Con Edison when there is an opportunity to upgrade our existing infrastructure.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 3/35 | DSNY | <i>Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws</i> | <i>This should be concentrated along commercial corridors (East 167th Street, Ogden Avenue, East 170th Street and 161st Street area.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |
| 10/35 | DSNY | <i>Provide more frequent litter basket collection</i> | <i>We have a number of events throughout the year and we have increased commercial activity. DSNY should coordinate with SAPO to increase pickup in areas where events are/have taken place.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |



Main Issue Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Housing support (including tenant protection)

Housing New York: A Five-Borough, Ten Year Plan is Mayor de Blasio's comprehensive plan to address the City's affordable housing crisis. The plan seeks to invest in the development of 80,000 new income restricted units and preserve 120,000 existing affordable housing units over a ten-year period. The plan is projected to create 194,000 construction jobs and 7,100+ permanent jobs. The Housing Plan presents a tremendous opportunity to protect our residents that are most vulnerable while creating opportunities for existing residents to grow within and/or return to these neighborhoods and provide permanent jobs in the construction trade. With a large inventory of stable affordable housing stock (more than 60 percent is regulated) we feel that a multi-pronged approach to maintain affordability for existing tenants will help support many of our low-income residents and this should be a top priority for housing as it relates to the Jerome Avenue Study neighborhood plan. Nearly 50 percent of all households are "severely rent-burdened" and the Median household income has decreased by more than 20 percent from 2000-2016. The City has a great opportunity to preserve affordable housing in two densely populated community districts where income is limited and the necessity for public subsidy is a matter of survival. In order to increase the income levels and improve the socio-economic status of local residents there must be significant investments in job training, job placement, skills assessment and business development. The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) and to a lesser degree the NYCEDC should play a key role in facilitating programs and policies to achieve these goals.

Community District Needs Related to Land Use

The Jerome Avenue Neighborhood is a 92-block area which spans Jerome Avenue from Mullaly Park north across the Cross Bronx Expressway to just south of Fordham Road. The study area has excellent access to mass transit with six subway stations serving two subway lines within easy walking distance of the study area. These subways provide access to major employment centers in Manhattan and points north in the Bronx. The Cross Bronx Expressway (1-95) is located just north of the study area and connects to upper Manhattan, points north in the Bronx, Westchester and Connecticut. The study area is predominantly characterized by vacant lots, parking and automotive uses and is zoned exclusively for industrial and heavy commercial use. It is surrounded by stable and developing residential neighborhoods with emerging immigrant populations. Over the last few years there has been increased interest in residential and commercial development in the area. More than 154,000 people reside in Community District Four. This growth is expected to continue and the community faces many challenges including access to fresh food, open space, access and mobility, health and wellness and affordable housing. In addition, Community District Four has a number of city-owned properties currently used for parking are a woefully underutilized public resource. We will continue to closely monitor these properties to ensure that when they are designated for redevelopment that the highest and best uses address the needs of local residents.

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.

[rent own](#)

[Age Housing Stock](#)

[Housing profile](#)



Community District Needs Related to Housing Needs and Programming

HOUSING, LAND USE & PLANNING Economic diversity is important to the advancement and growth of our community district which is why we support the development of affordable housing with a focus on moderate and middle-income individuals. The lack of affordable housing for this demographic continues to leave our District at a disadvantage. It should be noted that while the median income is \$26,410 in CD4 a large segment of the population is rent-burdened and challenged in other areas economically, roughly 25 percent of households earn more than \$50,000 a year. This is not to say that there is not a need for affordable housing at lower income tiers, but rather there is an opportunity to empower residents with the financial and educational tools to become financially independent. In order to increase the median income we need to increase the earning power of area residents. As existing residents earn more we want to ensure that we are creating opportunities for upward mobility as it relates to housing. Currently, most of the new development does not offer options for people such as recent college graduates or a two parent household who has worked themselves through college or trade school and can afford better and larger living accommodations. If we do not create more opportunities for higher income earners we will continue to discuss high unemployment and a median income that lags behind the Bronx and represents half the median income citywide. We support this policy because in combination with other policies and programs, it provides opportunities for local residents to grow and prosper within the District's boundaries.

Community District Needs Related to Economic Development

Community District Four benefits from the regional draw of the 161st Street/Capital District area which includes the Bronx County Court, Bronx Supreme Court, the 161st Street BID, waterfront access, Bronx Terminal Market which includes a million square feet of retail and Yankee Stadium which draws more than 3.5 million visitors per year. Major employers include Bronx Lebanon Hospital, the Yankees and Hostos Community College. The continued economic growth of these areas should be pursued through a number of initiatives that will position these neighborhoods to compete for investments from both the public and private sectors as well as commercial opportunities that will ultimately enhance the socio-economic status of local residents. Unemployment plays a key role in the socio-economic status of local residents. While unemployment both nationally and in the Bronx has hit record lows (4.2% and 5.7%) respectively, the residents of Community District Four are still contending with this issue. Unemployment in Community Four is roughly 6.8%, underscoring the need to create jobs and economic opportunities for area residents. It should also be noted these numbers do not account for the tens of thousands of residents who are underemployed. In order to increase the income levels and improve the socio-economic status of local residents there must be significant investments in job training, job placement, skills assessment and business development. Currently the closest Workforce One Center is located in Hunts Point or on Fordham Road. In order to serve the thousands of job seekers, existing and future business owners the city should develop a new Workforce One Center as a part of the Jerome Neighborhood Plan. The center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on local needs: large immigrant population (Latino and West African) and the auto-industry. The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) and to a lesser degree the NYCEDC should play a key role in facilitating programs and policies to achieve these goals.

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.

[161ST BID Market Study](#)

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



Capital Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|-----------------------|
| 10/25 | SBS | <i>Other workforce development requests</i> | <i>Develop a new Workforce One Center -Currently the closest Workforce One Center is located in Hunts Point or on Fordham Road. In order to serve the thousands of job seekers, existing and future business owners the city should develop a new Workforce One Center as a part of the Jerome Neighborhood Plan. -The center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on local needs: large immigrant population (Latino and West African) and the auto-industry.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |
| 20/25 | HPD | <i>Provide more housing for medium income households</i> | <i>To increase the Districts economic index, we support the development of affordable housing for moderate and middle-income individuals and families as an added element to our new housing stock. The lack of affordable housing at these income levels contributes to the flight of moderate and middle-income families from our district. It is in the interest of our Community District to promote economic diversity within our community. We strongly advocate for City and State funds for the middle-income new construction program and the creation of assisted living housing for seniors.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



Expense Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|--|
| 5/35 | SBS | Other workforce development requests | Creation of a Local Employment Network for the purpose of connecting local residents to available job opportunities. Funding community-based organizations (i.e, WHEDco, Bronx Works) to enable them develop a network similar to the Lower East Employment Network for the purpose of engaging developers in the neighborhood, providing sector-specific trainings for local residents, screening candidates for available positions in emerging projects as well as make referrals where necessary. Localized Street Vendor Program o Create a pilot program with DOHMH, SBS, MOIA and DCA o Legitimize existing food carts operating without a license (smaller fee) Ensures/promotes health and well-being by creating standards for business operation Incentivize program for non-chain stores | Community Wide |
| 6/35 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | HPD should increase its funding for code enforcement inspectors and provide incentives to property owners to repair and retrofit their buildings in accordance with the building codes like 8A loan and Participation loan programs. The city should reinstate the Neighborhood Preservation Office to deal with code enforcement, anti-harassment and displacement. This would provide a team of individuals geographically-based to deal immediately and directly with these issues. This office could also focus on improving conditions on NYCHA campuses. | Community Wide |
| 7/35 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | Publicly grade landlords and publicly display such grades in their building lobbies. Create citywide "Certificate of No Harassment" requirements, preventing landlords who have a history of tenant harassment from obtaining certain permits from the Department of Buildings. HPD should increase its funding for code enforcement inspectors and provide incentives to property owners to repair and retrofit their buildings in accordance with the building codes like 8A loan and Participation loan The city should reinstate the Neighborhood Preservation Office to deal with code enforcement, anti-harassment and displacement. This would provide a team of individuals geographically-based to deal immediately and directly with these issues. | Community Wide |
| 14/35 | SBS | Assist with on-site business compliance with City regulations | As part of the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study -Enable businesses to be better neighbors by offering comprehensive services related to compliance and auto-industry standards. Work directly with business owners to remedy violation and licensing to increase their compliance. | Jerome Avenue McClellan Street Cross Bronx Expressway |

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



Expense Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|--|
| 16/35 | SBS | Support BID formation planning | As an interim step, we are requesting funding for a BID Express which would provide services analogous to a BID to property owners and merchants within the corridor with the ultimate goal to form a permanent BID. The Jerome Avenue Study neighborhood plan provides an opportunity to enhance the commercial corridors along East 167th Street, East 170th Street and Mount Eden, improve the variety and quality of retail, providing options that serve the needs of residents and visitors. Community District Four is requesting a BID Express centered on the 170th Street corridor with the ultimate goals to create a 170th Street BID. | Community Wide |
| 20/35 | NYCHA | Other public housing maintenance, staffing and management requests | Universal Pre-K provides a tremendous resource for low income families. We request that as part of the Mayor's Housing NY Plan that any development receiving city subsidy be required to provide space for universal Pre-K. | Community Wide |
| 22/35 | EDC | Expand access to low cost financing to help neighborhood businesses construct or improve space | We should support the continued growth and expansion of small businesses throughout the District. EDC and SBS should partner to help small businesses develop business plans and financing packages to support them. | Community Wide |
| 24/35 | HPD | Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling buildings | Increase of funding for the Proactive Initiative Enact a set of policies that create incentives that prevent speculation and displacement as well as promote affordable housing development. | Community Wide |
| 25/35 | DCP | Other zoning and land use requests | Community District Four request that DCP conduct a master planning exercise for the area around the Bronx Terminal Market north along Jerome Avenue that includes a number of city-owned property (garages and parking lots) and private property. | Gerard Avenue Harlem River East 164 Street |
| 33/35 | HPD | Provide, expand, or enhance community outreach on HPD programs and services | Support outreach and "Know Your Rights" education by community groups for the good of local residents as a way of improving communication with tenants about their rights. | Community Wide |



Transportation

Main Issue Related to Transportation

Traffic congestion

The residents of this community district continue to voice their concerns and frustrations related to traffic conditions. The situation gets worse as new development such as hotels and residential development is planned throughout the district. In addition, we have seen a substantial increase in permits for film and television. While we welcome economic activity to the district, the benefit to area residents remains to be seen. We need clarity on the traffic reconfiguration plan for the "Court Corridor" in addition to far better communication from all city agencies, particularly the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment on street closures and alternate routes. This is a serious issue that negatively impacts residents quality of life and the end benefit for Community District Four residents remains to be seen. We also request the placement of permanent traffic control agents at said "Corridor" area for traffic relief assistance.

Community District Needs Related to Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

153rd Street Bridge: We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and so we continue to advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. While we understand the project remains in the projected capital plan, we stand firm in our support for the bridge development, which we believe would ease traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets, as well as alleviate some of the congestion on local streets in the neighborhood. Transportation and traffic are of particular importance to us since aside from being the "Capital District" of this County; Community District Four is also the geographic center of the metropolitan region. In 2006 construction was to commence and the Department of Transportation received the Art Commission Award for Excellence in Design. The proposed bridge is a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end. It would have been the first new bridge built in 50 years and the first cable-stayed vehicular bridge in New York City. We should note that City Island an area with far less density rejected a state-of-the art design for a bridge and subsequently settled on a more straight-forward bridge that was recently completed. The Community Board has long advocated for measures that allow for making parking easier while reducing congestion and improving safety. It is important to note that as we start from square one with this request, new development continues not only in Community District Four but also Community District One, Yankee Stadium has now become a year-round operation hosting soccer, concerts, hockey and football. All of this significantly increases the number of people traveling to the district year round. We again request that the permit parking initiative (149th Street to 161st street from the Grand Concourse to River Avenue) be re-evaluated. The hardships endured by residents and neighboring businesses due to stadium events would be eased with this initiative. Additionally, we request that the City re-evaluate the agreement with Bronx Parking Development Corporation as it relates to woefully underutilized city-owned properties subleased for parking. The City should think outside the box to create a solution that is fair, equitable, affordable and beneficial to the residents and business owners and workers of Community District Four.

Community District Needs Related to Transit Services

Access and mobility throughout the area is key. The MTA currently operates at 468 subway stations citywide and 230 bus routes. More than 80 percent of local residents, use public transportation to commute to work and for other official/personal engagements. This includes the #4 train, one of the busiest in the entire network which currently operates over capacity with no quantifiable plans to mitigate the issue and the Bx1/2 the 6th busiest bus route in the city. Additionally, the population has increased nearly 20 percent between 2000-2016. Consequently, improvements to existing transportation infrastructure, including increased service, improvements to local streets, enhanced lighting and the resurfacing of our most vital north-south corridor - the Grand Concourse are top priorities.



Transportation

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|---|
| 1/25 | DOT | Other transportation infrastructure requests | 153rd Street Bridge We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and so we continue to advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. We stand firm in our support for development of this bridge, which would alleviate traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets and local streets in the neighborhood. The proposed bridge would be a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end. | 153rd Street and Park Ave |
| 4/25 | NYCTA | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. | Provide an elevator/or escalator along the #4 at Burnside or 170th Street and one on the B/D line between East 167th Street and East 183rd Street. | Community Wide |
| 6/25 | DOT | Repair or build new step streets | There are a total of 17 step streets in the District. (7) are Top 20 priority Step Streets but as more than 70 percent of area residents use public transit or walk, connections and access are of the utmost importance. We request a schedule and timeline for rehabilitation of all step streets in the district and a discussion on priorities based on travel patterns and connections to transit, major institutions and employers. Priority should be given to the following: 1) Clay & 169th Street 2) Jerome near Anderson Behind PS 73 (include lighting) 3) 168th Street (Shakespeare to ELG) 4) Shakespeare and Anderson (167th Street) We also request that CDOT and DSNY collaborate on a comprehensive maintenance and clean up program for these step streets with regularly scheduled clean ups. | Community Wide |
| 7/25 | DOT | Other transportation infrastructure requests | The Board request that the Department of Transportation conduct full rehabilitation and upgrade to underpasses at 170th, 167th Street, 174th Street, specifically replace the metal protective mesh, the chipped, and spalled concrete. Enhanced lighting would also be appropriate at these sites. | Community Wide |
| 8/25 | DOT | Repair or provide new street lights | Install higher intensity lighting along Jerome Avenue. This special lighting is needed due to the elevated rail lines that cause the area to be dark and unsafe due to the poor lighting. | Jerome Avenue 161 Street 174th street |
| 9/25 | DOT | Reconstruct streets | The entire 161 Street corridor should be resurfaced and is in need of major improvements. Removal and resurfacing asphalt and brick. The Board has complained about this for the three years. The redbrick and asphalt along the corridor is cracked and is in serious need of repair. In addition, the texture of the brick does not allow for safe travel during inclement weather because it becomes very slippery and slick. | Community Wide |



Transportation

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|---|
| 11/25 | DOT | Install streetscape improvements | We request streetscape improvements be made around commercial corridors including painting, lighting, seating and improved circulation and mobility. (167th Street, 170th Street and Mount Eden) | Community Wide |
| 16/25 | NYCTA | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure | Station Enhancements/Rehabilitation: 167th Street 174th Street 170th Street Mt. Eden Avenue | Community Wide |
| 17/25 | DOT | Repair or construct new medians or bus pads | Increase number of bus shelters and seating areas along heavily used routes. | Community Wide |
| 22/25 | DOT | Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.) | The Board is requesting DOT expand the Macomb's project to the Jerome/Shakespeare/Cromwell green street Triangle. The triangle's configuration is to be widened to allow for safe pedestrian movement. | 167th Street Jeome Avenue Cromwell Avenue |

Expense Requests Related to Transportation

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|---|
| 2/35 | NYCTA | Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation | Increased bus service in areas such as Highbridge to improve access for area residents and merchants -Bx3, BX11, Bx36 or Bx18, BX6, Bx35, BX36, extent line along BX32 to 167th street, BX40/41, BX42 | Community Wide |
| 15/35 | DOT | Conduct traffic or parking studies | The Board continues to request that DOT conduct study for residential parking. | Grand Concourse 149th Street 167th Street |



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Quality of parks and park facilities

The Board's overarching objective in this undertaking is to apprise both the NYC Parks Department and the District's elected officials of structural deficiencies impacting the use of our various parks, playgrounds and green spaces, thereby to obtain funding to remediate many of the substandard and/or hazardous existing conditions in CB4 parks properties. Community Board Four represents the Bronx's Capital District -- which includes the Borough's Executive, Judicial and Economic Power and significant parkland including Franz Sigel, Joyce Kilmer, Mullaly, Macombs Dam and Claremont parks. Community Board Four is home to Yankee Stadium which draws over three million visitors per year. The stadium host more than 80 home games, the annual Pinstripe Bowl (NCAA), Army college football games, boxing and soccer matches, concerts and hockey. In addition, there are a number of significant capital projects underway including the redevelopment of the 149th Street Post Office, the proposed redevelopment of Lower Concourse North (Bronx Point), the expansion of Mill Pond Park, the opening of the Bronx Children's Museum and the expansion of the Bronx Museum of the Arts. For these reasons and numerous others, the cleanliness and upkeep of the district's parkland plays a vital role in the district's ability to compete for private and public funding.

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

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



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.



[NelsonPg1](#)



[Mill Pond Park](#)



Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming



[Grant Park](#)

Community District Needs Related to Cultural and other Community Facilities and Programming

We need to expand the education and recreation opportunities available to everyone in the district, particularly our young people. The Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Bronx Children's Museum are valuable resources for arts and culture that provide a tremendous resource to the district and should receive consideration for additional staff and funding and programming.

Community District Needs Related to Library Facilities and Programming

Community District Four has three branches of the New York Public Library (NYPL) system: Grand Concourse, High Bridge, and Melrose. According to NYPL statistics (below), in Fiscal Year 2015 the libraries in CB 4 had 146,775 visits.

- Based on a 2015 report from the Center for an Urban Future, libraries in the Bronx saw the biggest increase in program attendance and circulation out of the five boroughs. The Bronx has seen a 225 percent increase in program attendance and a 35 percent increase in circulation. Data shows that these statistics will continue to increase throughout the New York public Library system.
- The libraries are especially important to low and moderate income residents who depend on the libraries for access to books, internet access, job search and film and as the only quiet place to read or do homework or other work.
- Residents who have laptop computers but cannot afford internet fees use the library for internet access.
- The arts and cultural programming along with English for Speakers of Other Languages and Out-of School Time programs in the neighborhood are extremely important to many residents, particularly families with children and seniors, who cannot otherwise afford access to commercial alternatives.



Community District Needs Related to Community Boards

Increase in funding to \$350,000. The City Charter states the import role and obligations of Community Boards mandated by the City charter. We are currently operating on an internal budget of \$233, 911 for a district with more than 154,000 residents. Actually, the financial figure is far less than that since much of the Board's budget is pre-allocated for fixed expenses. Community Boards provide direct and almost immediate access between community residents and city government. That link should be strengthened. We are the integral link between the community and a multitude of city agencies that provide services to the district. We are called upon with greater urgency to fill the gaps without the adequate financial resources. We recognize existing difficulties but we believe that Community Boards are essential to community engagement and participation in all facets of city government and we believe wholeheartedly in fulfilling our mission to the best of our abilities. We are grateful that the City Council and the Mayor increased our budgets, but we still have more work to do and in order to better serve the district additional funding is necessary to achieve those goals. With adequate fiscal support, Community Boards can go beyond essential service delivery and become an invaluable resource for the community, the borough and the city.



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|--|---|
| 3/25 | DPR | Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | Corporal Irwin Fisher Park is approximately 1.5 acres of gated, unimproved NYC Parks green space that has never been accessible by the community since its acquisition some twenty years ago. The Community and the Community Board urge the city to fund the design and development of this park and target pre-teens (teenagers can use the ample Nelson Avenue Park facilities two blocks away.) This park will serve a community that continues to grow and provide recreational space that our children rightfully deserve. | Cpl Fischer Park WEST 169 ST Block 2520, Lot 19 |
| 5/25 | DPR | Improve access to a building in a park | Grant Park was to be completed in stages to permit continued use by children of some areas of the park. However, the development of a series of large sink holes in the children's play area in the park's southwestern quadrant has effectively shut down the entire park indefinitely. This adversely impacts the entire community the park has historically served. Clearly capital funds are needed on an expedited basis, at a minimum, to restore access to the children's park and restore the park to its full capacity for utilization for area residents. | Grant Park |
| 13/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park | The following park facilities (Courts and Skate-Parks) are in poor condition and warrant complete or partial capital renovation: The basketball courts at Bridge Playground and Ogden-Plimpton Playground, the handball courts at Claremont Park and Jerome Playground South, the skate and bike park in Mullaly Park, and the basketball and handball courts at Nelson Playground. For a detailed list of repairs required at each park facility, please refer to the CB4 Park and Recreation committee's park surveys submitted to the Bronx Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation. | Community Wide |
| 15/25 | NYPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | Community District 4 is ranked among the bottom 5 in the entire city, in math and reading and has only 3 Public Library branches to share among its roughly 154,000 residents. The public programming at our existing libraries has pushed the space to its usage capacity. We are requesting consideration of a new branch location in our district. There is no central library and this addition would be able to serve multiple constituents throughout the District. | 840 Gerard Avenue Block 2474, Lot 32 |
| 18/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | Several parks in the district are in need of structural upgrades. The upgrades range from restoration of cobblestone pathways, curbs and retaining walls, the reconstruction of damaged or missing fencing, and blighted comfort stations, the restoration or replacement of park benches and the modernization of playground equipment. There are 18 parks and playgrounds that have been identified for repair and restoration by CB4. For a detailed list of repairs required for each park, please refer to the previously submitted CB4 parks survey. | Community Wide |



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|------------------|
| 19/25 | DCAS | Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment | Board Four has requested DCAS facilitate relocating our office to better serve the needs of our Community District. This request is denied annually. Community Boards are the most local form of government, and as such, we should be more accessible to the public at large. Our current location does not allow for such engagement, as mandated by the NYC Charter. With a Community District with high levels of unemployment, recipients of social services, poor health indicators, and quality of life issues its imperative that we are situated in an area with access to the community. | Community Wide |
| 21/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park | There is a storage house/facility in Franz Sigel that is underutilized. CB4 recommends that this facility be rehabilitated and converted to concessions and used as a facility for outdoor concerts and performances. | Franz Sigel Park |
| 23/25 | DPR | Other requests for park, building, or access improvements | Active development of a contiguous path joining the bike/run waterfront paths along Mill Pond Park (in Bronx CB4) to Roberto Clemente State Park (Bronx CB5) which also has a segment of a new bike/running path along the waterfront that ends at a chain linked fence separating the park land from property belonging to the Metro North/MTA train car cleaning facilities at the parks southern border. Using the precedent of the Riverbank Park in Manhattan, a similar greenway can be developed along the perimeter of the MTA's Bronx facility. | Mill Pond Park |
| 24/25 | DPR | Other requests for park, building, or access improvements | Additional BBQ zones within the District are requested along with better signage clearly stating the Parks Departments barbeque policy. Mill Pond is the only park within the entire District that is designed with barbeque grills on the park grounds. Mill Ponds limited grills, which are greatly enjoyed, fall short of the demand for such amenities throughout the District. This unmet demand is compounded by the fact that Mill Pond is remotely situated under the Major Deegan Expressway which, assuredly serves as a deterrent to travel to the location. Consequently, every weekend from late Spring through the end of Summer, the Districts marquis parks (Claremont, Franz Sigel, Mullaly and Joyce Kilmer) are overrun with unmanageable barbeque gatherings. | Community Wide |
| CS | NYPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | FY 18 Budget Priorities We seek to baseline the current level of library funding in order to preserve these system wide enhancements. We advocate for additional upgrades to mechanical systems, bathrooms, roofs, and facades. The NYPL libraries within Community District Four are used extensively for education and programming as well as provide access to computers, etc. for less advantaged residents such as seniors and youth living in homeless shelters. | Community Wide |



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------------|
| 1/35 | DPR | Provide better park maintenance | The Board request a budget line item for a CB4 Parks Administrator. Under the supervision of the Bronx Borough Commissioner this individual would manage CB4 parks system wide and would be responsible for the following: maintenance, special events, recreational facilities, personnel, developing and helping to establish Friends of groups to assist with maintenance, cleanup, beautification in high trafficked areas, manage grant application and funding streams for special projects , community relations/outreach and programming. | Community Wide |
| 8/35 | DPR | Provide better park maintenance | CB4 respectfully requests additional PEP officers be assigned to Borough to assist in maintenance and upkeep particularly during the summer months. | Community Wide |
| 19/35 | DPR | Forestry services, including street tree maintenance | The following parks have dead or crumbling trees that present a hazard to park patrons: Claremont Park, Grant Park. | Claremont Park |
| 26/35 | DCLA | Support nonprofit cultural organizations | This should be focused on the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the Bronx Children's Museum and the resident arts program at the Andrew Friedman Home. | Community Wide |
| 28/35 | DCLA | Provide more public art | DCA should support organizations and local artists to produce more permanent and temporary installations throughout the district. Partnerships should be forged with CDOT, MTA and DPR and arts based organizations to coordinate these efforts. | Community Wide |

6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests

Other Expense Requests

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|-----------------------|
| 21/35 | DCAS | <i>Expand public programming and activation of public spaces on City-owned sites</i> | <i>Work with NYC Parks, DOT, and Community NGO's to promote activation and creation of public spaces should be a priority to create amenities for existing residents.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority / Continued Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---|---|---|--|
| 1/25 | DOT | Other transportation infrastructure requests | 153rd Street Bridge We continue to voice our concerns about traffic conditions in our District and so we continue to advocate for the development of the East 153rd Street Bridge. We stand firm in our support for development of this bridge, which would alleviate traffic congestion along 149th and 161st Streets and local streets in the neighborhood. The proposed bridge would be a single tower cable stayed bridge, located over the Old Mott Haven Rail yard, connecting Concourse Village West at the west end and Park Avenue at the east end. | 153rd Street and Park Ave | Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. |
| 2/25 | SCA | Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school | According to the current Area Elementary School Enrollment, Capacity, and Utilization for the 2015-2016 Academic Year, CSD 9 Sub-district 2 elementary schools have an existing utilization rate of approximately 123.2 percent with a shortfall of 774 seats. The current estimate is based on projections that do not account for anticipated growth as a result of the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study. Community Board Four request that the city allocate funding for design and construction of all unfunded seats identified in the current capital plan, and allocate funding for design and construction of an additional 1,000 seats in the next capital plan. | Community Wide | |
| 3/25 | DPR | Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | Corporal Irwin Fisher Park is approximately 1.5 acres of gated, unimproved NYC Parks green space that has never been accessible by the community since its acquisition some twenty years ago. The Community and the Community Board urge the city to fund the design and development of this park and target pre-teens (teenagers can use the ample Nelson Avenue Park facilities two blocks away.) This park will serve a community that continues to grow and provide recreational space that our children rightfully deserve. | Cpl Fischer Park WEST 169 ST Block 2520, Lot 19 | |
| 4/25 | NYCTA | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. | Provide an elevator/or escalator along the #4 at Burnside or 170th Street and one on the B/D line between East 167th Street and East 183rd Street. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

| Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|--------------|--------|--|---|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 5/25 | DPR | Improve access to a building in a park | Grant Park was to be completed in stages to permit continued use by children of some areas of the park. However, the development of a series of large sink holes in the children's play area in the park's southwestern quadrant has effectively shut down the entire park indefinitely. This adversely impacts the entire community the park has historically served. Clearly capital funds are needed on an expedited basis, at a minimum, to restore access to the children's park and restore the park to its full capacity for utilization for area residents. | Grant Park | |
| 6/25 | DOT | Repair or build new step streets | There are a total of 17 step streets in the District. (7) are Top 20 priority Step Streets but as more than 70 percent of area residents use public transit or walk, connections and access are of the utmost importance. We request a schedule and timeline for rehabilitation of all step streets in the district and a discussion on priorities based on travel patterns and connections to transit, major institutions and employers. Priority should be given to the following: 1) Clay & 169th Street 2) Jerome near Anderson Behind PS 73 (include lighting) 3) 168th Street (Shakespeare to ELG) 4) Shakespeare and Anderson (167th Street) We also request that CDOT and DSNY collaborate on a comprehensive maintenance and clean up program for these step streets with regularly scheduled clean ups. | Community Wide | |
| 7/25 | DOT | Other transportation infrastructure requests | The Board request that the Department of Transportation conduct full rehabilitation and upgrade to underpasses at 170th, 167th Street, 174th Street, specifically replace the metal protective mesh, the chipped, and spalled concrete. Enhanced lighting would also be appropriate at these sites. | Community Wide | |
| 8/25 | DOT | Repair or provide new street lights | Install higher intensity lighting along Jerome Avenue. This special lighting is needed due to the elevated rail lines that cause the area to be dark and unsafe due to the poor lighting. | Jerome Avenue 161 Street 174th street | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

| Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|--------------|--------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 9/25 | DOT | Reconstruct streets | The entire 161 Street corridor should be resurfaced and is in need of major improvements. Removal and resurfacing asphalt and brick. The Board has complained about this for the three years. The redbrick and asphalt along the corridor is cracked and is in serious need of repair. In addition, the texture of the brick does not allow for safe travel during inclement weather because it becomes very slippery and slick. | Community Wide | |
| 10/25 | SBS | Other workforce development requests | Develop a new Workforce One Center -Currently the closest Workforce One Center is located in Hunts Point or on Fordham Road. In order to serve the thousands of job seekers, existing and future business owners the city should develop a new Workforce One Center as a part of the Jerome Neighborhood Plan. -The center would bridge the gap between the existing centers and could focus specifically on local needs: large immigrant population (Latino and West African) and the auto-industry. | Community Wide | Council Member Vanessa Gibson |
| 11/25 | DOT | Install streetscape improvements | We request streetscape improvements be made around commercial corridors including painting, lighting, seating and improved circulation and mobility. (167th Street, 170th Street and Mount Eden) | Community Wide | |
| 12/25 | NYPD | Add NYPD parking facilities | Parking is an enormous issue district-wide. The 44th precinct currently has vehicles parked on the streets, sidewalks etc. There are a number of lots and garages nearby. We request that the city purchase one of those for the sole purpose to store NYPD vehicles and NYPD officers personal vehicles to alleviate congestion, provide more on-street spaces for residents and create a safer, pedestrian friendly environment. | East 169th Street Jerome Avenue East 168th Street | |
| 13/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park | The following park facilities (Courts and Skate-Parks) are in poor condition and warrant complete or partial capital renovation: The basketball courts at Bridge Playground and Ogden-Plimpton Playground, the handball courts at Claremont Park and Jerome Playground South, the skate and bike park in Mullaly Park, and the basketball and handball courts at Nelson Playground. For a detailed list of repairs required at each park facility, please refer to the CB4 Park and Recreation committee's park surveys submitted to the Bronx Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

| Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|--------------|--------|--|--|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 14/25 | DEP | Replace or upgrade water mains | We have a number of CDOT capital projects managed by DDC. We encourage CDOT to continue to work with DEP and Con Edison when there is an opportunity to upgrade our existing infrastructure. | Community Wide | |
| 15/25 | NYPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | Community District 4 is ranked among the bottom 5 in the entire city, in math and reading and has only 3 Public Library branches to share among its roughly 154,000 residents. The public programming at our existing libraries has pushed the space to its usage capacity. We are requesting consideration of a new branch location in our district. There is no central library and this addition would be able to serve multiple constituents throughout the District. | 840 Gerard Avenue Block 2474, Lot 32 | |
| 16/25 | NYCTA | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure | Station Enhancements/Rehabilitation: 167th Street 174th Street 170th Street Mt. Eden Avenue | Community Wide | |
| 17/25 | DOT | Repair or construct new medians or bus pads | Increase number of bus shelters and seating areas along heavily used routes. | Community Wide | |
| 18/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | Several parks in the district are in need of structural upgrades. The upgrades range from restoration of cobblestone pathways, curbs and retaining walls, the reconstruction of damaged or missing fencing, and blighted comfort stations, the restoration or replacement of park benches and the modernization of playground equipment. There are 18 parks and playgrounds that have been identified for repair and restoration by CB4. For a detailed list of repairs required for each park, please refer to the previously submitted CB4 parks survey. | Community Wide | |
| 19/25 | DCAS | Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment | Board Four has requested DCAS facilitate relocating our office to better serve the needs of our Community District. This request is denied annually. Community Boards are the most local form of government, and as such, we should be more accessible to the public at large. Our current location does not allow for such engagement, as mandated by the NYC Charter. With a Community District with high levels of unemployment, recipients of social services, poor health indicators, and quality of life issues its imperative that we are situated in an area with access to the community. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

| Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|--------------|--------|--|--|---|------------|
| 20/25 | HPD | Provide more housing for medium income households | To increase the Districts economic index, we support the development of affordable housing for moderate and middle-income individuals and families as an added element to our new housing stock. The lack of affordable housing at these income levels contributes to the flight of moderate and middle-income families from our district. It is in the interest of our Community District to promote economic diversity within our community. We strongly advocate for City and State funds for the middle-income new construction program and the creation of assisted living housing for seniors. | Community Wide | |
| 21/25 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park | There is a storage house/facility in Franz Sigel that is underutilized. CB4 recommends that this facility be rehabilitated and converted to concessions and used as a facility for outdoor concerts and performances. | Franz Sigel Park | |
| 22/25 | DOT | Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.) | The Board is requesting DOT expand the Macomb's project to the Jerome/Shakespeare/Cromwell green street Triangle. The triangle's configuration is to be widened to allow for safe pedestrian movement. | 167th Street Jeome Avenue Cromwell Avenue | |
| 23/25 | DPR | Other requests for park, building, or access improvements | Active development of a contiguous path joining the bike/run waterfront paths along Mill Pond Park (in Bronx CB4) to Roberto Clemente State Park (Bronx CB5) which also has a segment of a new bike/running path along the waterfront that ends at a chain linked fence separating the park land from property belonging to the Metro North/MTA train car cleaning facilities at the parks southern border. Using the precedent of the Riverbank Park in Manhattan, a similar greenway can be developed along the perimeter of the MTA's Bronx facility. | Mill Pond Park | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 25 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

| Support (CS) | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|--------------|--------|---|---|----------------|------------|
| 24/25 | DPR | Other requests for park, building, or access improvements | Additional BBQ zones within the District are requested along with better signage clearly stating the Parks Departments barbeque policy. Mill Pond is the only park within the entire District that is designed with barbeque grills on the park grounds. Mill Ponds limited grills, which are greatly enjoyed, fall short of the demand for such amenities throughout the District. This unmet demand is compounded by the fact that Mill Pond is remotely situated under the Major Deegan Expressway which, assuredly serves as a deterrent to travel to the location. Consequently, every weekend from late Spring through the end of Summer, the Districts marquis parks (Claremont, Franz Sigel, Mullaly and Joyce Kilmer) are overrun with unmanageable barbeque gatherings. | Community Wide | |
| 25/25 | HRA | Other homelessness prevention program request | We recommend the reinstatement of the Advantage Program and funding to the Homeless Eviction Prevention Program to ensure that residents secure permanent housing and decrease the number of transient individuals and families in our districts. | Community Wide | |
| CS | NYPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | FY 18 Budget Priorities We seek to baseline the current level of library funding in order to preserve these system wide enhancements. We advocate for additional upgrades to mechanical systems, bathrooms, roofs, and facades. The NYPL libraries within Community District Four are used extensively for education and programming as well as provide access to computers, etc. for less advantaged residents such as seniors and youth living in homeless shelters. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|--|---|-----------------------|------------|
| 1/35 | DPR | <i>Provide better park maintenance</i> | <i>The Board request a budget line item for a CB4 Parks Administrator. Under the supervision of the Bronx Borough Commissioner this individual would manage CB4 parks system wide and would be responsible for the following: maintenance, special events, recreational facilities, personnel, developing and helping to establish Friends of groups to assist with maintenance, cleanup, beautification in high trafficked areas, manage grant application and funding streams for special projects , community relations/outreach and programming.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |
| 2/35 | NYCTA | <i>Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation</i> | <i>Increased bus service in areas such as Highbridge to improve access for area residents and merchants - Bx3, BX11, Bx36 or Bx18, BX6, Bx35, BX36, extent line along BX32 to 167th street, BX40/41, BX42</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |
| 3/35 | DSNY | <i>Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws</i> | <i>This should be concentrated along commercial corridors (East 167th Street, Ogden Avenue, East 170th Street and 161st Street area.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |
| 4/35 | DYCD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for middle school students (grades 6-8)</i> | <i>With the number of working families and single-parent households providing no-cost after school care is critical to the basic survival of families in our district. It also allows families to stretch their dollar further for other basic needs. We request that DYCD increase funding at existing organizations district-wide to provide after school programs. They should also partner with local schools to provide additional funding to site after schools programs.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |
| 5/35 | SBS | <i>Other workforce development requests</i> | <i>Creation of a Local Employment Network for the purpose of connecting local residents to available job opportunities. Funding community-based organizations (i.e, WHEDco, Bronx Works) to enable them develop a network similar to the Lower East Employment Network for the purpose of engaging developers in the neighborhood, providing sector-specific trainings for local residents, screening candidates for available positions in emerging projects as well as make referrals where necessary. Localized Street Vendor Program o Create a pilot program with DOHMH, SBS, MOIA and DCA o Legitimize existing food carts operating without a license (smaller fee) Ensures/promotes health and well-being by creating standards for business operation Incentivize program for non-chain stores</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------------|------------|
| 6/35 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | HPD should increase its funding for code enforcement inspectors and provide incentives to property owners to repair and retrofit their buildings in accordance with the building codes like 8A loan and Participation loan programs. The city should reinstate the Neighborhood Preservation Office to deal with code enforcement, anti-harassment and displacement. This would provide a team of individuals geographically-based to deal immediately and directly with these issues. This office could also focus on improving conditions on NYCHA campuses. | Community Wide | |
| 7/35 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | Publicly grade landlords and publicly display such grades in their building lobbies. Create citywide "Certificate of No Harassment" requirements, preventing landlords who have a history of tenant harassment from obtaining certain permits from the Department of Buildings. HPD should increase its funding for code enforcement inspectors and provide incentives to property owners to repair and retrofit their buildings in accordance with the building codes like 8A loan and Participation loan. The city should reinstate the Neighborhood Preservation Office to deal with code enforcement, anti-harassment and displacement. This would provide a team of individuals geographically-based to deal immediately and directly with these issues. | Community Wide | |
| 8/35 | DPR | Provide better park maintenance | CB4 respectfully requests additional PEP officers be assigned to Borough to assist in maintenance and upkeep particularly during the summer months. | Community Wide | |
| 9/35 | NYPD | Assign additional uniformed officers | The 44th precinct is one of the most active in the city. We recently received new recruits from the academy but as the District grows we need growth in our key service sectors to keep pace. We request the City allocate funding for more permanent new officers in the next fiscal year. The Community Affairs Division is fantastic and with more officers in the division there is a great opportunity to increase their presence and awareness district wide and increase positive relations between police and the community. We request an increase in officers as well in the next fiscal year. | Community Wide | |
| 10/35 | DSNY | Provide more frequent litter basket collection | We have a number of events throughout the year and we have increased commercial activity. DSNY should coordinate with SAPO to increase pickup in areas where events are/have taken place. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|--|---|---|---|
| 11/35 | DFTA | Increase transportation services capacity | Access and mobility is a major concern for seniors in the District. DOHMH in collaboration with existing senior centers and care providers should create additional programs to allow seniors to get out for shopping, exercise and entertainment. Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen Council, Highbridge Community Development Corporation and BronxWorks all work with seniors and operate senior facilities in the District. | Community Wide | |
| 12/35 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc. | Actions to assist in the reduction in obesity and diabetes among residents in the district 1. Promote healthy eating options. a. Throughout the district, there are limited options for purchasing healthier foods at grocery stores and restaurants, particularly in our commercial corridors. We support programs such as the DOHMHs Shop Healthy Initiative help to educate store owners on how to provide positive messaging, setup healthier alternatives, and work with distributors to bring healthier foods to the stores. b. We also ask the NYCEDC to support the DOHMHs mission of expanding access to healthier foods by considering significant modifications to the Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH) program. These modifications should include smaller and varied tax break options. | Community Wide | |
| 13/35 | DOHMH | Reduce rat populations | As we continue to approve new construction and infrastructure projects throughout the District we will disturb the natural habitat of rats increasing their prevalence throughout the District. DOHMH should collaborate with DOB and other agencies to create a comprehensive strategy for baiting in these areas before, during and after completion of major capital/construction projects. Consider creating a fund that developers pay into to fund baiting. This is even more critical as there were three reported cases and one death due to leptospirosis. | Community Wide | |
| 14/35 | SBS | Assist with on-site business compliance with City regulations | As part of the Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Study - Enable businesses to be better neighbors by offering comprehensive services related to compliance and auto-industry standards. Work directly with business owners to remedy violation and licensing to increase their compliance. | Jerome Avenue McClellan Street Cross Bronx Expressway | |
| 15/35 | DOT | Conduct traffic or parking studies | The Board continues to request that DOT conduct study for residential parking. | Grand Concourse 149th Street 167th Street | Concourse Village Tenant Association; South Bronx Community Association |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|--|--|----------------|------------|
| 16/35 | SBS | Support BID formation planning | As an interim step, we are requesting funding for a BID Express which would provide services analogous to a BID to property owners and merchants within the corridor with the ultimate goal to from a permanent BID. The Jerome Avenue Study neighborhood plan provides an opportunity to enhance the commercial corridors along East 167th Street, East 170th Street and Mount Eden, improve the variety and quality of retail, providing options that serve the needs of residents and visitors. Community District Four is requesting a BID Express centered on the 170th Street corridor with the ultimate goals to create a 170th Street BID. | Community Wide | |
| 17/35 | DOHMH | Other programs to address public health issues requests | As part of "Take Care new York: 2020" Teen pregnancy was voted as one of the top 5 priorities by community members. According to the 2015 Community Health Profile, we rank #2 in the number of Teen Births (ages 15-19). DOHMH should work with community-based organizations and youth programs in the District to increase awareness and prevention programming for teen pregnancy. | Community Wide | |
| 18/35 | DYCD | Provide, expand, or enhance English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) services | More than 40 percent of population is foreign born and 70 percent of that population speaks a language other than English making language proficiency critical to the success of area residents and their families. DYCD should partner with MOIA to offer ESOL for children and their families. They should increase funding for community-based organization's already providing these services so that they can hire more staff to provide this essential service throughout the District. | Community Wide | |
| 19/35 | DPR | Forestry services, including street tree maintenance | The following parks have dead or crumbling trees that present a hazard to park patrons: Claremont Park, Grant Park. | Claremont Park | |
| 20/35 | NYCHA | Other public housing maintenance, staffing and management requests | Universal Pre-K provides a tremendous resource for low income families. We request that as part of the Mayor's Housing NY Plan that any development receiving city subsidy be required to provide space for universal Pre-K. | Community Wide | |
| 21/35 | DCAS | Expand public programming and activation of public spaces on City-owned sites | Work with NYC Parks, DOT, and Community NGO's to promote activation and creation of public spaces should be a priority to create amenities for existing residents. | Community Wide | |
| 22/35 | EDC | Expand access to low cost financing to help neighborhood businesses construct or improve space | We should support the continued growth and expansion of small businesses throughout the District. EDC and SBS should partner to help small businesses develop business plans and financing packages to support them. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|--|--|--|------------|
| 23/35 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment | We have a number of facilities throughout the district for formerly homeless individual and families. Many of these are individuals with a history of mental illness. While we do not advocate for any additional facilities of this type in our district we want to ensure that the individuals that are here receive proper care. This benefits the individuals and their families as well as area residents. DOHMH should work with DHS to identify these facilities and target those that would benefit from additional programming and/or services. | Community Wide | |
| 24/35 | HPD | Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling buildings | Increase of funding for the Proactive Initiative Enact a set of policies that create incentives that prevent speculation and displacement as well as promote affordable housing development. | Community Wide | |
| 25/35 | DCP | Other zoning and land use requests | Community District Four request that DCP conduct a master planning exercise for the area around the Bronx Terminal Market north along Jerome Avenue that includes a number of city-owned property (garages and parking lots) and private property. | Gerard Avenue Harlem River East 164 Street | |
| 26/35 | DCLA | Support nonprofit cultural organizations | This should be focused on the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the Bronx Children's Museum and the resident arts program at the Andrew Friedman Home. | Community Wide | |
| 27/35 | HRA | Assist low income households in paying for energy costs | Almost forty percent of all households in the district were rent burdened meaning their gross rent was more than 35 percent of their household. HRA should work with Con Edison, DEP and HPD to create literature and conduct outreach educating tenants on how to save energy and lower energy costs. Additionally, HPD should target older buildings in need of upgrades and offer low interest loans to upgrade energy systems throughout - with the understanding that the cost of these upgrades are not to be shouldered by tenants. | Community Wide | |
| 28/35 | DCLA | Provide more public art | DCA should support organizations and local artists to produce more permanent and temporary installations throughout the district. Partnerships should be forged with CDOT, MTA and DPR and arts based organizations to coordinate these efforts. | Community Wide | |
| 29/35 | DOHMH | Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services | While we continue to make great strides in terms of education related to HIV, (according to the DOHMH health profile 82 percent of adults were tested for HIV) we must continue to do more related to prevention and testing. We advocate for more programming, testing, mobile health van particularly in neighborhoods such as Highbridge where residents are somewhat isolated from major hospitals and health centers. | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|---|--|----------------|------------|
| 30/35 | HRA | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs</i> | <i>Homelessness has reached historic levels in NYC. As of March 2017, there were 62,000 homeless people, which includes 15,802 families and 23,962 children. We recommend the reinstatement of the Advantage Program and funding to the Homeless Eviction Prevention Program to ensure that residents secure permanent housing and decrease the number of transient individuals and families in our districts.</i> | Community Wide | |
| 31/35 | HRA | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance job training</i> | <i>Unemployment plays a key role in the socio-economic status of local residents. While unemployment both nationally and in the Bronx has hit record lows (4.4 percent and 5.7 percent) respectively, the residents of Community Districts Four are still contending with this issue. Unemployment in Community District Four is slightly higher at 6.8 percent. While the number has consistently gone down we must continue to create jobs and economic opportunities for area residents. It should also be noted these numbers do not account for the tens of thousands of residents who are underemployed. Community District Four advocates for HRA to work with SBS, EDC and community based organizations to create better employment opportunities for area residents.</i> | Community Wide | |
| 32/35 | DYCD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program</i> | <i>As stated previously we have one of the highest teen birth rates and some of the lowest numbers in terms of English and Math proficiency. Providing positive reinforcement to our youth is important and Summer Youth Employment is desperately needed particularly in a District with a meager Area Median Income (\$26,410) and nearly 40 percent of the population living at the poverty level. DYCD should continue to increase funding for Summer Youth Employment. DYCD should work with local organizations and the Bronx Borough President's office to create additional work places to host youth for the summer and throughout the school year as well.</i> | Community Wide | |
| 33/35 | HPD | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance community outreach on HPD programs and services</i> | <i>Support outreach and "Know Your Rights" education by community groups for the good of local residents as a way of improving communication with tenants about their rights.</i> | Community Wide | |
| 34/35 | DOHMH | <i>Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.</i> | <i>As nearly forty percent of our population is under the age of 25 it is important to underscore the importance of nutrition, healthy eating and physical activity. We request that DOHMH increase outreach and education related to food and nutrition. There should be a focus on targeting middle schools and working with community-based organizations with youth programs and active tenant associations and groups. Bronx Lebanon Hospital and Hostos Community College should be leveraged as resources.</i> | Community Wide | |

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 4 submitted 35 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location | Supporters |
|----------|--------|---|---|-----------------------|------------|
| 35/35 | ACS | <i>Provide, expand, or enhance funding for youth programs for 18 to 21 year olds who have aged out or been discharged from foster care services</i> | <i>Youth aging out of foster care play an important role in the district. Without any structure in place many of these children are left without guidance and ultimately may end up on the wrong side of the law. We request an increase in funding for local organizations currently working in this field to expand their staff and programming to better serve the youth of this district.</i> | <i>Community Wide</i> | |

Appendix - Supporting Materials

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) into a browser.

Health Care and Human Services



selections.community.health

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=1973DAE5-6786-46E7-BBE3-100CFA6FE2B7>

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



161ST BID Market Study

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=6BFDE9F7-AEE5-41A4-8188-B1EDEE7D6E15>

rent_own

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=95070073-ADB5-4D74-B2C7-920DE932E0CF>

Age_Housing Stock

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=FB366F7D-97DF-4758-BF1D-5B3382E7423B>

Housing_profile

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=DA03D4D5-1272-4639-88A1-71DBD8B5706E>

Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities



NelsonPgd1

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=3AAE3A0A-1487-48EC-A015-6813AFB1730E>

Mill Pond Park

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=8EFAA656-8FEB-4163-BCAE-6D443761AE00>

Grant Park

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=A2803F38-4489-4BC1-A31E-8BBB795DD40A>