

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

Fiscal Year
2022



Published by:

NYC
PLANNING

February 2021

**Brooklyn
Community District
14**

INTRODUCTION

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

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

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

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

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:

CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov

This report is broadly structured as follows:

1. Overarching Community District Needs

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

2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

3. Community Board Budget Requests

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

Disclaimer

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

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

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

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

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1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Address: 810 East 16 Street
Phone: (718) 859-6357
Email:
Website: cb14brooklyn.com

Chair: Ed Powell
District Manager: Shawn Campbell

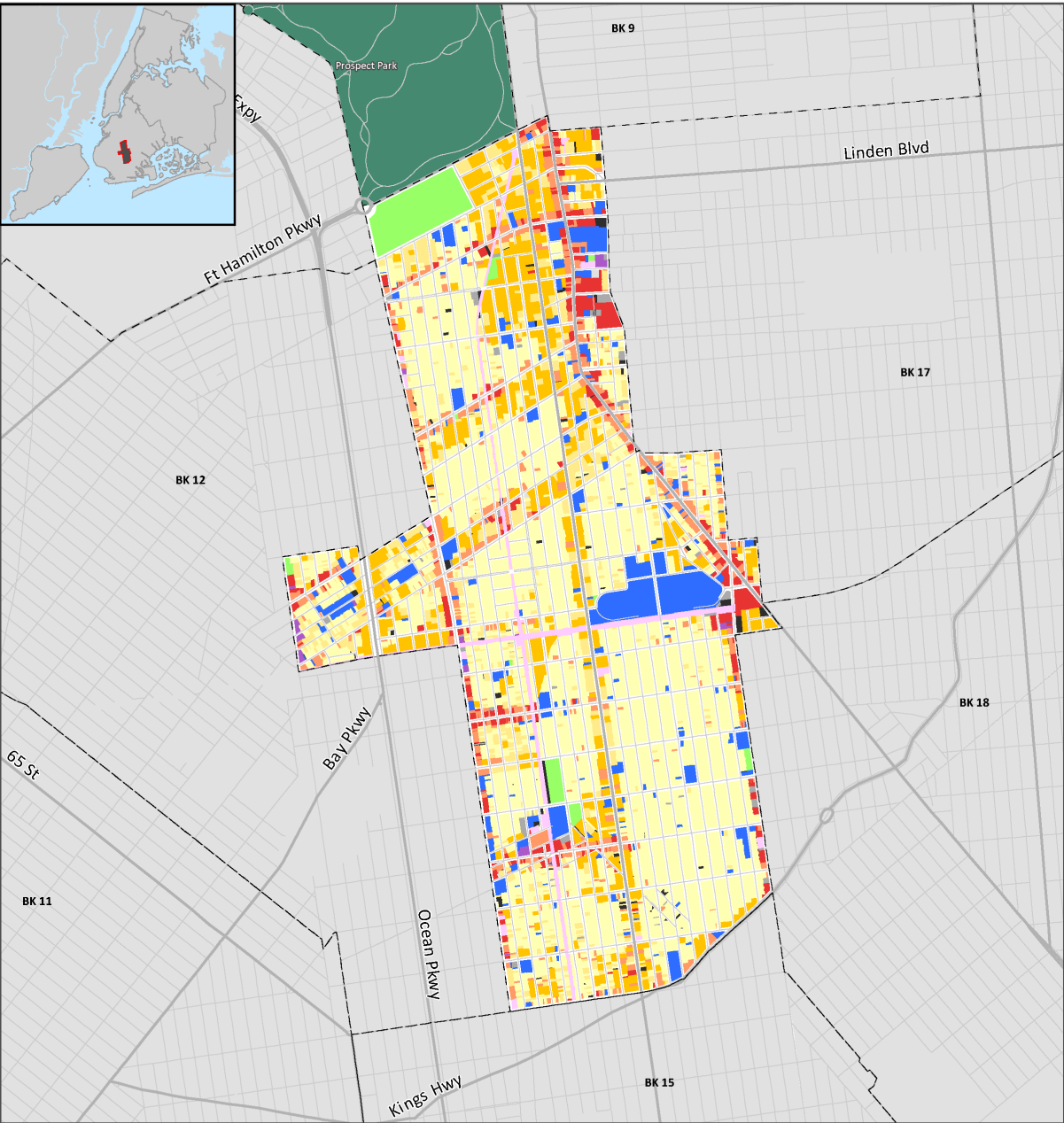
2. COMMUNITY DISTRICT PROFILE AND LAND USE MAP

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

Brooklyn Community District 14 - Land Use

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| One & Two Family Buildings | Commercial/Office Buildings | Open Space | Community Districts |
| MultiFamily Walkup Buildings | Industrial/Manufacturing | Parking Facilities | |
| MultiFamily Elevator Buildings | Transportation/Utility | Vacant Land | |
| Mixed Commercial/Residential Buildings | Public Facilities & Institutions | All Others or No Data | |


0 1,400 2,800 Feet
Source: MapPLUTO™ 20v7
BYTES of the Big Apple
Created January 2021



3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Located in the heart of Brooklyn, Community Board 14 comprises the diverse and dynamic communities of Flatbush, Midwood and eastern Kensington. The District embraces 2.9 square miles within which approximately 160,000 people reside. The district remains among the most diverse in New York City; ranking seventh of 59 Community Districts citywide. Approximately 40% of the District is White; 32% of the total population is Black/African American; 11% is Asian; and 15% is of Hispanic origin. Within these racial categories, there is a rich myriad of nationalities and cultures. About 43% of our District's population is foreign born; down slightly from 49%.

The vast majority of needs previously identified in this annual District Needs Statement have not been met in a meaningful way. The Covid 19 pandemic underscored the importance of addressing health, housing, and socio-economic disparities, and educational, environmental and small business issues, at the local level. Meeting the budget priorities that are identified at the local level represents an investment in the community, which pays off when crises strike and positions our community to be both productive and resilient.

To the extent that the city failed to respond meaningfully to local needs, the pandemic hit our neighborhoods of Flatbush and Midwood hard. By zipcode, a portion of our District suffered 20 cases, per 100,000 people; compared to 12 per 100,000 citywide. We trust that lessons learned will better situate our identified district needs and related budget requests. We have reprioritized our needs to support public health, resiliency and economic recovery.

4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

Brooklyn Community Board 14

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

Economic development and recovery

First, please note that economic development and recovery include a total restoration of the Department of Sanitation's budget. In the face of the city's economic downfall in the wake of the Covid 19 pandemic, DSNY's service budget was effectively slashed by 61%. There is no manual litter patrol - none. We have 54 dead ends in the District and MLP is the only way they get clean. What now? The commercial basket collection service that CB14 fought for years to restore to six days a week was decreased again. They have worked hard at BK14 throughout the pandemic; even when they were called upon to assist Parks with storm damage, but if the department does not provide the manpower to clean, how can we expect the District to be maintained? This is a matter of public health. Rodent complaints have increased tremendously. The Partnership for New York City noted the importance of sanitation to the business community and led a call to action in order to support the business community. The small business community in CD 14 represents the diversity of the District itself. There are three Business Improvement Districts; three merchant associations and many independent merchants throughout the District. The city's support for bars and restaurants and now, recently, retail stores, has been creative but as colder weather approaches, what will be in place for longer term recovery? The Kings theater was an investment made by the city to be an economic driver in the area. When it is able to reopen for live performances, it will be faced with the additional challenge of a homeless shelter that the city has sited adjacent to the theater. How many businesses will remain shuttered; how many permanently; and how many jobs losses will result from the impacts of the pandemic? In this community, small businesses will lead the way to economic recovery and support must be focussed both in terms of funding and balancing other related city services.

Health care services

Covid 19 hit the communities of Flatbush and Midwood hard. One of our neighborhoods suffered a case rate of 20 per 100,000 residents; compared to 12 pr 100,000 citywide. Averaging all zip codes in CD 14, our rate was 13.25 - above the citywide average. Covid deaths hit poor and overcrowded communities of color disproportionately. For years we have noted health disparities in the District, including access to insurance and care. We have asked for funding to address mental health in our community to address several issues, from street outreach to our homeless population, to assisting with mental hygiene issues related to substance misuse, to de-stigmatizing request for mental health assistance, we were already especially vulnerable in the face of the pandemic. We are below the citywide resident to hospital bed ratio. More than 16% of our residents are without health care. We must think of health care services broadly. The city will ask us what we think is a higher priority: education, access to care, mental health services, etc., but what good is one of these provisions without the others? In a time where education about the utility of wearing masks, and socially distancing meets a larger than citywide average of several preexisting health conditions that put people at greater risks of severe Covid 19 outcomes, in a community that has so little outdoor space, and where 40% of rental units are not maintained adequately, it is more important than ever to think holistically about addressing public health needs.

Parks and open space

Community Board 14 has the highest percentage of residents who live more than a quarter mile away from a park. This is more than an issue of recreation - it has serious public health ramifications. Health disparities are exacerbated by the lack of outdoor recreational amenities and when social distancing orders were enacted, the residents of CD 14 had few outdoor options. Two DOT Safe Streets were opened (ironically one was alongside Prospect Park) but neither of them remains available currently. CB14 has requested that Umma Park, and the Campus Road Tot Lot be fully rehabilitated. We have asked for expanded outdoor space at the long vacant Church Avenue and Bedford Avenue lot. A request to make Newkirk Plaza a public plaza has been denied by three different agencies, despite Mayor di Blasio's public commitment made in 2019 to address the lack of agency accountability for the plaza. A study was conducted by CB14's planning fellow that identified other potential green space. As we see unprecedented residential development without a response to the lack of green space, this need is more dire than ever. It is a matter of public health and resiliency.

5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Infectious diseases prevention and management (COVID-19, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, etc.)

It is important to understand the impact of the pandemic and the interrelation of our health care and human services needs and to ensure that issues are addressed with a multi-disciplinary approach. This community board does not think that it is useful to rank services for chronic diseases prevention and management over health facilities over (general) services for low income and vulnerable New Yorkers, when these are all equally important in addressing infectious disease prevention before it becomes a major health crises that brings our city to a halt economically while thousands needlessly die. In the wake of the crises, dozens of food pantry and emergency food delivery services emerged. Reports of street homelessness increased. Rodent complaints increased. Resources for vulnerable and low income residents are needed. Air quality, housing violations, obesity, unmet medical care needs all continue to rank among the top DOHMH documented needs assessed in the District. These are all needs prioritized in past year's district needs statements, which have not been addressed in any substantive way. It is incumbent upon the City to assess the budgetary needs for these various and frequently interrelated issues and to fund and address accordingly.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

Needs for Health Care and Facilities

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Health Profile for CD 14 notes that living a long and healthy life is not equally available to all New Yorkers. Secure jobs with benefits, well-maintained and affordable housing, and access to parks, healthy and affordable food, and quality health care are at the root of good health. The poverty rate in the District is 20%. Sixteen percent of adults have no health insurance, and the rate of avoidable hospitalizations is higher than the citywide and borough wide averages. More than 57% of residents pay more than a third of their income on rent; while only 40% of housing units are adequately maintained by landlords. CD 14 ranks at the bottom citywide in terms of the percentage of residents who live more than a quarter of a mile away from a park. These are issues that have been highlighted in previous years. The city's failure to address any of these issues in a meaningful way left this community especially vulnerable in the face of a deadly pandemic.

Needs for Older NYs

According to the Department for the Aging's analysis of 2010 Census data, the population of older New Yorkers is increasing as a share of the total population. Furthermore, those over the age of 85 is increasing the most. In addition, the gender gap between older New Yorkers is decreasing and the number of "younger" older New Yorkers seeking services is increasing. These shifts require new focus on providing support services for aging New Yorkers. In CD 14, from 2000 to 2010, the only age categories of population increase was the 45-65 group, which increased by 14.4%, and the 65 years and older group, which increased by 2.8%. The long term suspension of senior centers in response to the pandemic, puts additional pressure on the City to pivot to provide accessible services for our aging population. Recreation, food services, casework and healthcare all must be delivered differently. The Department has been creative in it's response to the needs of older New Yorkers. Perhaps there is a way to design centers to accomodate seniors while maintaing public health protocols.

Needs for Homeless

The homeless population has risen over the past six years to over 60,000 people on any given day. Reports of homeless encampments have increased citywide and our community is no different. Not every person on the street is homeless and not every homeless person is on the street. Breaking Ground is Brooklyn's DHS contractor and provides excellent service. We understand that it takes on average 250

encounters with street outreach teams before individuals will accept services. This, combined with nearly 200 reports to the CB 14 office in 2019 for homeless assistance, as well as a push to remove NYPD from the response protocol, demonstrates that continued expansion of teams of experts is warranted.

The Midwood Safehaven has undergone expansion and is now operating at capacity. Such programs should be expanded with the best interest of the community in mind. The Department of Homeless services is siting a 200 bed men's general population shelter adjacent to both a supportive housing facility for individuals with mental illness, and the Kings theater. While CB14 appreciates the need for shelters and the community's responsibility for playing a supportive role, this is not an optimal location for this particular facility.

It is unfortunate that DHS's efforts to site a family shelter (in a very appropriate location in the District) fell through last year. One in every 7 elementary students in CD 14 will have experienced homelessness by the 5th grade. The affects are profound.

Needs for Low Income NYs

Community Board 14 continues to host non-profit roundtable events each year in order to stay aware of needs being met by Community Based Organizations (CBO), who they are serving, and what type of support they need to manage and expand caseloads. In the past we brought the CBOs together with city agencies and nonprofit support organizations to expand their capacity and strengthen the CBO network in our community. Last year CB 14 focussed on the 2020 Census and formed a Complete Count Committee. Kings county was the most undercounted county in the country in 2010. Self response rates in some tracts in our District were improving but the pandemic and timetable decisions at the federal level will certainly negatively impact the outcome. Federal funding that is based on the Census helps ensure that residents in poverty, living in overcrowded dwellings and paying 50% of their income to do so, can access education, job, health and other human and support services to which they are entitled. These services are an investment in the productivity and resiliency of our community. Ignoring these requests continues to leave our community disproportionately vulnerable to a pandemic.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

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

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 2/25 | DOHMH | Other programs to address public health issues requests | <i>Public health programs must be updated to address the Corona virus pandemic, it's impact on our community and apply lessons learned. Education and programs to address health disparities that were laid bare in the wake of the pandemic must be addressed. Education, supplies and support to better respond to the pandemic were not well managed and caused confusion. The need to impress upon our residents their roles in stemming the spread must be a reliable campaign ongoingly.</i> | |
| 6/25 | DHS | Expand street outreach | <i>Reports on homeless encampments and regarding individuals who appear to be homeless have increased over the past year. Common Ground is the current contractor and provides excellent service. Given the increase in calls to the Community Board, the Police and 311, an increase in outreach services is warranted. These teams must be equipped with professionals who can assist those who are not technically homeless, but are on the street due to substance use.</i> | |
| 7/25 | HRA | Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs | <i>Community District 14 ranks 11th of 59 in the percentage of severely rent burdened household - 35% up from 30% the year before. The District ranks 8th in the percent of renter households that are severely overcrowded. Nearly 35% of renters in the District pay over 50% of their household income on monthly rent. Affordability of rentals (at 80% of AMI) decreased from 2010-2017, from 71.3% to only 49%. These are pressures that lend themselves to homelessness and continued expansion of prevention programs is warranted.</i> | |

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|-------|-------|--|---|
| 10/25 | DFTA | Increase staffing for homebound adult programs | <i>Case management, home care, legal services, and transportation services are generally intertwined. There is no way to prioritize the needs of one senior citizen over those of another and it would be folly to provide transportation over home care for a senior who is need of both. The funding of these services must be designed with the approach that support services are inextricable.</i> |
| 12/25 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment | <i>There were approximately 657 (per 100,000 adults) psychiatric hospitalizations last year, compared to 743 Brooklyn wide and 684 citywide. In addition alcohol and drug related hospitalizations were 836 and 649 per 100,000 respectively. The stresses of impacts of the pandemic are well documented throughout communities. Many times people who are reported as homeless actually have homes but are on the streets to use. Teams specifically geared to engage with mental illness and substance abuse would be a valuable complement to street outreach.</i> |
| 13/25 | DFTA | Funding for a new senior center program | <i>Engage in reimaging an RFP for senior centers that could continue some programming that would allow for social distanced but in person services, while expanding needed remote programming. DFTA was amazingly deft in pivoting to providing remote service to a vulnerable population and developing new volunteer programs. This shift to ensure the continuity of service should be fully funded.</i> |
| 19/25 | DOHMH | Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations | <i>CD 14 continues to be among the highest number of rodent complaints in the City and those complaints are on the way to doubling from 300 in 2018 to 600 in 2019. While DOHMH continues to increase the number of inspections performed annually, these efforts are outpaced by conditions contributing to rodent infestations. Increased coordination with DOB's abatement rules for construction sites, with DSNY to address illegal dumping and school collections, and with the public at large to educate people on the down side of feeding feral cats and birds are warranted.</i> |

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

School and educational facilities (Capacity)

Community Board 14 has identified the need for expanded school seats as a budget priority for well over a decade and the Department of Education has recognized the need but has not fulfilled it. There are several new residential developments slated for the district, which will exacerbate overcrowding. We urge DOE and SCA to hasten efforts to provide several hundred elementary school seats. When schools are overcrowded, the ability to return from remote learning is all the more challenging. This means that remote learning and technology are as equally important (and in terms of timeframe, even moreso) as this hard hit community will struggle to keep students on track. There must be a recognition that income disparities, housing disparities, and the disparities in parental educational attainment, as well as first languages spoken at home, family size and more, make remote learning challenging in different ways in different households. For the past 10 years CB 14 has organized a Youth Conference and in 2020, even with school closures looming, approximately, 500 young people attended. However, so many programs and opportunities did not come to fruition once the pandemic took hold of the city. The need for youth workforce development and summer youth employment will be all the more urgent and we continue to advocate for an even greater expansion of DYCD funding for SYEP and other youth support contracts. We also encourage DYCD to continue to partner with our Board's efforts on the annual conference, as it may very well take on a different form in 2021.

Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Needs for Youth Education

There are 35 public elementary and secondary schools in the District serving more than 20,000 students. In addition, there are 26 private/parochial elementary and secondary schools serving 6709 students. The public elementary schools in our district are over capacity - ranging from 111% to 146% over enrolled. The City has recognized our need for additional seats in the District for well over a decade. CB 14 ranks 32nd of 59 in the percentage of students performing at grade level on the NYS 4th grade ELA and Math exams. Our schools have a higher than citywide average of ELL students. Over 30 different first languages are represented on one of our elementary schools. Given school overcrowding and technology access concerns, this district is at greater risk of grade level and on time graduation backsliding. This will be a long term issue.

Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

Given that the population of children under the age of five numbered 11,680 in 2010 and that 22.3% of families in the District with a child under the age of five fell below the poverty line at least once from 2010 to 2012, the number of early childhood programs is woefully inadequate. There is a concern related to potential pent up demand for casework to protect children who have not been in contact with mandated reporters during the months of the pandemic. Call for investigation are down over 50% and reports from educators are down over 80% for obvious reasons.

In March of 2020, we held our 13th Annual Youth Conference. However, the pandemic eviscerated nearly all of the opportunities that our youth learned of that day. The city will have to expand programs to address the wider gap in opportunity left in the wake of the pandemic.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 4/15 | SCA | Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school | <i>PS 139 is at 121% of utilization; PS 127 is at 125%; PS 249 is at 128%, PS 193 is at 111%; PS 315 is at 118% and the PS 152 Annex is at 146%. Since annexes are built to address overcrowding, an overcrowded annex boldly underscores the need for additional elementary school seats in the northern end of the District. The elementary schools listed above are all north of Avenue L.</i> | |
| 5/15 | DOE | Other capital budget request for DOE | <i>The ability of the education system to continue to educate students continues to rest on technology. The digital divide in the city was brought into sharp relief. Education attainment disparities are no doubt going to be exacerbated by the lack of access to technology in the home both in terms of devices and access to broadband. This is an urgent need in our community.</i> | |
| 15/15 | SCA | Renovate other site component | <i>Areas to store garbage before and then areas to place bags or containers for pick up need better planning and design. Too many schools place a large number of bags out too early in the day. They are often ripped and are adding to our rodent population and public health and safety concerns.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 8/25 | DYCD | Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program | <i>According to our Youth Conference attendees survey, the biggest draw for the 600 youth who attended our annual conference was jobs. The impact of Covid 19 on the SYEP program and DYCD's shift to only remote opportunities will have a residual impact in the upcoming years. Given the very small percentage of applicants who are placed in summer jobs, it is imperative that DYCD jobs programs be expanded and dependably funded. Additional focus on building capacity at the CBO level to expand programming into underserved communities that were more highly impacted by Covid 19 is imperative.</i> | |

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|------|-----|---|---|
| 9/25 | ACS | Other foster care and child welfare requests | <i>The agency has made positive strides in reducing caseloads. This effort must be continued, but there is a concern that demand for casework will increase as the city opens and children come into contact with mandated reporters. The stress placed on households and access to support is a combination for concern.</i> |
|------|-----|---|---|

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

The need for a new police precinct in an appropriate setting has been recognized by the community and by the NYPD for decades. This is a need worthy of top priority in the arena of public safety. NYPD Capital conducted a feasibility study to determine whether the precinct can be rebuilt on site. While the lot would allow the construction, it was noted that the location is unsuitable. We urge OMB to direct funding toward a site search in this upcoming budget cycle.

Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Needs for Public Safety

The men and women of the 70th Police Precinct serve our community exceptionally well, keeping crime and quality of life problems at historic lows. They manage to do so from a Precinct House that is poorly suited to their needs and to the needs of the community. The 70th Precinct House is undersized, antiquated and deteriorated. Adapt Community Network, which serves people with cerebral palsy, shares this very narrow, one-way street. Thus one of the most active Precinct Houses is in the midst of one of the largest concentrations of multiply handicapped people in the city. Overall crime numbers continue to decrease, making the 70th Precinct one of the few in the city where crime has dropped every year since since the introduction of Compstat. The Neighborhood Coordinating Officers had become familiar with and to community members and have addressed both quality of life and matters of public safety with new efficiency. Their work at the community level must continue in order to instill confidence and cooperation throughout the community. The number of crossing guards has increased over the past two years, however it has not kept pace with need. Ensuring that the position offers incentives to attract and retain personnel is a priority.

Needs for Emergency Services

None of the firehouses in CD 14 are slated for renovations or generators. Given that mandatory inspections are based on Department of Buildings new construction, alteration and demolition permits and given that those permit applications are increasing, the need to ensure adequate resources for inspections is clear. Education programs to prevent fires and swift response are also key. It remains distressing that response times continue to increase for FDNY and for EMS. The process by which FDNY approves DOT installations such as speed humps, pedestrian islands, and curb extensions has improved to ensure that local input is emphasized.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 7/15 | NYPD | Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses | <i>The history of efforts to relocate this aging facility goes back three decades. In 2006, DCAS began property acquisition at 1326 Ocean Avenue and NYPD set aside \$30 million for the property, and OMB stated its commitment to identify additional funding. construction was set to begin in 2013. It did not and the site was lost to a market rate housing development. A scoping study to asses the feasibility of building a new precinct house on site reportedly acknowledges the locational challenges that the current site presents. Relocating the precinct house remains a priority. A new site search must be funded. In the meantime, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, or parking, nor it is handicap accessible.</i> | |
| 9/15 | FDNY | Rehabilitate or renovate existing fire houses or EMS stations | <i>Fund station house renovations and upgrades at Engine 255/Ladder 157; Engine 281/Ladder 147 and Engine 250 firehouses. Including the addition of a station house generator at one of these fire stations. There are no firehouses in CD 14 with a generator.</i> | |
| 13/15 | NYPD | Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses | <i>While NYPD continues the search for an appropriate location for a new precinct house, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, parking, nor it is handicap accessible.</i> | |
| 14/15 | NYPD | Provide surveillance cameras | <i>This continues to be a common request from the community and the Precinct. CD 14 would defer to the CO as to most warranted location. While cameras are typically funded by allocations made by elected officials, we believe funding should be provided in the NYPD budget directly so that placement is not contingent on the interest level of whichever city councilmembers overlap with a Precinct.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|

| | | | |
|-------|------|---|--|
| 20/25 | FDNY | Provide more firefighters or EMS workers | <i>Fund adequate new firefighter, Marshall, EMS and inspector hires. Given the pace of development and the density that is adding to our community, it is imperative that we ensure that staffing remain optimal and that the addition of a 5th firefight on the truck is expanded to firehouses serving our community. Two years ago more than a dozen Fire Marshalls were hired and dedicated to Brooklyn. The increase is useful and should be augmented by additional hires for Marshalls and inspectors in FY 20.</i> |
| 25/25 | NYPD | Assign additional crossing guards | <i>This is an increasing request. New schools have opened, new developments are in the pipeline. The Community Board defers to the Police Precinct to assign additional crossing guards to new locations.</i> |

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

Brooklyn Community Board 14

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

Cleanliness/trash collection

The city's reductions in the sanitation budget in response to the budget shortfall caused by the Covid 19 crises were draconian and ill advised. When a community is recovering from a public health crises, it is all the more important that sanitation is prioritized. As the city strives to recover economically, it must be well maintained. DSNY funding must be fully restored to address both health and economic recovery. There must be enough manpower to clean on every collection shift; MLP, which was completely eliminated, must be fully restored. There are 54 dead ends in CD14 and MLP is the only program that cleans them. Commercial basket collection must be restored to 6 days a week including Sunday and holiday service. We fought for years for that restoration and now we're back to square one, or even further back than that given that we are trying to rebound from a pandemic! It is hard to know what the winter will bring, but outdoor dining will certainly offer snow plow challenges. The CB14 office has received rodent complaints at a much higher rate since the pandemic. The DSNY symbol is a medical staff for a reason. Restore full funding to DSNY - it is a matter of public health and economic recovery.

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

Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

Trench restoration continues to be an issue in the District. DOT was allocated \$60 million to address trench issues citywide, thus DEP was able to pass the ball on these projects. However, not one of the trenches in CD 14 made the DOT list. **There has been no progress on this issue.** Flooding remains an issue in several locations. DEP has assisted Parks to maintain catch basins north of one of our chronic locations along E. 10th Street and Church Avenue, but flooding continues. Ultimately, the overwhelmed system in the city streets is under the purview of DEP and they must address this issue.

Needs for Sanitation Services

The city's drastic cuts to DSNY's budget this fiscal year amounted to an effective 60% reduction in service Citywide. This was the most noticeable negative impact of all agency budget cuts. Given that each and every resident produces more than two pounds of garbage every day, the efforts of the Department of Sanitation workers at BK 14 to keep pace with the needs of our District are greatly appreciated. Within our 2.9 miles there are 89 road miles and 54 dead ends and several narrow streets. In addition, bike lanes, pedestrian island, neckdowns, and Open Streets restaurants, installed and managed by DOT offer new challenges to collection, recycling, street sweeping and snow removal. Illegal dumping continues to be a difficult issue in the District with its many dead ends, one block streets and many road bridges. Cleanliness had improved and complaints had abated along commercial streets when the six day a week basket truck was restored, but this was decreased again in the aftermath of Covid 19 and complaints are on the rise again. The reintroduction of electronics collection by DSNY had also been a positive change in the District, and now this has been defunded. Many in the district were eager for household organics recycling, but that too has been suspended.

We are extremely grateful for BK14's responsiveness to the needs of our community in general and their interagency work pertinent to storm clean up, homeless encampment conditions, and derelict vehicles that are persistent issues in several locations in the District.

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|----------|
| CS | DSNY | Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure | <i>We are gratified that the condemned heating and cooling systems installed on the BK14 roof will be upgraded in the upcoming fiscal year so that the garage has heat in the winter and adequate cooling in the summer.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|--|----------|
| 3/25 | DSNY | Other cleaning requests | <i>There are 1200 road segments in CD 14. Given the number of dead ends, overpasses, and road bridges, cleaning is a persistent need. The evisceration of MLP, which is the only operation that cleans CD14's 54 dead ends streets, the severe reduction in basket collection, the reduction in lot cleaning, cancellation of electronics collection and organics is a myopic response in a city striving to recover its health and economy. DSNY stepped up to the plate in the midst of a public health crises like no other agency. In fact, BK14 assisted DPR in the aftermath of October's storm, while still maintaining collection and balancing schedule changes necessary to keep the workplace safe. The city must restore full funding for this agency in service to our community.</i> | |
| 4/25 | DSNY | Provide more frequent litter basket collection | <i>You've got to be kidding us. CB 14 fought for nearly a decade for the return of this baseline service. When DSNY provides six day a week service, there is an immediate and noticeable improvement . It allowed for additional corner baskets on commercial streets. We urge the Department to restore this funding.</i> | |
| 14/25 | DEP | Other expense budget request for DEP | <i>Fund DEP to continue the development, in tandem with institutions of higher learning and DOHMH, for wastewater testing for evidence of virus in order to respond to public health threats.</i> | |

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|-------|------|--|---|
| 16/25 | DEP | Inspect water main on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed | <i>There are several locations in the District that flood chronically in rainstorms. These locations have all been brought to DEP's attention and we are awaiting determination as to cause. DCP has provided a limited drop down list from which to choose a budget priority. We ask the DEP respond to the requests pending and advise as to what the respective issues are so that we can identify what budget line these requests fall into. The bottom line is that DEP must provide solutions to these locations because property, businesses and public areas should not have to withstand chronic flooding. Several claims have been filed with the City of New York.</i> |
| 21/25 | DSNY | Provide more frequent litter basket collection | <i>Provide garages with weed wackers, bolt cutters, pruning sheers and other tools to assist with lots, dead ends, and DOT pedestrian islands.</i> |
| 24/25 | DSNY | Increase enforcement of canine waste laws | <i>Illegal drop offs and dumping at commercial baskets, dead-ends, tree pits, etc is an ongoing complaint. Resident bring garbage to corner baskets, construction and other commercial debris are often found under elevated train tracks. Often the sanitation workers, supervisors and police know who the offenders are but the rules for enforcement require a stake out. Funding to increase enforcement's capacity to stake out chronic locations, day and night, could make an enormous difference in the public health, safety and appearance of our District.</i> |

HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

Brooklyn Community Board 14

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

Affordable housing preservation

Housing code enforcement and building code enforcement are equally important in the District. Only 40% of renter occupied homes are adequately maintained by landlords. CB14 ranks 12th (up from 18th) of 59 community districts in the number of reported serious housing code violations. Housing code violations are correlated with health issues and is a problem underscored by the fact that the district is also one of the most severely rent burdened and overcrowded. Recovery from an infectious disease crises should underscore the importance of the need for adequate housing. Building new affordable housing with no substantial support to ensure that current inventory is maintained is folly. By some estimates, New York City's affordable housing deficit will increase by 150,000 as a result of the impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic. Given the fact that over 48% of the area of the district is comprised of 1-2 family homes, combined with the fact that we rank 15th in the city in terms of population density, the renters of multi-family dwellings are highly concentrated. This contrasts with how the District's single family homes are economically situated. In CD 14, the median price of a single family home is among the highest in New York City. Prospect Park South, Ditmas Park, Midwood Park-Fiske Terrace, Albermarle-Kenmore Terraces, are all historically landmarked neighborhoods. They comprise 6% of lots in the District, which ranks us 18th in the City for lots regulated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission. There is also a special permit district in the southern end of the district, which permits an increase the floor area ration of single family homes. Zoning violations occur throughout the District. Primarily, these violations are commercial use in a residential zone. There are also many complaints of illegal curb cuts and parking pads. There has been very little enforcement of any of CB14's zoning violation complaints. So many of these issues have been pending for many years. In addition to zoning violations, there continues to be a growing number of construction complaints including work without a permit, work beyond permitted times and days, as well as illegal conversions. The rate of construction has slowed due to the shutdown but as projects come back on line, there is a need to ensure they proceed safely from both a public health as well as a construction standpoint. Communities should not have to forfeit historic contextual development in order to add to much needed affordable housing stock. It is important to protect the uniquely beautiful, valuable, and significant history of our one and two family residential areas while balancing the quality of denser, multi-unit dwellings.

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

Needs for Land Use

Community Board 14 residents live in a mix of housing. Land use is dominated by single and two family homes. There are four historic districts in CD 14. The capacity to develop in the district is one of the lowest in the city, yet in 2019 DOB issued 668 permits for new residential units, up from 359 in 2018 and, the ranking CD 14 the 11th highest among the city's 59 community districts.

There is no doubt that the pressures for affordable housing are great. We rank 8th in the city in the severe overcrowding rate. This district is disproportionately rent burdened, with 50% of low-income renter households severely burdened, meaning that rent is at least 50% of household income. CB14 ranks 12th in the city in the number of serious housing code violations and only 40% of renter occupied homes are adequately maintained by landlords. The social determinates of health, including clean, safe and well maintained housing accounts for 80-90% of community health outcomes. Building new affordable housing seems wasteful if there are no effective efforts to preserve the current stock of affordable units!

Needs for Housing

The District ranks 8th in the rate of severe overcrowding in renter households. Last year the District was 53rd of 59 Districts in terms of unused capacity for development. Yet the ranking for units authorized for new building permits soared from 59th in 2000 to 17th in 2016-17. Units issued new certificates of occupancy went from 53rd citywide to 12th in the same period. While those number slowed in the following year, those residents are now members of our population and add to the demand for quality public infrastructure and city services. It is important to understand where the units are being developed

vis a vis our public infrastructure in terms of schools, parks, transportation and water and sewer systems; and to ascertain the extent to which affordability of newly developed housing corresponds to the needs of our current residents.

Needs for Economic Development

There are several commercial strips in the district serving the needs of residents and beyond. Many small independent stores line Church Avenue, Cortelyou Road, Avenues J and M and Coney Island Avenue, Flatbush Avenue and Newkirk Plaza. Several new businesses had opened in the District last year, including new restaurants, bars, and boutiques. Some were able to pivot to outdoor and take away service, or shift inventory to stay open. However, too many could not and have closed.

There are three Business Improvement Districts – Flatbush Nostrand Junction BID, the Flatbush BID and the Church Avenue BID - and several merchant associations in our community. We face notable challenges in maximizing commercial activity throughout the District. Triangle Junction shopping mall still has Target as it's anchor store but many other national chains have come and gone, suggesting that there are questions about the fate of this development. The City continue to refuse to assign Newkirk Plaza to DOT or an appropriate agency to allow enforcement, services, and programming for economic development. The Kings Theatre, a 3300 seat live performance venue, with the Brooklyn College Tow Performing Arts Center to the south and the existence of performing arts venues to the north, provide a vital link in Brooklyn's cultural corridor and many spillover opportunities for surrounding merchants. They must be well supported to spur economic activity when they can open once again. CB14 was awarded a Planning Fellow from the Fund for the City of New York who was able to research our past and current economic development opportunities. This is useful information for guidance in an economic recovery from unprecedented circumstances.

Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|----------|
| 6/15 | EDC | Build or expand incubator or affordable work or research lab spaces | <i>The expansion of broadband access to all parts of the city requires a focussed, equity driven investment. Commercial activity, work from home capacity, and education are all key to community productivity and resiliency.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---|---|----------|
| 5/25 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | <i>Four out of five top 311 requests are for HPD inspections and violation enforcement. CB 14 ranks 12th in the city in the number of housing code violations per 1000 residents, and only 40% of rental units are considered adequate. The deficit of affordable housing is projected to grow by 150,000 units in the wake of the pandemic. Maintaining housing that exists now helps to stem this crises. Adequate housing is pivotal to health outcomes, and an urgent need in recovering from this public health crises.</i> | |
| 11/25 | SBS | Other commercial district revitalization requests | <i>Supporting venues that generate social capital and drive economic development is key to post pandemic recovery. Kings Theater was an EDC project that is owned and managed by a private entity and is a for profit enterprise, the Tow Performing Arts Center is housed at a public institution of higher education but runs ticketed events, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment permitted over 150 film and television productions in our 2.9 square miles of space in 2019. These enterprises generate a good deal of profit with the support of public space and financing. There should be some sort of mechanism that directs some funding back to the local community that often bears significant inconvenience from these activities.</i> | |

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|-------|-----|--|--|
| 18/25 | DOB | Assign additional building inspectors (including expanding training programs) | <i>Too many complaints are closed out due to lack of access while unpermitted work continues to the point of completion. Better timing of inspections, additional attempts and more detailed follow ups would assist in the ability to enforcement myriad violations.</i> |
| 22/25 | EDC | Expand public programming and activation of City-owned sites | <i>Develop and RFP for Newkirk Plaza. The Plaza is a platform over MTA NYCT's Brighton Line station. However, NYCT does not recognize the street level pedestrian mall as being under it's purview. Likewise, while the Plaza offers public access, and serves as walkway flanked by approximately 20 stores, DOT does not include the Plaza in it's inventory of sidewalks in the public right of way. Furthermore, DOT will not accept Newkirk Plaza into the DOT Pedestrian Plaza program, despite the fact that Newkirk Plaza is prototypical. Since this is publically owned land, EDC should develop and RFP so that the space can be assumed and programed by an interested party for better maintenance, programming and public benefit.</i> |

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

Roadway and traffic design

The Department of Transportation has the greatest number of outstanding service delivery requests in the CD14. This is due to the sheer number of requests combined with the length of time it takes DOT to address service delivery items. It can take years for DOT to address requests for speed reducers, signs, traffic lights, street lights, etc. It is increasingly difficult to get DOT to repair street infrastructure. Often, DOT denies responsibility. High weeds on the pedestrian islands at Avenue O and N block safe sight lines yet, DOT claims no responsibility for maintenance. The same is true for the infrastructure at our dead end streets. There are 54 dead ends in CD 14, most abut railway or subway tracks and need to be walled off in some way for safety. If DOT is not responsible for maintenance, then who? Flatbush Avenue and Coney Island Avenue continue to be high crash corridors. East/west streets including Avenue J, Foster Avenue, Cortelyou Road, Church and Caton Avenues are nearly constantly backed up. Oftentimes cars wait for multiple light cycles to pass an intersection. Church and Caton Avenues are also truck routes. The streets surrounding the 70th Precinct are also problematic. These narrow streets are nearly always congested. In fact, NYPD has determined that they cannot build a new precinct house on site due to traffic and congestion. The Beverly Road Bridge has been partially repaired to return parking and allow local truck traffic, however there is no timeframe for when the bridge will be completely repaired. The Parkside Road Bridge has been prioritized for capital repair, yet we have no timeframe for this work either. In addition to community driven requests, DOT initiates proposals for bike paths, pedestrian islands, and pedestrian plazas. DOT has shifted its policy with regard to community input, while gathering local input is time-consuming and often messy, the end result is inevitably better when there is stakeholder buy in. The pandemic underscored the public benefit of outdoor recreation including biking, taking walks, and enjoying pedestrian plazas. The introduction of safe streets and outdoor dining were positive pivots but as we settle in and identify ways to improve these amenities it is important for local voices to be heard. Neither of the safe streets in our District exist currently. There has been no communication with DSNY as to impacts of outdoor dining on snow plow. Once these amenities are provided, they must be supported ongoingly.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

All types of ground transportation are important in District 14 where approximately 11% of commuters walk or ride bikes to work (up 28%), nearly 65% take mass transit (up 3%) and nearly a quarter drive (down 2%). Within the 2.9 miles that comprise the District, there are 89.2 road miles, 54 dead end streets, two through truck routes, several road bridges over the Brighton Line and LIRR tracks and approximately 1200 street segments. Given its Central Brooklyn location and number of thoroughfares in the District including Flatbush Avenue, Coney Island Avenue, Ocean Parkway, Nostrand Avenue running north/south; and Church Avenue, Cortelyou Road, Foster Avenue and Avenues J and M going east/west, traffic and road conditions are constant concerns. Community Board 14 service delivery data show that DOT requests outnumber those of any other agency with which the Community Board interacts. Part of the reason for this accumulation is the time-lag for many DOT issue responses. In the meantime, DOT has proactively introduced initiatives not requested (and sometimes not supported) by the community. Responsiveness and community input are important. Of great concern is that there is no way to ascertain an overview of DOT traffic calming measures. Since 2018 we have handled nearly 190 DOT service delivery requests, but there is no way to understand how implementation of all or any combination of these requests would impact traffic flow in the District. Rather, such requests are considered only insofar as they impact the block for which they are requested. There are nine subway stations, seven of which are Brighton Line outdoor tracks, therefore track work affects road traffic. There are also 15 bus lines that operate in the district including express buses and select bus service routes. CB14 has advocated for the return of the B23 bus even before MTA cancelled the line. Given the level of development along that corridor, it is time to bring it back!

Needs for Transit Services

There are nine subway stations in the District: one Culver Line IND stop; one IRT terminal stop and the remainder Brighton Line BMT stops. Most of the Brighton Line stations have been updated - some in full, others partial renovations. However the Church Avenue station is in serious need up rehabilitation. We look forward to accessibility improvements and hope they will expand to the Culver line. We have asked MTA NYCT to provide us with station capacity data to take into consideration when new developments are proposed so that we can better predict the impact on local transit. This is especially urgent at the Cortelyou Road station. CB 14 will work to maximize community input on MTA's Fast Forward Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign. We trust this will lead to the restoration of the B23 on Cortelyou Road! The community garden on the exterior side of the Church Avenue Brighton Line station house continues to be a positive addition to the community and should serve as a model for use of the commons. It is unfortunate that Transit will not take the same creative initiative with Newkirk Plaza.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|--|---|
| 3/15 | DOT | Upgrade or create new plazas | <i>We urge DOT to include Newkirk Plaza into the Plaza Program. The infrastructure exists. An organization is willing to partner and the Plaza should be under the auspices of a City agency given that it is public property. The Covid 19 pandemic underscored the need for public outdoor space. This is one of the social determinants of public health and would serve as an economic development boost to businesses on the Plaza.</i> | |
| 8/15 | DOT | Rehabilitate bridges | <i>DOT must take responsibility for the maintenance of pedestrian islands, dead ends, and sidewalk walls on road bridges. The Beverley Road bridge and the Caton Road bridge both require rehabilitation. The timeframe for repair or reinstallation of street signs continues to increase. Three years ago DOT identified \$60 million for trench repair but none of it was allocated to CD14, despite worsening conditions. There must be an increase in the expense budget for road and street infrastructure repair.</i> | Beverley Road Marlborough Rd Marlborough Rd |
| 10/15 | NYCTA | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure | <i>Church Avenue is the most heavily utilized station in the District and is in disrepair. This line has had the most requests for security cameras.</i> | Church Ave and E 18 St |
| 11/15 | DOT | Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.) | <i>DOT had a \$60 million allocation for trench restoration and CB 14 received none of it. Six locations have been submitted to DOT. 564 East 29th Street; 1781 Ocean Avenue/SE corner of Avenue M; 715 Ocean Parkway Service Road; Waldorf Court between East 17 and Dead End; Hillel Place and Kenilworth Place intersection; 464-476 East 16th Street. The suggestion that Community Boards should turn to local elected officials to tend to trench conditions is irresponsible.</i> | |
| 12/15 | NYCTA | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. | <i>The 18th Avenue Stop on the Culver Line is on the same block as the United Cerebral Palsey complex. This stop was recently upgraded. It's unfortunate that accessibility was not one of the improvements.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---------------------------------------|--|----------|
| 23/25 | NYCTA | Other transit service requests | <i>Assume responsibility for the maintenance of Newkirk Plaza. As the gateway to one of MTA's most unique stations, atop America's first outdoor shopping Plaza, there is an opportunity to improve and program the Plaza. An local CBO has expressed interest in a partnership that could mimic the community garden at the Church Avenue station, which inarguably has improved the exterior conditions and the community perspective on that station.</i> | |

PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Brooklyn Community Board 14

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

Community board resources (offices, staff and equipment)

The Community Board is instrumental in ensuring that cultural and park programming, and facilities; community facility access and programming; forestry services; library facilities and services; parks access, care and maintenance; park safety; quality library programming and other parks, cultural and other community facilities are accessible to the public and maintained by the appropriate agencies. Community service delivery requests for sanitation, abandoned vehicles, constructions complaints, homeless encampments, fallen tree branches, requests for public health, safety and voting information and so many other requests have increased or changed in nature in the wake of the Covid 19 pandemic. The many needs we have identified in previous years that remain unfunded only served to underscore inequities in our district and exacerbate the impact of the pandemic. Our return to a healthy, vibrant and economically sound community depends now, more than ever on getting services and support to the local community level. That is our role; that is where we are expert. Community Board 14 is 59th out of 59 community districts citywide in terms of the number of residents who live more than a quarter of a mile away from a park. The need for outdoor space to allow social distancing was underscored in the wake of the Covid 19 shutdown. Arts and culture were a huge draw to and an economic asset in our community. The continued uncertainty about reopening arts and culture venues adds a hurdle to economic recovery in the District, which spills over far beyond. The Kings Theatre, and the Tow Center at Brooklyn College performing arts are on hold. The loss of in person services normally provided by our libraries are sorely missed and needed more than ever. We urge the City to reimagine the design of libraries to increase resiliency and maintain access in response to public health emergencies. While the number of service delivery requests have increased, the number of proposals to consider have increased, the number of meetings and events continue to increase, community board funding has not. We are one of the few city agencies that has not expanded since 2016. This past year, we have worked remotely but with dedication to keep pace. A \$42,500 expense grant was provided to Community Boards citywide for the past two years and enabled the Board to upgrade technology, signage, outreach and expand events. However, these endeavors require additional staff time as well and without a baseline increase, the current staff is approaching capacity.

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

Needs for Parks

Residents of CD 14 live further away from a park than any other District in the entire City of New York, with over 70% living a quarter mile away or more. The largest park in our district is the Parade Ground at our northern border, which includes 40 acres of athletic fields, and tennis courts available primarily by permit. Areas that offer open access such as the Det. Dillon Stewart playground and the adult fitness area, are heavily utilized. Kolbert Park is in the southern end of the District and the Deputy Inspector Joseph DiGilio Playground is in the west. Umma Park is a small playground over the BMT tracks in the northeastern end of the District, which as antiquated play equipment and no greenery. There are also two tot lots in the District – on Cortelyou Road and on Campus Road. The Department itself must be adequately resourced to maintain its own inventory, instead of relying on funding provided by elected officials. The identification of additional space for parkland and additional greening of green streets areas is essential in our park-poor community. In 2017 a Planning Fellow provided by the Fund for the City of New York researched and provided recommendations for greening CD14.

The urgency of the need for outdoor space was highlighted when social distancing orders were enacted and CD 14 had fewer outdoor options for recreation and public health needs.

Needs for Cultural Services

As we rebound from the economic impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic, the cultural institutions in our community will need focussed support. Performing arts venues create social capital and economic spillover effects. Situated at the approximate center of Flatbush Avenue, the Kings Theatre serves as a

cultural fulcrum of Brooklyn's Cultural Corridor and has sponsored and supported myriad community events.

Libraries in the district are highly utilized by the community for both traditional and increasingly creative cultural offerings. The closure of libraries during the pandemic brought the variety of the ways they serve the community into sharp focus. The suspension of their Census 2020 efforts had a grave impact that will be ours to bear for the next decade. It is time to reimagine library space to ensure that they can continue to open in the face of the unexpected.

Needs for Library Services

District 14's four existing branch libraries are heavily used and highly valued by the community. The Board continues to strongly support essential improvements needed at these locations and advocated for keeping libraries open seven days a week. Our local branch libraries provide programs and services that relate in important ways to our communities such as the Caribbean Literacy and Cultural Center at the Flatbush Branch, and the Cortelyou Road library's teamwork with other community groups.

Closing libraries in the wake of the Covid pandemic underscored our community's reliance on so many programs and services offered by the BPL system. The suspension of their robust Census 2020 activities will impact the community for the decade to come.

It is important to ensure that libraries are maintained to maximize healthy access. It is time to reimagine how libraries can flex space to maintain some level of service as the community strives to rebound from the pandemic.

Needs for Community Boards

The Community Board meets monthly from September through June. During that season there are several monthly public hearings and committee meetings are held almost weekly. We also host an annual Youth Conference, which has grown each year since its inception in 2007, hosting approximately 500 students this past year, just before the executive orders were issued to socially distance and begin working remotely. The Board instituted a Community Based Organization Roundtable which continues to grow every year and was the impetus for the formation of CB14's Census Complete Count Committee. Every day the District Office assists residents, business owners, organizations and other community members with service delivery requests. Over the past nine years, CB 14 staff have addressed nearly 3500 service delivery requests that require ongoing monitoring and follow up case work. In addition, the office fields many complaints and inquiries daily, that are addressed immediately (such as missed sanitation collections, or requests for information). The 311 system may have value in the City but the community relationships, the ability to proactively follow up on citizen concerns and the ability to distill myriad complaints into budget requests and policy proposals must happen at a very local level and must be managed by people charged with advocating for the community. This was especially apparent as we assisted an often worried and confused community trying to absorb ever changing information and response to the unprecedented Covid 19 pandemic.

We are approaching staff productivity capacity. The ability to continue to assist the District at the highest potential rests on solid support from the City of New York. Access to data and assistance with data analysis; service delivery support; and additional agency liaisons from agencies would go far to increase our reach and efficiency. Additional baseline funding would assist with our collaboration with city agencies, public institutions, and all community members, as we strive to make even better the vitality, quality of life, access to programs, services and beauty and enjoyment our community has to offer. As the city rebounds from Covid 19, we have been called upon increasingly and have met these many challenges working remotely. The economic recovery and the ability of agencies to meet community demand will be slow and low. Community Boards will be called on increasingly to assist community members. Supporting our ability to do so is an investment in the local communities and assists every other city agency in its ability to serve the people of the City of New York.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 1/15 | DPR | Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <i>CD 14 ranks last in the city in terms of the number of residents who live more than a quarter of a mile away from a park. The public health ramifications have been demonstrated by the Covid 19 pandemic. This need is a high priority.</i> | |
| 2/15 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <i>Umma Park is in need of updating - the equipment is antiquated and the surface is in disrepair. There has been a good deal of residential development in the area thus the population in surrounding neighborhood is increasing. This park is in the most dense, and the most socio-economically neighborhood in the District, yet is the only playground in the District to not have been recently rehabilitated. The time has come to address and improve this increasingly important community asset. When CB14 first requested this upgrade, the projected cost was \$1 million. The most recent cost projection is closer to \$2 million. The cost of not taking action is high. Let's get this done before the 255 unit residential building nearby fills with families in need of an outdoor amenity.</i> | |
| CS | BPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | <i>The following capital improvements are needed at our local libraries: Cortelyou Branch - safety and security enhancements; Flatbush Branch - safety and security enhancements, and abatement; Midwood Branch - safety and security enhancements, boiler, HVAC, roof. In CD 14 investments include an \$8.2 million project at the Flatbush Branch, which has been allocated.</i> | |

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|---|
| 1/25 | OMB | Provide more community board staff | <i>CB 14 staff address hundreds of service delivery requests annually. We organize and annual youth conference and nonprofit roundtable. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. Ultimately, we could better complement a complaint driven role with more proactive, grass roots plans. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. The current health and resulting budget crisis will make it harder to city agencies to reach the most local levels and communities will be all the more frustrated. We are their liaison and our role more important than ever.</i> |
| 15/25 | BPL | Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs | <i>The Community Board supports the continuation and expansion of programs that are so valuable in connecting our community members to literacy and culture. From small children, to teens, adults and older adults, the breadth of library programming is impressive and invaluable. These programs will only be all the more important as the community recovers from the myriad impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic.</i> |
| 17/25 | DPR | Forestry services, including street tree maintenance | <i>Flatbush and Midwood boast 11,319 street trees, including 121 different species according to DPR's census. Argyle Road is considered the "leafiest" in Brooklyn. A more robust pruning cycle is still necessary. Requests for emergency pruning and fallen branches have not subsided in the District. The October 2020 storm left limbs, branches and entire trees blocking sidewalks, driveways and streets for days. Clean up took months. Contractors cancelled and DSNY was redirected to help clear our community. It seems that DPR needs a better funded and more robust contracting practice or, better yet, increase the budget to bring the work in house.</i> |

6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Other Capital Requests

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

Other Expense Requests

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

7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

Capital Budget Requests

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
|----------|--------|--|---|----------|
| 1/15 | DPR | Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <i>CD 14 ranks last in the city in terms of the number of residents who live more than a quarter of a mile away from a park. The public health ramifications have been demonstrated by the Covid 19 pandemic. This need is a high priority.</i> | |
| 2/15 | DPR | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <i>Umma Park is in need of updating - the equipment is antiquated and the surface is in disrepair. There has been a good deal of residential development in the area thus the population in surrounding neighborhood is increasing. This park is in the most dense, and the most socio-economically neighborhood in the District, yet is the only playground in the District to not have been recently rehabilitated. The time has come to address and improve this increasingly important community asset. When CB14 first requested this upgrade, the projected cost was \$1 million. The most recent cost projection is closer to \$2 million. The cost of not taking action is high. Let's get this done before the 255 unit residential building nearby fills with families in need of an outdoor amenity.</i> | |
| 3/15 | DOT | Upgrade or create new plazas | <i>We urge DOT to include Newkirk Plaza into the Plaza Program. The infrastructure exists. An organization is willing to partner and the Plaza should be under the auspices of a City agency given that it is public property. The Covid 19 pandemic underscored the need for public outdoor space. This is one of the social determinants of public health and would serve as an economic development boost to businesses on the Plaza.</i> | |
| 4/15 | SCA | Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school | <i>PS 139 is at 121% of utilization; PS 127 is at 125%; PS 249 is at 128%, PS 193 is at 111%; PS 315 is at 118% and the PS 152 Annex is at 146%. Since annexes are built to address overcrowding, an overcrowded annex boldly underscores the need for additional elementary school seats in the northern end of the District. The elementary schools listed above are all north of Avenue L.</i> | |

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| 5/15 | DOE | Other capital budget request for DOE | <i>The ability of the education system to continue to educate students continues to rest on technology. The digital divide in the city was brought into sharp relief. Education attainment disparities are no doubt going to be exacerbated by the lack of access to technology in the home both in terms of devices and access to broadband. This is an urgent need in our community.</i> | |
| 6/15 | EDC | Build or expand incubator or affordable work or research lab spaces | <i>The expansion of broadband access to all parts of the city requires a focussed, equity driven investment. Commercial activity, work from home capacity, and education are all key to community productivity and resiliency.</i> | |
| 7/15 | NYPD | Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses | <i>The history of efforts to relocate this aging facility goes back three decades. In 2006, DCAS began property acquisition at 1326 Ocean Avenue and NYPD set aside \$30 million for the property, and OMB stated its commitment to identify additional funding. construction was set to begin in 2013. It did not and the site was lost to a market rate housing development. A scoping study to asses the feasibility of building a new precinct house on site reportedly acknowledges the locational challenges that the current site presents. Relocating the precinct house remains a priority. A new site search must be funded. In the meantime, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, or parking, nor it is handicap accessible.</i> | |
| 8/15 | DOT | Rehabilitate bridges | <i>DOT must take responsibility for the maintenance of pedestrian islands, dead ends, and sidewalk walls on road bridges. The Beverley Road bridge and the Caton Road bridge both require rehabilitation. The timeframe for repair or reinstallation of street signs continues to increase. Three years ago DOT identified \$60 million for trench repair but none of it was allocated to CD14, despite worsening conditions. There must be an increase in the expense budget for road and street infrastructure repair.</i> | Beverley Road Marlborough Rd Marlborough Rd |
| 9/15 | FDNY | Rehabilitate or renovate existing fire houses or EMS stations | <i>Fund station house renovations and upgrades at Engine 255/Ladder 157; Engine 281/Ladder 147 and Engine 250 firehouses. Including the addition of a station house generator at one of these fire stations. There are no firehouses in CD 14 with a generator.</i> | |

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| 10/15 | NYCTA | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure | <i>Church Avenue is the most heavily utilized station in the District and is in disrepair. This line has had the most requests for security cameras.</i> | Church Ave and E 18 St |
| 11/15 | DOT | Roadway maintenance (i.e. pothole repair, resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.) | <i>DOT had a \$60 million allocation for trench restoration and CB 14 received none of it. Six locations have been submitted to DOT. 564 East 29th Street; 1781 Ocean Avenue/SE corner of Avenue M; 715 Ocean Parkway Service Road; Waldorf Court between East 17 and Dead End; Hillel Place and Kenilworth Place intersection; 464-476 East 16th Street. The suggestion that Community Boards should turn to local elected officials to tend to trench conditions is irresponsible.</i> | |
| 12/15 | NYCTA | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. | <i>The 18th Avenue Stop on the Culver Line is on the same block as the United Cerebral Palsey complex. This stop was recently upgraded. It's unfortunate that accessibility was not one of the improvements.</i> | |
| 13/15 | NYPD | Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses | <i>While NYPD continues the search for an appropriate location for a new precinct house, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, parking, nor it is handicap accessible.</i> | |
| 14/15 | NYPD | Provide surveillance cameras | <i>This continues to be a common request from the community and the Precinct. CD 14 would defer to the CO as to most warranted location. While cameras are typically funded by allocations made by elected officials, we believe funding should be provided in the NYPD budget directly so that placement is not contingent on the interest level of whichever city councilmembers overlap with a Precinct.</i> | |
| 15/15 | SCA | Renovate other site component | <i>Areas to store garbage before and then areas to place bags or containers for pick up need better planning and design. Too many schools place a large number of bags out too early in the day. They are often ripped and are adding to our rodent population and public health and safety concerns.</i> | |

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| CS | DSNY | Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure | <i>We are gratified that the condemned heating and cooling systems installed on the BK14 roof will be upgraded in the upcoming fiscal year so that the garage has heat in the winter and adequate cooling in the summer.</i> |
| CS | BPL | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library | <i>The following capital improvements are needed at our local libraries: Cortelyou Branch - safety and security enhancements; Flatbush Branch - safety and security enhancements, and abatement; Midwood Branch - safety and security enhancements, boiler, HVAC, roof. In CD 14 investments include an \$8.2 million project at the Flatbush Branch, which has been allocated.</i> |

Expense Budget Requests

| Priority | Agency | Request | Explanation | Location |
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| 1/25 | OMB | Provide more community board staff | <i>CB 14 staff address hundreds of service delivery requests annually. We organize and annual youth conference and nonprofit roundtable. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. Ultimately, we could better complement a complaint driven role with more proactive, grass roots plans. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. The current health and resulting budget crisis will make it harder to city agencies to reach the most local levels and communities will be all the more frustrated. We are their liaison and our role more important than ever.</i> | |
| 2/25 | DOHMH | Other programs to address public health issues requests | <i>Public health programs must be updated to address the Corona virus pandemic, it's impact on our community and apply lessons learned. Education and programs to address health disparities that were laid bare in the wake of the pandemic must be addressed. Education, supplies and support to better respond to the pandemic were not well managed and caused confusion. The need to impress upon our residents their roles in stemming the spread must be a reliable campaign ongoingly.</i> | |
| 3/25 | DSNY | Other cleaning requests | <i>There are 1200 road segments in CD 14. Given the number of dead ends, overpasses, and road bridges, cleaning is a persistent need. The evisceration of MLP, which is the only operation that cleans CD14's 54 dead ends streets, the severe reduction in basket collection, the reduction in lot cleaning, cancellation of electronics collection and organics is a myopic response in a city striving to recover its health and economy. DSNY stepped up to the plate in the midst of a public health crises like no other agency. In fact, BK14 assisted DPR in the aftermath of October's storm, while still maintaining collection and balancing schedule changes necessary to keep the workplace safe. The city must restore full funding for this agency in service to our community.</i> | |

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| 4/25 | DSNY | Provide more frequent litter basket collection | <i>You've got to be kidding us. CB 14 fought for nearly a decade for the return of this baseline service. When DSNY provides six day a week service, there is an immediate and noticeable improvement . It allowed for additional corner baskets on commercial streets. We urge the Department to restore this funding.</i> |
| 5/25 | HPD | Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations | <i>Four out of five top 311 requests are for HPD inspections and violation enforcement. CB 14 ranks 12th in the city in the number of housing code violations per 1000 residents, and only 40% of rental units are considered adequate. The deficit of affordable housing is projected to grow by 150,000 units in the wake of the pandemic. Maintaining housing that exists now helps to stem this crises. Adequate housing is pivotal to health outcomes, and an urgent need in recovering from this public health crises.</i> |
| 6/25 | DHS | Expand street outreach | <i>Reports on homeless encampments and regarding individuals who appear to be homeless have increased over the past year. Common Ground is the current contractor and provides excellent service. Given the increase in calls to the Community Board, the Police and 311, an increase in outreach services is warranted. These teams must be equipped with professionals who can assist those who are not technically homeless, but are on the street due to substance use.</i> |
| 7/25 | HRA | Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs | <i>Community District 14 ranks 11th of 59 in the percentage of severely rent burdened household - 35% up from 30% the year before. The District ranks 8th in the percent of renter households that are severely overcrowded. Nearly 35% of renters in the District pay over 50% of their household income on monthly rent. Affordability of rentals (at 80% of AMI) decreased from 2010-2017, from 71.3% to only 49%. These are pressures that lend themselves to homelessness and continued expansion of prevention programs is warranted.</i> |

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| 8/25 | DYCD | Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program | <i>According to our Youth Conference attendees survey, the biggest draw for the 600 youth who attended our annual conference was jobs. The impact of Covid 19 on the SYEP program and DYCD's shift to only remote opportunities will have a residual impact in the upcoming years. Given the very small percentage of applicants who are placed in summer jobs, it is imperative that DYCD jobs programs be expanded and dependably funded. Additional focus on building capacity at the CBO level to expand programming into underserved communities that were more highly impacted by Covid 19 is imperative.</i> |
| 9/25 | ACS | Other foster care and child welfare requests | <i>The agency has made positive strides in reducing caseloads. This effort must be continued, but there is a concern that demand for casework will increase as the city opens and children come into contact with mandated reporters. The stress placed on households and access to support is a combination for concern.</i> |
| 10/25 | DFTA | Increase staffing for homebound adult programs | <i>Case management, home care, legal services, and transportation services are generally intertwined. There is no way to prioritize the needs of one senior citizen over those of another and it would be folly to provide transportation over home care for a senior who is need of both. The funding of these services must be designed with the approach that support services are inextricable.</i> |
| 11/25 | SBS | Other commercial district revitalization requests | <i>Supporting venues that generate social capital and drive economic development is key to post pandemic recovery. Kings Theater was an EDC project that is owned and managed by a private entity and is a for profit enterprise, the Tow Performing Arts Center is housed at a public institution of higher education but runs ticketed events, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment permitted over 150 film and television productions in our 2.9 square miles of space in 2019. These enterprises generate a good deal of profit with the support of public space and financing. There should be some sort of mechanism that directs some funding back to the local community that often bears significant inconvenience from these activities.</i> |

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| 12/25 | DOHMH | Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment | <i>There were approximately 657 (per 100,000 adults) psychiatric hospitalizations last year, compared to 743 Brooklyn wide and 684 citywide. In addition alcohol and drug related hospitalizations were 836 and 649 per 100,000 respectively. The stresses of impacts of the pandemic are well documented throughout communities. Many times people who are reported as homeless actually have homes but are on the streets to use. Teams specifically geared to engage with mental illness and substance abuse would be a valuable complement to street outreach.</i> |
| 13/25 | DFTA | Funding for a new senior center program | <i>Engage in reimagining an RFP for senior centers that could continue some programming that would allow for social distanced but in person services, while expanding needed remote programming. DFTA was amazingly deft in pivoting to providing remote service to a vulnerable population and developing new volunteer programs. This shift to ensure the continuity of service should be fully funded.</i> |
| 14/25 | DEP | Other expense budget request for DEP | <i>Fund DEP to continue the development, in tandem with institutions of higher learning and DOHMH, for wastewater testing for evidence of virus in order to respond to public health threats.</i> |
| 15/25 | BPL | Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs | <i>The Community Board supports the continuation and expansion of programs that are so valuable in connecting our community members to literacy and culture. From small children, to teens, adults and older adults, the breadth of library programming is impressive and invaluable. These programs will only be all the more important as the community recovers from the myriad impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic.</i> |

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| 16/25 | DEP | Inspect water main on specific street segment and repair or replace as needed | <i>There are several locations in the District that flood chronically in rainstorms. These locations have all been brought to DEP's attention and we are awaiting determination as to cause. DCP has provided a limited drop down list from which to choose a budget priority. We ask the DEP respond to the requests pending and advise as to what the respective issues are so that we can identify what budget line these requests fall into. The bottom line is that DEP must provide solutions to these locations because property, businesses and public areas should not have to withstand chronic flooding. Several claims have been filed with the City of New York.</i> |
| 17/25 | DPR | Forestry services, including street tree maintenance | <i>Flatbush and Midwood boast 11,319 street trees, including 121 different species according to DPR's census. Argyle Road is considered the "leafiest" in Brooklyn. A more robust pruning cycle is still necessary. Requests for emergency pruning and fallen branches have not subsided in the District. The October 2020 storm left limbs, branches and entire trees blocking sidewalks, driveways and streets for days. Clean up took months. Contractors cancelled and DSNY was redirected to help clear our community. It seems that DPR needs a better funded and more robust contracting practice or, better yet, increase the budget to bring the work in house.</i> |
| 18/25 | DOB | Assign additional building inspectors (including expanding training programs) | <i>Too many complaints are closed out due to lack of access while unpermitted work continues to the point of completion. Better timing of inspections, additional attempts and more detailed follow ups would assist in the ability to enforcement myriad violations.</i> |
| 19/25 | DOHMH | Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations | <i>CD 14 continues to be among the highest number of rodent complaints in the City and those complaints are on the way to doubling from 300 in 2018 to 600 in 2019. While DOHMH continues to increase the number of inspections performed annually, these efforts are outpaced by conditions contributing to rodent infestations. Increased coordination with DOB's abatement rules for construction sites, with DSNY to address illegal dumping and school collections, and with the public at large to educate people on the down side of feeding feral cats and birds are warranted.</i> |

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| 20/25 | FDNY | Provide more firefighters or EMS workers | <i>Fund adequate new firefighter, Marshall, EMS and inspector hires. Given the pace of development and the density that is adding to our community, it is imperative that we ensure that staffing remain optimal and that the addition of a 5th firefight on the truck is expanded to firehouses serving our community. Two years ago more than a dozen Fire Marshalls were hired and dedicated to Brooklyn. The increase is useful and should be augmented by additional hires for Marshalls and inspectors in FY 20.</i> |
| 21/25 | DSNY | Provide more frequent litter basket collection | <i>Provide garages with weed wackers, bolt cutters, pruning sheers and other tools to assist with lots, dead ends, and DOT pedestrian islands.</i> |
| 22/25 | EDC | Expand public programming and activation of City-owned sites | <i>Develop and RFP for Newkirk Plaza. The Plaza is a platform over MTA NYCT's Brighton Line station. However, NYCT does not recognize the street level pedestrian mall as being under it's purview. Likewise, while the Plaza offers public access, and serves as walkway flanked by approximately 20 stores, DOT does not include the Plaza in it's inventory of sidewalks in the public right of way. Furthermore, DOT will not accept Newkirk Plaza into the DOT Pedestrian Plaza program, despite the fact that Newkirk Plaza is prototypical. Since this is publically owned land, EDC should develop and RFP so that the space can be assumed and programed by an interested party for better maintenance, programming and public benefit.</i> |
| 23/25 | NYCTA | Other transit service requests | <i>Assume responsibility for the maintenance of Newkirk Plaza. As the gateway to one of MTA's most unique stations, atop America's first outdoor shopping Plaza, there is an opportunity to improve and program the Plaza. An local CBO has expressed interest in a partnership that could mimic the community garden at the Church Avenue station, which inarguably has improved the exterior conditions and the community perspective on that station.</i> |

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| 24/25 | DSNY | Increase enforcement of canine waste laws | <i>Illegal drop offs and dumping at commercial baskets, dead-ends, tree pits, etc is an ongoing complaint. Resident bring garbage to corner baskets, construction and other commercial debris are often found under elevated train tracks. Often the sanitation workers, supervisors and police know who the offenders are but the rules for enforcement require a stake out. Funding to increase enforcement's capacity to stake out chronic locations, day and night, could make an enormous difference in the public health, safety and appearance of out District.</i> |
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| 25/25 | NYPD | Assign additional crossing guards | <i>This is an increasing request. New schools have opened, new developments are in the pipeline. The Community Board defers to the Police Precinct to assign additional crossing guards to new locations.</i> |
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