



Brooklyn
Community District 02

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 Brooklyn Community Board 2's Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the Community Board, collected through an online form available to community boards from September to November 2016.

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:

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This report is broadly structured as follows:

a) Overarching Community District Needs

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

b) Policy Area- Specific District Needs

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

c) Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY18 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Community Board Information
- 2. Community District Land Use
- 3. Overview of Community District
- 4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall
- 5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Health Care and Human Services

Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Transportation

Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

- 6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests
- 7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Table of All Capital Requests

Table of All Expense Requests

Appendix - Supporting Materials

1. Community Board Information

Brooklyn Community Board 2

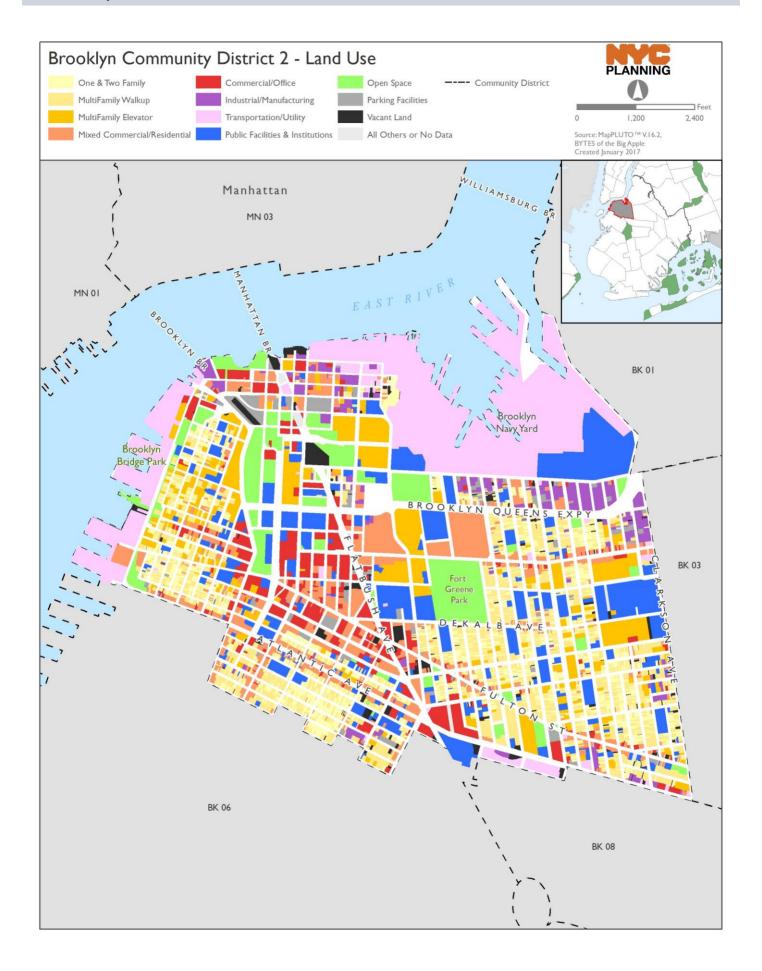
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Chair: Ms. Shirley McRae

District Manager: Robert Perris



3. Overview of Community District

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4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Brooklyn Community Board 2 are:

- Affordable housing
- Schools
- Other | Highway condition

The affordable housing crisis is a citywide issue and one that will be extremely difficult to resolve. The city is losing affordable units of housing faster than new units can be constructed. When Mayor Bill de Blasio announced his goal of building or preserving 200,000 units of affordable housing over 10 years, the NYU Furman Center commented that it will take a million new apartments to impact housing cost from the supply side. As neighborhoods in Brooklyn Community District 2 gentrify at a faster pace, the issue is increasingly acute here. The Department of Education (DOE) seems unable to plan for localized growth in school population. It is understandable that the DOE does not want to construct expensive schools for which there is no need but its 'wait-and-see' approach, in combination with the long lead time necessary to site and construct a school, results in painful waits for additional capacity. The city rezoned Downtown Brooklyn in 2004 and Dumbo five years later without attention to elementary school capacity. Now P.S. 8 is operating at 142 percent of capacity, the solutions highly contentious, and there is still no plan for an elementary school serving Downtown Brooklyn. The "Triple Cantilever" section of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, on the western edge of Brooklyn Heights, has outlived its engineered life. The environmental review, alternatives analysis, design and construction of a renovated structure, replacement or alternative will take 10-15 years at a minimum. Although these series of steps have not begun, the Department of Transportation (DOT) has held one town hall meeting and scheduled a second, which is a positive development. DOT needs to expedite the project but in a way that mitigates the tremendous impacts that will occur in Community District 2 and far beyond the district boundaries.

Health Care and Human Services



Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Infectious disease (HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, etc)

Documented research indicates that low-income and entrenched poverty is an indicator of high concentrations of chronic diseases such as asthma, diabetes, hypertension and obesity as well as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV/AIDS. New York State Community Health Indicator Reports (CHIRS) that STDs are on the rise in New York City. The American Community Survey 2008-2012 recorded 44.2 percent, 68.8 percent and 52.9 percent of the residents in the census tracts where the Farragut, Ingersoll and Whitman developments are located are living below the federally defined poverty level.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

Brooklyn Community District 2 (CD2) is home to a large number of health care facilities, in some cases disproportionately so. This results in part from the extensive transportation network in the district, which makes it accessible to the rest of the borough. According to the register of "Selected Facilities and Program Sites" prepared by the Department of City Planning, there are 28 mental health service centers in CD2, 24 chemical dependency service centers and 20 residential programs for adults and families. In an analysis prepared in support of a board resolution passed in 2011, it was determined that 23 percent of the borough's beds for chemical dependency services then were located in CD2. Six Brooklyn community districts combined provided less than the number located here and five districts provided no beds at all. One-quarter of the out-patient substance abuse program sites in Brooklyn were located in CD2, making it the predominant host in 2011. Similarly, the district ranked first for the borough's out-patient substance abuse program sites. Community Board 2 (CB2) knows that health care facilities are not necessarily bad neighbors and how well a program is operated is the determining factor, not the services provided. The community board has in recent years not objected to the expansion and consolidation of existing services in the district or the relocation of facilities from elsewhere. However, saturation is always a concern for CB2.

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

The 2010 decennial census recorded 15,433 older adults residing in substantial concentrations in Brooklyn Community District 2. There are 13 residential developments where more than 30 percent of the residents, or approximately 3,700 people, are age 60 or older. Of these, seven met government guidelines for designation as Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities, or NORCs. In surveys conducted through Community Board 2, nearly all respondents indicated a desire to remain in their homes for as long as possible. More than half responded that they would welcome a nurse or social worker who will make regularly scheduled visits to their development.

Supporting Materials:

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

NORC Communities in Brooklyn CD2

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Services for the Homeless

There has been a noticeable increase in street homelessness in Brooklyn Community District 2. Small groups of people without homes congregate in several locations, including Columbus Park, the plaza in front of Long Island University and on the Fulton Mall, in particular at Albee Square. Telephone calls from the district office and community residents to 311 or directly to Street to Home, operated by a Department of Homeless Services contractor, do not seem to result in a reduction of the homeless population. This is attributable to a variety of explanations, including resistance from the individuals we hope to assist. However, the district office receives no follow-up reports from Street to Home and therefore we do not know what we might do differently.



Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
18/33	DHS	Facilities for the homeless	Upgrade existing facilities for the homeless	Auburn Family Shelter 39 Auburn Place
27/33	DFTA	Facilities for seniors	Renovate or upgrade a senior center	Willoughby Senior Center 105 North Portland Avenue

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
4/47	DOHMH	Animal and pest control services	Reduce rat populations	
6/47	DOHMH	Animal and pest control services	Reduce rat populations	
11/47	DHS	Services for the homeless	Improve safety at homeless shelters	Tillary Street Women's Shelter 200 Tillary Street
16/47	DOHMH	Programs to address HIV/AIDS or other infectious diseases	Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services	Fort Greene Health Center 295 Flatbush Avenue Extension
22/47	DFTA	Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) programs	Enhance NORC programs and health services	
26/47	DOHMH	Programs to address HIV/AIDS or other infectious diseases	Promote vaccinations and immunizations	Fort Greene Health Center 295 Flatbush Avenue Extension
28/47	DOHMH	Developmental, mental health and substance abuse prevention programs	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment	
34/47	DFTA	Services for homebound older adults	Enhance home care services	
36/47	DHS	Services for the homeless	Expand street outreach	
41/47	DOHMH	Healthy life styles programs	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.	

Youth, Education and Child Welfare



Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

School and educational facilities (Capacity)

P.S. 8 is operating at 142 percent of capacity and 50 kindergarten applicants were wait-listed in 2015. Much of the increased demand on P.S. 8 comes from new construction in Dumbo, which was rezoned in 2009 without consideration for elementary school capacity. To create room for additional students at P.S. 307, the DOE relocated M.S. 313, usurping what was once going to be a new middle school option in Community School District 13. Downtown Brooklyn was rezoned in 2004. Ten times as many dwelling units have been built than projected by the EIS and yet no school is planned.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

The Department of Education and School Construction Authority need to construct a new school, or perhaps several schools, for the residents of Downtown Brooklyn.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/33	DOE	Schools and educational facilities	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	
12/33	DOE	Schools and educational facilities	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
2/47	DYCD	After school programs	Provide, expand, or enhance Cornerstone and Beacon programs (all ages, including young adults)	
10/47	DCA	Business regulatory assistance	Other business regulatory assistance requests	
19/47	LPC	Housing oversight and emergency programs	Other housing oversight and emergency programs	
38/47	DOE	Schools and educational facilities	Renovate site component	Charles Wang (Brooklyn Technical
				Block 2008, Lot 13

Public Safety and Emergency Services



Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Other | Gun violence.

As it has in most of New York City, crime has been greatly reduced in Brooklyn Community District 2, which is patrolled by the 78th, 84th and 88th precincts, Police Service Area 3 and Transit District 30. One year ago, there had been a 61.5 percent year-over-year increase in shooting incidents and a 53.3 percent increase in shooting victims. The figures for the 88th Precinct were particularly alarming, with a 400 percent increase in murders, from two to eight. Those numbers were reversed over the past year, dropping from eight to two. Unfortunately, there were three murders in the 84th Precinct, where there had been none in 2015, partially offsetting the reduction in the eastern part of the community district.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
14/33	NYPD	NYPD facilities and equipment	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	88th Precinct 298 Classon Avenue
25/33	DOT	NYPD facilities and equipment	Provide traffic enforcement cameras	Flatbush Avenue Extension DeKalb Avenue Myrtle Avenue
31/33	NYPD	NYPD facilities and equipment	Provide surveillance cameras	937 Fulton St

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
5/47	NYPD	NYPD staff and training resources	Assign additional traffic enforcement officers	
12/47	FDNY	FDNY programs and staffing	Expand funding for fire prevention and life safety initiatives	
14/47	NYPD	NYPD staff and training resources	Assign additional uniformed officers	
30/47	NYPD	NYPD staff and training resources	Other NYPD staff resources requests	
31/47	NYPD	NYPD staff and training resources	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	
39/47	NYPD	NYPD staff and training resources	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	
40/47	NYPD	NYPD facilities and equipment	Provide additional patrol cars and other vehicles	88th Precinct 298 Classon Avenue

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency



Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Sewer capacity

The last major environmental impact statement (EIS) written for a project in Brooklyn Community District 2 (CD2) was prepared for the 22-acre Atlantic Yards mixed-use development and published in late-2006. The EIS stated [page 11-6] that the Red Hook Water Pollution Control Plant had a capacity of 120 mgd and was operating at a 12-month rolling average dry weather flow of 60 mgd. However, there has been considerable new construction and population growth in CD2 in the nine years since, resulting in community concern about the remaining capacity of the Red Hook WPCP and the mains leading to it.

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
20/33	DEP	Sewage and flooding	Provide new or expand green infrastructure, e.g. greenbelts, bio swales	
29/33	DSNY	Garbage collection and recycling infrastructure	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
13/47	DSNY	Sanitation Enforcement	Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws	
15/47	DSNY	Street and lot cleaning	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	
17/47	DEP	Sewage and flooding	Clean catch basins	
25/47	DSNY	Garbage collection and recycling	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick- up for schools and institutions	Brooklyn Technical High School 29 Fort Greene Place
29/47	DEP	Sewage and flooding	Other sewer maintenance requests	
32/47	DEP	Sewage and flooding	Other sewer maintenance requests	
33/47	NYPD	Sanitation Enforcement	Other enforcement requests	
42/47	DSNY	Street and lot cleaning	Other cleaning requests	
46/47	DSNY	Sanitation Enforcement	Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws	
47/47	DSNY	Snow removal	Improve snow removal	





Main Issue Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Affordable housing programs

Clearly, the most important issue in Brooklyn Community District 2 and throughout the city is affordable housing. Community Board 2 (CB2) believes that the issue is even broader, a need for affordable communities. In its report, State of New York City's Housing and Neighborhoods in 2014, the NYU Furman Center ranked the district's median rent ninth highest in the city, at \$2,995. That is a phenomenal \$2,000 increase from a decade earlier. A survey conducted for Brooklyn Community Board 2 by the Center for Worker Education at City College found the issue to be the most pressing concern for respondents, regardless of income. The survey was taken in the census tracts where the three NYCHA developments are located and in adjacent tracts that had experienced considerable gentrification. Various programs and projects have produced and continue to generate new units of affordable housing. Community Board 2 would like the incentive programs to require a higher proportion of affordable units and for the income thresholds to be lower. The community board would also like to see more two- and three-bedroom apartments constructed so that families can stay in their homes as household size grows. Finally, CB2 encourages the City to put in place policies and programs that will contribute to affordable retail. The value of affordable housing is diminished when residents need to travel to another neighborhood to shop.

Community District Needs Related to Land Use

Almost all of Brooklyn Community District 2 has been rezoned in the past two decades, beginning with Vinegar Hill in 1997. For the most part, the land use actions have accomplished the intended goals but there have been two failures. Little affordable housing has been constructed in the areas where density bonuses were mapped to incentivize its development. The Downtown Brooklyn Development Plan, intended to strengthen the city's third central business district, has instead produced a high-rise, bedroom community.

Community District Needs Related to Economic Development

Significant economic activity is and has been occurring in Brooklyn Community District 2 (CD2). Most of the neighborhoods are gentrifying and there is considerable investment in the commercial districts. CD2 is home to eight business improvement districts and part of a ninth, which is believed to be the highest number in any community district in the city. Office vacancy rates are lower than they have been in years. However, in this case a rising tide has not raised all ships. The unemployment rate in the three NYCHA developments is 29 percent, three times the rate (9.8%) of the district. The median household income in the Farragut, Ingersoll and Whitman houses is roughly \$17,000. Three-quarters of the households there earn less than \$35,000 and almost one-third manage somehow on less than \$10,000. By comparison, the median income is for the district as a whole is approximately \$83,000 and the households earning less than \$35,000 constitute less than 30 percent of the total. Policies and programs need to be developed and executed so the residents with the greatest need benefit more from the economic vitality of Community District 2. The Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation (BNYDC) has led the way in this regard. For example, at its newly developed Green Manufacturing Center, BNYDC obtained a 31 percent rate of MWBE contracting and 46 percent rate of MWBE hiring. The local contracting and hiring rates were 14 and 18 percent, respectively. Admittedly, as a public benefit corporation, the Navy Yard has more flexibility than a for-profit entity but it serves as an example of the kind of effort that we need to see more of in CD2.

Capital Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
2/33	NYCHA	Public housing upgrades or renovations	Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades	
6/33	NYCHA	Public housing upgrades or renovations	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	



Expense Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
20/47	DOE	Workforce development	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	
21/47	HPD	Housing oversight and emergency programs	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	
35/47	EDC	Tax and other incentives programs and financing support	Expand tax incentive programs to help neighborhood businesses construct or improve space	
37/47	DCP	Zoning and land use	Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs	
44/47	SBS	Direct business services	Provide or expand business education to businesses and entrepreneurs	
45/47	SBS	Business regulatory assistance	Provide or expand assistance to obtain licenses and permits	

Transportation



Main Issue Related to Transportation

Bridge maintenance and operations

The "Triple Cantilever" section of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, generally located between Atlantic Avenue and the Brooklyn Bridge, has out-lived its engineered life. Seven years ago, the state transportation department began the environmental review and alternative analysis for this portion of Interstate-278, only to terminate the project. Environmental review, alternative analysis, design and construction will take more than a decade to complete. Waiting for a system failure is not an option; traffic will be congested in at least three counties for years.

Community District Needs Related to Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

The transportation network in Brooklyn Community District 2 (CD2) is extensive and varied. The Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges convey, respectively, 124,000 and 75,000 vehicles between the two boroughs daily. On average, 4,000 pedestrians and 2,600 bicyclists cross the Brooklyn Bridge each day. The East River crossings act as funnels for cyclists traveling to or from Manhattan and CD2 is well served by bike lanes. Citi Bike docking stations are distributed throughout the district, although the operator continues to struggle to balance the system. Thirteen subway and 11 bus lines move passengers through the district and beyond. According to the MTA, the Jay Street-Metrotech, Atlantic Avenue-Barclays Center, and Court Street-Borough Hall subway stations rank 23rd, 24th, and 27th respectively for average weekday ridership in the 420-station system. Atlantic Terminal serves as a hub for the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) and the Brooklyn-Queens E expressway is a resource for motorists to and from Queens and Long Island.



Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
4/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Rehabilitate bridges	I-278 Atlantic Avenue Brooklyn Bridge
7/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Install streetscape improvements	Flatbush Avenue DeKalb Avenue Atlantic Avenue
13/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Court Street - Borough Hall Subw
15/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Upgrade or create new plazas	Block 926, Lot 1
16/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Hoyt-Schermerhorn Subway Station
17/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Install streetscape improvements	Atlantic Avenue Furman Street Hicks Street
21/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Borough Hall 2/3/4/5 subway stat
23/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	York Street F Train Station
24/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	
26/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Nevins Street 2/3/4/5 subway sta
30/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Lafayette Avenue C Train Station
32/33	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Other transit infrastructure requests	
33/33	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Repair or construct new sidewalks, curbs or pedestrian ramps	

Expense Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
7/47	TLC	Traffic and traffic flow	Conduct traffic or parking studies	
18/47	NYCTA	Transit Service	Other transit service requests	
23/47	DOT	Traffic and traffic flow	Conduct traffic or parking studies	Flatbush Avenue Fulton Street Nevins Street
24/47	DOT	Traffic and traffic flow	Conduct traffic or parking studies	
27/47	NYCTA	Transit Service	Other transit service requests	
43/47	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals	Myrtle Ave Grand ave

Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities



Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Park care and maintenance

Every year, community boards across the city identify parks in the districts that they serve as needing renovation or reconstruction. The formal response to the great majority of these budget requests is, "Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council member." It is not so much that the funds are insufficient as they are non-existent until an elected official makes a budget allocation for a specific capital project. This may not be the most equitable way to prioritize what parks are funded. The time may have come for the administration to provide Capital Budget funding directly to the parks department, which has for years prepared lists of its facilities that most need investment. If this is too radical a change, the City could perhaps start be establishing a fund for the largest municipal parks. The cost of renovating the larger parks (Fort Greene and Commodore Barry, for example in Community District 2) is too high for the borough president and council member to shoulder on their own, even in partnership. The result is often deferred maintenance and piecemeal renovation when it does occur.

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

Like most of New York City, Brooklyn Community District 2 is unlikely to achieve the city's ideal of 2.5 acres of open space per 1,000 residents, even with the addition of Brooklyn Bridge Park. While parks and playgrounds are spread throughout the district, parkland is scarce in Boerum Hill and the southern portion of Clinton Hill. Master plans were written for Fort Greene, Commodore Barry and McLaughlin parks and while some renovation has occurred, none of the three plans have been fully implemented due to the extensive scope of work and cost. According to respondents to a survey conducted by the board, most of the district parks are in good condition. A majority of the almost 250 respondents stated that the bathrooms were open during posted hours at least some of the time. However, those who primarily use McLaughlin Park, Fort Greene Park and Underwood Playground said the bathrooms there are almost never open and when they are open, they are usually unclean. Users noted that there is never a parks employee on site, except at Fort Greene Park.

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

Brooklyn Community District 2 is rich in organizations that provide access to visual, written and performing arts, in the "cultural district" centered on the Brooklyn Academy of Music and elsewhere. In a survey released by the Downtown Brooklyn Arts Alliance, 32 of its members reported a total of 5,107,586 patrons--2,772,064 residing in Brooklyn--and \$214 million in economic impact. Members of the Alliance work with school-based and non-school-based programs to serve 64,378 Brooklynites who might have otherwise been bared. Traditionally, high admission cost or lack of awareness of available cultural institutions has limited access to low-income families. Cool Culture, a local non-profit, helped 759 families residing in Community District 2 with children through age six to overcome these obstacles.

Community District Needs Related to Library Facilities and Programming

The Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) has surpassed its traditional role of being a repository for books and a place for quiet study. Today you can access computers, have a snack at the café, participate in cultural or interactive events, receive advice on starting or expanding a business and more. On March 20, 2015 at a hearing of the City Council's cultural affairs committee, BPL President and CEO Linda Johnson stated, "In 2014, nearly 900,000 Brooklynites attended library programs, an increase of 28 percent over the previous year." While the services offered by the BPL and attendance continues to grow, their discretionary budget is subject to repeated attrition. During her testimony, Ms. Johnson claimed, "the mayor's preliminary budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2016 provides the library with 20 percent less discretionary funding than [it] received in 2008." Funding and usage are at odds.

Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities



Community District Needs Related to Community Boards

The responsibilities and expectations of New York City's 59 community boards have grown considerably in their almost 40 years of existence. Manhattan community boards are busier than ever, the districts closest to Manhattan resemble it more and more, and districts at a greater distance are experiencing unprecedented gentrification and other change. Just a few years ago, only a handful of community boards reviewed liquor licenses; now many do. Along with liquor licenses, community boards are increasingly advising city and state agencies and private entities on a wide range of matters; sidewalk cafés, gymnasiums, newsstands, even the locations of benches on sidewalks. At the same time, digital communication has raised the public's expectation of what it might learn from the community boards' district offices, and reasonably so. The boards received an approximately 10 percent increase in their budgets this year, for which Brooklyn Community Board 2 is grateful. However, the increased responsibilities of community boards and the decades without any budget increases (other than to cover salaries increased through collective bargaining and executive order) mean that there is more catching up to do.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
3/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Fort Greene Park
				Block 2088, Lot 1
5/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Commodore Barry Park
				Block 2025, Lot 1
8/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	Brooklyn War Memorial
9/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Cadman Plaza Park
				Block 58, Lot 50
10/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	McLaughlin Park
				Block 119, Lot 1
11/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Washington Hall Playground
				Block 1890, Lot 26
19/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	BAM Park, an HPD property
				Block 2109, Lot 8
22/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	
28/33	DPR	Park, buildings, and access improvements	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Fort Greene Park





Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/47	ОМВ	Community board facilities and staff	Provide more community board staff	350 Jay Street
3/47	BPL	Library facilities, equipment and	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	
8/47	DPR	Park maintenance and safety	Other park maintenance and safety requests	
9/47	DPR	Park maintenance and safety	Provide better park maintenance	

6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests

Other Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
10/47	DCA	Business regulatory assistance	Other business regulatory assistance requests	
19/47	LPC	Housing oversight and emergency programs	Other housing oversight and emergency programs	

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Priority /
Continued

Continued Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/33	DOE	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	Construct a new elementary school in Downtown Brooklyn. Ten years after the 2004 rezoning, 5,000 units of housing had been built and another 4,600 are under construction, 10 times the number predicted in the EIS, providing homes to approximately 2,800 elementary school students. [formerly Tracking Code 202201501C]		Downtown Brooklyn School Solutions
2/33	NYCHA	Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades	Replace outdoor lights at the Farragut, Ingersoll and Whitman houses, especially in the vicinity of the building entrances. [formerly Tracking Code 202201602C]		
3/33	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Create a grading and drainage plan to address erosion problems in Fort Greene Park. [formerly Tracking Code 202201601C]	Fort Greene Park Block 2088, Lot 1	Fort Greene Park Conservancy
4/33	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	Refurbish or replace the "Triple Cantilever" section of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, in Brooklyn Heights. The "Triple Cantilever" section of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway is older than its engineered life. Failure of the structure would negatively impact traffic in at least three counties. Although part of the BQE, the Department of Transportation considers the "Triple Cantilever" a bridge. [formerly Tracking Code 202201603C]	I-278 Atlantic Avenue Brooklyn Bridge	
5/33	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Obtain additional funds for continuing phases of renovation of Commodore Barry Park as per completed master plan. This is the only cityowned athletic field in Community District 2 and is used by large numbers of local residents and those from beyond the district. [formerly Tracking Code 202200006C]	Commodore Barry Park Block 2025, Lot 1	
6/33	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	Renovation of 75, 77, 99 and 110 Waverly Avenue, which have been wholly or partially vacant for years. [formerly Tracking Code 202201202C]		
7/33	DOT	Install streetscape improvements	Extend the Flatbush Avenue streetscape improvements from DeKalb to Atlantic avenues. Extension would match the original geographic scope of the project, which was truncated due to budget constraints. [formerly Tracking Code 202201402C]	Flatbush Avenue DeKalb Avenue Atlantic Avenue	Downtown Brooklyn Partnership
8/33	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	Improve the conditions of the Brooklyn War Memorial and restore the interior to usable space. Bring both the exterior and interior spaces into ADA Compliance. [formerly Tracking Code 202200604C]	Brooklyn War Memorial	Cadman Park Conservancy

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 2 submitted 33 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
9/33	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Renovate Cadman Plaza Park north of the War Memorial, including infrastructure and specifically water supply, to coordinate and complement the design with that of the completed southern section and Whitman Park where renovations have been completed. [formerly Tracking Code 202201001C]	Cadman Plaza Park Block 58, Lot 50	Cadman Park Conservancy
10/33	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	Carry out Phase 3 of the renovation of McLaughlin Park, including an expanded park house (DPR estimate: \$5 million) and improved lighting both inside and on adjacent sidewalks. [formerly Tracking Code 202198225C]	McLaughlin Park Block 119, Lot 1	Concord Village Homeowners Association; Tillary Parks Foundation
11/33	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Install athletic court lights, eliminate the garden space and refurbish the children's playground at Washington Hall Playground. [formerly Tracking Code 202199803C]	Washington Hall Playground Block 1890, Lot 26	
12/33	DOE	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	Construct additional elementary and intermediate public schools to accommodate the increase in student population resulting from the development of Pacific Park, formerly known as Atlantic Yards. [formerly Tracking Code 202200804C]		
13/33	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Installation of elevators to provide ADA accessibility to individuals with visual and mobility disabilities at the Court Street-Borough Hall (4 and 5 trains) subway station.	Court Street - Borough Hall Subw	
14/33	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	Renovate and expand the 88th Precinct House. The landmarked building is inadequate for contemporary service delivery but is unlikely to be replaced. [formerly Tracking Code 202200702C]	88th Precinct 298 Classon Avenue	
15/33	DOT	Upgrade or create new plazas	Development of a plaza on the triangle bounded by Flatbush, Atlantic and Fourth Avenues, known as Times Plaza. The plaza was expanded as part of traffic calming associated with the Barclays Center but is inhospitable and unattractive. [formerly Tracking Code 202201505C]	Block 926, Lot 1	
16/33	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Installation of elevators or escalators to provide ADA accessibility to individuals with visual and mobility disabilities utilizing the Hoyt-Schermerhorn (A, C, and G trains) subway station.	Hoyt- Schermerhorn Subway Station	
17/33	DOT	Install streetscape improvements	Develop fully the Atlantic Avenue Gateway beneath the BQE at the foot of Atlantic Avenue. [formerly Tracking Code 202201502C]	Atlantic Avenue Furman Street Hicks Street	

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 2 submitted 33 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
18/33	DHS	Upgrade existing facilities for the homeless	The Department of Homeless Services-managed Auburn residence must be upgraded generally, with expanded electrical system capacity and a code-compliant fire alarm system of particular concern.	Auburn Family Shelter 39 Auburn Place	
19/33	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Renovate BAM Park, Lafayette Avenue and Fulton Street. [formerly Tracking Code 202201401C]	BAM Park, an HPD property Block 2109, Lot 8	
20/33	DEP	Provide new or expand green infrastructure, e.g. greenbelts, bio swales	Fund maintenance of bioswales; existing bioswales have become litter boxes.		
21/33	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovation of Borough Hall 2/3/4/5 subway station. In the 2/3 station, 25 of 37 (68%) of the structural components are not in a state of good repair, and in the 4/5 station, the figures are 19 of 33 (58%).	Borough Hall 2/3/4/5 subway stat	
22/33	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Fund the acquisition and construction of additional park space throughout Community District 2 and in particular in the underserved areas of Boerum Hill and eastern Clinton Hill. [formerly Tracking Code 202200203C]		
23/33	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Construct a second mode of egress from the York Street F train station.	York Street F Train Station	
24/33	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Reconstruct the Belgian block streets in DUMBO and Vinegar Hill beginning with (a.) Jay Street, between John and York Streets, (b.) Front Street between Hudson Avenue and Old Fulton Street, (c.) Hudson Avenue between Navy and Plymouth Streets. The City-owned Belgian block streets are contributing elements in the neighborhoods' historic districts. [formerly Tracking Code 202199807C]		
25/33	DOT	Provide traffic enforcement cameras	Install traffic enforcement cameras on the Flatbush Avenue Extension, between and inclusive of DeKalb and Myrtle avenues.	Flatbush Avenue Extension DeKalb Avenue Myrtle Avenue	
26/33	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Renovation of the Nevins Street 2/3/4/5 subway station, including tile work, painting and track cleaning. Twenty-four of 47 (51%) structural components are not in a state of good repair.	Nevins Street 2/3/4/5 subway sta	

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 2 submitted 33 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
27/33	DFTA	Renovate or upgrade a senior center	Paint the exterior and renovate the electrical and fire alarm systems at the Willoughby (aka Whitman and Round Top) Senior Center.	Willoughby Senior Center 105 North Portland Avenue	
28/33	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Refurbish the Fort Greene Park tennis courts. [formerly Tracking Code 202201605C]	Fort Greene Park	Fort Greene Park Conservancy; Fort Greene Tennis Association
29/33	DSNY	Provide new or upgrade existing sanitation garages or other sanitation infrastructure	Construct a District 2 sanitation garage within the boundaries of Brooklyn Community District 2. Co-locating the District 2 garage with another district results in delayed service and unnecessary vehicle exhaust emissions.		
30/33	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Installation of elevators or escalators to provide ADA accessibility to individuals utilizing the Lafayette Avenue C train station.	Lafayette Avenue C Train Station	
31/33	NYPD	Provide surveillance cameras	Install surveillance cameras in the vicinity of the Addiction Research & Treatment facility at 937 Fulton Street. Clients and others loiter near the facility before and after treatment resulting in drug sales and other criminal activity.	937 Fulton St	
32/33	NYCTA	Other transit infrastructure requests	Installation of information kiosks in all stations.		
33/33	DOT	Repair or construct new sidewalks, curbs or pedestrian ramps	Reconstruct the Belgian Block Streets in DUMBO and Vinegar Hill beginning with (a.) Jay Street, between John and York streets, (b.) Front Street between Hudson Avenue and Old Fulton Street, (c.) Hudson Avenue between Navy and Plymouth streets. The Belgian block street contribute to the historic characteristic of the neighborhood.		Vinegar Hill Neighborhood Assoc., DUMBO Neighborhood Alliance; DUMBO District Management Association

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/47	OMB	Provide more community board staff	Increase the budget of Community Board 2 to allow it to hire a planner consistent with Sections 191(b)(5) and 2800(g) of the City Charter. [formerly Tracking Code 202200706E]	350 Jay Street	
2/47	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance Cornerstone and Beacon programs (all ages, including young adults)	Increase funding for after-school, Saturday and summer programs that are built on solid youth development principles, are evidence-based and offer a balance of sports, arts and academics within a strength-based perspective. [Formerly Tracking Code 202199704E]		
3/47	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	Increase budgets for all district library personnel and supplies to retain qualified staff and maintain high-quality service throughout the week. Maintain extended library hours and expand library programs. [formerly Tracking Code 202200003E]		
4/47	DOHMH	Reduce rat populations	Increase funding for rodent management in parks and Greenstreets. [formerly Tracking Code 202201603E]		
5/47	NYPD	Assign additional traffic enforcement officers	Increase intersection control agents in Community District 2, specifically at Flatbush Avenue and Nevins Street, Atlantic Avenue and Hicks Street, and Flatbush and Myrtle Avenues. [formerly Tracking Code 202200401E]		
6/47	DOHMH	Reduce rat populations	Large number of rodent sighting reports influenced the health department to select Brooklyn Heights and Dumbo to be indexed and monitored. However residents in Fort Greene and Boerum Hill are increasingly concerned about the growing rat populations. Restaurant owners and owners of large residential buildings should be encouraged to discard garbage in rodent proof containers.		
7/47	TLC	Conduct traffic or parking studies	Study the creation of (a) commuter van terminal(s) in Downtown Brooklyn and review current commuter van pick-up and drop-off locations. Licensed and illegal commuter vans are creating traffic congestion without structured stops. [formerly Tracking Code 202200801C]		
8/47	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	Open clean bathrooms during the posted hours Extend hours during the summer.		
9/47	DPR	Provide better park maintenance	Fund full-time seasonal Playground Associates at the following locations: Fort Greene Park, McLaughlin Park, Pierrepont Playground, 16 Sycamores Park, Commodore Barry Park, Crispus Attucks Playground, Underwood Playground, Washington Hall Park, Parham Playground and JHS 113 Playground. [formerly Tracking Code 202200602E]		
10/47	DCA	Other business regulatory assistance requests	Fund Department of Consumer Affairs inspectors for assignment, 4:00 pm-midnight. [formerly Tracking Code 202201602E] Priority #3. Tracking number 202201716E.		

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
11/47	DHS	Improve safety at homeless shelters	The women's shelter at 200 Tillary Street is a source of a high number of 911 calls.	Tillary Street Women's Shelter 200 Tillary Street	
12/47	FDNY	Expand funding for fire prevention and life safety initiatives	Hire additional FDNY inspectors to inspect new "high- rise" construction. [formerly Tracking Code 202201604E]		
13/47	DSNY	Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws	Illegal dumping occurs consistently in commercial areas. In some cases the perpetrator is obvious but current rules require a dumper to be caught in the act. The rules/law should be updated to include technological evidence.		
14/47	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	Increase personnel and equipment at the 88th Precinct. The 88th Precinct Youth and Community Council determined that the 88th Precinct is understaffed in comparison to the neighboring 84th Precinct. [formerly Tracking Code 202200704E]		
15/47	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection			
16/47	DOHMH	Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services	While levels of new infections are at record lows, rates remain high in Brooklyn, with CD2 having 33.1 new cases per 100,000 people. Educational campaigns need to target the demographic groups with the highest rates of new infection.	Fort Greene Health Center 295 Flatbush Avenue Extension	
17/47	DEP	Clean catch basins	Clean every catch basin in the district, particularly those located at the corners of Livingston Street and Bond Street, and Ashland Place and Lafayette Avenue. There is a lot of debris in these storm drains and on the corners noted here, there is always standing water during and for over 24 hours after a storm.		
18/47	NYCTA	Other transit service requests	Identify and implement alternatives to the Access-a-Ride system for individuals with limited mobility. Pick-up delays and round-about travel routes make the system unreliable.		
19/47	LPC	Other housing oversight and emergency programs	Add landmarks inspectors for more timely attention to reports of violations. [formerly Tracking Code 202200801E] Priority #9. Tracking code 202201717E.		
20/47	DOE	Provide or expand occupational skills training programs	Expand vocational education and apprenticeship programs at local high schools as a pathway to viable/sustainable careers.		
21/47	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	Increase funding for code enforcement personnel in Community District 2. [formerly Tracking Code 202199406E]		

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
22/47	DFTA	Enhance NORC programs and health services	At eight cooperative apartment buildings in Community District 2 (Kingsview Homes, Willoughby Walk, St. James Tower, Ryerson Tower, Pratt Tower, Cadman Plaza North, Cadman Towers and 75 Henry Street), more than 50 percent of the residents are 60- years-old or older.		
23/47	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	A traffic study of the intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Nevins Street with the intention of improving pedestrian safety and vehicular traffic flow.	Flatbush Avenue Fulton Street Nevins Street	
24/47	DOT	Conduct traffic or parking studies	Fund the study, modeling and implementation of traffic control strategies to address issues identified by Community Board 2 as part of the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming Study at Tillary Street & Flatbush Avenue and Schermerhorn Street & Flatbush Avenue. [formerly Tracking Code 202200502C]		
25/47	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions	Brooklyn Technical High School with over 5,400 students produces more trash than can be handled within the building. There is no practical on-premise holding area and as a result, large mounds of trash are stored on the sidewalk on an ongoing basis. Additional pick-ups would alleviate the problem.	Brooklyn Technical High School 29 Fort Greene Place	
26/47	DOHMH	Promote vaccinations and immunizations	Increase the rates of vaccination for HPV and influenza.	Fort Greene Health Center 295 Flatbush Avenue Extension	
27/47	NYCTA	Other transit service requests	Study the B38 bus route to determine the feasibility of tandem buses and select bus service.		
28/47	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment	Increased mental health support for teenagers in schools. School programs will offer easy access and ability to provide treatment prior to crisis situation.		
29/47	DEP	Other sewer maintenance requests	Address chronic subsidence problems at the SEC of Vanderbilt and DeKalb avenues, the SWC Vanderbilt and Willoughby avenues, and the SEC of Vanderbilt and Myrtle avenues.		
30/47	NYPD	Other NYPD staff resources requests	Increase the proportion of patrol officers on bikes and on foot.		
31/47	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	Assign additional staff the joint 78th Precinct, 84th Precinct, 88th Precinct and Transit District 30 post-school dismissal detail in and around Downtown Brooklyn.		
32/47	DEP	Other sewer maintenance requests	Reinstate sewer maintenance notices previously provided by the Department of Environmental Protection.		
33/47	NYPD	Other enforcement requests	Fund inspectors to enforce compliance with regulations governing items for sale on sidewalks. [formerly Tracking Code 202200705E]		

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
34/47	DFTA	Enhance home care services	Many of the elderly are healthy but frail and need assistance with errands and, maintenance of their homes. These adults are not provided for in existing programs.		
35/47	EDC	Expand tax incentive programs to help neighborhood businesses construct or improve space	Provide incentives or tax abatements to create and maintain affordable commercial and retail spaces for small businesses within the district.		
36/47	DHS	Expand street outreach	The outreach program has yielded results, however it often misses the most mobile population who continue to be in need of services.		
37/47	DCP	Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs	Revaluate the Downtown Brooklyn Development Plan for possible follow-up land use action to stimulate more commercial development. The Downtown Brooklyn Development Plan was intended to make the city's third central business district more competitive in a regional market. Instead, it has resulted in residential construction.		
38/47	DOE	Renovate site component	Make Brooklyn Technical High School's Wang Field available to community residents and youth leagues. When Charles Wang Field was constructed, community access was promised and initially fulfilled, only to be withdrawn.	Charles Wang (Brooklyn Technical Block 2008, Lot 13	
39/47	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	Assign additional personnel to enforce improper use of parking placards.		
40/47	NYPD	Provide additional patrol cars and other vehicles	Purchase additional patrol cars for the 88th Precinct.	88th Precinct 298 Classon Avenue	
41/47	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.	One in five adults residing in CD2 are obese and eight percent are diabetic. There is a need to increase nutrition education to improve health outcomes.		
42/47	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	Deploy rodent-proof street baskets.		
43/47	DOT	Provide new traffic	Install a traffic signal at the intersection of Myrtle and Grand avenues. [formerly Tracking Code 202201604C]	Myrtle Ave Grand ave	
44/47	SBS	Provide or expand business education to businesses and entrepreneurs	Fund biannual business planning and operations courses tailored toward the development and growth of small businesses within the district.		

Brooklyn Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
45/47	SBS	Provide or expand assistance to obtain licenses and permits	Increase the number of Small Business Services compliance advisers to assist small businesses meet city regulations.		
46/47	DSNY	Increase enforcement of dirty sidewalk/dirty area/failure to clean area laws	The sidewalk outside many restaurants is covered with grease due to improper storage of trash and failure to clean after pick-up. This action provides a feeding ground for rodents.		
47/47	DSNY	Improve snow removal	Enforce failure to remove snow on properties that are either vacant or under construction. This makes the sidewalks a hazard for pedestrians in the wintertime and needs an appropriate penalty to discourage property owners from neglecting this duty.		

Appendix - Supporting Materials

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

Health Care and Human Services



NORC Communities in Brooklyn CD2