

Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests

Fiscal Year
2018



Submitted to:

NYC
PLANNING

January 2017

**Staten Island
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 Staten Island 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:

CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov

This report is broadly structured as follows:

a) Overarching Community District Needs

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

b) Policy Area- Specific District Needs

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

c) Community Board Budget Requests

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

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1. Community Board Information

Staten Island Community Board 2

Address: 460 Brielle Avenue, Lou Caravone Community Service Building

Phone: 718-317-3235

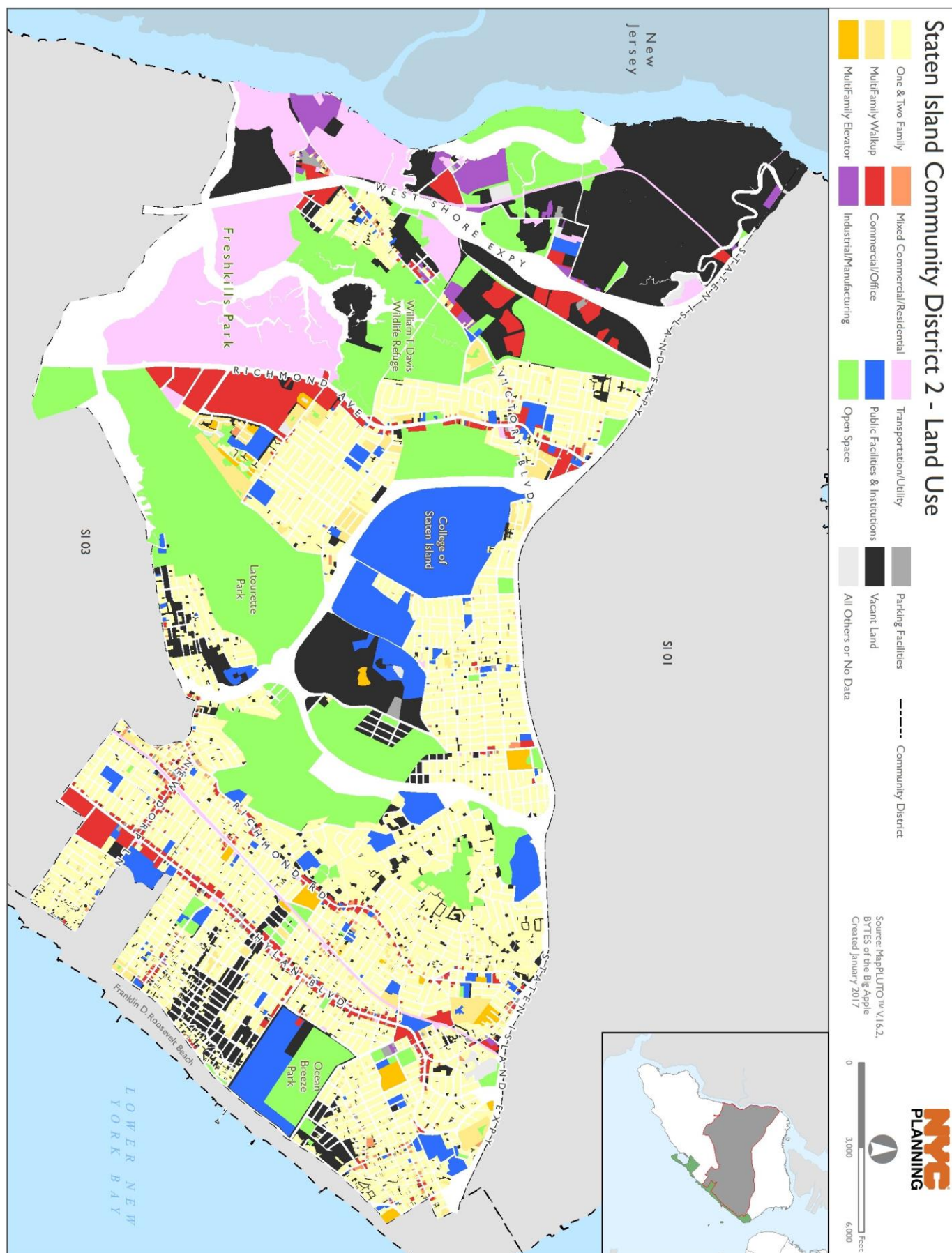
Email: dderrico@cb.nyc.gov

Website:

Chair: Mr. Dana T. Magee

District Manager: Mrs. Debra A. Derrico

2. Community District Land Use



3. Overview of Community District

Community Board 2 has many prevailing needs that impact the quality of life of our community members.

The increase in the aging population requires more funding and more services for our seniors. There are 1.5 million seniors that live across the 5 boroughs and advocates project that 1 in 5 New Yorker's will be over 65 in 2030. Staten Island is also projected to be the oldest borough in NYC by 2030. De Blasio proposed \$257.3 million for DFTA in his preliminary budget for FY 2016, which is \$23.4 million less than last year's adopted budget. This is partially because of a one-time City Council allocation of \$20.6 million for senior services last year. However, more funding is needed to address the increase in the aging population. As the population ages, we need to be able to provide services to ensure that resources are available to service the seniors. Therefore, we are in need of additional funding for senior services.

The developmental trends within District 2 address the increase in the aging population. The former Farm Colony will provide much needed senior-targeted housing and create a new district that complements and enhances the surrounding community. This residential community, located on Brielle Avenue, will contain approximately 350 residential units, 17,000 square feet of commercial space, as well as a central green space and accessory to parking. The Sea View Senior Living Center is another development within District 2 that addresses the increase in Staten Island's senior population, which is the fastest growing senior population in the 5 boroughs. The Sea View Senior Living Center will create much-needed senior-housing and provide quality care for many of the area's residents. This center will be used for senior housing, with both assisted living services and a community center for the next 30 years. Both developments in District 2 will cater to our seniors and address the recent gap in services that occurred due to an increase in senior populations.

A very serious problem facing our borough is the drug epidemic. It is the highest in all of the NYC boroughs. At the same time, we have the lowest amount of treatment facilities and services to combat this issue. Thus, there is a great need for more treatment services in the Staten Island Island borough.

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Staten Island Community Board 2 are:

- *Street flooding*
- *Traffic*
- *Transit (buses & subways)*

We desperately need storm sewers in flood-prone areas and sanitary sewers in areas that have failing septic systems, and it seems that many of the previously funded sewer projects are still pending. District 2's poor quality of transit impacts travel time, which interferes with commuters work and school schedules. The "OneNYC Plan" includes plans for mass transit improvements throughout NYC. However, Staten Island will only be receiving real time information signs for bus routes. Staten Island remains to be the only borough that does not have subway systems, making it difficult for non-private auto owners to travel to work, school, etc. Therefore, there should not only be an increase in transit services but there needs to be improvements made to the buses themselves. With the raise in bus fares, it is only logical that the commuters ride buses that are in good condition. Traffic congestion continues to be the district's top problem and as the population continues to grow our ability to move on, off and throughout the Island has become difficult at best, and at times, nearly impossible. Our roadways consist mainly of two-lane country roads (one-lane in each direction) with an antiquated traffic signal system that needs to be upgraded immediately. Many of the bus stops within District 2 remain without lighting and are located in a wooded, dark, or desolate areas. This proposes as a safety issue because commuters are at risk of contracting West Nile Virus, Zika and or tick bites and are at risk of being struck by a moving vehicle that does not see the commuter. In specific, many of the stops along the stretch of Victory Boulevard from Arlene Street eastbound toward the West Shore Expressway do not have sidewalks, which forces commuters to wait in the street or in the woods, both of which pose safety hazards.



Health Care and Human Services

Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services*Programs, services or facilities for seniors*

The growing population of our seniors requires additional and appropriate placement of services. This includes properly addressing the seniors needs in the least restrictive and most appropriate environment. Therefore, we do not only need an increase in services, but we need to push for managed long-term care companies to better evaluate client's needs so they can be placed in the appropriate care setting. Guidelines should look for criteria that evaluates medical, psychological, and social needs. However, some social adult-day care centers remain unregulated by the city or state, which does not address the medical and social needs for our elderly and disabled. There needs to be proper regulations implemented to protect the vulnerability of our seniors.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

The increase in the aging population demands for facilities and services to address the health and wellness of our seniors.

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

The needs of services for our seniors are pertinent due to the increase in the elderly population. Although Governor Cuomo provided a redesign of \$2 billion in spending on long-term care for the elderly and disabled, there remains a gap in services that would provide services as well as housing for seniors and developmentally disabled. Community Board 2 supports Borough President James Oddo's request for the development of a Staten Island Health and Wellness Campus on the grounds of Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation Center and Home, which would include housing and services for seniors and the developmentally disabled.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
5/5	HHC	<i>Health care facilities</i>	<i>Provide a new or expanded health care facility</i>	<i>Seaview Rehabilitation Center 460 Brielle Avenue</i>
CS	DFTA	<i>Facilities for seniors</i>	<i>Create a new senior center or other facility for seniors</i>	<i>Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation 460 Brielle Avenue</i>

Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
24/25	DFTA	<i>Services for homebound older adults</i>	<i>Other services for homebound older adults programs</i>	



Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare*Adolescent substance abuse*

Staten Island has one of the highest percentage of narcotic arrests and a high rate of substance abuse. At the same time, we have the lowest amount of treatment facilities and services to combat this issue. There is a great need for more treatment services, as well as preventative services in the borough of Staten Island. The youth population in general tends to struggle with low-self esteem which makes them vulnerable to developing drug abuse behaviors. A strategy needs to be developed to combat the drug epidemic and prevent the escalation of drug addiction among our youth.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

Due to the widespread of substance abuse among our youth, there needs to be programs and or interventions that reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and prevent the escalation of substance abuse behaviors among our youth. The request this year is to have each high school and intermediate school assigned a Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist (SAPIS). We are grateful that schools Chancellor Carmen Farina has awarded Staten Island twelve new SAPIS counselors, however, it is simply not enough to help combat the ever growing drug epidemic here on Staten Island.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
3/5	DOE	<i>Schools and educational facilities</i>	<i>Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school</i>	
CS	DOE	<i>Schools and educational facilities</i>	<i>Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/25	DOE	<i>Educational programs</i>	<i>Assign more teaching staff</i>	
4/25	DOE	<i>Educational programs</i>	<i>Other educational programs requests</i>	
19/25	DOE	<i>Educational programs</i>	<i>Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material</i>	
20/25	DOE	<i>Educational programs</i>	<i>Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services</i>	
21/25	DYCD	<i>Youth workforce development</i>	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program</i>	



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services*Crime prevention programs*

Increasing the head count of police officers, installing additional argus cameras where there is drug activity and crime, and assigning more safety agents to Staten Island schools is important in order to address the safety of the community. Also, there is a desperate need to continue enhancing the NYPD Narcotics Division. Unfortunately, Staten Island has experienced a drug epidemic with drug sales and drug use. This epidemic has created many drug related deaths. It is imperative that we support funding to this crucial unit to address our problems in Staten Island.

Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
CS	NYPD	<i>NYPD facilities and equipment</i>	<i>Provide surveillance cameras</i>	
CS	DOE	<i>FDNY facilities and equipment</i>	<i>Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests</i>	

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
8/25	NYPD	<i>NYPD staff and training resources</i>	<i>Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)</i>	
17/25	NYPD	<i>NYPD staff and training resources</i>	<i>Assign additional uniformed officers</i>	
23/25	NYPD	<i>NYPD staff and training resources</i>	<i>Assign additional school safety officers</i>	



Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Other/Storm and Sanitary Sewers: Many sites within the West Shore are encumbered by tidal and fresh water wetland issues, as well as poor drainage systems and a lack of sewers. Advocating and securing the City of New York's commitment to install proper drainage systems and sewers is imperative to the successful operation of all businesses in the area.

Lack of adequate drainage and standing water remain pervasive and recurrent problems. Providing additional needed storm sewers or more bluebelt systems in the flood prone area, with particular attention devoted to streets built below grade level, will help. To date, property owners have not been able to even get septic tanks due to the proximity of the protected wetlands to some property. While one industrial business in the area does own its own sewage treatment plant, the others do not, and this may therefore be another option to explore. Also, property owners and community stakeholders agree that installing sewers in the West Shore will enhance curb appeal, increase property value, attract new tenants to vacant land, and assist the industrial businesses to better serve their customers.

Community District Needs Related to Water, Sewers and Environmental Protection

There is a critical need for infrastructure improvements which includes a new sanitary sewer pump station, new sanitary sewers feeding the pump station as well as storm sewers and storm-water management- possibly including a Bluebelt-like storm water management system to work with the existing wetlands in the area. There is a great need for catch basins to be cleaned out regularly to prevent blockage and pollutants from entering our stormwater drainage system.



Community District Needs Related to Water, Sewers and Environmental Protection

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.



[Travis Avenue Flooding between Victory Blvd and South Ave](#)



[Roma Avenue Flooding](#)



Community District Needs Related to Sanitation Services

As litter is a major quality of life issue within Staten Island, more street cleaning crews, as well as additional waste receptacle baskets should be funded. Currently, DSNY is responsible for the cleaning of City-owned vacant lots. In some circumstances however, privately-owned lots are also in need of cleaning and maintenance. I suggest that the laws be extended so that the Department of Sanitation has the right to not only clean the privately-owned vacant lot, but to fine the owner for their inability to maintain their property. The photo attached below is of a privately-owned vacant lot that is located on Vulcan Street and is filled with debris, vehicles, shipping container, and office trailer.

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.



[Empty Lot on Vulcan Street between Olympia Blvd. and Patterson Avenue](#)

Capital Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
CS	DEP	<i>Sewage and flooding</i>	<i>Build new, expand or repair sanitary sewers</i>	
CS	DEP	<i>Sewage and flooding</i>	<i>Build new, expand or repair storm sewers</i>	<i>Midland Beach Hylan Boulevard Father Capodanno Boulevard</i>
CS	DEP	<i>Sewage and flooding</i>	<i>Build new, expand or repair storm sewers</i>	

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency



Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
2/25	DEP	Water supply system	Other water supply system maintenance requests	
3/25	DEP	Sewage and flooding	Clean catch basins	
14/25	DEP	Environmental protection	Address air quality issues	
15/25	DSNY	Garbage collection and recycling infrastructure	Other garbage collection and recycling infrastructure requests	
22/25	DSNY	Street and lot cleaning	Other cleaning requests	



Main Issue Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Small Business services/support

In February 2015, Mayor de Blasio launched a \$27 million initiative to help small business owners. Community Board 2 would like Staten Island to get its fair share of these funds. We want to ensure our small business owners have the resources and support they need to thrive. In 2006, when Fairway Market opened in Red Hook Brooklyn, they received a SBS matching training grant to provide training for assistant managers to further their opportunities within the company. Community Board 2 would like this grant offered to Staten Island when Fairway Market opens at the Staten Island Mall.



Transportation

Main Issue Related to Transportation

Other

There are many areas in Staten Island that do not have sidewalks on city-owned property such as Forest Hill Road, Willowbrook Road, and Brielle Avenue, which poses as a safety issue for pedestrians as they are forced to walk in the street. According to the Federal Highway Administration, the design of sidewalk environments is important to all pedestrians, but is particularly important to those with disabilities who have limited travel choices and rely most on the pedestrian environment. For example, older adults, persons with vision impairments, and children frequently rely on the sidewalk to travel independently within their community for shopping, recreation, exercise, and walking to school. Therefore, it is imperative that Staten Island is walkable for the safety of our pedestrians.

Community District Needs Related to Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

Traffic congestion continues to be the district's top problem and as the population continues to grow, our ability to move on and off throughout the Island has become difficult at best, and at times nearly impossible. Our roadways consist mainly of two-lane country roads (one lane in each direction) with an antiquated traffic signal system that needs to be upgraded immediately. Therefore, we request that the following new initiatives, as well as funded projects move forward more expeditiously. We need to address present and future traffic congestion and reliability problems, which are expected to worsen in the future.

Community District Needs Related to Transit Services

MTA is more than \$14 billion short in its \$32 billion capital program for 2015-2019. This impacts the quality of transit services for Staten Islanders. According to a recent audit by NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, express buses missed their scheduled departure times more than 30% of the time. It also found that commuters wait 6-28 minutes after scheduled departure time for the next available bus. This is unacceptable as the increase in bus fares should demand better service. In addition, the MTA needs to update its procedure for inspecting wheelchair lifts. Without standardized procedures, wheelchair lifts may not function, prohibiting disabled riders from using particular buses and delaying riders.



Transportation

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/5	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Repair or construct new medians or bus pads	
2/5	EDC	Transit Infrastructure	Other transit infrastructure requests	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Other transportation infrastructure requests	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Fresh Kills Park
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Richmond Road Todt Hill Road Amboy Road
CS	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Other transit infrastructure requests	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Manor Road Brielle Avenue Rockland Avenue
CS	DOT	Ferries	Expand the frequency or hours of operation of ferries	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Richmond Hill Road
CS	DOT	Traffic and traffic flow	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Repair or construct new sidewalks, curbs or pedestrian ramps	
CS	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Father Capodanno Boulevard Midland Beach to at least Ebbits Street.
CS	DEP	Transportation infrastructure	Repair potholes (resurface roads)	

Expense Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
5/25	NYCTA	Transit Service	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	
6/25	NYCTA	Transit Service	Improve bus cleanliness, safety or maintenance	
10/25	DOT	Traffic and traffic flow	Other traffic improvements requests	
16/25	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Install streetscape improvements	



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Access to and quality of cultural programming

Staten Island is the only borough in NYC that does not have a City-owned indoor swimming pool within their recreation center. As you know, an indoor swimming pool provides access to year-round swimming and gives the public a chance to attend aquatic programs such as “Learn to Swim”. These programs would be appreciated by many and are ideal for our senior and youth populations. Aquatic programs are a beneficial form of exercise for our seniors, while the year-round swimming will act as a positive community activity that will prevent the likelihood of youth-related crime.

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

For the past two years, our Capital Budget committee had requested the construction of an indoor swimming pool at the Staten Island’s Greenbelt Recreation Center. We understand that Department of Parks and Recreation’s funds are insufficient for this request and hope they will receive the necessary funds to provide this worthy undertaking. Staten Island is the only borough in NYC that does not have a City owned indoor swimming pool within their recreation center. As you know, an indoor swimming pool provides access to year-round swimming and gives the public a chance to attend aquatic programs such as “Learn to Swim”. These programs would be appreciated by many and are ideal for our senior and youth populations. Aquatic programs are a beneficial form of exercise for our seniors, while the year-round swimming will act as a positive community activity that will prevent the likelihood of youth-related crime. There is enough space needed for the construction of the pool and Staten Island would benefit from this request. Also due to the increase in program attendance, the facility should be expanded to include more programs. This would require additional parking as well.

Community District Needs Related to Library Facilities and Programming

City funding for libraries has been cut by nearly 20% over the past decade and library staff has been reduced by more than 1,000 workers. The NYPL libraries within CB2 (Staten Island) are used extensively. The community relies on them to provide essential library services, as well as educational programs and community space. Many of the library locations are in need of critical upgrades, including mechanical systems, bathrooms, roofs, facades, and ADA upgrades. The three library systems are seeking a restoration of \$65 million in expense funding and the inclusion \$1.4 billion in the City’s 10-Year Capital Strategy. This capital funding is needed for renovations, critical maintenance, and technology. The funding is essential, as the libraries are especially important to low and moderate income residents who depend on the libraries for access to books, internet access, job search and film, while also acting as a quiet place to read, do homework, or other work.

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
4/5	DPR	<i>Park, buildings, and access improvements</i>	<i>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</i>	<i>Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex</i>
CS	DPR	<i>Park maintenance and safety</i>	<i>Provide better park maintenance</i>	
CS	DPR	<i>Park, buildings, and access improvements</i>	<i>Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	
CS	NYPL	<i>Library facilities, equipment and</i>	<i>Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library</i>	<i>New Dorp Branch</i>
CS	DPR	<i>Park, buildings, and access improvements</i>	<i>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</i>	<i>Greenbelt Recreation Center</i>
CS	DPR	<i>Park, buildings, and access improvements</i>	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	<i>Willowbrook Park</i>



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
7/25	NYPL	Library facilities, equipment and	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	
9/25	DPR	Park programming	Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers	Greenbelt Recreation Center
11/25	DPR	Park maintenance and safety	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	
12/25	DPR	Street trees and forestry services	Other street trees and forestry services requests	
13/25	DPR	Park maintenance and safety	Other park maintenance and safety requests	
18/25	DCLA	Cultural facilities and resources	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	
25/25	DPR	Street trees and forestry services	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 5 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/5	DOT	<i>Repair or construct new medians or bus pads</i>	<i>Some bus stops within Staten Island remain without lighting and are located in a wooded, dark, or desolate areas. This proposes as a safety issue because commuters are at risk of contracting West Nile Virus and or tick bites and are at risk of being struck by a moving vehicle that does not see the commuter. Stop ID #: 201369- Rockland Avenue/ Meisner Avenue Stop ID #: 201370 and 201463- Rockland Ave,/ Nevada Ave. Stop ID #: 201462- Rockland Avenue/ St. George Road Stop ID #: 20146</i>		
2/5	EDC	<i>Other transit infrastructure requests</i>	<i>There is a great need for additional ferry service from Staten Island to Midtown Manhattan. It is imperative that commuters ease the already overburdened Staten Island roads, and travel more expediently by water. OMB approved a cost limitation of \$6,000,000 for the purchase of ferries for the expansion of the East River Ferry Service citywide, whereby the service will consist of five new ferry routes, and Staten Island did not get a new ferry route. Staten Island wants their fair share.</i>		
3/5	DOE	<i>Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school</i>	<i>We continue to request that air-conditioning units be installed in all public schools on Staten Island. Most high schools and elementary schools have air-conditioners, but few intermediate schools are air-conditioned. As early as late spring into early summer, classroom temperatures rise as high as in the upper 90's. This is unacceptable working conditions for our teachers, as well as students.</i>		
4/5	DPR	<i>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</i>	<i>Willowbrook Park's tennis courts have been closed for many years. We would like the department to fund the installation of a tennis bubble at the Ocean Breeze Track and Field Athletic Complex so that our residents and visitors could enjoy this popular sport year-round.</i>	<i>Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex</i>	
5/5	HHC	<i>Provide a new or expanded health care facility</i>	<i>Community Board 2 supports Borough President James Oddo's vision for the development of a Staten Island Health and Wellness Campus on the grounds of Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation Center and Home, which would also include housing and services for seniors and the disabled.</i>	<i>Seaview Rehabilitation Center 460 Brielle Avenue</i>	<i>Borough President Jame S. Oddo</i>

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 5 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
CS	DEP	<i>Repair potholes (resurface roads)</i>	<i>DOT needs to address the flooding that occurs due to streets built below grade level. The streets that have unlevel or low grade levels are the cause for many flood complaints. Attached above are photos that are examples of this problem. Multiple sites along Graham Avenue (i.e. Merrill Avenue and Graham Avenue; Graham Avenue between Victory Boulevard and Speedwell Avenue; Victory Boulevard- on the corner of Graham Avenue)</i>		
CS	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>Request funding to extend Father Capodanno Boulevard from Midland Beach to at least Ebbits Street. This would allow motorists to continue on Father Capodanno Boulevard to alleviate congestion on Hylan Boulevard from Midland Avenue to Ebbitts Street. An alternate route is needed to help alleviate congestion for our residents.</i>	<i>Father Capodanno Boulevard Midland Beach to at least Ebbitts Street.</i>	
CS	DEP	<i>Build new, expand or repair storm sewers</i>	<i>Staten Island desperately needs to expedite the following projects which would include the installation of storm sewers in areas where none exist: SE740B- Roma Avenue attached above SER200226- Travis Avenue attached above W/SE-413A/SE41</i>		<i>Council Member Steven Matteo, Council District 50.</i>
CS	DEP	<i>Build new, expand or repair storm sewers</i>	<i>Construct storm sewers in Midland Beach between Hylan Boulevard and Father Capodanno Boulevard.</i>	<i>Midland Beach Hylan Boulevard Father Capodanno Boulevard</i>	
CS	DOT	<i>Repair or construct new sidewalks, curbs or pedestrian ramps</i>	<i>Sidewalks need to be installed on city-owned property where there are none in order to maintain the safety of pedestrians. In addition, sidewalks that are in need of repair need to be repaired immediately. Sidewalks should be a top priority for Staten Island since it is a main form of transportation due to the lack of subway systems.</i>		
CS	DOT	<i>Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming</i>	<i>Community Board 2 supports Council Member Matteo's request for additional left-turn signals. The Council Member submitted 35 requests. Five were approved, 18 were denied, and 12 are still under study. Left-turn signals will make a positive impact for safer driving.</i>		

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 5 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
CS	DOE	<i>Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests</i>	<i>Provide funding for additional automated external defibrillator (AED), a portable electronic device that not only detects dangerous arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat), but can treat it by defibrillation (electrical jolt to the heart to re-establish a normal heart rhythm). Provide funding that so that AEDs would be available at all ballfields and high schools throughout Staten Island. More accessible AEDs will save more lives.</i>		<i>Council Member Steven Matteo, District 50; Council Member Debi Rose, District 49</i>
CS	DPR	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	<i>We would like to request funding for renovations to be made to Willowbrook Park with new apparatus such as ramped play equipment, universally acceptable swings, parks charcoal barbecue grills, etc. Willowbrook Park's Carousel, picnic grounds, and ballfield attract many families and an upgrade would enhance one of Staten Island's most popular Greenbelt parks.</i>	<i>Willowbrook Park</i>	
CS	DPR	<i>Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park</i>	<i>Staten Island is the only borough in NYC that does not have a City-owned indoor swimming pool within their recreation center. Aquatic programs are a beneficial form of exercise for our seniors, while the year-round swimming will act as a positive community activity. For the past two years, CB2's capital budget request has been for the installation of an indoor swimming pool at the Greenbelt Recreation Center. Mayor de Blasio promised to give Staten Island \$50,000,000 for a public indoor swimming pool and we hope it will be in District 2.</i>	<i>Greenbelt Recreation Center</i>	
CS	DOT	<i>Expand the frequency or hours of operation of ferries</i>	<i>It is imperative that commuters ease the already overburdened SI roads & travel more expediently by water. OMB approved a cost limitation of \$6million for the purchase of ferries for the expansion of the East River Ferry Service citywide. The service will consist of 5 new ferry routes and SI, the borough which heavily depends on ferry transportation, has not received additional service. In this realm, BP Oddo has introduced a unique idea to make the commute into Manhattan easier for SI residents. He suggests the possibility of creating another stop or 2 in Manhattan-one at 34 Street and another near South St. The obstacle is piers can't accommodate the size of the SI Ferry. We support the BP's idea and DOT's launching of the feasibility study.</i>		

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 5 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
CS	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Community Board 2 supports Councilmember Steven Matteo's proposal to elevate a flood-prone stretch of Travis Avenue from Mulberry Avenue to Victory Boulevard to prevent the flooding that occurs when water from heavy rainstorms falls on the 375-acre nature preserve and collects on the road which causes very dangerous driving conditions. We desperately need to make Travis Avenue a safer roadway. This endeavor may be costly, but in the end, it will be cost effective, as wear and tear repairs will not be needed as frequently, and it will make for safer driving conditions.		Council Member Steven Matteo
CS	NYPD	Provide surveillance cameras	The installation of Argus Cameras at the below locations will improve the safety of the select areas and help minimize drug activity. Sand Lane and Olympia Boulevard; Midland Avenue and Patterson Avenue; Lamport Boulevard; Richmond Road and Four Corners Road.		
CS	DOT	Reconstruct streets	Implement roadway reconstruction on Manor Road between Brielle Avenue and Rockland Avenue to eliminate hazardous curves.	Manor Road Brielle Avenue Rockland Avenue	
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	We continue to support our request for funding for a new roof for the New Dorp Branch of New York Public Library.	New Dorp Branch	
CS	DPR	Improve access to a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Community Board 2 continues to support the request to open up the road system in Fresh Kills Park, which would connect Richmond Avenue to the West Shore Expressway through Nascent Park. The plan includes a four-lane road that would stem from the Yukon Avenue intersection at Richmond Avenue and traverse the East Park. This would help ease traffic in the surrounding community.		Borough President James S. Oddo; Council Member Steven Matteo
CS	DOE	Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school	We would like more and enhanced (scholars) gifted and talented programs in our Intermediate Schools to reach the entire borough. Many of our gifted students are forced to leave the borough to get the educational benefits of these programs.		
CS	DEP	Build new, expand or repair sanitary sewers	There is a great need to provide additional funding for the installation of sanitary sewers in areas where septic systems still exist. DEP should not spend another penny on upgrades for any other borough's sewer system until ALL Staten Island residents have sanitary sewers.		

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Capital Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 5 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
CS	NYCTA	<i>Other transit infrastructure requests</i>	<i>The West Shore Light Rail system which could provide a reliable and attractive travel choice for Staten Island residents located in South Shore and Mid-Island communities. The light rail is an electric system able to operate single or multiple car train sets along shore or exclusive rights-of-way. The WSLR would extend New Jersey Transit's Hudson-Bergen Light Rail system (HBLRT) over the Bayonne Bridge and into western and southern portions of Staten Island and connect to SIRTOA service at the Richmond Valley Station. The benefits of Light Rail are: Trips are diverted from congested roadways, saves travel time, improves reliability, and increases property values near stations.</i>		
CS	DFTA	<i>Create a new senior center or other facility for seniors</i>	<i>There are vacant buildings on the campus of Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation Center and Home, which could be used for additional housing and services for the elderly and disabled. There are over 40 buildings and less than half are currently being used.</i>	<i>Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation 460 Brielle Avenue</i>	<i>Borough President James Oddo</i>
CS	DPR	<i>Provide better park maintenance</i>	<i>Increase the borough of Staten Islands baseline budget for the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation to \$100 million.</i>		
CS	DOT	<i>Other transportation infrastructure requests</i>	<i>Improve Richmond Road from Todt Hill Road to Amboy Road (HWRER99)</i>	<i>Richmond Road Todt Hill Road Amboy Road</i>	
CS	DOT	<i>Other transportation infrastructure requests</i>	<i>We need to open up the road system in Fresh Kills Park, which would connect Richmond Avenue to the West Shore Expressway through Nascent Park. The plan includes a four-lane road that would stem from the Yukon Avenue intersection at Richmond Avenue and traverse the East Park. In addition to easing traffic in the surrounding community, it would also help those who actually want to use the park.</i>	<i>Fresh Kills Park</i>	<i>Borough President James S. Oddo; Council Member Steven Matteo</i>
CS	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>Implement Richmondtown roadway improvements. Eliminate hazardous curves on Richmond Hill Road (Snake Hill Road) caused by steepness of roadway. (THHR299B).</i>	<i>Richmond Hill Road</i>	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/25	DOE	Assign more teaching staff	Due to the widespread of substance abuse among our youth, each high school should be assigned a Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist (SAPIS) to reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and prevent the escalation of substance abuse behaviors among our youth.		
2/25	DEP	Other water supply system maintenance requests	There needs to be more frequent cleaning of the creeks to prevent flooding conditions. There is constant flooding in the below locations due to water overflow of the creeks.		
3/25	DEP	Clean catch basins	There is a great need to have the catch basins cleaned out regularly. It is important to maintain catch basins to prevent stormwater blockages and minimize the amount of pollutants entering the stormwater drainage system, which discharge into detention basins or directly into streams. Clogged catch basins can also cause water to pond along streets and into yards. This flooding can become a major nuisance to motorists and homeowners.		
4/25	DOE	Other educational programs requests	Due to the widespread of substance abuse among our youth, each high school should be assigned a Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist (SAPIS) to reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and prevent the escalation of substance abuse behaviors among our youth. Also, an expansion of Borough President Oddos Too Good for Drugs Program would benefit the youth by encouraging abstinence from substances. Mentoring programs are effective in preventing drug abuse behaviors, as well as increasing the self-esteem of students and developing academic and personal goals that support a successful future. Perhaps additional mentoring programs within the schools will be beneficial for our youth and their future achievements.		
5/25	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	Based on Comptroller Stringer's audit that found one-third of Staten Island express buses missed their scheduled departure time and found commuters wait an average of 6-28 minutes, the bus service frequency needs to be improved. Route inefficiencies as well as hiring additional personnel should be considered.		NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer
6/25	NYCTA	Improve bus cleanliness, safety or maintenance	MTA needs to increase the amount of wheelchair lift inspections to assure that they function so that disabled riders can utilize bus services. In addition, since express buses are a main source of transportation for many Staten Islanders and have an increase in fares, buses should be upgraded to better quality.		NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
7/25	NYPL	<i>Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs</i>	<i>City funding for libraries has been cut by nearly 20% over the past decade and library staff has been reduced by more than 1,000 workers. At the same time, program and class attendance has increased 87% in Staten Island. According to NYPL, libraries in CB2 had 247,470 visits in FY2015. Libraries receive more visits than all local sports teams and city-owned cultural institutions combined. There needs to be an increase in funding to hire additional library staff to accommodate the increase in library attendance.</i>		<i>New York Public Library</i>
8/25	NYPD	<i>Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)</i>	<i>The request is to provide additional funding for additional narcotic officers, to help combat the drug epidemic plaguing Staten Island.</i>		
9/25	DPR	<i>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</i>	<i>The high attendance of visitors to the programs at the Greenbelt Recreation Center shows a need for an expansion of the recreation Center to include additional programs and extended hours. We also support the hiring of additional personnel.</i>	<i>Greenbelt Recreation Center</i>	
10/25	DOT	<i>Other traffic improvements requests</i>	<i>Traffic Signal Priority (TSP) has been introduced on buses traveling on Victory Boulevard. Buses in Staten Island are already fitted with emitters to trigger their approach at traffic signals for intersection priority. This should be expanded to other routes to make transit travel faster. Increasing communications between the buses and their schedules can help to reduce bus bunching (offering priority only when needed) and improve schedule adherence, particularly important for users connecting to ferry service.</i>		
11/25	DPR	<i>Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)</i>	<i>We would like the Parks Department to enhance safety through additional security staffing (PEP) officers. This would ensure the safety of visitors to our parks.</i>		
12/25	DPR	<i>Other street trees and forestry services requests</i>	<i>Community Board 2 is requesting additional funding to hire additional personnel to remove the backlogged 3,000 open tree stumps. Tree stumps are dangerous, especially for children and our senior population. They also attract pests and critters.</i>		

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
13/25	DPR	<i>Other park maintenance and safety requests</i>	<i>The request is to increase funding for seasonal staffing at the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Seasonal staff assist in general maintenance work, including lawn mowing, edging, seeding, snow removal, cultivating, fertilizing, sod laying and hedge trimming, sweeping and raking of litter and emptying of receptacles. As we have mentioned previously, litter is an ongoing issue and seasonal staff can reduce the amount of litter. They are also responsible for cleaning and maintaining facilities including comfort stations and are responsible for performing safety checks on facilities and equipment.</i>		
14/25	DEP	<i>Address air quality issues</i>	<i>CB2 would like the DEP to monitor excessive engine idling. An hour of automobile idling burns approximately one-fifth of a gallon of gas and releases nearly 4 pounds of CO2 into the air. Excessive amounts of CO2 in the atmosphere can contribute to global warming as well as aggravate asthma, cause coughing and difficulty in breathing, decrease lung function, exacerbate cardiovascular problems and lead to chronic bronchitis.</i>		
15/25	DSNY	<i>Other garbage collection and recycling infrastructure requests</i>	<i>Provide funding for a pilot program for the installation of Big Belly Solar compactor trash cans smart waste and recycling system in commercial corridors in Staten Island. They reduce sidewalk litter, and the recycling containers contribute to the sustainability of our community. The closed top design will prevent the overflow of garbage, which contributes to litter.</i>		
16/25	DOT	<i>Install streetscape improvements</i>	<i>Community Board 2 would like a second permanent road crew on Staten Island to improve our roads. Significant work was done in calendar year 2016. We were happy with the paving on Fingerboard Road and would like rubber asphalt used on more city streets.</i>		
17/25	NYPD	<i>Assign additional uniformed officers</i>	<i>As crime has risen in the borough of Staten Island, we need to fund an increase of additional NYPD police officers to effectively address the crime within our borough.</i>		
18/25	DCLA	<i>Support nonprofit cultural organizations</i>	<i>We are requesting our cultural establishments: Staten Island Zoo, Snug Harbor, and Historic Richmond Town be continually funded so every Staten Island resident has access to arts and culture. Our residents deserve expansion of these establishments to inspire pride in their cultural backgrounds. For example, The Chinese Scholars Garden in Snug Harbor could have educational programs in music, arts and crafts, dance, exercise and truly be a draw for tourism. The Chinese Scholars garden is one of two authentic scholars gardens in the United States.</i>		

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 Expense Requests

Staten Island Community Board 2 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
19/25	DOE	<i>Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material</i>	<i>Bullying is a major concern at many schools. We need to stop it before it starts. Young people should be better educated on how bullying can effect students physical and emotional well-being. We need to provide funding for anti-bullying programs in our schools to give teachers and guidance counselors the tools and resources needed to recognize, and address this problem. Also, additional funding is needed to hire more school counselors and more guidance counselors.</i>		
20/25	DOE	<i>Assign more non-teaching staff, e.g., to provide social, health and other services</i>	<i>The youth population needs to have positive role models that demonstrate healthy lifestyles that are aimed towards success. Perhaps the self-esteem of students should be directed through goal-oriented interventions and mentorship programs. Mentoring programs are effective in preventing drug abuse behaviors, as well as increasing the self-esteem of students and developing academic and personal goals that support a successful future. Additional mentoring programs within the schools, would be beneficial for our youth and their future achievements.</i>		
21/25	DYCD	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program</i>	<i>Expand the Summer Youth Employment Program to allow students to work all year so they can continue learning and developing their work force skills.</i>		
22/25	DSNY	<i>Other cleaning requests</i>	<i>DOS cleans the streets in all other boroughs, but not on Staten Island. Homeowners on Staten Island use water to clean the streets in front of their properties. Therefore, all Staten Island homeowners should be given an annual rebate of \$400.00 for their water usage.</i>		
23/25	NYPD	<i>Assign additional school safety officers</i>	<i>We need additional School Safety Officers to adequately staff our many schools.</i>		
24/25	DFTA	<i>Other services for homebound older adults programs</i>	<i>Provide funding to Meals on Wheels of Staten Island. They currently serve over three-quarters of a million meals per year to Staten Island homebound residents.</i>		
25/25	DPR	<i>Forestry services, including street tree maintenance</i>	<i>Community Board 2 is requesting additional funding to hire additional personnel for tree pruning. It is important to maintain trees to keep the people around it safe. A dead branch can fall from a tree at any time, endangering nearby people, buildings, and power lines.</i>		

Appendix - Supporting Materials

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

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency



Travis Avenue Flooding between Victory Blvd and South Ave

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=EA62CD42-59CE-4992-9814-AAFBEF9123AD>

Empty Lot on Vulcan Street between Olympia Blvd. and Patterson Avenue

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=E01ABC24-860C-4C72-B830-5171160A75CC>

Roma Avenue Flooding

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=F64A8669-60B5-4E36-8180-B3154CC7EAC4>