

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

Fiscal Year  
2018



Submitted to:

**NYC**  
**PLANNING**

January 2017

**Brooklyn**  
**Community District 04**

## INTRODUCTION

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

## HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report represents Brooklyn Community Board 4'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](mailto: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

### Brooklyn Community Board 4

**Address:** 1420 Bushwick Avenue, 370

**Phone:** 718 628-8400

**Email:** BK04@cb.nyc.gov

**Website:** [www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb4](http://www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb4)

**Chair:** Ms. Julie Dent

**District Manager:**

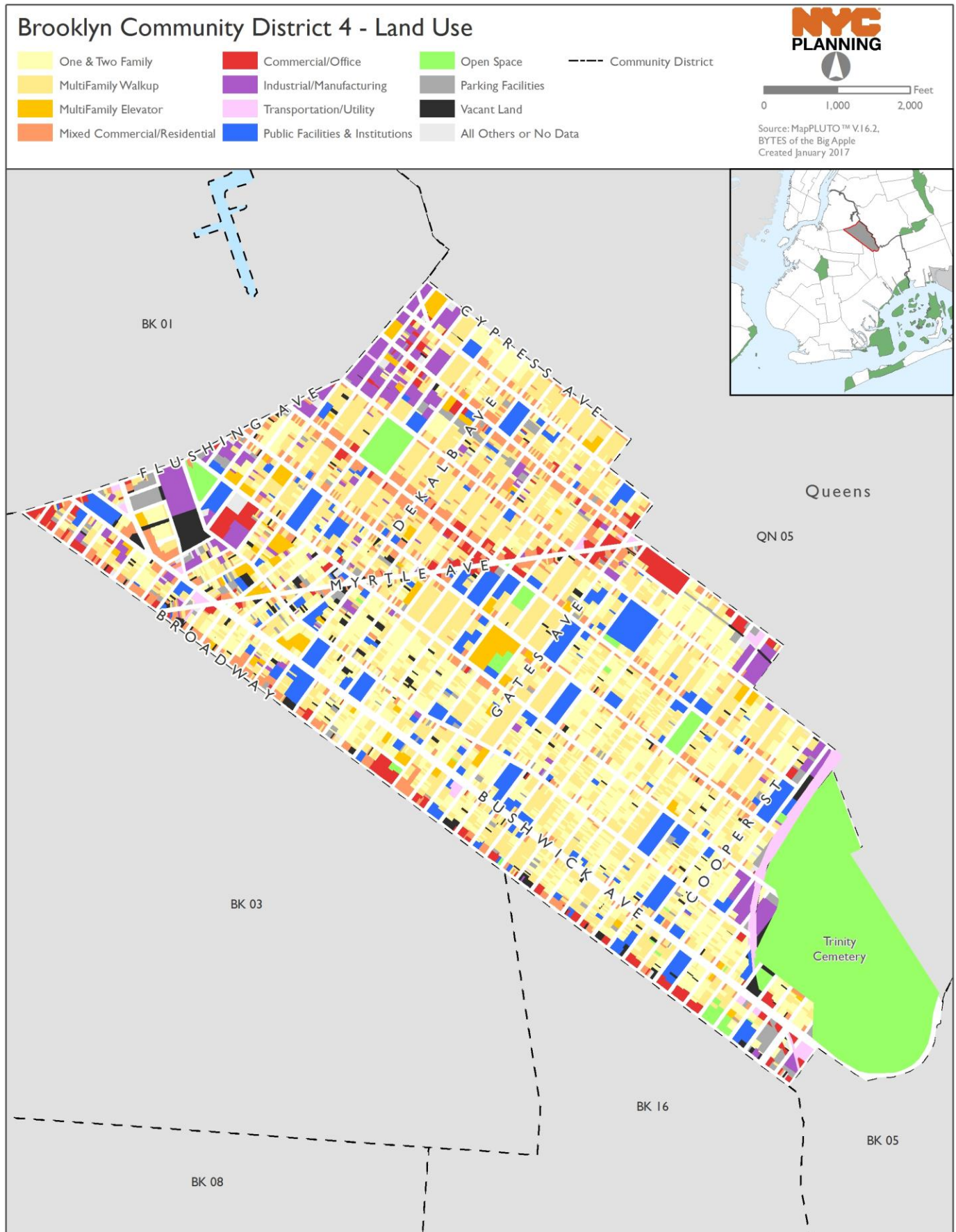
#### Community Board Officers:

Mr. Willie Morales, Other (please specify) | Community Associate

Mrs. Sharon Fludd, Other (please specify) | Community Associate

Julie Dent, Chairperson

## 2. Community District Land Use



### 3. Overview of Community District

Community District #4 -representing the Bushwick Community is experiencing rapid changes in , demographics, land-use ,economics and most prevalent rent structures. Many of the long standing residents are finding it quite difficult to remain in their apartments due to escalating rent expenses. Residents are being illegally forced out of apartments by unscrupulous property owners with the sole mission of selling the building and/ or raising the rents far beyond the reach of low to moderate income families. The Senior Citizen population has had a 25% increase from 2000- to 2010. These numbers will continue to grow as this segment of the population continues to grow older; however the availability of adequate living quarters for seniors has not keep pace due to the housing crisis.

The over-all the communities general health status hasn't changed very much as statistics have shown that the major health risks are still very prevelant within the district: heart disease/hypertension, diabetes, asthma ,and obesity.

#### 4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

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

- *Affordable housing*
- *Neighborhood preservation (development trends)*
- *Schools*

Currently joint efforts are underway to address Neighborhood preservation through rezoning. A major portion of the district is zoned R-6 which contributes to the developer's ability to construct edifices which are non-conforming in height and/ non contextual with other buildings within the area. Most importantly the rents in these buildings are extraordinarily over priced, consequently community district residents are unable to afford to move into the buildings. of , The construction boom in the community has led to little or no affordability. Area residents and families are faced with doubling up to afford rental apartments. Many residents have expressed concerns the future of the neighborhood should the present trend prevail and continue. Another glaring issue regarding Neighborhood preservation is the demolition of landmark quality properties. These properties usually sit on larger than average sized lots and are purchased and ultimately demolished for the development for a new taller building with many smaller units. Affordable housing is the cry of community!! A very small number of buildings in the district are rent stabilized and the vacancy rate is quite rare. Affordability is almost undefineable as the current Area Median Income (AMI) numbers has little to no impact on most of the community due to their extremely low or no income levels. Moreover, many of the newly constructed units are too small for larger families who are in need of two or more bedrooms. Thus, affordability - though a word used across the board to describe a feature to meet the needs of the low income category is still not sufficient. Families ultimately sacrifice and pay well over fifty percent of their income in rental expense. The conditions in the schools buildings and the quality of education are synonymous. Without decent updated school buildings the safety of the students, teachers and auxiliary staff is jeopardized. Our district has suffered as a poor performing district for many years. In addition to the various Charter Schools which has offered students and parents with educational alternatives, enhancements are needed in the public elementary and middle schools which would keep pace with Charter School advancements.





### Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

#### *Services for low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers*

The community is a vulnerable one- as the face of the community is changing at a rate thats difficult to measure- many low-income , working class , non-english speakers must continue to fight for services that seem to be quickly evaporating. As decent and affordable housing continues to be the factor which could very well determine " healthy living", residents within the community find it almost a losing battle due to gentification . Families spend far too much on rent expenses which creates vulnerabilites in other areas. Residents of multiple unit housing have been plagued with landlord disrepair and other forms of harassment with the ultimate goal of the tenant moving out. These factors play directly the health of the entire family.

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

For more than ten years the Community Board has prioritized that services for seniors should be increased. As the population is living longer additional services are needed to meet the ever changes needs of seniors. Many are faced with issues of loneliness, abandonment and health care issues. Seniors who are fortunate enough to have maintained homes often times are in need of repair and maintenance services at a minimum cost. These are programs which can be made available at facilities for seniors.

### **Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
11/15	DFTA	<i>Services for homebound older adults</i>	<i>Increase home delivered meals capacity</i>	<i>1175 Gates Avenue</i>
14/15	DOHMH	<i>Animal and pest control services</i>	<i>Other animal and pest control requests</i>	





## Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare*Educational attainment*

In as much as it continues to be amazing that one is asked to select from a host of important issues facing youth, education and child welfare - each has a most significant impact on the holistic development of the child. Educational attainment is the most presiding issue. Children must be able to have the best educational experience available in order to become successful productive adults. Attainment of educational oppoprunities for young adults ages 16 through 21 is of paramount importance as they begin to navigate their way in life.

**Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
7/10	ACS	Child care	Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Day Care Slots and Head Start Programs	

**Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
6/15	DOE	Schools and educational facilities	Renovate site component	

## 5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



### Public Safety and Emergency Services

#### Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

*Police-community relations*

#### Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/15	NYPD	<i>NYPD staff and training resources</i>	<i>Assign additional uniformed officers</i>	
4/15	FDNY	<i>FDNY facilities and equipment</i>	<i>Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests</i>	
8/15	FDNY	<i>FDNY programs and staffing</i>	<i>Provide more firefighters or EMS workers</i>	

## 5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



### Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

#### Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

##### *Cleanliness/trash collection*

Cleanliness /trash collection impacts the condition f

#### **Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
10/15	DSNY	<i>Sanitation Enforcement</i>	<i>Other enforcement requests</i>	
13/15	DSNY	<i>Garbage collection and recycling</i>	<i>Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions</i>	
15/15	DEP	<i>Sewage and flooding</i>	<i>Other sewer maintenance requests</i>	

## 5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

### Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



#### Main Issue Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

##### *Affordable housing programs*

Tenants are being pushed out of their apartments to accommodate land lords who are charging more monies/higher rents to new tenants. Affordable housing is needed so that tenants can be able to afford homes.

#### **Capital Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
1/10	HPD	<i>Affordable housing programs</i>	<i>Other affordable housing programs requests</i>	

#### **Expense Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development**

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
2/15	DOB	<i>Building code and zoning enforcement</i>	<i>Expand code enforcement</i>	
3/15	HPD	<i>Housing oversight and emergency programs</i>	<i>Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations</i>	

## 5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



### Transportation

#### Main Issue Related to Transportation

*Roadway maintenance*

#### Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
2/10	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway
3/10	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Wyckoff Avenue
4/10	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	Myrtle Avenue Broadway Wyckoff Avenue
5/10	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	DeKalb Avenue Station
6/10	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Wilson Avenue Station
8/10	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Reconstruct streets	
9/10	NYCTA	Transit Infrastructure	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Jefferson Street Station

#### Expense Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
7/15	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Repair or provide new street lights	Halsey Street Station/Wyckoff Av
9/15	DOT	Traffic and traffic flow	Other traffic improvements requests	
12/15	DOT	Transportation infrastructure	Repair or provide new street lights	



## Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

### Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

#### *Park care and maintenance*

At present homeless persons live in the parks, drug needles are found and persons are using park as a bathroom.

### Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
10/10	DPR	<i>Street trees and forestry services</i>	<i>Forestry services, including street tree maintenance</i>	

### Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
5/15	DPR	<i>Park maintenance and safety</i>	<i>Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)</i>	

## 6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests

### Other Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Need	Request	Location
6/15	DOE	<i>Schools and educational facilities</i>	<i>Renovate site component</i>	



## 7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

### Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 10 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /  
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/10	HPD	<i>Other affordable housing programs requests</i>	<i>Construct Rental Apartments for Residents who can not afford to pay the prevailing AMI rental fees based on lower incomes. It has been noted that many community residents are still having difficulties finding affordable apartments.</i>		<i>Entire Community</i>
2/10	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>Reconstruct Broadway from Flushing Avenue to Eastern Parkway. The roadbed of this heavily travelled commercial strip is in a deplorable state. The last time it was repaved was the Broadway Reconstruction Project of 1986. Recent tragic incidents illustrate the need for coordinated, roadway, striping and lighting</i>	<i>Broadway Flushing Avenue Eastern Parkway</i>	
3/10	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>The reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue is an important capital project for our community.</i>	<i>Wyckoff Avenue</i>	
4/10	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>Reconstruct Myrtle Ave. from Broadway to Wyckoff Ave. Roadbed is in deplorable condition. This avenue has two-way bus traffic and is a major artery.</i>	<i>Myrtle Avenue Broadway Wyckoff Avenue</i>	
5/10	NYCTA	<i>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</i>	<i>Renovate the DeKalb Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to Include an Elevator. The station experiences flooding when it rains. This station is highly used because of its near proximity to the Wyckoff Heights Medical Center; therefore the installation of an elevator is well overdue. The CB is asking for Transit Authority's help with full funding.</i>	<i>DeKalb Avenue Station</i>	<i>Wyckoff Heights Medical Center; New York City Transit Authority</i>
6/10	NYCTA	<i>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</i>	<i>Repair the Wilson Avenue Station on the Canarsie L Line to Include: ADA Compliance on the Canarsie-Bound Train, including both sides (Canarsie and Manhattan Bound); Cameras and Additional Lighting. The partial repair of this well used station needs to be augmented by the above.</i>	<i>Wilson Avenue Station</i>	<i>Audrey Johnson Day Care Center; PS 384</i>
7/10	ACS	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance funding for Day Care Slots and Head Start Programs</i>	<i>Develop Early Learn Centers and Pre-K Centers for all centers within Brooklyn Community District #4. Capital Funds Are Needed for the Renovation and/or New Construction of Facilities to Respond to Expansion of the District. As the district continues to expand, plans for child care facilities must be incorporated. Centers need to be updated because they are very old.</i>		
8/10	DOT	<i>Reconstruct streets</i>	<i>Provide Funds to Assure the Entire Repair of the Following Roadbeds on the HWK876 Project: Halsey St.; Weirfield St.; Hancock St.; Jefferson Avenue; Cornelia; Putnam Avenue. (All Are Between Wyckoff &amp; Irving Avenues.). After the removal of the trolley tracks, it is imperative that all the streets receive a new roadbed.</i>		

## 7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

### Brooklyn Community Board 4 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 10 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /  
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
9/10	NYCTA	<i>Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure</i>	<i>Upgrade the Canarsie L Line at the Jefferson Street Station to have more lighting. The upgrading should include more lighting and an audible sound system. Additional Lighting is needed due to safety issues. There are squatters, panhandlers, homeless persons at this station. There are no MTA employee (s) present at the station's entrance or exit.</i>	<i>Jefferson Street Station</i>	
10/10	DPR	<i>Forestry services, including street tree maintenance</i>	<i>Expand Contracts for Tree Pruning. The wait-time is extremely long for tree pruning as contracts do not accommodate the number of requests.</i>		

## 7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

### Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/15	NYPD	Assign additional uniformed officers	Increase Manpower: PSA3., Housing Authority and Transit District 33. Authority. Additional patrols are needed in Bushwick and additional manpower from the Academy.		
2/15	DOB	Expand code enforcement	Provide Funds for the Hiring of Additional Building Inspectors to Respond to Code Violators. An enormous amount of building construction and alterations have occurred throughout the district; in many cases illegally. Additional inspectors would help in identifying this problem.		
3/15	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	Hire Additional Code Enforcement Inspectors. Additional Inspectors are needed to respond to complaints.		
4/15	FDNY	Other FDNY facilities and equipment requests	Purchase Much Needed Equipment for Fire Department Personnel Including the Purchase of Generators. Printers for the fire house, Level A Haz-Mat Suits, new defibrillator batteries plus the upgrade of gas meters and smoke detectors are very important for fire fighting & prevention.		
5/15	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Hire Additional Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Staff. District parks are often vandalized; Gang activity is present. PEP officers will provided a sense of security.		
6/15	DOE	Renovate site component	Provide Funding for Much Needed School Repairs. Many schools within School District 32 have the need for repair. Project Id(s): A00374592		
7/15	DOT	Repair or provide new street lights	Increase Lighting at the Canarsie L Line, Halsey Street Station/Wyckoff Avenue. When riders leave the subway station, the residents consider the area quite dangerous. Also Provide High Density lighting throughout the District. The district is dark and quite dangerous for residents, Particularly under the MTA - TA Elevated Structures. High density lighting will provide for better-lit and safer streets during the night hours.	Halsey Street Station/Wyckoff Av	
8/15	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	Hire Additional Fire Marshalls. Increased staffing will greatly impove their ability to investigate and respond to suspcious fires.		
9/15	DOT	Other traffic improvements requests	Expand Personnel and Equipment for Night Operations. Many streets that are in need of restoration are heavily traversed during the day hours. Night operations for repair would prove most efficient and expeditious.		

## 7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

### Brooklyn Community Board 4 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 4 submitted 15 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
10/15	DSNY	<i>Other enforcement requests</i>	<i>Clean-Up After Dog Signs Are Requested to be Placed Throughout the District. The "Clean Up After Dog" Laws Need to be Enforced. Specifically requesting the above signs to be placed in front of public schools, early learned centers and senior citizen centers.</i>		
11/15	DFTA	<i>Increase home delivered meals capacity</i>	<i>Fund Additional Services for Seniors in the Entire District. Additional funding is requested to provide for meals, entitlements and transportation. PA systems are needed, Computer Classes with instructors are needed, movie days, crafts classes, New Televisions are needed at all senior citizens sites in particularly "Roundtable" located at 1175 Gates Avenue.</i>	1175 Gates Avenue	
12/15	DOT	<i>Repair or provide new street lights</i>	<i>Increase Contracts for Street Light Repairs. The Community Board #4 area suffers with enormous delays in response time by the contractor on street repairs. The average wait has increased to 15 days. Such a wait increases the hazards to the community.</i>		
13/15	DSNY	<i>Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up for schools and institutions</i>	<i>Reinstate 5 Day Per Week Sanitation Collection for Community Institutions. Early Learn Centers, Pre-K Programs, Senior Citizen Centers, etc. offer daily feeding of breakfast &amp; lunch. The garbage generated by these programs is often placed out in bins and/or designated locations which have contributed to the low score-card rating.</i>		
14/15	DOHMH	<i>Other animal and pest control requests</i>	<i>Request Inspections and Conduct Public Education on how the community residence can work together with the Dept. of Health to eliminate/combat the huge rat problem in the Bushwick Community.</i>		
15/15	DEP	<i>Other sewer maintenance requests</i>	<i>Hire Additional Personnel for the Repair &amp; Maintenance of Catch Basins. Our District must suffer through very long waiting periods for the repair of catch basins.</i>		