

City of New York

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Community Board No. 1

Statement of Needs, FY '16

SI CB1

1 August 2014

Community Board 1 represents the neighborhoods of the North Shore of Staten Island and our needs focus on economic development; waterfront development; sensible zoning to increase housing along transit corridors; transportation infrastructure improvement, including the expansion of mass transit; youth services; senior services; health services, public safety; and, quality of life improvements.

The aggregation of a billion dollars of private capital investment in the St. George and Stapleton communities will require a strong City commitment to infrastructure improvements to maximize the tax revenues that will be engendered by the New York Wheel, Empire Outlets, Lighthouse Point and Navy Pier – the largest of the new development scheduled along the North Shore waterfront.

This commitment must begin at the Staten Island Ferry terminal with a sensible, safe and obvious pedestrian walkway from lower level of the ferry terminal into the Lighthouse Point site as well as a prominent and unimpeded route way from the boat that allows commuters direct bus and train access and directs tourists to Richmond County Stadium, the 9-11 memorial, Postcards, Empire Outlets, the New York Wheel and its surrounding attractions and waterfront esplanade.

These east and west pedestrian walkways are entrances to the North Shore Greenway Heritage Trail which ultimately will connect Fort Wadsworth with Port Ivory. The North Shore Greenway Heritage Trail will provide access to the waterfront, will have destination parks within its limits and will allow bicycling along its route.

The City also must commit to transportation improvements that provide sensible vehicular access to The New York Wheel, Lighthouse Point, Navy Pier and Empire Outlets including smart lights, and the use of The Greenway as a mass transit corridor using rubber-wheeled vehicles. These improvements should provide a reasonable and obvious connection between the New York Wheel, Empire Outlets, Lighthouse Point and the Navy Pier in Stapleton. As well, the Stapleton Station of the SIRTOA must be rehabilitated to insure mass transit access to the Navy Pier project.

Included in these transportation improvements should be the development of the Esplanade from Bay Street Landing to Pouch Terminal, including any required acquisition and reconstruction.

Full access to the waterfront will be achieved by building out the remaining phases of the North Shore Greenway Heritage Trail and full use of the waterfront will be achieved by rezoning the northern transit corridors to allow for a mix of affordable and market rate housing with commercial underpinnings.

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With the influx of residents, businesses and cash that the economic, commercial and residential growth along the North Shore corridor will create, public safety tasks will become more complex. To deal with this there will be a need to increase the number of police officers stationed at the St. George Ferry terminal, restore funding for and build the new 120<sup>th</sup> precinct, install cameras on the streets surrounding Tappan Park, increase Park enforcement Patrol officers and return to the community policing model that so well integrates NYPD into the neighborhoods.

Community Board 1 strongly supports the Borough President's initiative to "create a culture of wellness" in our borough. Community Board 1 will work with the Borough President and our City Council delegation to secure funds needed to remove the health threat posed by a sanitation garage from a dense and economically buffeted residential neighborhood along Jersey Street, and, as well, work to secure funds to assist our existing health care facilities. The Board has formed a health and wellness committee to generate interest in and action around ways to improve and maintain health. Community Board 1 also is waging a decade-long campaign to improve the sewer and drainage system along the West New Brighton business corridor and along the Victory Boulevard business corridor to reduce the interior flooding that currently takes place.

Community Board 1 is a constant and strong advocate for increased services for young people and seniors. Our Youth and Human Resources Committees highlight and bring to the public's attention the lack of funding and services for these populations. The Committees work with our elected officials to try to redress these inequities.

In an effort to enhance the quality of life, the Board urges a moratorium on property tax increases, urges a cessation of the harassing of small business owners, urges the purchase of Mount Manresa and urges the construction of a new Cromwell Center at Lyon's Pool.

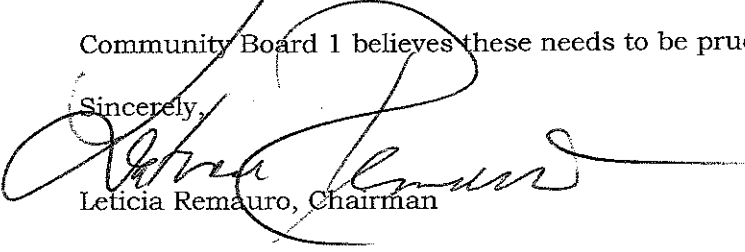
Finally, the Board would like to speak to the issue of SuperStorm Sandy.

It was made evident that the coast will require hardening with steel bulkheads and hydraulic cement coupled with four barrier islands to attenuate storm waves and surges. The islands will combine Dutch soft eco-engineering and traditional breakwater technology. Surface water management and wind/wave deflectors will be required.

The storm damaged the North Shore from Port Ivory to Pouch Terminal; however, little attention was given the attendant damages. The New York Container Terminal, the Fire Department, the Parks Department and many, many businesses suffered unreimbursed losses, some even closed for good. Although late to the game, all of the City's business service agencies should investigate how to help relieve the storm's damages and OMB should provide sufficient capital to rebuild City facilities to a storm-hardened status.

Community Board 1 believes these needs to be prudent and fair.

Sincerely,



Leticia Remauro, Chairman