

# **INTRODUCTION**

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

## **HOW TO USE THIS REPORT**

This report represents the Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from June to November, 2023.

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: <a href="mailto:CDNEEDS\_DL@planning.nyc.gov">CDNEEDS\_DL@planning.nyc.gov</a>

This report is broadly structured as follows:

## 1. Overarching Community District Needs

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

### 2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

## 3. Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY24 budget cycle; one list for capital and another for expense budget requests. For each budget request, community boards were able to provide a priority number, explanation, location, and supporters. OMB remains the definitive source on budget requests submitted to city agencies.

#### Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2025. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

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

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

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

# Introduction How to Use This Report 1. Community Board Information 2. 2020 Census Data 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 Housing, Economic Development and Land Use Transportation Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

6. Other Budget Requests

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

8. Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses

4

# 1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 14

Address: 810 East 16 Street Phone: (718) 859-6357

Email:

Website: cb14brooklyn.com

Chair: Jo Ann Brown
District Manager: Shawn Campbell

# **2. 2020 CENSUS DATA**

The following two pages contain data from the most recent 2020 Decennial Census, which includes basic demographic and housing characteristics for New York City, the borough, and this community district. The data also includes a view of change over time since 2010.

# **New York City**

	2010		202	2020		Change, 2010-2020	
							Percentage
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Point
AGE							
Total population	8,175,133	100.00	8,804,190	100.00	629,057	7.7	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	1,768,111	21.6	1,740,142	19.8	-27,969	-1.6	-1.8
<b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPAN</b>	NIC ORIGIN						
Total population	8,175,133	100.0	8,804,190	100.0	629,057	7.7	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	2,336,076	28.6	2,490,350	28.3	154,274	6.6	-0.3
White non-Hispanic	2,722,904	33.3	2,719,856	30.9	-3,048	-0.1	-2.4
Black non-Hispanic	1,861,295	22.8	1,776,891	20.2	-84,404	-4.5	-2.6
Asian non-Hispanic	1,028,119	12.6	1,373,502	15.6	345,383	33.6	3.0
Some other race, non-Hispanic	78,063	1.0	143,632	1.6	65,569	84.0	0.6
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	148,676	1.8	299,959	3.4	151,283	101.8	1.6
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total houing units	3,371,062	100.0	3,618,635	100.0	247,573	7.3	0.0
Occupied housing units	3,109,784	92.2	3,370,448	93.1	260,664	8.4	0.9
Vacant housing units	261,278	7.8	248,187	6.9	-13,091	-5.0	-0.9

## Brooklyn

	201	0	2020		Change, 2010-2020		
							Percentage
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Point
AGE							
Total population	2,504,700	100.00	2,736,074	100.00	231,374	9.2	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	594,378	23.7	595,703	21.8	1,325	0.2	-1.9
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPAN	AIC ORIGIN						
Total population	2,504,700	100.0	2,736,074	100.0	231,374	9.2	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	496,285	19.8	516,426	18.9	20,141	4.1	-0.9
White non-Hispanic	893,306	35.7	968,427	35.4	75,121	8.4	-0.3
Black non-Hispanic	799,066	31.9	729,696	26.7	-69,370	-8.7	-5.2
Asian non-Hispanic	260,129	10.4	370,776	13.6	110,647	42.5	3.2
Some other race, non-Hispanic	15,904	0.6	37,579	1.4	21,675	136.3	0.8
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	40,010	1.6	113,170	4.1	73,160	182.9	2.5
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total houing units	1,000,293	100.0	1,077,654	100.0	77,361	7.7	0.0
Occupied housing units	916,856	91.7	1,009,804	93.7	92,948	10.1	2.0
Vacant housing units	83,437	8.3	67,850	6.3	-15,587	-18.7	-2.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning

**Brooklyn Community District 14** 

	201	.0	2020		Change, 2010-2020		
							Percentage
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Point
AGE							
Total population	160,664	100.00	164,568	100.00	3,904	2.4	0.0
Total persons under 18 years	40,031	24.9	36,180	22	-3,851	-9.6	-2.9
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPAN	NIC ORIGIN						
Total population	160,664	100.0	164,568	100.0	3,904	2.4	0.0
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	25,165	15.7	24,726	15.0	-439	-1.7	-0.7
White non-Hispanic	59,590	37.1	61,736	37.5	2,146	3.6	0.4
Black non-Hispanic	56,948	35.4	46,445	28.2	-10,503	-18.4	-7.2
Asian non-Hispanic	15,147	9.4	21,317	13.0	6,170	40.7	3.6
Some other race, non-Hispanic	1,131	0.7	2,332	1.4	1,201	106.2	0.7
Non-Hispanic of two or more races	2,683	1.7	8,012	4.9	5,329	198.6	3.2
HOUSING OCCUPANCY							
Total houing units	60,417	100.0	62,254	100.0	1,837	3.0	0.0
Occupied housing units	56,852	94.1	59,355	95.3	2,503	4.4	1.2
Vacant housing units	3,565	5.9	2,899	4.7	-666	-18.7	-1.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning

## **Statement on Data Accuracy**

Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau is legally bound to protect the privacy of individuals participating in the decennial census. To adhere to the law and to avoid the disclosure of information about individual respondents, the Census Bureau has historically applied a host of techniques, such as top- and bottom-coding, imputation, table- and cell-suppression, and data swapping. The Census Bureau is employing a new technique with the 2020 Census, referred to as the Disclosure Avoidance System (DAS), based on differential privacy. With this approach, the Census Bureau "infuses noise" systematically across census data and sets a quantified disclosure risk, referred to as the Privacy Loss Budget (PLB).

While the new DAS approach may diminish the risk of disclosure concerns, it comes at a cost to data accuracy. Consequently, 2020 Census data users should be aware that all sub-state counts, except for housing units (which are unaffected by the DAS), may be adjusted to protect the privacy of Census participants and may be subject to reduced accuracy. Because DAS noise infusion is randomized, it is impossible for data users to know the degree to which any individual statistic is altered. However, it is possible to say that in general the relative size of errors decreases as counts increase. Consequently, data users should have greater confidence in the accuracy of the data as counts get larger. Further, an evaluation of a Privacy-Protected Microdata File (PPMF), treated with a Disclosure Avoidance System like the one applied to 2020 redistricting data, showed that counts of 300 or more rarely have sizable errors (error beyond +/- 10% of the count). Therefore, while data users need to be cognizant of data accuracy limitations, they should have confidence in conclusions based on sizable counts, which are relatively unaffected by the Census Bureau's latest disclosure avoidance method.

# 3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Located in the heart of Brooklyn, Community Board 14 comprises the diverse and dynamic communities of Flatbush, Midwood and eastern Kensington. The district embraces 2.9 square miles. In 2020 the population increased to 164,600 up from 160,660 in 2010 but down from a high of 168,806 in 2000. CD14 remains among the most diverse in New York City; and is the most diverse in Brooklyn as measured by the racial diversity index. Approximately 39% of the district is White; 10% is Asian; and 17% is of Hispanic origin. These percentages have shifted only slightly from 2010-2021 however, the Black/African- American population has decreased from 35 percent in 2010 to 26 percent in 2021. Within these racial categories, there is a rich myriad of nationalities and cultures. Nearly 39% of our District's population is foreign born as of 2021, down from 47% in 2010. The poverty rate in the district has reportedly dropped from 22% in 2010 to 17% in 2021. It is slightly higher for household with children under 18, and it is at 22% for those 65 years and older.

The vast majority of needs previously identified in this annual District Needs Statement have not been met in a meaningful way. The continued recovery Covid 19 pandemic underscores the urgency of addressing health, housing, and socio-economic disparities, and educational, environmental and small business issues, at the local level. Meeting budget priorities that are identified at the local level represents an investment in the community, which pays off when crises strike and positions our community to be safe, productive, and resilient. To the extent that the city continues to fail to respond meaningfully to local needs, and to not prioritize on the basis of community level data, we remain vulnerable. We urge agencies to note lessons learned and to respond meaningfully to our community members are represented by our district needs and related budget requests.

# 4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

## Infrastructure resiliency

There are many issues, various needs and many demographic, socio-economic and policy shifts that everything is a number one priority for someone. It is important that all city agencies strive to serve the public to the best of their ability and it is imperative that all city agencies get the support they need to do so. Infrastructure resiliency includes street conditions/roadway, street bridge, mass transit maintenance and infrastructure; street flooding; maintenance and cleanliness of institutions, natural assets, and public space. There are five chronic flooding locations in the district that flood every time it rains more than 1.5 inches an hour. DEP has offered no city-based resolution. Legislation is pending in City Council that would direct DEP to help cover the cost of installing backflow prevention valves. This is worthy of consideration given that the Comptroller's office has paid \$4,826,552 in sewer overflow claims from (2017-2021). Community District 14 still has not made DOT's list for scheduled trench condition repairs despite a growing number of locations, including in front of the District Office. Three road bridges are scheduled for repair but the full scope has not been determined. The purview issues surrounding Newkirk Plaza disqualify the Newkirk Avenue bridge from a component contract and likely put the timing of repairs beyond the horizon. DOT installs traffic calming devices with no maintenance plan so that weeds are higher than cars on pedestrian islands and delineators litter the roadway. DOT has allowed Citibike to install docks that force people to step into a truck route to dock the bike! DOT's Open Restaurants program competes with other for-profit uses of the streets such as bike parking stations and electrical vehicle charging stations which also compete with public uses such as bike lanes and bus lanes. DOT has not explained how these competing interests will be prioritized, or the process by which local community members will be able to weigh in. It is difficult to have confidence in expanding programs under DOT's watch when the agency has not responded to repair requests, has not maintained other assets, and has not improved the time it takes to respond to (for instance) speed hump requests (typically more than 3 years). A request for a new precinct house has been a priority for three decades, as noted elsewhere in this report. CD 14 is considered a transit zone but there have been no studies of station capacity. Transit zoning text amendments that could increase station accessibility rest on happenstance rather than equity-based planning. To the extent that capacity, accessibility, equity and thus resiliency improvements are being made by agencies and utilities alike, there is insufficient coordination so that roadway disruptions are extended and use of the public right of way and public space in general is poorly planned. CB14 has advocated for restoring the B23 bus on Cortelyou Road but at this time the bud redesign anticipates removing all buses from Cortelyou - in part because the DOT installation on Coney Island Avenue makes the right turn difficult. There must be a way to address unanticipated consequences following policy decisions.

#### Parks and open space

Several of CB14's priorities have lingered on this list for years and even decades without being addressed or in some cases meaningfully acknowledged by the relevant agencies, including open space, relocation of the 70th police precinct house and a variety of baseline sanitation services. Community Board 14 has the highest percentage citywide of residents who live more than a quarter mile away from a park. This is more than an issue of recreation it has serious public health ramifications. Health disparities are exacerbated by the lack of outdoor recreational amenities. CB14 as advocated for Newkirk Plaza to be activated as a public plaza since DOT began the pedestrian plaza program, still to no avail. The African burial ground at Bedford Avenue and Church Avenue has been transferred to the Department of Parks and Recreation to develop an important memorial. This is a location that CD 14 identified as suitable for open space over a decade ago and now that the site has been identified as hallowed ground we trust that it will be adequately funded and opportunities for community input will be maximized in a variety of forums, with focus on the descendant community. CB14 has requested that Umma Park and the Campus Road Tot Lot be fully rehabilitated. We are gratified that there has been a councilmanic allocation for Umma Park from Councilmember Rita Joseph. Still, we believe that DPR should have agency over their own capital budget so they do not rely solely on council allocations. This would ensure that parks are rehabilitated according to need,

rather than the vagaries of districting. A request to make Newkirk Plaza a public plaza has been denied by three different agencies. Conditions on the Plaza are in a downward spiral despite the fact that the plaza is already a plaza, MTA has indicated a willingness to sign agreements for plaza use, and the Flatbush Development Corp wants to serve as the community partner. Mayor Adams made this same demand of the di Blasio administration in 2019; therefore, we have high hopes for a resolution now that he is Mayor. The lack of agency accountability for the plaza must end and adoption into the DOT Pedestrian Plaza program makes the most sense. The 70th Police Precinct must balance responding to crime, gang activity, quality of life complaints, and community relations in a racially, ethnically, religiously, and socio-economically diverse community. They do so from a precinct house that is located as far away from the heart of the district as can be. OMB approved a site search for a new precinct house three years ago but only three locations have been reviewed (and all rejected). This is a request that CB 14 has made for over 30 years. We remain stubbornly hopeful that the site search will yield positive results. Every year for over a decade we have had to request for the restoration of some baseline DSNY service or another. This year we urge the city to restore Manual Litter Patrol (MLP). TNT is not a substitute for MLP. Currently MLP is provided in the district only through city council grants so it cannot be provided throughout the district. In the past elected officials have been asked to fund baskets and basket collections. These are baseline services and should be paid directly through DSNY's own budget so that the services are provided equally throughout the district and additional grants can support special projects, such as graffiti removal, catch basin clearing or tree pit maintenance, none of which fall within any agency purview.

## **Street conditions (roadway maintenance)**

We receive more service delivery requests for issues related to DOT than any other agency. Community members generate requests for traffic studies; street conditions; for traffic calming such as speed humps, stop signs, traffic signals; changes in alternate side of the street parking; sidewalk conditions; bike lanes that make sense and more. In addition, DOT has initiated installations of pedestrian islands; curb extensions; bike lane expansions; and safety measures near schools. The requests and initiatives too often do not intersect. With so many projects and requests and with the increased development in the area, CB14 continues to encourage DOT to implement changes based on data and studies of the specifics of the areas that will be affected by projects and to include the community in the early phases of proposal development.

# 5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

## **HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES**

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

#### Services to reduce or prevent homelessness

Health care and human service needs are intertwined. Services for low income and vulnerable adults, for seniors and those who are homebound overlap with disease prevention and mental health services. Substandard housing has a substantial impact on health and mental health. Once an individual has become homeless, a whole host of services have not been made available or have failed. Prevention is the best care. In a community-wide survey, affordable housing and programs for unsheltered homeless individuals ranked the highest and prevention programs ranked second. Housed: CB 14 continues to rank high in severe housing overcrowding. More than 32% of our tenants are severely rent burdened (paying more than 50% of their income on rent) which is up from 29% in 2010. The district ranks second citywide in the number of serious housing code violations per 1000 units of housing. In 2019, 57% of housing units were affordable at 80% AMI, which was 13% fewer than in 2010. The percentage at 30% of AMI has also dropped from 4.9 to 3.9%. This housing insecurity manifests in a growing number of unsheltered homeless individuals who were previously housed in the community. It is exceedingly difficult to move a person off the street, once they have become homeless. Therefore, prevention is of paramount importance. On any given night, nearly 50,000 people will sleep in NYC shelters; this includes more than 10,138 families, including 16,000 children as well as 18,357 single adults. These were the numbers before the overwhelming influx of 70,000 migrant individuals and families with children. Community Board 14 accepts a role in hosting shelters in the community. However, locations, populations served, and providers must be transparently considered. DHS contracted with the Children's Rescue Fund to operate a women's' shelter on Kenilworth Place. The lack of transparency in this process is well-documented and the Community Advisory Board (CAB) has met no more than twice in the 3 years it's been in operation. Black Vets for Social Justice operates in a men's shelter on Duryea Place, practically on the loading dock of Kings Theater and next door to a supportive housing facility for people experiencing mental illness. From its opening on May 5, 2023 to October 24, 2023 when the Black Vets for Social Justice held its first CAB meeting, there were 263 911 calls to the shelter. In addition, residents have called 311 related to the shelter and its residents. Program and security capacity must be increased.

## Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

## **Needs for Health Care and Facilities**

Health: Of note is the aging of CD14's population. In 2010 those age 65 and better was 9.8%; by 2021 it rose to 17.3%. The DOHMH Community Health Survey reports that CD14 individuals in that age group experience more hospitalizations from falls than the city-wide and borough-wide averages at 1,767 per 100,000. While most health indices such as asthma rates, maternal health rates, obesity, diabetes and hypertension rates are on par with the city-wide and borough-wide averages, CD14 does have lower rates of health insurance and higher numbers of our residents do not seek timely medical attention. It should be noted that food access is increasingly troublesome. There are 14 bodegas for every grocery store in CD14. The best ratio is the city is 3 bodegas to 1 grocery store and the worst is 19:1. We are far closer to the worst than the best.

As has been stated for years and as will be repeated in other sections of this report, CD ranks last in the city in terms of access to parks and greenspace. We have the highest percentage of people who live more than a quarter mile away from a park. In 2018, the Fund for the City of New York awarded a planning fellow to CB14 who assembled a report with worthy recommendations. It can be found on CB14's website. We continue to advocate for the greening of CD14.

According to the Department for the Aging's analysis of Census data, the population of older New Yorkers is increasing as a share of the total population. In 2010 it was 9% and in 2019 the population over 65 grew to 17%. The population of those over the age of 85 is increasing the most, but "younger" older New Yorkers seeking services is on the rise. From 2010-2021, the poverty rate in CD14 dropped from 22-17%. For those age 65 and older it dropped a bit less, from 26-22%, remaining higher than the full population. These shifts require new focus on providing support services for aging New Yorkers. Still, the number of senior centers in the district remains flat and there has been only one housing development for seniors in 2020 when Church of the Redeemer leadership built an as-of-right, 88 studio unit building for seniors and women aging out of foster care.

#### **Needs for Homeless**

On any given night, nearly 50,000 people will sleep in NYC shelters; this includes more than 10,138 families, including 16,000 children as well as 18,357 single adults. These were the numbers before the overwhelming influx of 70,000 migrant men, women and children.

Community Board 14 accepts a role in hosting shelters in the community. However, the location, the population served, and the provider must be transparently considered. DHS is has contracted with the Children's Rescue Fund to operate a women's' shelter on Kenilworth Place. The lack of transparency in this process is well-documented. The Community Advisory Board for that shelter has met no more than twice in the 3 years it's been in operation. Black Vets for Social Justice operates in a men's shelter on Duryea Place, practically on the loading dock of Kings Theater and next door to a supportive housing facility for people experiencing mental illness. As anticipated and articulated by community members, this not a location primed to serve the 200 men housed there and it places an undue burden on this one-block of residents. The complaints and requests for agency intervention (and police assistance) are frequent and continue to escalate. Nevertheless, despite repeated requests, this shelter has not held a single CAB to date. Since April 2023, DHS has been directly operating a migrant shelter for families on Coney Island Avenue. As of October 2023, there is still no community-based organization in place; the loss of service and support in that time has only exacerbated the crises and places an undue burden on the schools serving the children of these families. Shelters must be opened with higher potential for success than any of these current plans offer. In addition, the city is still claiming to site shelters equitably in all community districts. However, the two new shelters in CB14 are within a mile of one shelter in CD12 and another in CD17. That's four shelters within two miles, which is not geographically equitable.

As for the unsheltered homeless individuals, Breaking Ground is Brooklyn's DSS contractor and provides excellent service, yet there have been reports of response slowing and it takes on average 250 encounters with street outreach teams before individuals will accept services. What does this say about the efficacy of services offered? It seems time for a paradigm shift. The Midwood Safehaven is at capacity. Such programs should be expanded with the best interest of the community in mind.

#### **Needs for Low Income NYs**

Community Board 14 continues to host non-profit roundtable events each year in order to stay aware of needs being met by Community Based Organizations (CBO), who they are serving, and what type of support they need to manage and expand caseloads. In the past we brought the CBOs together with city agencies and nonprofit support organizations to expand their capacity and strengthen the CBO network in our community. The 2022 Nonprofit Roundtable featured Comptroller Brad Lander, who spoke about the City's efforts to improve contract registration and timely contract payments. These efforts have not reached our local CBOs as of yet. The need for these changes are critical as organizations continue to serve a growing number of more urgent needs in our community. Last year the roundtable offered extended break-out group time, and the feedback from the organizations was overwhelmingly positive, demonstrating the value of quilting together the invaluable programs and services provided by our nonprofit community. Gsiven how many city services are provided through contracting, supporting this element of our community is critical. Three years ago, CB14 organized a lunch and learn series to explore affordable housing for our community, the videos and resources from that series are housed on CB14's newly

redesigned website. At a time when the wealthier strata of our community is growing, it is important to maintain focus on those in or close to the poverty line. Human services are an investment in the productivity and resiliancy of our community.

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

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

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/31	DHS	Expand street outreach	Reports of individuals who appear to be unsheltered homeless have increased over the past year. Breaking Ground is the current contractor and given the increase in calls to the Community Board, the Police and 311, an increase in outreach services is warranted. These teams must be equipped with professionals who can assist those who are on the street due to substance misuse and/or experiencing mental health disorders.	
5/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	Nearly one in 25 New Yorkers has experienced mental illness. About 280,000 have major disorders such as schizophrenia. Forty percent of those in city shelters and 53% of those in city jails experience mental illness. From March to December of 2020, more than 17,000 calls were made for mental health assistance. This was 85 times more than the same period in 2019. The city must continue to expand mobile crises teams, and intensive mobile teams as well as HOMESTAT outreach to unsheltered homeless individuals experiencing mental illness. A Support and Connection Center should be provided in Brooklyn.	
7/31	DHS	Improve safety at homeless shelters	The men's shelter that opened in CD14 in 2023 has created a number of community concerns. Security, including perimeter patrols are not addressing the complaint that individuals are entering private property, defecating in the street, engaging in substance use, and locking shopping carts to fences. Interactions between shelter residents and residents of the adjacent supportive housing facility have not been positive for the clients or the community. BVSJ - the contractor has failed to establish a Community Advisory Board. The impacts of this shelter are far worse than anticipated and funding to ensure adequate support, programing and safety is urgently needed.	

9/31	DHS	Other request for services for the homeless	While city officials advocate for state and federal funding to address the needs of asylum seekers, the city itself must step up with the resources that can be put into place. An expansion of legal services for filing documentation, support services and counseling must be put into place. These services will help people move out of shelters. The city only exacerbates the crises by not providing as much as it can despite the many strains across agencies.
13/31	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing	Community District 14 ranks 11th of 59 in the percentage of severely rent burdened household - 35% up from 30% the year before. The District ranks 8th in the percent of renter households that are severely overcrowded. Nearly 35% of renters in the District pay over 50% of their household income on monthly rent. Affordability of rentals (at 80% of AMI) decreased from 71.3% to only 49%. These are pressures that lend themselves to homelessness and continued expansion of prevention programs is warranted.
18/31	DFTA	Increase staffing for homebound adult programs	Case management, home care, legal services, and transportation services are generally intertwined. There is no way to prioritize the needs of one senior citizen over those of another and it would be folly to provide transportation over home care for a senior who is need of both. The funding of these services must be designed with the approach that support services are inextricable.
20/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize substance misuse and encourage treatment	Street outreach teams, NYPD, and human services organizations report that many people who appear to be unsheltered often have homes but congregate where they can access and use substances. There are few programs available to them unless they are in fact homeless or choose to seek care. This is a woeful and dangerous approach, or lack thereof. Community Mobile and Intesive Mobile teams should be expanded in Brooklyn.

21/31	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	Public health programs that address health disparities with an urgent focus on maternal health are of the highest priorities. Ongoing infection disease concerns, barriers to vaccines whether they be knowledge and understanding based, cultural practices based, language access, etc. must be thoughtfully addressed. Access to quality housing, healthy food choices and outdoor space all contribute systemically to health outcomes and thus cannot be considered singularly, let alone in competition with one another.
25/31	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program	Engage in reimagining an RFP for senior centers. The population of persons 65 years old and up in CD14 has increased from 10% in 2010 to 17% in 2021.
29/31	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	Rodent complaints have risen throughout the city, While DOHMH continues to increase the number of inspections performed annually, these efforts are outpaced by conditions contributing to rodent infestations. DOT's Open Streets for restaurant policy, DOB's abatement rules for construction sites should have better storage and collection policies. DSNY should be better equipped to address illegal drop offs and dumping. A better public education plan so that people understand the downside of feeding feral cats and birds is needed.

## YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

## Most Important Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

## Juvenile justice and services for at-risk youth

Issues related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare are intertwined and it is important to knit services and resources together and break through silos. For the past 16 years CB 14 has organized a Youth Conference, which has attracted over 500 young community members to meet with 80 organizations, agencies and job providers. The need for youth workforce development, youth employment, youth justice and youth centered cure violence programs are more urgent than ever and we continue to advocate for an even greater expansion of DYCD, and ACS funding and CBO support contracts that are registered and paid on time. Contracting methodology should be reviewed by the city. It seems odd that CB6, which for households with members under the age of 18 has a poverty rate of 5% and receives \$2,9990,908 in DYCD contracts, and our district receives \$2,042481despite a significantly higher poverty rate of 18% in households with minors. Youth workforce development garnered the most support in the youth section of CB14's community needs survey. Interestingly, cure violence programs received the highest percentage of support in the public safety section of the survey; underscoring the relationship of services to one another (the community gets it)! Community Board 14 has identified the need for expanded school seats as a budget priority for well over a decade and the Department of Education has recognized the need but has not fulfilled it. We urge DOE and SCA to assess the post pandemic need for elementary school seats. In the meantime, new private schools and charter schools have been opened and require support such as crossing guards. There must be a recognition that income disparities, housing disparities, and the disparities in parental educational attainment, as well as first languages spoken at home, family size and more, make learning challenging in different ways in different households. The children of migrant families are being added to the rolls of our public schools without a CBO in place at the shelter, which puts additional family support pressures on the schools.

## Community District Needs Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

#### **Needs for Youth Education**

There are 35 public elementary and secondary schools in the district which served more than 20,000 students prepandemic. In addition, there are more than 26 private/parochial elementary and secondary schools with 6709 students. The public elementary schools in our district were over capacity - ranging up to 151% over enrolled (topping last year's high of 146% over enrolled). The City has recognized our need for additional seats in the district for well over a decade and a post pandemic assessment is needed to ascertain current needs. Our schools have a higher than citywide average of ELL students, which is increasing as children from migrant families in shelters are added to the rolls. Over 30 different first languages are represented on one of our elementary schools. Given school overcrowding, stresses on social services, guidance counseling and technology access concerns, this district is at greater risk of grade level and on time graduation backsliding. This will be a long term issue. Services for immigrant youth, afterschool programs and early childhood development are all rated as a top need on the district's NDA survey.

#### **Needs for Youth and Child Welfare**

Twenty-five percent of CD14's population is under the age of 17; 34% is under the age of 24. The poverty rate in CD14 has fallen from 25% in 2000 to 17% in 2021; however the poverty rate for households with children under 18 is still 25%. DYCD programs such as Compass and SYEP are in high demand in the district. The expansion of ACS programs for justice involved youth seem to be increasingly untilized by cure violence groups and by the YNCO's from the 70th Precinct. Support for cure violence programs in the public safety section of CB14's budget proirities survey were the number one priority by far.

# Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
9/17	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	DOE still acknowledges CD 14 as a district in need of seats. When last measured at full capacity, PS 139 was at 121% of utilization; PS 127was 125%; PS 249 was at 128%, PS 193 at 111%; PS 315 was at 118% and the PS 152 Annex was at 146%. Since annexes are built to address overcrowding, an overcrowded annex boldly underscores the need for additional elementary school seats in the northern end of the District. The elementary schools listed above are all north of Avenue L.	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
14/31	ACS	Other foster care and child welfare requests	When asked by survey to rank public safety priorities, 85% of respondents ranked support for cure violence groups, number one. ACS's Division of Youth and Family Justice and the efforts to support violence disrupters programs and organizations is a high priority from a youth service and a public safety perspective. There are several programs that ACS has introduced or grown in recent years. CD14 organizations have applied to the RFP for Family Enrichment Program. We hope they will be awarded. As for foster care and casework, the agency has made positive strides in reducing caseloads and fostered youth is at an all-time low.	

16/31 DYCD

Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program According to our Youth Conference attendees survey, the biggest draw for the 500 youth who attended out annual conference was jobs. It is imperative that DYCD jobs programs be expanded and dependably funded. Additional focus on building capacity at the CBO level to expand programming into underserved communities is imperative. Cure violence programs depend on significant alternatives. DYCD is poised to support new models of curing violence and expanding opportunities for future leaders.

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

A new 70th precinct house is still a high priority in the district based in part on the number of decades it has been identified as a priority combined with NYPD's investment without return in recent years. In 2018, the NYPD Capital Unit conducted a \$1 million feasibility study to determine that the current location is unsuitable. OMB then greenlighted a site search for a new location. They have considered three locations in three years and all were rejected. A new location will not be easy to identify in our narrow 2.9 square mile district but the community and elected officials are all ready to provide assistance and support. It would be a detriment to the community to let yet another opportunity slip by yet there seems to be little to no focus and the responses to CB14's repeated requests inspires little confidence. The police department organizes so many ceremonies and events to honor members of the service. Then they send them off to work in stations houses that dishonors their value. When the SRG3 house was recently flooded from a combined sewer system during a storm, officers lost personal belongings and there wasn't a proper clean up for days. Buildings that don't leak from the roofs and flood from the basement should be the minimum expectation. As the frequency of weather disasters continue to increase, the need for preparedness and response cannot be overstated. Fire safety and addressing general crime are at the core of a safe community. Zoning text amendments that anticipate energy storage as of right, must be coupled with FDNY capacity. Public nuisance complaints are on a steep rise in the district. The transfer of tobacco, electronic cigarettes and cannabis sales from NYPD to DCWP and the Sheriff's office has not been effective. The transfer of vendor enforcement from NYPD to DSNY is a bad idea that has been poorly implemented. Traffic complaints and request for enforcement are also on the rise. It is very important that the community and its police force work together to benefit from shifts in a violence disruption and harm reduction model to deal with how youth crime and recidivism are addressed. Traffic violations and enforcement are also recognized as pressing needs in the district. There has been very little impact on speeding vehicles, trucks that travel off routes, 53' trucks that should not be on city streets, and overnight commercial vehicle parking due to a lack of large tow vehicles, space in tow lots and the strain on human resources.

## <u>Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services</u>

#### **Needs for Public Safety**

The men and women of the 70th Police Precinct serve our community from a Precinct House that is poorly suited to their needs and to the needs of the community. The 70th Precinct House is undersized, antiquated and deteriorated. Adapt Community Network, which serves people with cerebral palsy, and the Joseph Belsky house, which serves low-income mobility impaired residents, share this very narrow, one-way street. Thus one of the most active Precinct Houses is in the midst of one of the largest concentrations of multiply handicapped people in the city. The number of schools in proximity to the precinct continues to increase. The shift to a cure violence model is well received by the borough and the precinct. The ACS and DYCD programs that support CBOs that have become trusted messengers in the community must be adequately funded. Bringing funding and program support to the community level and making sure they work in tandem with NYPD's responsibilities is a new challenge that we trust will yeild positive results. The number of crossing guards has not kept pace with need. Ensuring that the position offers incentives to attract and retain personnel is a priority. Having enough personnel to fill in when guards call in or take leave is another measure that should be brought into practice.

## **Needs for Emergency Services**

None of the firehouses in CD 14 are slated for renovations or generators. Given that mandatory inspections are based on Department of Buildings new construction, alteration and demolition permits and given that those permit applications are increasing, the need to ensure adequate resources for inspections is clear. Education programs to prevent fires and swift response are also key It remains distressing that response times continue to increase for

FDNY and for EMS. The process by which FDNY approves DOT installations such as speed humps, pedestrian islands, and curb extensions has improved to ensure that local input is emphasized, but as DOT expands street and curb lane use to bike corrals, restaurants, protected bike lanes and more, we must ensure that additional amenities don't conflict with emergency response. The consideration of energy stgorage as of right, must align with DOB's code development and FDNY's capacity to address unintentded consequences.

# **Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	The history of efforts to relocate this aging facility goes back three decades. In 2006, DCAS began property acquisition at 1326 Ocean Avenue and NYPD set aside \$30 million for the property, and OMB stated its commitment to identify additional funding. Construction was set to begin in 2013. It did not and the site was lost to a market rate housing development. A \$1 million scoping study to asses the feasibility of building a new precinct house on site acknowledges the locational challenges that the current site presents. OMB approved a site search to no avail. Relocating the precinct house remains a priority. In the meantime, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, or parking, nor it is handicap accessible.	
11/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	While NYPD continues the search for an appropriate location for a new precinct house, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, parking, nor it is handicap accessible. Work orders should be addressed quickly. The vacant lot on the block should be explored as a potential parking facility for the 70th Precinct.	
14/17	NYPD	Add NYPD parking facilities	Increasingly we are told that large tow vehicles are not available, or that there is no space in the tow lot. This has created a backlog and long waits for the removal of illegally parked vehicles and an ongoing issue with overnight commercial parking of tractor trailers on both commercial or residential streets. An increased investment in both tow equipment and tow lots is needed.	
16/17	FDNY	Rehabilitate or renovate existing fire houses or EMS stations	Fund station house renovations and upgrades at Engine 255/Ladder 157; Engine 281/Ladder 147 and Engine 250 firehouses. Including the addition of a station house generator at one of these fire stations. There are no firehouses in CD 14 with a generator.	

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
17/31	NYPD	Hire additional crossing guards	Additional crossing guards is an ever increasing request. New schools have opened, new developments are in the pipeline. The Community Board defers to the Police Precinct to assign additional crossing guards to new locations. Funding should also cover substitute crossing guards so that intersections are not without this important safety measure when a crossing guard is out for any period of time.	
26/31	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	Fund adequate new firefighter, Marshall, EMS and inspector hires. Given the pace of development and the density that is adding to our community, it is imperative that we ensure that staffing remain optimal and that the addition of a 5th firefight on the truck is expanded to firehouses serving our community. The number of firefighters fully trained for all inspections should be at 100%.	

## CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

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

## Water runoff and flooding

CD14 has several chronic flooding locations which have been brought to the attention of DEP for years with no amelioration. Last year, Hurricane Ida was an extraordinary event that certainly brought a great deal of attention to our hard-hit community; this year tropical storm Ophelia hit on September 29th did the same because no action followed the last storm. This is an unacceptable cycle given that our chronic locations flood in fairly regular rainstorms. How can we mitigate these events and how can we better prepare for emergencies? DEP has presented Cloudburst Management and Rainfall Ready programs to CB14's Community Environment Committee. CB14 supports DPR's Lakeshore project. However, these are projects on the horizon. What can be done in the short term to alleviate the loss of property and closure of businesses when combined sewer systems flood from below while the street's overflow from above. Programs to compel DEP to offset the cost of backflow valve installations and zoning text amendments that promise flood mitigation are promising. Raingarden and other green infrastructure programs must be expedited. Sanitation complaints are brought to our attention daily. Every time we bring a matter to the attention of BK14 we get immediate response. We could not ask for better community partners. Yet, the demand and pace are difficult to meet. CD14 also has 54 dead end streets, 3 BIDs and 5 additional commercial streets within our 2.9 square miles, which require specific DSNY services such as MLP and basket service. The district is dense with old growth trees, which becomes added work for brooms during leaf season. The resources for composting don't seem to be adequate at this early stage. The department will not attract participation if it cannot adequately service early adapters. Compost trucks should be assigned by service, not weights. Increasingly routes are not finished and a 4x12 truck is required to finish collection. MLP, which was completely eliminated, must be fully restored. TNT is a welcome addition but does not replace critical MLP. There are 54 dead ends in CD14 and MLP is the only program that cleans them. Commercial basket collection must be locked in to 7 days a week. It is hard to know what the winter will bring, but outdoor dining will certainly offer snowplow challenges. The department seems to be increasingly reliant on councilmember funding, which only reaches the parts of the District served by that member. CD14 intersects with four councilmembers so baseline services should come from the baseline budget in order to ensure that the district is served equitably.

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

### Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

Flooding remains an issue in several locations. DEP has assisted Parks to maintain catch basins north of one of our chronic locations along E. 10th Street and Church Avenue, but flooding continues. Ultimately, the overwhelmed system in the city streets is under the purview of DEP and they must address this issue. Bioswales, permeable surfaces, and catchbasin and roadway maintenance are interagency concerns. This makes it all the more difficult to coordiante a response. Trench restoration continues to be an issue in the District. In 2019 DOT was allocated \$60 million to address trench issues citywide, thus DEP was able to pass the ball on these projects. However, not one of the trenches in CD 14 made the DOT list. There has been no progress on this issue. DOT has indicated that it has not begun a single project with the original \$60 million and there have been no further allocations, which indicates a complete policy failure.

## **Needs for Sanitation Services**

The city's drastic cuts to DSNY's budget during the pandemic amounted to an effictive 60% reduction in service Citywide. This was the most noticible negative impact of all agency budget cuts and it seems we are still experiencing the impacts. This is the beauty of DSNY - fund it and it will get done. Currently there is still no baseline MLP. Each and every resident produces more than two pounds of garbage every day. What can we do to change the culture so that people don't think it is OK to litter, leave their dog waste behind or carry their household trash to a

corner basket? The efforts of the Department of Sanitation workers at BK 14 to keep pace with the needs of our District are greatly appreciated but can't keep pace with these actions around the clock. Within our 2.9 miles there are 89 road miles and 54 dead ends and several narrow streets. The introduction of compost was long awaited positive news but the roll out hasn't be smooth as DSNY has not communicated new sets of rules clearly and extra trucks in the community have a downside. A growing number of routes are not collected on shift adding trucks to the afternoon and midnight trucks. Yet, DSNY has just informed us that they are cutting back on presentations to community boards to save money? We believe that the investment in communication, transparency and education will pay off when compared to extra colletion shifts!

We continued to be concerned that bike lanes, pedestrian islands, neckdowns, and Open Streets restaurants, installed and managed by DOT offer new challenges to collection, recycling, street sweeping and snow removal. Illegal drop offs and dumping continues to be a persistant issue in the district. Cleanliness had improved and complaints had abated along commercial streets when the six day a week basket truck was restored. We support the return of electronics collection and leaf collection programs. We appreciate and support additional DSNY services to collect Christmas trees and Chometz alike. Many in the district were eager for household organics recycling, and we hope implementation will smooth out. We are extremely grateful for BK14's responsiveness to the needs of our community in general and thier interagency work pertinent to storm clean up, homeless encampment conditions, and derelict vehicles that are persistent issues in several locations in the district.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/17	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	There are several locations in the District that flood chronically in rainstorms. These locations have all been brought to DEP's attention. DCP has provided a limited drop down list from which to choose a budget priority. We ask the DEP respond to the requests pending and advise as to what the respective issues are so that we can identify what budget line these requests fall into. The bottom line is that DEP must provide solutions to these locations because property, businesses and public areas should not have to withstand chronic flooding. What capital projects would help in these various locations: bioswales, catch basins, permeable surface additions, holding tanks?	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/31	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	There are 1200 road segments in CD 14. Given the number of dead ends, overpasses, and road bridges, cleaning is a persistent need. The evisceration of MLP, which is the only operation that cleans CD14's 54 dead end streets was ill advised. TNT is welcome in addition to MLP but not instead of it. Asking councilmembers to refund DSNY with Clean NYC or reso funds does not ensure equal distribution of services across the district and is financially inefficient. Baseline services should come from the baseline budget. Restore full funding for MLP.	
8/31	DEP	Clean catch basins	There are several locations in the district that flood chronically that have all been brought to DEP's attention. It seems that the issues can only be resolved with capital investments and that is the second highest request on CB14 capital list. In the meantime, catch basin cleaning and maintenance, courtesy flushes, rain barrels, backflow valve education, and other short term mitigation strategies are needed.	

23/31	DSNY	Increase enforcement of street vending	The addition of vendor enforcement has not been adequately resourced. There are not enough San Police and they don't cover specific areas. There is not a transparent reporting system in place.
30/31	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Compost has finally arrived but early observations suggest that adequate resources and logical planning have faltered. Some sectors will have an extra rear loader on the streets - equaling 3 collection trucks per street every recycling day. Other sectors will still have only two truck but they will both be split-backs, which means large put outs and bulk will not be collected on route. Weights will not tell DSNY if another truck should be added to a route. Those with missed collections are told to pull their containers back in until the following week. This will not make for a successful program. A 4x12 truck should be added to make sure everyone is collected on the day they set out compost.

## HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

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

## Affordable housing preservation

Housing code enforcement and building code enforcement are equally important in the district. Only 40% of renter occupied homes are adequately maintained by landlords. CB14 ranks 12th (up from 18th) of 59 community districts in the number of reported serious housing code violations. Housing code violations are correlated with health issues and is a problem underscored by the fact that the district is also one of the most severely rent burdened and overcrowded. Building new affordable housing with no substantial support to ensure that current inventory is maintained is folly. The ratio of newly built affordable housing to market rate housing has decreased, even as numbers have increased. Landlords are able to secure DOB permits to upgrade and upsell units in buildings where outstanding HPD violations exist. Why? Given the fact that over 48% of the area of the district is comprised of 1-2 family homes, combined with the fact that we rank 15th in the city in terms of population density, the renters of multi-family dwellings are highly concentrated. Their dwellings should be safe, healthy and maintained. There is a contrast between owners and renters. The median income of homeowners in CD14 is \$126,740. The median income of renters is \$57,740. In CD 14, the median price of a single-family home rose from \$965K in 2010 to \$1,295,000 in 2022. Prospect Park South, Ditmas Park, Midwood Park-Fiske Terrace, Albermarle-Kenmore Terraces, are all historically landmarked neighborhoods. They comprise 6% of lots in the district, ranking CD14 18th in the City for lots regulated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission. There is also a special permit district in the southern end of the district, which permits an increase the floor area ratio of single family homes. Communities should not have to forfeit historic contextual development in order to add to much needed affordable housing stock. It is important to protect the uniquely beautiful, valuable, and significant history of our one- and two-family residential areas while balancing the quality of affordable multi-unit dwellings.

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

#### **Needs for Land Use**

Community Board 14 residents live in a mix of housing. Land use is dominated by single and two family homes. Yet our homeownership rate is 24.6%, which ranks CD14 at 35th out of 59 districts citywide. There are five historic districts in CD 14. The capacity to develop in the district is one of the lowest in the city, yet in 2019 DOB issued 706 permits for new residentail units, and in 2020 despite the construction slow-down over 400 more were issued. This was up from 359 in 2018 and, the ranking CD 14 the 18th highest among the city's 59 community districts. From 2000-2010 900 units of housing were issued certificates of occupancy. From 2010-2020 that number jumped to 2863. Eighty three precent were market rate and only 10% were low income. There is no doubt that the pressures for affordable housing are great. We rank 7th in the city in the severe overcrowding rate. In addition, the district is disproportionately rent burdened, with 50% of low-income renter households severely burdened, meaning that rent is at least 50% of household income. Our share of affordable housing is shrinking. Only 3.9% of units were affordable at 30% of AMI in 2019; down from 4.9% in 2010. There was also a fall in the percentage of units affordable at 80% of AMI in that timespan: from 70% to 57%. Only at 120% of AMI did we hold steady at about 98%. This is why people tend to ask, "...affordable for whom?" CB14 ranks second in the city in the number of serious housing code violations. In 2021, approximately 181.5 out of every 1000 units had a serious housing code violation; up from 154 in 2020. This is clearly going in the wrong direction. The social determinates of health, including clean, safe and well maintained housing accounts for 80-90% of community health outcomes. Building new affordable housing is folly if there are no effective efforts to preserve the current stock of affordable units!

## **Needs for Housing**

The District ranks 7th in the rate of severe overcrowding in renter households. The rate of severly rent overburdened households has grown from 28.2% in 2000, to 29.7 in 2010 to 32.5% in 2019! These are households spending 50% or more of their income on gross rent. For low income households the rate has increased from 42% in 2010 to 47% in 2019. This is a harrowing trend given that between being rent burdened and overcrowded contributes to homelessness. Addressing violations, and providing preventative support services, as well as adding affordable housing to the housing inventory must occur simultaneously and urgently. While numbers of housing units have increased, the ratio of affordable housing has decreased. In 2020 CD14 was 53rd of 59 districts in terms of unused capacity for development. Yet the ranking for units authorized for new building permits soared from 59th in 2000 to 18th in 2019-20. Units issued new certificates of occupancy went form 53rd citywide to 12th in the same period. While those number slowed in the following year, those residents are now members of our population and add to the demand for quality public infrastructure and city services. It is important to understand where the units are being developed vis a vis our public infrastructure in terms of schools, parks, transportation and water and sewer systems; and to ascertain the extent to which affordability of newly developed housing corresponds to the needs of our current residents.

## **Needs for Economic Development**

There are several commercial strips in the district serving the needs of residents and attracting commerce from other parts of the city as well as tourism. Many small independent stores line Church Avenue, Cortelyou Road, Avenues J and M and Coney Island Avenue, Flatbush Avenue and Newkirk Plaza. There are two Business Improvement Districts covering three corridors: Flatbush Nostrand Junction, Flatbush and Church Avenue - and three merchant associations in our community. We face notable challenges in maximizing commercial activity throughout the District. Triangle Junction shopping mall still has Target as it's anchor store but many other national chains have come and gone, suggesting that there are questions about the fate of this development. The City continues to refuse to assign Newkirk Plaza to DOT or an appropriate agency to allow enforcement, services, and programming for economic development. The Kings Theatre, a 3300 seat live performance venue, which was a \$90 million economic development investment now must manage with the placement of a 200 bed homeless shelter practically on its loading dock. The theater was to provide a vital link in Brooklyn's cultural corridor and offer spillover opportunities for surrounding merchants. They must be well supported to spur economic activity. CB14 was awarded a Planning Fellow from the Fund for the City of New York in 2020 who was able to research our past and current economic development opportunities. This is useful information for as a benchmark for an economic recovery from unprecedentd circumstances. The landmarked Sears store has liquidated, making way for development opportunity but creating a lot of concern given that only as of right market rate housing is planned.

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

Priority Ag	ency Request	Explanation	Location
3/17 HP	D Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Affordable housing is dropping as a share of housing in CD 14. Low and extremely low income housing is always the smallest percentage of new developments, and they tend to be smaller units such as studios and 1 bedrooms, making low income housing for families nearly nonexistent.	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/31	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	In addition to the capital request, programs, outreach and increased subsidies to ensure affordable housing at lower AMIs is a well documented need in CD14.	
12/31	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	CD14 has one of the highest serious housing code violations per 1000 units of housing in the city. HPD must be granted enforcement authority that makes a difference. Interagency coodination should be put into place such that DOB will not issue permits in buildings with HPD violations unless needed to address those very violations.	
15/31	DOB	Address illegal conversions and uses of buildings	There is need for more DOB action on illegal conversions in what would be single family homes and in multifamily buildings. Enforcement on illegal curb cuts and parking pads would move the city toward carbon neutrality. Rather than using the tools we have, there is a new zoning text amendment. Short term rentals are not enforced. Some air bnbs have been reported in the already scarce affordable units in the district.	

22/31	DOB	Assign additional building inspectors (including expanding training programs)	DOB is operating with a 15% deficit in human resources. Many of these unfulfilled positions are inspectors. With the continued growing rate of new construction in the district, this is an urgent priority. Too many complaints are closed out due to lack of access while unpermitted work continues to the point of completion. Better timing of inspections, additional attempts and more detailed follow ups would assist in the ability to enforcement myriad violations.	
27/31	SBS	Provide commercial lease support for business owners	Supporting venues that generate social capital and drive economic development is key to post pandemic recovery. Kings Theater was an EDC project that is owned and managed by a private entity and is a for profit enterprise. The city then enacted several policy decisions in the area that undermined the original multi-milliondollar investment in the theater as an economic	

driver.

#### TRANSPORTATION

## **Brooklyn Community Board 14**

Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

## Traffic safety and enforcement (cars, scooters, ebikes, etc.)

Year after year the Department of Transportation has the greatest number of outstanding service delivery requests in the CD14. This is due to the sheer number of requests combined with the length of time it takes DOT to address service delivery items. It can take years for DOT to address requests for speed reducers, signs, traffic lights, street lights, etc. It is increasingly difficult to get DOT to repair street infrastructure. Often, DOT denies responsibility for assets they used to maintain such as dead end infrastructure; or for their own installations. High weeds on the pedestrian islands at Avenue O and N and at Ocean and Church Avenues block safe sight lines yet, DOT claims no responsibility for maintenance. DSNY has begun to address several DOT assets. There are 54 dead ends in CD 14, most abut railway or subway tracks and need to be walled off in some way for safety. If DOT is not responsible for maintenance, then who? As DOT's portfolio grows to include Open Streets for restaurants, Citibike expansion, electric vehicle charging stations, reserved car share parking, while expanding express bus lanes and the bike lane network, it is unclear how competing uses will be prioritized. The streets surrounding the 70th Precinct are extremely problematic. These narrow streets are so congested that NYPD has determined that they cannot build a new precinct house on site. DOT committed to review the area and present options by the end of the summer of 2022 but has not met that deadline. The Caton Avenue truck route is used as a through route although it is designated as a local route on the DOT truck route map. It is nearly always congested. Church Avenue, which is technically the through route, according to the DOT truck route map, is congested and includes an express bus lane for several streets. Given DOT's BQE detour plans and a lack of truck signage and enforcement, safety issues are becoming extreme, especially where Citibike stations requires riders to step into the truck route on Caton Ave. Road bridges are a concern. The Beverly Road bridge was partially repaired to allow parking and local truck traffic, but there is no timeframe for remaining repairs. The Parkside bridge is prioritized for capital repair, yet we have no timeframe for this work either and the Newkirk Avenue bridge cannot be added to a component contract because Newkirk Plaza has not been assigned to the purview of a city agency. DOT initiates proposals for bike paths, pedestrian islands, and pedestrian plazas. While gathering local input is time-consuming and often messy, the end result is inevitably better when there is stakeholder buy in. DOT's agreement to move a Citibike station after just a few months in evidence that valuing local input in the first place would have been more efficient. It is important for local voices to be heard at the inception of a plan, not after DOT has completed proposals without local insight.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

### **Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure**

All types of transportation are important in District 14. Within the 2.9 miles that comprise the District, there are 89.2 road miles, 54 dead end streets, two through truck routes, several road bridges over the Brighton Line and Atlantic RR tracks and approximately 1200 street segments. Given its Central Brooklyn location and number of thoroughfares in the District including Flatbush Avenue, Coney Island Avenue, Ocean Parkway, Nostrand Avenue running north/south; and Church Avenue, Cortelyou Road, Foster Avenue and Avenues J and M going east/west, traffic and road conditions are constant concerns. Car free commuting has dropped from 74% in 2010 to 62% currently, all while NYCT and DOT strive to increase ridership on mass transit.

Community Board 14 service delivery data show that DOT requests outnumber those of any other agency with which the Community Board interacts. Part of the reason for this accumulation is the time-lag for many DOT issue responses. Responsiveness and community input are important. Of great concern is that there is no way to ascertain an overview of DOT traffic calming measures. CB14 processes hundreds of DOT service delivery requests, but there is no way to understand how implementation of all or any combination of these requests would impact traffic flow in the district. Rather, such requests are considered only insofar as they impact the block for which they are requested. DOT acknowledges that studies are infrequent and that cost-benefit analyses are not standard. There are

nine subway stations, seven of which are Brighton Line outdoor tracks, therefore track work affects road traffic. There are also 15 bus lines that operate in the district including express buses and select bus service routes. CB14 has adovated for the return of the B23 but now the bus redesign anticipates removing all buses from commercial Cortelyou Road and using residential Beverley Road.

New York City must recognize ownership of Newkirk Plaza. The clearest solution we see is for the Plaza to become a formal participant in the DOT's Pedestrian Plaza Program. The City's inability to determine jurisdiction over Newkirk Plaza has left several chronic issues unresolved, including a serious rodent infestation, sanitation maintenance concerns, disrepair of the brick plaza surface, and growing street homelessness challenges. The New York City Police Department, the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Buildings, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, have all been called upon to deal with myriad issues on the Plaza. Many community stakeholders, including business owners, civic and community-based organizations, and local government entities, continue to struggle to meet these challenges with little support and no permanent resolution in sight and merchants on America's first-ever outdoor shopping plaza have been left to rattle their gates to scare away hordes of rats in the morning and clean human excrement and broken beer bottles from the pedestrian paths leading to their stores. In the recent past, DOT provided FDC with minimal, finite funding to support limited sanitation services, painted the corrugated wall (which is their responsibility anyway) and offered but did not follow through on adding the Plaza to the SAPO system. None of these steps resolved the longstanding concerns. Once added to the program, the plaza would be transformed into a vibrant, social public space, as per DOT's Plaza Program stated mission. The lack of clarity around governance of this public space is a detriment to the ability for businesses and community groups to provide additional programming for the community that could also serve as an economic development catalyst..

## **Needs for Transit Services**

There are nine subway stations in the District: one Culver Line IND stop; one IRT terminal stop and the reminder Brighton Line BMT stops. Most of the Brighton Line stations have been updated - some in full, others partial renovations. However the Church Avenue station is in serious need up rehabilitation. A public private partnership to install an elevator and make this heavily utilzed station ADA compliant is very welcome. Additional improvements should be included to limit ridership inconvenice during upgrade work. We look forward to accessbility improvments and hope they will expand to the Culver line. We have asked MTA NYCT to provide us with station capacity data to take into consideration when new developments are proposed so that we can better predict the impact on local transit. This is especially urgent at the Cortelyou Road station. CB 14 will work to maximize community input on MTA's Fast Forward Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign. This community has long advocated for the restoration of the B23 on Cortelyou Road but instead the plan currently considers removing all buses (which now only include express lines) from commercial Cortelyou Road and redirecting them to residential Beverley Road. One of the stated reasons is that the right turn from westbound Cortelyou to northbound Coney Island Avenue has been made more difficult to navigate due to DOT installations. There needs to be forward thinking coordination so that plans do not chase after unintended consequences.

The community garden on the exterior side of the Church Avenue Brighton Line station house continues to be a positive addition to the community and should serve as a model for use of the commons. It is unfortunate that Transit will not take the same creative initiative with Newkirk Plaza. The East 15th Street MTA house once issued an RFP for development but is now once again back in the hands of MTA and is once again a fallow lot and an eyesore. This property should be RFPed again, or offered an MOU for a garden or operationalized and maintined.

# **Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/17	DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	Five years ago, DOT identified \$60 million for trench repair but none of it was allocated to CD14, despite worsening conditions. There must be an increase in the budget for road and street infrastructure repair. Six locations have been submitted to DOT. 564 East 29th Street; 1781 Ocean Avenue/SE corner of Avenue M; 715 Ocean Parkway Service Road; Waldorf Court between East 17 and Dead End; Hillel Place and Kenilworth Place intersection; 464-476 East 16th Street. A seventh location has occurred on East 16th Street between Avenue H and the dead end. The CB14 office is on this block so we will be sure to keep an eye on it.	
8/17	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	The Beverley Road bridge and the Caton Road bridge both require rehabilitation. The Newkirk Avenue Road bridge is also in need of repair but due to purview complications related to Newkrik Plaza, DOT cannot add the bridge to a component contract, which will delay repairs.	
10/17	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Church Avenue is the most heavily utilized station in the district and is in disrepair. A public private partnership is in place to install an elevator to make the station ADA compliant. Other upgrades and additional security cameras must accompany this project, especially given that this will be more heavily utilized by vulnerable community members.	Church Ave and E 18 St
12/17	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Ensure that sidewalks, curbs, street and bus pads are maintained at all bus stops. The bus stop at Church Avenue and East 18th street, which is a heavily utilized connection to the Brighton Line at the Church Avenue station is hazardous in both directions. The sidewalks require repair, the curbs are dilapidated and the streets have waving and pot holes. DOT installed an express lane on this stop and should have ensured bus pad, sidewalk and street maintenance along each stop during that project.	

15/17	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	The 18th Avenue Stop on the Culver Line is on the same block as the United Cerebral Palsey complex. This stop was recently upgraded. It's unfortunate that accessibility was not one of the improvements.
17/17	DOT	Upgrade or create new greenways	While just announced, the introduction of the greenway around Prospect Park is welcome news.

# **Expense Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/31	DOT	Other expense budget request for DOT	New York City must recognize ownership of the Plaza. The clearest solution we see is for Newkirk Plaza to become a formal participant in the DOT's Pedestrian Plaza Program. The City's inability to determine jurisdiction over Newkirk Plaza has left several chronic issues unresolved, including a serious rodent infestation, sanitation maintenance concerns, disrepair of the brick plaza surface, and growing street homelessness challenges. The New York City Police Department, the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Buildings, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, have all been called upon to deal with myriad issues on the Plaza. Many community stakeholders, including business owners, civic and community-based organizations, and local government entities, continue to struggle	
19/31	DOT	Address traffic congestion	Caton Avenue to Linden Blvd is a truck route. Just south of Caton is Church Avenue - also a truck route. Traffic is gridlocked on Caton nearly endlessly in both directions. DOT has installed Citibikes that force pedestrians into truck traffic on Caton. An express bus lane has been added to Church Avenue, eliminating truck delivery windows. These conditions have pushed more traffic onto sidestreets. DOT must address traffic congestion and review installations that have exacerbated conditions.	

## PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

**Brooklyn Community Board 14** 

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

#### Community board resources (offices, staff and equipment)

The Community Board is instrumental in ensuring that cultural and park programming, and facilities; community facility access and programming; forestry services; library facilities and services; parks access, care and maintenance; park safety; quality library programming and other parks, cultural and other community facilities are accessible to the public and maintained by the appropriate agencies. Community service delivery requests for sanitation, abandoned vehicles, constructions complaints, homeless encampments, fallen tree branches, requests for public health, safety and voting information and so many other requests have increased or changed in nature in the wake of the pandemic. The many needs we have identified in previous years that remain unfunded only served to underscore inequities in our district. Our return to a healthy, vibrant, and economically sound community depends now, more than ever, on getting services and support to the local community level. That is our role; that is where we are expert. While the number of service delivery requests have increased, the number of proposals to consider have increased, the number of meetings and events continue to increase, training requirements and new mandates have increased, community board funding has not. Community Boards are one of the few city agencies that have not significantly expanded budget since 2016 or headcount ever. Community Board 14 is 59th out of 59 community districts citywide in terms of the number of residents who live more than a quarter of a mile away from a park. New open space upgraded, and well-maintained current parks and playgrounds are high priorities. The Flatbush African Burial Ground must be developed appropriately and with the descendant community's input at the forefront. Rigorous outreach to maximize inclusion is needed to ensure that stakeholders are identified and expanded and provided every opportunity to be heard. Our libraries are needed more than ever. The pivot in services that they provided during the pandemic demonstrated the value that they have in our community. We urge the city to reimagine the design of libraries to increase resiliency and maintain access in response to public health emergencies.

### <u>Community District Needs Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities</u>

#### **Needs for Parks**

Residents of CD 14 live further away from a park than any other District in the entire City of New York, with over 70% living a quarter mile away or more. The largest park in our district is the Parade Ground at our northern border, which includes 40 acres of athletic fields, and tennis courts available primarily by permit. Areas that offer open access such as the Det. Dillon Stewart playground and the adult fitness area, are heavily utilized. Kolbert Park is in the southern end of the District and the Deputy Inspector Joseph DiGilio Playground is in the west. Umma Park is a small playground over the BMT tracks in the northeastern end of the District, which has antiquated play equipment and no greenery. There are also two tot lots in the District – on Cortelyou Road and on Campus Road. The Department itself must be adequately resourced to maintain its own inventory, instead of relying on funding provided by elected officials. While Umma Park has finally received funding through Councilmember Rita Joseph's office, it was a long time coming. It's hard to believe that Parks would have delayed so long if the Department held the pocket book. The identification of additional space for parkland and additional greening of green streets areas is essential in our park-poor community. In 2017 a Planning Fellow provided by the Fund for the City of New York researched and provided recommendations for greening CD14. The urgency of the need for outdoor space was highlighted when social distancing orders were enacted and CD 14 had fewer outdoor options for recreation and public health needs. The Flatbush African Burial Ground will be constructed as a memorial through the Department of Parks and Recreation. Funding has been identified for what seems to be preliminary work. CB14 highly prioritizes funding that is adequate to fully realize a vision of this important, sacred and historic site that is informed by ongoing community engagement. This is a high priority for our community.

#### **Needs for Cultural Services**

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

Brooklyn's Cultural Corridor. It has sponsored and supported myriad community events. However, it has been recently embatteled by a poorly run men's shelter located adjacent to a supportive housing facility and abutting the theater's loading dock. The challenges of attracting acts and audiences continue to increase.

Libraries in the district are highly utilized by the community for both traditional and increasingly creative cultural and social service offerings. Support for programming and ensuring state of the art facilities are investments in the community both for immediate and long term needs.

#### **Needs for Library Services**

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

#### **Needs for Community Boards**

CB 14 staff address hundreds of service delivery requests annually. We organize an annual youth conference and nonprofit roundtable. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. Ultimately, we could better complement a complaint driven role with more proactive, grass roots plans. Technology and consultant needs, as we shift out of virtual-only meetings has been and will continue to be a significant expense. Rules as well and the Board's wish to expand language access is hampered by city support and budgetary constraints. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. Every city agency has had a budget expansion over the last decade. Community Boards have not had one in over 20 years. The recent health and resulting budget crisis make it harder for city agencies to reach the most local levels and communities are all the more frustrated. We are their liaison and our role more important than ever.

### **Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/17	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Flatbush African Burial Ground will be constructed as a memorial through the Department of Parks and Recreation. Funding has been identified for what seems to be preliminary work. CB14 highly prioritizes funding that is adequate to fully realize a vision of this important, sacred and historic site that is informed by ongoing community engagement with priority on the descendent community.	
4/17	DPR	Other capital budget request for DPR	The Lakeshore project is a multi-million dollar green infrastructure project that would create marshland, utilize storm water for the benefit of the park and mitigate damaging flood conditions that affect homes, businesses, and other city assets such as the Parade Ground, the SRG Precinct, bus stops and more. This project must be fully supported and expedited.	
6/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Hot Spot Tot Lot on Campus Road is the only DPR asset that has not had a capital upgrade in over a decade. DPR should have greater control of capital purse strings to maintain parks and playgrounds in communities according to conditions and time between upgrades rather than relying on elected officials for capital funds. Usually those making the allocations will be term limited before the ribbon cutting. Please don't reply, "ask your elected officials." At least provide the scope estimate and support for this request.	
13/17	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	The following capital improvements are needed at our local libraries: Cortelyou Branch - safety and security enhancements; Flatbush Branch - safety and security enhancements, and abatement; Midwood Branch - safety and security enhancements, boiler, HVAC, roof.	

### **Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location

4/31	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	Flatbush and Midwood boast 11,237 street trees, including 121 different species according to DPR's census. Argyle Road is considered the "leafiest" in Brooklyn. A more robust pruning cycle is still necessary. Requests for emergency pruning and fallen branches are increasing in the District. Fallen limbs, branches and entire trees too often were reported for pruning but not addressed. Paying claims instead of service is poor policy. DPR needs a better funded and more robust contracting practice in addition to an increase in the budget to bring the work in house.
10/31	ОМВ	Provide more community board staff	Every year we manage hundreds of service delivery requests, a youth conference, a nonprofit roundtable. We've added a lunch and learn series, and a YLC. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. To support serving communities equitably, it is imperative that the city fund and provide language access services at the CB level.
24/31	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs (BPL)	The Community Board supports the continuation and expansion of programs that are so valuable in connecting our community members to literacy and culture. From small children, to teens, adults and older adults, the breadth of library programming is impressive and invaluable. We are grateful that branch managers and program directors are so active with the board and always willing to share and update us regarding new programs and services.
28/31	DPR	Plant new street trees	There is a lack of enforcement when it comes to developers and planting requirements. Elected officials have used reso funds to plant trees where it was a developers responsibility. Where planting is the city's responsibility it should be properly funded and then adequately pruned.

# 6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

### **Other Capital Requests**

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

### **Other Expense Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
11/31	DCWP	Other expense budget request for DCA	DCWP is the licensing and main enforcement agency for the sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes. The pace of inspections is slow, and the enforcement mechanisms is inadequate. More stores sell these items without a license than with one. Report of sales to minors and sales of flavored vapes are prevalent. A significant investment must be made in adding and training inspectors. At the state level, OCM is stepping into cannabis enforcement. The Sheriff's office has had impact on some enforcement. NYPD has been marginalized but remains involved where possible. This is an inefficient and ineffective approach.	
31/31	Other	Other expense budget request	DCP and OMB - improve DNS and budget process.	

# 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

### **Capital Budget Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/17	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Flatbush African Burial Ground will be constructed as a memorial through the Department of Parks and Recreation. Funding has been identified for what seems to be preliminary work. CB14 highly prioritizes funding that is adequate to fully realize a vision of this important, sacred and historic site that is informed by ongoing community engagement with priority on the descendent community.	
2/17	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	There are several locations in the District that flood chronically in rainstorms. These locations have all been brought to DEP's attention. DCP has provided a limited drop down list from which to choose a budget priority. We ask the DEP respond to the requests pending and advise as to what the respective issues are so that we can identify what budget line these requests fall into. The bottom line is that DEP must provide solutions to these locations because property, businesses and public areas should not have to withstand chronic flooding. What capital projects would help in these various locations: bioswales, catch basins, permeable surface additions, holding tanks?	
3/17	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Affordable housing is dropping as a share of housing in CD 14. Low and extremely low income housing is always the smallest percentage of new developments, and they tend to be smaller units such as studios and 1 bedrooms, making low income housing for families nearly nonexistent.	
4/17	DPR	Other capital budget request for DPR	The Lakeshore project is a multi-million dollar green infrastructure project that would create marshland, utilize storm water for the benefit of the park and mitigate damaging flood conditions that affect homes, businesses, and other city assets such as the Parade Ground, the SRG Precinct, bus stops and more. This project must be fully supported and expedited.	

5/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	The history of efforts to relocate this aging facility goes back three decades. In 2006, DCAS began property acquisition at 1326 Ocean Avenue and NYPD set aside \$30 million for the property, and OMB stated its commitment to identify additional funding. Construction was set to begin in 2013. It did not and the site was lost to a market rate housing development. A \$1 million scoping study to asses the feasibility of building a new precinct house on site acknowledges the locational challenges that the current site presents. OMB approved a site search to no avail. Relocating the precinct house remains a priority. In the meantime, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, or parking, nor it is handicap accessible.
6/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Hot Spot Tot Lot on Campus Road is the only DPR asset that has not had a capital upgrade in over a decade. DPR should have greater control of capital purse strings to maintain parks and playgrounds in communities according to conditions and time between upgrades rather than relying on elected officials for capital funds. Usually those making the allocations will be term limited before the ribbon cutting. Please don't reply, "ask your elected officials." At least provide the scope estimate and support for this request.
7/17	DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	Five years ago, DOT identified \$60 million for trench repair but none of it was allocated to CD14, despite worsening conditions. There must be an increase in the budget for road and street infrastructure repair. Six locations have been submitted to DOT. 564 East 29th Street; 1781 Ocean Avenue/SE corner of Avenue M; 715 Ocean Parkway Service Road; Waldorf Court between East 17 and Dead End; Hillel Place and Kenilworth Place intersection; 464-476 East 16th Street. A seventh location has occurred on East 16th Street between Avenue H and the dead end. The CB14 office is on this block so we will be sure to keep an eye on it.

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8/17	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	The Beverley Road bridge and the Caton Road bridge both require rehabilitation. The Newkirk Avenue Road bridge is also in need of repair but due to purview complications related to Newkrik Plaza, DOT cannot add the bridge to a component contract, which will delay repairs.	
9/17	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	DOE still acknowledges CD 14 as a district in need of seats. When last measured at full capacity, PS 139 was at 121% of utilization; PS 127was 125%; PS 249 was at 128%, PS 193 at 111%; PS 315 was at 118% and the PS 152 Annex was at 146%. Since annexes are built to address overcrowding, an overcrowded annex boldly underscores the need for additional elementary school seats in the northern end of the District. The elementary schools listed above are all north of Avenue L.	
10/17	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Church Avenue is the most heavily utilized station in the district and is in disrepair. A public private partnership is in place to install an elevator to make the station ADA compliant. Other upgrades and additional security cameras must accompany this project, especially given that this will be more heavily utilized by vulnerable community members.	Church Ave and E 18 St
11/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	While NYPD continues the search for an appropriate location for a new precinct house, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, parking, nor it is handicap accessible. Work orders should be addressed quickly. The vacant lot on the block should be explored as a potential parking facility for the 70th Precinct.	
12/17	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Ensure that sidewalks, curbs, street and bus pads are maintained at all bus stops. The bus stop at Church Avenue and East 18th street, which is a heavily utilized connection to the Brighton Line at the Church Avenue station is hazardous in both directions. The sidewalks require repair, the curbs are dilapidated and the streets have waving and pot holes. DOT installed an express lane on this stop and should have ensured bus pad, sidewalk and street maintenance along each stop during that project.	

13/17	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	The following capital improvements are needed at our local libraries: Cortelyou Branch - safety and security enhancements; Flatbush Branch - safety and security enhancements, and abatement; Midwood Branch - safety and security enhancements, boiler, HVAC, roof.
14/17	NYPD	Add NYPD parking facilities	Increasingly we are told that large tow vehicles are not available, or that there is no space in the tow lot. This has created a backlog and long waits for the removal of illegally parked vehicles and an ongoing issue with overnight commercial parking of tractor trailers on both commercial or residential streets. An increased investment in both tow equipment and tow lots is needed.
15/17	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	The 18th Avenue Stop on the Culver Line is on the same block as the United Cerebral Palsey complex. This stop was recently upgraded. It's unfortunate that accessibility was not one of the improvements.
16/17	FDNY	Rehabilitate or renovate existing fire houses or EMS stations	Fund station house renovations and upgrades at Engine 255/Ladder 157; Engine 281/Ladder 147 and Engine 250 firehouses. Including the addition of a station house generator at one of these fire stations. There are no firehouses in CD 14 with a generator.
17/17	DOT	Upgrade or create new greenways	While just announced, the introduction of the greenway around Prospect Park is welcome news.

### **Expense Budget Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/31	DOT	Other expense budget request for DOT	New York City must recognize ownership of the Plaza. The clearest solution we see is for Newkirk Plaza to become a formal participant in the DOT's Pedestrian Plaza Program. The City's inability to determine jurisdiction over Newkirk Plaza has left several chronic issues unresolved, including a serious rodent infestation, sanitation maintenance concerns, disrepair of the brick plaza surface, and growing street homelessness challenges. The New York City Police Department, the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Buildings, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, have all been called upon to deal with myriad issues on the Plaza. Many community stakeholders, including business owners, civic and community-based organizations, and local government entities, continue to struggle	
2/31	DHS	Expand street outreach	Reports of individuals who appear to be unsheltered homeless have increased over the past year. Breaking Ground is the current contractor and given the increase in calls to the Community Board, the Police and 311, an increase in outreach services is warranted. These teams must be equipped with professionals who can assist those who are on the street due to substance misuse and/or experiencing mental health disorders.	
3/31	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	In addition to the capital request, programs, outreach and increased subsidies to ensure affordable housing at lower AMIs is a well documented need in CD14.	

4/31	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	Flatbush and Midwood boast 11,237 street trees, including 121 different species according to DPR's census. Argyle Road is considered the "leafiest" in Brooklyn. A more robust pruning cycle is still necessary. Requests for emergency pruning and fallen branches are increasing in the District. Fallen limbs, branches and entire trees too often were reported for pruning but not addressed. Paying claims instead of service is poor policy. DPR needs a better funded and more robust contracting practice in addition to an increase in the budget to bring the work in house.
5/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	Nearly one in 25 New Yorkers has experienced mental illness. About 280,000 have major disorders such as schizophrenia. Forty percent of those in city shelters and 53% of those in city jails experience mental illness. From March to December of 2020, more than 17,000 calls were made for mental health assistance. This was 85 times more than the same period in 2019. The city must continue to expand mobile crises teams, and intensive mobile teams as well as HOMESTAT outreach to unsheltered homeless individuals experiencing mental illness. A Support and Connection Center should be provided in Brooklyn.
6/31	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	There are 1200 road segments in CD 14. Given the number of dead ends, overpasses, and road bridges, cleaning is a persistent need. The evisceration of MLP, which is the only operation that cleans CD14's 54 dead end streets was ill advised. TNT is welcome in addition to MLP but not instead of it. Asking councilmembers to refund DSNY with Clean NYC or reso funds does not ensure equal distribution of services across the district and is financially inefficient. Baseline services should come from the baseline budget. Restore full funding for MLP.

7/31	DHS	Improve safety at	The men's shelter that opened in CD14 in 2023	
		homeless shelters	has created a number of community concerns.	
			Security, including perimeter patrols are not	
			addressing the complaint that individuals are	
			entering private property, defecating in the	
			street, engaging in substance use, and locking	
			shopping carts to fences. Interactions between	
			shelter residents and residents of the adjacent	
			supportive housing facility have not been	
			positive for the clients or the community. BVSJ -	
			the contractor has failed to establish a	
			Community Advisory Board. The impacts of this	
			shelter are far worse than anticipated and	
			funding to ensure adequate support,	
			programing and safety is urgently needed.	
8/31	DEP	Clean catch basins	There are several locations in the district that	
			flood chronically that have all been brought to	
			DEP's attention. It seems that the issues can	
			only be resolved with capital investments and	
			that is the second highest request on CB14	
			capital list. In the meantime, catch basin	
			cleaning and maintenance, courtesy flushes,	
			rain barrels, backflow valve education, and	
			other short term mitigation strategies are	
			needed.	
9/31	DHS	Other request for	While city officials advocate for state and	
-, -		services for the	federal funding to address the needs of asylum	
		homeless	seekers, the city itself must step up with the	
			resources that can be put into place. An	
			expansion of legal services for filing	
			documentation, support services and counseling	
			must be put into place. These services will help	
			people move out of shelters. The city only	
			exacerbates the crises by not providing as much	
			as it can despite the many strains across	
			agencies.	

10/31	ОМВ	Provide more community board staff	Every year we manage hundreds of service delivery requests, a youth conference, a nonprofit roundtable. We've added a lunch and learn series, and a YLC. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. To support serving communities equitably, it is imperative that the city fund and provide language access services at the CB level.
11/31	DCWP	Other expense budget request for DCA	DCWP is the licensing and main enforcement agency for the sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes. The pace of inspections is slow, and the enforcement mechanisms is inadequate. More stores sell these items without a license than with one. Report of sales to minors and sales of flavored vapes are prevalent. A significant investment must be made in adding and training inspectors. At the state level, OCM is stepping into cannabis enforcement. The Sheriff's office has had impact on some enforcement. NYPD has been marginalized but remains involved where possible. This is an inefficient and ineffective approach.
12/31	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	CD14 has one of the highest serious housing code violations per 1000 units of housing in the city. HPD must be granted enforcement authority that makes a difference. Interagency coodination should be put into place such that DOB will not issue permits in buildings with HPD violations unless needed to address those very violations.
13/31	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing	Community District 14 ranks 11th of 59 in the percentage of severely rent burdened household - 35% up from 30% the year before. The District ranks 8th in the percent of renter households that are severely overcrowded. Nearly 35% of renters in the District pay over 50% of their household income on monthly rent. Affordability of rentals (at 80% of AMI) decreased from 71.3% to only 49%. These are pressures that lend themselves to homelessness and continued expansion of prevention programs is warranted.

14/31	ACS	Other foster care and child welfare requests	When asked by survey to rank public safety priorities, 85% of respondents ranked support for cure violence groups, number one. ACS's Division of Youth and Family Justice and the efforts to support violence disrupters programs and organizations is a high priority from a youth service and a public safety perspective. There are several programs that ACS has introduced or grown in recent years. CD14 organizations have applied to the RFP for Family Enrichment Program. We hope they will be awarded. As for foster care and casework, the agency has made positive strides in reducing caseloads and fostered youth is at an all-time low.
15/31	DOB	Address illegal conversions and uses of buildings	There is need for more DOB action on illegal conversions in what would be single family homes and in multifamily buildings. Enforcement on illegal curb cuts and parking pads would move the city toward carbon neutrality. Rather than using the tools we have, there is a new zoning text amendment. Short term rentals are not enforced. Some air bnbs have been reported in the already scarce affordable units in the district.
16/31	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	According to our Youth Conference attendees survey, the biggest draw for the 500 youth who attended out annual conference was jobs. It is imperative that DYCD jobs programs be expanded and dependably funded. Additional focus on building capacity at the CBO level to expand programming into underserved communities is imperative. Cure violence programs depend on significant alternatives. DYCD is poised to support new models of curing violence and expanding opportunities for future leaders.
17/31	NYPD	Hire additional crossing guards	Additional crossing guards is an ever increasing request. New schools have opened, new developments are in the pipeline. The Community Board defers to the Police Precinct to assign additional crossing guards to new locations. Funding should also cover substitute crossing guards so that intersections are not without this important safety measure when a crossing guard is out for any period of time.

18/31	DFTA	Increase staffing for homebound adult programs	Case management, home care, legal services, and transportation services are generally intertwined. There is no way to prioritize the needs of one senior citizen over those of another and it would be folly to provide transportation over home care for a senior who is need of both. The funding of these services must be designed with the approach that support services are inextricable.
19/31	DOT	Address traffic congestion	Caton Avenue to Linden Blvd is a truck route. Just south of Caton is Church Avenue - also a truck route. Traffic is gridlocked on Caton nearly endlessly in both directions. DOT has installed Citibikes that force pedestrians into truck traffic on Caton. An express bus lane has been added to Church Avenue, eliminating truck delivery windows. These conditions have pushed more traffic onto sidestreets. DOT must address traffic congestion and review installations that have exacerbated conditions.
20/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize substance misuse and encourage treatment	Street outreach teams, NYPD, and human services organizations report that many people who appear to be unsheltered often have homes but congregate where they can access and use substances. There are few programs available to them unless they are in fact homeless or choose to seek care. This is a woeful and dangerous approach, or lack thereof. Community Mobile and Intesive Mobile teams should be expanded in Brooklyn.
21/31	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	Public health programs that address health disparities with an urgent focus on maternal health are of the highest priorities. Ongoing infection disease concerns, barriers to vaccines whether they be knowledge and understanding based, cultural practices based, language access, etc. must be thoughtfully addressed. Access to quality housing, healthy food choices and outdoor space all contribute systemically to health outcomes and thus cannot be considered singularly, let alone in competition with one another.

22/31	DOB	Assign additional building inspectors (including expanding training programs)	DOB is operating with a 15% deficit in human resources. Many of these unfulfilled positions are inspectors. With the continued growing rate of new construction in the district, this is an urgent priority. Too many complaints are closed out due to lack of access while unpermitted work continues to the point of completion. Better timing of inspections, additional attempts and more detailed follow ups would assist in the ability to enforcement myriad violations.
23/31	DSNY	Increase enforcement of street vending	The addition of vendor enforcement has not been adequately resourced. There are not enough San Police and they don't cover specific areas. There is not a transparent reporting system in place.
24/31	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs (BPL)	The Community Board supports the continuation and expansion of programs that are so valuable in connecting our community members to literacy and culture. From small children, to teens, adults and older adults, the breadth of library programming is impressive and invaluable. We are grateful that branch managers and program directors are so active with the board and always willing to share and update us regarding new programs and services.
25/31	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program	Engage in reimagining an RFP for senior centers. The population of persons 65 years old and up in CD14 has increased from 10% in 2010 to 17% in 2021.
26/31	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	Fund adequate new firefighter, Marshall, EMS and inspector hires. Given the pace of development and the density that is adding to our community, it is imperative that we ensure that staffing remain optimal and that the addition of a 5th firefight on the truck is expanded to firehouses serving our community. The number of firefighters fully trained for all inspections should be at 100%.

27/31	SBS	Provide commercial lease support for business owners	Supporting venues that generate social capital and drive economic development is key to post pandemic recovery. Kings Theater was an EDC project that is owned and managed by a private entity and is a for profit enterprise. The city then enacted several policy decisions in the area that undermined the original multi-million-dollar investment in the theater as an economic driver.
28/31	DPR	Plant new street trees	There is a lack of enforcement when it comes to developers and planting requirements. Elected officials have used reso funds to plant trees where it was a developers responsibility. Where planting is the city's responsibility it should be properly funded and then adequately pruned.
29/31	DOHMH	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	Rodent complaints have risen throughout the city, While DOHMH continues to increase the number of inspections performed annually, these efforts are outpaced by conditions contributing to rodent infestations. DOT's Open Streets for restaurant policy, DOB's abatement rules for construction sites should have better storage and collection policies. DSNY should be better equipped to address illegal drop offs and dumping. A better public education plan so that people understand the downside of feeding feral cats and birds is needed.
30/31	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Compost has finally arrived but early observations suggest that adequate resources and logical planning have faltered. Some sectors will have an extra rear loader on the streets - equaling 3 collection trucks per street every recycling day. Other sectors will still have only two truck but they will both be split-backs, which means large put outs and bulk will not be collected on route. Weights will not tell DSNY if another truck should be added to a route. Those with missed collections are told to pull their containers back in until the following week. This will not make for a successful program. A 4x12 truck should be added to make sure everyone is collected on the day they set out compost.
31/31	Other	Other expense budget request	DCP and OMB - improve DNS and budget process.

# FY25 Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses – Capital

PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01/17	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Flatbush African Burial Ground will be constructed as a memorial through the Department of Parks and Recreation. Funding has been identified for what seems to be preliminary work. CB14 highly prioritizes funding that is adequate to fully realize a vision of this important, sacred and historic site that is informed by ongoing community engagement with priority on the descendent community.	This project is funded and is in the design phase.
02/17	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	There are several locations in the District that flood chronically in rainstorms. These locations have all been brought to DEP's attention. DCP has provided a limited drop down list from which to choose a budget priority. We ask the DEP respond to the requests pending and advise as to what the respective issues are so that we can identify what budget line these requests fall into. The bottom line is that DEP must provide solutions to these locations because property, businesses and public areas should not have to withstand chronic flooding. What capital projects would help in these various locations: bioswales, catch basins, permeable surface additions, holding tanks?	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
03/17	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Affordable housing is dropping as a share of housing in CD 14. Low and extremely low income housing is always the smallest percentage of new developments, and they tend to be smaller units such as studios and 1 bedrooms, making low income housing for families nearly nonexistent.	This is not a budget request.
04/17	DPR	Other capital budget request for DPR	The Lakeshore project is a multi-million dollar green infrastructure project that would create marshland, utilize storm water for the benefit of the park and mitigate damaging flood conditions that affect homes, businesses, and other city assets such as the Parade Ground, the SRG Precinct, bus stops and more. This project must be fully supported and expedited.	This project is funded and is in the design phase.
05/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	The history of efforts to relocate this aging facility goes back three decades. In 2006, DCAS began property acquisition at 1326 Ocean Avenue and NYPD set aside \$30 million for the property, and OMB stated its commitment to identify additional funding. Construction was set to begin in 2013. It did not and the site was lost to a market rate housing development. A \$1 million scoping study to asses the feasibility of building a new precinct house on site acknowledges the locational challenges that the current site presents. OMB approved a site search to no avail. Relocating the precinct house remains a priority. In the meantime, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, or parking, nor it is handicap accessible.	Additional NYPD resources for this project are unavailable at this time due to funding constraints. However, the program will continue to operate within current funding levels.

06/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	The Hot Spot Tot Lot on Campus Road is the only DPR asset that has not had a capital upgrade in over a decade. DPR should have greater control of capital purse strings to maintain parks and playgrounds in communities according to conditions and time between upgrades rather than relying on elected officials for capital funds. Usually those making the allocations will be term limited before the ribbon cutting. Please don't reply, "ask your elected officials." At least provide the scope estimate and support for this request.	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.
07/17	DOT	Roadway maintenance (resurfacing, trench restoration, etc.)	Five years ago, DOT identified \$60 million for trench repair but none of it was allocated to CD14, despite worsening conditions. There must be an increase in the budget for road and street infrastructure repair. Six locations have been submitted to DOT. 564 East 29th Street; 1781 Ocean Avenue/SE corner of Avenue M; 715 Ocean Parkway Service Road; Waldorf Court between East 17 and Dead End; Hillel Place and Kenilworth Place intersection; 464-476 East 16th Street. A seventh location has occurred on East 16th Street between Avenue H and the dead end. The CB14 office is on this block so we will be sure to keep an eye on it.	Capital funding constraints, project capacity and City-wide priorities preclude this project at this time.
08/17	DOT	Rehabilitate bridges	The Beverley Road bridge and the Caton Road bridge both require rehabilitation. The Newkirk Avenue Road bridge is also in need of repair but due to purview complications related to Newkrik Plaza, DOT cannot add the bridge to a component contract, which will delay repairs.	This request is for multiple locations. Please see a full response in the 'additional comments' field.
09/17	DOE	Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school	DOE still acknowledges CD 14 as a district in need of seats. When last measured at full capacity, PS 139 was at 121% of utilization; PS 127was 125%; PS 249 was at 128%, PS 193 at 111%; PS 315 was at 118% and the PS 152 Annex was at 146%. Since annexes are built to address overcrowding, an overcrowded annex boldly underscores the need for additional elementary school seats in the northern end of the District. The elementary schools listed above are all north of Avenue L.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
10/17	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	Church Avenue is the most heavily utilized station in the district and is in disrepair. A public private partnership is in place to install an elevator to make the station ADA compliant. Other upgrades and additional security cameras must accompany this project, especially given that this will be more heavily utilized by vulnerable community members.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.

11/17	NYPD	Renovate or upgrade existing precinct houses	While NYPD continues the search for an appropriate location for a new precinct house, the current precinct house floods and leaks and does not have adequate lockers, storage, parking, nor it is handicap accessible. Work orders should be addressed quickly. The vacant lot on the block should be explored as a potential parking facility for the 70th Precinct.	Further study by the agency of this request is needed.
12/17	DOT	Other transportation infrastructure requests	Ensure that sidewalks, curbs, street and bus pads are maintained at all bus stops. The bus stop at Church Avenue and East 18th street, which is a heavily utilized connection to the Brighton Line at the Church Avenue station is hazardous in both directions. The sidewalks require repair, the curbs are dilapidated and the streets have waving and pot holes. DOT installed an express lane on this stop and should have ensured bus pad, sidewalk and street maintenance along each stop during that project.	This request is for multiple locations. Please see a full response in the 'additional comments' field.
13/17	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library (BPL)	The following capital improvements are needed at our local libraries: Cortelyou Branch - safety and security enhancements; Flatbush Branch - safety and security enhancements, and abatement; Midwood Branch - safety and security enhancements, boiler, HVAC, roof.	This BPL capital project is currently unfunded or not fully funded. BPL supports the City funding this need.
14/17	NYPD	Add NYPD parking facilities	Increasingly we are told that large tow vehicles are not available, or that there is no space in the tow lot. This has created a backlog and long waits for the removal of illegally parked vehicles and an ongoing issue with overnight commercial parking of tractor trailers on both commercial or residential streets. An increased investment in both tow equipment and tow lots is needed.	The NYPD is working with the Mayor's Office of Management and Budget in order to secure additional towing facilities.
15/17	NYCTA		The 18th Avenue Stop on the Culver Line is on the same block as the United Cerebral Palsey complex. This stop was recently upgraded. It's unfortunate that accessibility was not one of the improvements.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
16/17	FDNY	Rehabilitate or renovate existing fire houses or EMS stations	Fund station house renovations and upgrades at Engine 255/Ladder 157; Engine 281/Ladder 147 and Engine 250 firehouses. Including the addition of a station house generator at one of these fire stations. There are no firehouses in CD 14 with a generator.	Emergency generators are being installed throughout firehouses on a yearly basis, priority established by Fire Operations, funding is reliant on Federal Grants. Repairs and upgrades to facilities must be scheduled carefully so overall (and local/neighborhood) emergency response operations are not negatively impacted. Additionally, these requests must be prioritized so more critical issues (e.g., health and safety or operational response issues) are addressed first. We repair all facilities as resources and priorities allow.
17/17	DOT	Upgrade or create new greenways	While just announced, the introduction of the greenway around Prospect Park is welcome news.	Please contact the Borough Commissioner's office to discuss this request.

# FY25 Community Board Budget Requests with Agency Responses – Expense

PRIORITY	AGENCY	CB REQUEST	REASON	AGENCY RESPONSE
01/31	DOT	Other expense budget request for DOT	New York City must recognize ownership of the Plaza. The clearest solution we see is for Newkirk Plaza to become a formal participant in the DOT's Pedestrian Plaza Program. The City's inability to determine jurisdiction over Newkirk Plaza has left several chronic issues unresolved, including a serious rodent infestation, sanitation maintenance concerns, disrepair of the brick plaza surface, and growing street homelessness challenges. NYPD, DSNY, DOB, and DOHMH have all been called upon to deal with myriad issues on the Plaza. Many community stakeholders, including business owners, civic and community-based organizations, and local government entities, continue to struggle.	Further study by the agency of this request is needed.
02/31	DHS	Expand street outreach	Reports of individuals who appear to be unsheltered homeless have increased over the past year. Breaking Ground is the current contractor and given the increase in calls to the Community Board, the Police and 311, an increase in outreach services is warranted. These teams must be equipped with professionals who can assist those who are on the street due to substance misuse and/or experiencing mental health disorders.	Street outreach services are available 24/7, 365 days a year. By calling 311 or using the 311 app when a homeless individual appears to be in need of assistance, any New Yorker can dispatch an outreach team to that person and help them move indoors. Funding for street outreach has more than doubled in recent years.
03/31	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	In addition to the capital request, programs, outreach and increased subsidies to ensure affordable housing at lower AMIs is a well documented need in CD14.	More information is needed from the community board before making a funding decision. The community board should contact the agency.
04/31	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	Flatbush and Midwood boast 11,237 street trees, including 121 different species according to DPR's census. Argyle Road is considered the "leafiest" in Brooklyn. A more robust pruning cycle is still necessary. Requests for emergency pruning and fallen branches are increasing in the District. Fallen limbs, branches and entire trees too often were reported for pruning but not addressed. Paying claims instead of service is poor policy. DPR needs a better funded and more robust contracting practice in addition to an increase in the budget to bring the work in house.	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.
05/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment	Nearly one in 25 New Yorkers has experienced mental illness. About 280,000 have major disorders such as schizophrenia. Forty percent of those in city shelters and 53% of those in city jails experience mental illness. From March to December of 2020, more than 17,000 calls were made for mental health assistance. This was 85 times more than the same period in 2019. The city must continue to expand mobile crises teams, and intensive mobile teams as well as HOMESTAT outreach to unsheltered homeless individuals experiencing mental illness. A Support and Connection Center should be provided in Brooklyn.	A person experiencing a behavioral health (BH) crisis lives in a home, shelter or other residence can be connected with assistance through 988. 988 will perform a risk assessment and deescalation. Counselors can connect callers to services based on risk and need. This includes Mobile Crisis Teams, Crisis Respite Centers, Outpatient Services, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Programs, Health and Engagement Teams, Co-Response Teams

06/31	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	There are 1200 road segments in CD 14. Given the number of dead ends, overpasses, and road bridges, cleaning is a persistent need. The evisceration of MLP, which is the only operation that cleans CD14's 54 dead end streets was ill advised. TNT is welcome in addition to MLP but not instead of it. Asking councilmembers to refund DSNY with Clean NYC or reso funds does not ensure equal distribution of services across the district and is financially inefficient. Baseline services should come from the baseline budget. Restore full funding for MLP.	Although the Department of Sanitation supports this program, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.
07/31	DHS	Improve safety at homeless shelters	The men's shelter that opened in CD14 in 2023 has created a number of community concerns. Security, including perimeter patrols are not addressing the complaint that individuals are entering private property, defecating in the street, engaging in substance use, and locking shopping carts to fences. Interactions between shelter residents and residents of the adjacent supportive housing facility have not been positive for the clients or the community. BVSJ - the contractor has failed to establish a Community Advisory Board. The impacts of this shelter are far worse than anticipated and funding to ensure adequate support, programing and safety is urgently needed.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
08/31	DEP	Clean catch basins	There are several locations in the district that flood chronically that have all been brought to DEP's attention. It seems that the issues can only be resolved with capital investments and that is the second highest request on CB14 capital list. In the meantime, catch basin cleaning and maintenance, courtesy flushes, rain barrels, backflow valve education, and other short term mitigation strategies are needed.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.
09/31	DHS	Other request for services for the homeless	While city officials advocate for state and federal funding to address the needs of asylum seekers, the city itself must step up with the resources that can be put into place. An expansion of legal services for filing documentation, support services and counseling must be put into place. These services will help people move out of shelters. The city only exacerbates the crises by not providing as much as it can despite the many strains across agencies.	Please contact the Agency directly and promptly for more information.

10/31	ОМВ	Provide more community board staff	Every year we manage hundreds of service delivery requests, a youth conference, a nonprofit roundtable. We've added a lunch and learn series, and a YLC. Increasing responsibilities have been assigned and hiring staff and specialists, such as planners, policy analysts, IT assistance, would help to introduce more initiatives and develop longer range projects. As the most local city agency, we give voice to the individuals who make up our communities. To support serving communities equitably, it is imperative that the city fund and provide language access services at the CB level.	As of the FY 2025 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is being maintained.
11/31	DCA	Other expense budget request for DCA	DCWP is the licensing and main enforcement agency for the sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes. The pace of inspections is slow, and the enforcement mechanisms is inadequate. More stores sell these items without a license than with one. Report of sales to minors and sales of flavored vapes are prevalent. A significant investment must be made in adding and training inspectors. At the state level, OCM is stepping into cannabis enforcement. The Sheriff's office has had impact on some enforcement. NYPD has been marginalized but remains involved where possible. This is an inefficient and ineffective approach.	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.
12/31	HPD	Provide, expand, or enhance programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	CD14 has one of the highest serious housing code violations per 1000 units of housing in the city. HPD must be granted enforcement authority that makes a difference. Interagency coodination should be put into place such that DOB will not issue permits in buildings with HPD violations unless needed to address those very violations.	This is not a budget request.
13/31	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing	Community District 14 ranks 11th of 59 in the percentage of severely rent burdened household - 35% up from 30% the year before. The District ranks 8th in the percent of renter households that are severely overcrowded. Nearly 35% of renters in the District pay over 50% of their household income on monthly rent. Affordability of rentals (at 80% of AMI) decreased from 71.3% to only 49%. These are pressures that lend themselves to homelessness and continued expansion of prevention programs is warranted.	The Agency provides homeless prevention services through its expanded network of HomeBase community offices.

14/31	ACS	Other foster care and child welfare requests	When asked by survey to rank public safety priorities, 85% of respondents ranked support for cure violence groups, number one. ACS?s Division of Youth and Family Justice and the efforts to support violence disrupters programs and organizations is a high priority from a youth service and a public safety perspective. There are several programs that ACS has introduced or grown in recent years. CD14 organizations have applied to the RFP for Family Enrichment Program. We hope they will be awarded. As for foster care and casework, the agency has made positive strides in reducing caseloads and fostered youth is at an all-time low.	This request has already been funded.
15/31	DOB	Address illegal conversions and uses of buildings	There is need for more DOB action on illegal conversions in what would be single family homes and in multifamily buildings. Enforcement on illegal curb cuts and parking pads would move the city toward carbon neutrality. Rather than using the tools we have, there is a new zoning text amendment. Short term rentals are not enforced. Some air bnbs have been reported in the already scarce affordable units in the district.	For information regarding the status of this request, please contact the Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement.
16/31	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance the Summer Youth Employment Program	According to our Youth Conference attendees survey, the biggest draw for the 500 youth who attended out annual conference was jobs. It is imperative that DYCD jobs programs be expanded and dependably funded. Additional focus on building capacity at the CBO level to expand programming into underserved communities is imperative. Cure violence programs depend on significant alternatives. DYCD is poised to support new models of curing violence and expanding opportunities for future leaders.	DYCD has increased funding in this service area.
17/31	NYPD	Hire additional crossing guards	Additional crossing guards is an ever increasing request. New schools have opened, new developments are in the pipeline. The Community Board defers to the Police Precinct to assign additional crossing guards to new locations. Funding should also cover substitute crossing guards so that intersections are not without this important safety measure when a crossing guard is out for any period of time.	Based on the latest budget, the NYPD has a specific budgeted headcount. The agency is working on filling vacancies in order to get to that headcount.
18/31	DFTA	Increase staffing for homebound adult programs	Case management, home care, legal services, and transportation services are generally intertwined. There is no way to prioritize the needs of one senior citizen over those of another and it would be folly to provide transportation over home care for a senior who is need of both. The funding of these services must be designed with the approach that support services are inextricable.	Approval of this request depends on sufficient Federal/State funds.

19/31	DOT	Address traffic congestion	Caton Avenue to Linden Blvd is a truck route. Just south of Caton is Church Avenue - also a truck route. Traffic is gridlocked on Caton nearly endlessly in both directions. DOT has installed Citibikes that force pedestrians into truck traffic on Caton. An express bus lane has been added to Church Avenue, eliminating truck delivery windows. These conditions have pushed more traffic onto sidestreets. DOT must address traffic congestion and review installations that have exacerbated conditions.	Further study by the agency of this request is needed.
20/31	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to destigmatize substance misuse and encourage treatment	Street outreach teams, NYPD, and human services organizations report that many people who appear to be unsheltered often have homes but congregate where they can access and use substances. There are few programs available to them unless they are in fact homeless or choose to seek care. This is a woeful and dangerous approach, or lack thereof. Community Mobile and Intesive Mobile teams should be expanded in Brooklyn.	A person experiencing a behavioral health (BH) crisis lives in a home, shelter or other residence can be connected with assistance through 988. 988 will perform a risk assessment and deescalation. Counselors can connect callers to services based on risk and need. This includes Mobile Crisis Teams, Crisis Respite Centers, Outpatient Services, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Programs, Health and Engagement Teams, Co-Response Teams.
21/31	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	Public health programs that address health disparities with an urgent focus on maternal health are of the highest priorities. Ongoing infection disease concerns, barriers to vaccines whether they be knowledge and understanding based, cultural practices based, language access, etc. must be thoughtfully addressed. Access to quality housing, healthy food choices and outdoor space all contribute systemically to health outcomes and thus cannot be considered singularly, let alone in competition with one another.	This request is too broad to address. Please contact the DOHMH with more specific details.
22/31	DOB	Assign additional building inspectors (including expanding training programs)	DOB is operating with a 15% deficit in human resources. Many of these unfulfilled positions are inspectors. With the continued growing rate of new construction in the district, this is an urgent priority. Too many complaints are closed out due to lack of access while unpermitted work continues to the point of completion. Better timing of inspections, additional attempts and more detailed follow ups would assist in the ability to enforcement myriad violations.	The agency will accommodate this issue within existing resources.
23/31	DSNY	Increase enforcement of street vending	The addition of vendor enforcement has not been adequately resourced. There are not enough San Police and they don't cover specific areas. There is not a transparent reporting system in place.	Although the Department of Sanitation supports this program, due to fiscal constraints the availability of funds is uncertain.

24/31	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs (BPL)	The Community Board supports the continuation and expansion of programs that are so valuable in connecting our community members to literacy and culture. From small children, to teens, adults and older adults, the breadth of library programming is impressive and invaluable. We are grateful that branch managers and program directors are so active with the board and always willing to share and update us regarding new programs and services.	BPL supports restored and/or increased library funding to allow for additional hours and days of service and increased budgets for material collections, programming and building maintenance.
25/31	DFTA	Funding for a new senior center program	Engage in reimagining an RFP for senior centers. The population of persons 65 years old and up in CD14 has increased from 10% in 2010 to 17% in 2021.	Use the agency's application/RFP procedure. Contact the agency.
26/31	FDNY	Provide more firefighters or EMS workers	Fund adequate new firefighter, Marshall, EMS and inspector hires. Given the pace of development and the density that is adding to our community, it is imperative that we ensure that staffing remain optimal and that the addition of a 5th firefight on the truck is expanded to firehouses serving our community. The number of firefighters fully trained for all inspections should be at 100%.	In the Preliminary Budget, Citywide personnel/program/ equipment funds are maintained in FY 2024. Allocations are scheduled by the agency only after budget adoption.
27/31	SBS	Provide commercial lease support for business owners	Supporting venues that generate social capital and drive economic development is key to post pandemic recovery. Kings Theater was an EDC project that is owned and managed by a private entity and is a for profit enterprise. The city then enacted several policy decisions in the area that undermined the original multi-million-dollar investment in the theater as an economic driver.	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.
28/31	DPR	Plant new street trees	There is a lack of enforcement when it comes to developers and planting requirements. Elected officials have used reso funds to plant trees where it was a developers responsibility. Where planting is the city's responsibility it should be properly funded and then adequately pruned.	Parks plans to plant trees in all available street tree locations (except where trees will be planted by developers as mandated by zoning) but will need additional funds for tree guards.
29/31	DSNY	Animal and pest control requests including reducing rat and mosquito populations	Rodent complaints have risen throughout the city, While DOHMH continues to increase the number of inspections performed annually, these efforts are outpaced by conditions contributing to rodent infestations. DOT's Open Streets for restaurant policy, DOB's abatement rules for construction sites should have better storage and collection policies. DSNY should be better equipped to address illegal drop offs and dumping. A better public education plan so that people understand the downside of feeding feral cats and birds is needed.	The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.

30/31	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Compost has finally arrived but early observations suggest that adequate resources and logical planning have faltered. Some sectors will have an extra rear loader on the streets - equaling 3 collection trucks per street every recycling day. Other sectors will still have only two truck but they will both be split-backs, which means large put outs and bulk will not be collected on route. Weights will not tell DSNY if another truck should be added to a route. Those with missed collections are told to pull their containers back in until the following week. This will not make for a successful program. A 4x12 truck should be added to make sure everyone is collected on the day they set out compost.	Any request for an increase in Department of Sanitation fleet size is an issue of service delivery and/or agency policy.
31/31	ОМВ	Other expense budget request	DCP and OMB - improve DNS and budget process.	As of the FY 2025 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is being maintained.