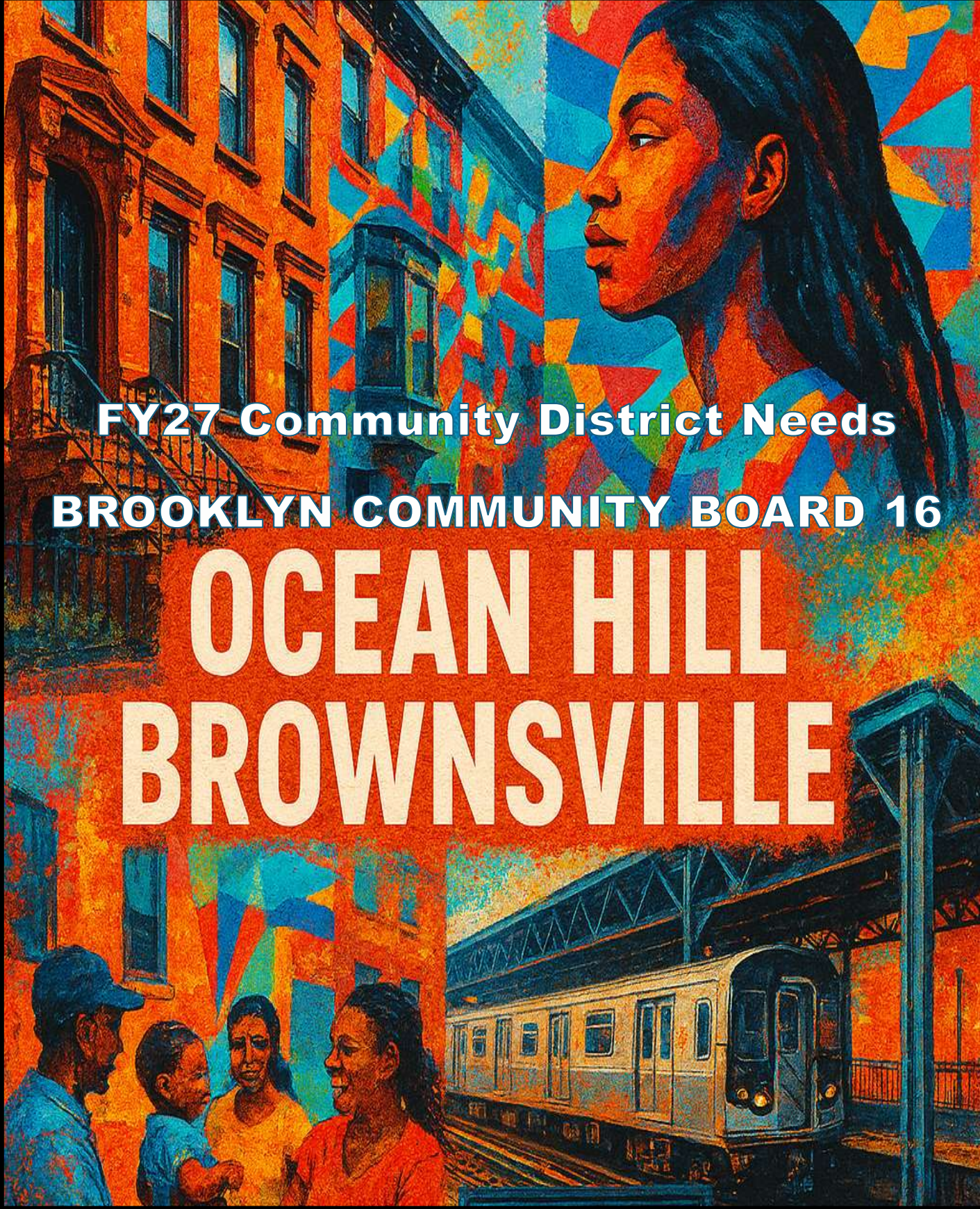




**FY27 Community District Needs**  
**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 16**

# **OCEAN HILL BROWNSVILLE**



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 16**

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**ANTONIO REYNOSO**  
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**SYDONE THOMPSON**  
District Manager

**MARGARET BREWER**  
Chairperson

**October 31, 2025**

**New York City Department of City Planning  
Community District Needs Assessment Team**

**Subject: FY 27 Community District Needs – Brooklyn Community District 16**

Dear Department of City Planning Team,

On behalf of Brooklyn Community District 16, I am pleased to submit our FY 27 Community District Needs Statement. This document reflects the priorities, challenges, and aspirations of the residents and stakeholders of Ocean Hill and Brownsville, as identified through extensive community engagement and analysis of current data.

Community District 16 continues to face significant challenges related to affordable housing, public safety, economic development, and access to quality education and health services. Our population remains predominantly working-class, with a high proportion of renters and a persistent poverty rate. Despite recent improvements in median household income and property values, many residents are burdened by rising rents and substandard housing conditions. Public transportation remains the primary mode of commuting, yet infrastructure upgrades are needed to improve accessibility with key emphasis on the elevated train line and overall safety.

We urge the City to prioritize investments in affordable housing, youth programs, workforce development, public safety initiatives, and health resources. Addressing these needs is essential to fostering a safer, healthier, and more prosperous future for all residents of Community District 16.

We appreciate your attention to our district's needs and look forward to collaborating to ensure that the FY 27 budget and planning process reflects the voices and priorities of our community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sydone Thompson

District Manager

Brooklyn Community Board 16

[BK16@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:BK16@cb.nyc.gov)

# 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) 2027. 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, 2025.

Community boards may provide substantive supplemental information together with their Statements and Budget Requests. This supporting material can be accessed by clicking on the links provided in the document or by copying and pasting them into a web browser, such as Chrome, Safari or Firefox.

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:  
[CDNEEDS\\_DL@planning.nyc.gov](mailto:CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov)

This report is broadly structured as follows:

### 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 2027. 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.

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# 1. COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMATION

Brooklyn Community Board 16

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Address: 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street

Chair: Margaret Brewer

Phone: 7183850323

District Manager: Sydone Thompson

Email: BK16@cb.nyc.gov

Website: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb16/index.page>

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## 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      |         | 2020      |         | Change, 2010-2020 |         |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------|
|                                                  | Number    | Percent | Number    | Percent | Number            | Percent | Percentage Point |
| <b>AGE</b>                                       |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| 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 / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b> |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| 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              |
| <b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>                         |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| Total housing 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

|                                                  | 2010      |         | 2020      |         | Change, 2010-2020 |         |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------|
|                                                  | Number    | Percent | Number    | Percent | Number            | Percent | Percentage Point |
| <b>AGE</b>                                       |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| 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             |
| <b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b> |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| 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              |
| <b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>                         |           |         |           |         |                   |         |                  |
| Total housing 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 16

|                                                  | 2010   |         | 2020   |         | Change, 2010-2020 |         |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------|
|                                                  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number            | Percent | Percentage Point |
| <b>AGE</b>                                       |        |         |        |         |                   |         |                  |
| Total population                                 | 86,468 | 100.00  | 98,506 | 100.00  | 12,038            | 13.9    | 0.0              |
| Total persons under 18 years                     | 25,831 | 29.9    | 24,686 | 25.1    | -1,145            | -4.4    | -4.8             |
| <b>MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE RACE / HISPANIC ORIGIN</b> |        |         |        |         |                   |         |                  |
| Total population                                 | 86,468 | 100.0   | 98,506 | 100.0   | 12,038            | 13.9    | 0.0              |
| Hispanic/Latino (of any race)                    | 17,369 | 20.1    | 21,709 | 22.0    | 4,340             | 25.0    | 1.9              |
| White non-Hispanic                               | 858    | 1.0     | 3,347  | 3.4     | 2,489             | 290.1   | 2.4              |
| Black non-Hispanic                               | 65,930 | 76.2    | 66,418 | 67.4    | 488               | 0.7     | -8.8             |
| Asian non-Hispanic                               | 604    | 0.7     | 1,331  | 1.4     | 727               | 120.4   | 0.7              |
| Some other race, non-Hispanic                    | 583    | 0.7     | 1,145  | 1.2     | 562               | 96.4    | 0.5              |
| Non-Hispanic of two or more races                | 1,124  | 1.3     | 4,556  | 4.6     | 3,432             | 305.3   | 3.3              |
| <b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>                         |        |         |        |         |                   |         |                  |
| Total housing units                              | 32,969 | 100.0   | 36,951 | 100.0   | 3,982             | 12.1    | 0.0              |
| Occupied housing units                           | 30,629 | 92.9    | 34,999 | 94.7    | 4,370             | 14.3    | 1.8              |
| Vacant housing units                             | 2,340  | 7.1     | 1,952  | 5.3     | -388              | -16.6   | -1.8             |

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

Community District #16 representing the neighborhoods of Ocean Hill and Brownsville, is located in East Brooklyn and comprises 1,230.6 acres of land. It is bounded north by Broadway, on the south by Linden Boulevard, on the east by Van Sinderen Avenue, and on the west by East 98th Street, East New York Avenue, Ralph Avenue and Atlantic Avenue.

Ocean Hill–Brownsville has experienced notable demographic and socioeconomic changes in recent years. The district's population has grown to approximately 100,800 residents, marking a 3% increase since 2022. The community is characterized by its youthful demographic, with a median age of 34.6 years, which is significantly younger than the citywide average. The gender distribution is skewed toward females, who make up 58% of the population, while males account for 42%.

Racial and ethnic diversity remains a defining feature of the district. According to the 2023 census data, Black or African American residents comprise about 64% of the population, and Hispanic residents of any race represent roughly 24%. White non-Hispanic residents account for 4–5%, Asians make up 2%, and the remaining 5–6% identify as two or more races or other backgrounds.

Economic indicators show improvement, with the median household income rising to \$41,322 in 2023, a 12.1% increase from the previous year. However, per capita income remains relatively low at \$28,567, which is only 58% of the New York City average. Despite these gains, poverty continues to be a significant challenge, affecting 33.1% of residents overall and nearly 44% of children.

Employment data reveals ongoing difficulties. The district's employment rate stands at approximately 87%, with unemployment at 13%, a figure much higher than the county-wide rate of 4.9% and the national average of 4.1%. Black residents in the district face an unemployment rate of 6.8%, which is also above the national average for this demographic.

Housing conditions reflect both growth and strain. The number of occupied housing units increased by 20.3% between 2019 and 2023, reaching about 38,334 units. Housing affordability remains a pressing issue, as 55.8% of households spend more than 30% of their income on rent, and 33.4% are severely cost-burdened, paying over half their income for housing. About one-third of rental units are under rent stabilization.

Ocean Hill and Brownsville remain below the Brooklyn-wide median rent, making them relatively affordable options within the borough. However, Brownsville's rent growth—especially for larger units—suggests increasing demand or limited supply in that segment. Ocean Hill's overall rent decrease may reflect market adjustments or shifting tenant preferences. As of late 2025, distinct trends in median gross rent exists. Ocean Hill's median gross rent stands at \$3,000, while Brownsville's is \$3,275, making Brownsville's rent approximately 9% higher. Both neighborhoods remain more affordable than the overall Brooklyn median, which reached \$4,213 in July 2025.

Homeownership has declined slightly, with only 17.3% of units being owner-occupied, while renter-occupied units have risen to 82.7%. The median home value has climbed to \$610,000, a 10.7% increase. From February to August 2025, Ocean Hill's median home prices ranged from \$800K–\$935K and were consistently higher than Brownsville's range of \$610K–\$735K. This indicates that Ocean Hill generally exhibits stronger home value appreciation and commands higher prices compared to Brownsville's more modest housing market.

The district's transportation profile is shaped by its robust subway and bus networks, limited car ownership, and ongoing efforts to improve accessibility for all residents. The district is served by several major subway lines, including the 3, J, Z, C, A, and L trains, as well as the East New York LIRR station. While these transit options provide vital connections to the rest of Brooklyn and New York City, accessibility remains a challenge. Most stations in the district lack full ADA compliance,

though recent zoning initiatives and MTA capital investments are targeting improvements. The city's Zoning for Accessibility program has designated easement areas around key stations, paving the way for future upgrades and enhanced mobility for individuals with disabilities.

Data from the American Community Survey highlights the district's strong dependence on public transit, with approximately 66% of workers commuting by subway or bus. Private vehicle use is notably low, with only 17% driving alone and 3% carpooling. Walking and bicycling account for a small but meaningful share of commutes, reflecting both the urban density and the growing availability of active transportation infrastructure. The average commute time stands at 45.5 minutes, underscoring the need for efficient and reliable transit services.

Car ownership in Community District 16 is among the lowest in New York City, with most households reporting no access to a private vehicle. This reality places additional importance on the quality, frequency, and accessibility of public transit options. It also highlights the need for equitable transportation planning that prioritizes the needs of transit-dependent populations, particularly in a district where median household incomes are below the citywide average and poverty rates remain high. While cycling rates are currently modest, Brooklyn's expanding network of protected bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly streets is gradually improving local accessibility. Citywide initiatives have brought hundreds of miles of bike lanes to the borough, and nearly all residents now live within a mile of this network. Continued investment in safe, connected infrastructure will be essential to encourage greater use of active transportation modes.

Transportation in the district is defined by its extensive public transit network, low rates of car ownership, and ongoing efforts to enhance accessibility. As the city and MTA continue to invest in station upgrades and active transportation infrastructure, the district is poised to become more inclusive and better connected. Ensuring that these improvements are implemented equitably will be critical to supporting the mobility and well-being of all residents.

Health and well-being remain areas of concern. The district continues to experience elevated rates of chronic illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes, asthma, and hypertension. Mental health challenges, maternal and infant health issues, barriers to primary care. This is evidenced that about 30% of residents lack a regular doctor—and food insecurity are persistent problems.

Ocean Hill and Brownsville are neighboring communities in Brooklyn that share the NYPD's 73rd Precinct, but their crime profiles show important differences. Ocean Hill experiences moderately high crime, especially violent offenses. The violent crime rate is about 7.3 incidents per 1,000 residents, placing it in the bottom quartile for safety nationally. Property crime is moderate, and the estimated annual cost of crime is around \$277 per resident, or \$700 per household—higher than the Brooklyn average. Ocean Hill ranks 268th out of 307 NYC neighborhoods for overall crime, and 292nd for violent crime, reflecting persistent safety concerns. Brownsville faces even greater challenges. Its overall crime rate is higher, with a particularly elevated violent crime rate (grade D+), and it is often cited as one of Brooklyn's most dangerous neighborhoods. The cost of crime is steeper—about \$413 per resident, or \$1,083 per household. While Brownsville is safer than only 27% of U.S. neighborhoods, it bears a heavier economic and social burden from crime.

Precinct-wide data covering both neighborhoods shows a violent crime rate of about 1,683 per 100,000 residents, a murder rate of 16.2 per 100,000, and a total major crime rate of 8,659 per 100,000. These figures highlight the significant public safety challenges faced by both communities. In summary, Ocean Hill has high violent crime and moderate property crime, but fares somewhat better than Brownsville. Brownsville has higher overall and violent crime rates, with a greater impact on residents and a reputation for being one of Brooklyn's most crime-affected areas. Both neighborhoods face elevated crime compared to city and national averages, but Brownsville's challenges are more severe.

Despite continued divestment and a focus on the district's torrid reputation, coupled with minimal emphasis on measurable improvements, Ocean Hill–Brownsville in 2025 continues to be a vibrant, culturally diverse community. Ongoing challenges related to poverty, crime, ADA accessibility, unemployment, housing affordability, and health disparities persists but they do not quell the spirit and drive of those who call it home. The district's priorities for the coming year include expanding job training and placement services, particularly for young adults; accelerating affordable housing initiatives and homeownership opportunities; improving access to chronic disease management, mental health care, and nutritious foods; and strengthening infrastructure and social services such as transit, childcare, and social safety nets to support long-term community resilience. The City and its agencies have the opportunity this fiscal year to truly address the disparities in funding and resources afforded other communities.

## 4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL

### Brooklyn Community Board 16

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

#### **Affordable Housing**

Affordable housing remains the most pressing concern for residents of Brooklyn Community Board 16, as evidenced by 50% of survey respondents identifying it as their top priority. The district faces considerable economic challenges, with a median household income of approximately \$41,876—less than half the citywide median. Furthermore, 32.4% of households live below the poverty line, which is more than double the New York City average. Homeownership is notably rare, with only 16.1% of residents owning their homes, indicating a community that is heavily reliant on rental housing.

Between 2010 and 2024, approximately 4,700 new housing units were constructed in Brownsville. However, only 3,763 of these units were income-restricted, leaving many families struggling to secure truly affordable housing options. These statistics underscore the acute need for policies and developments that prioritize deeply affordable housing and safeguard long-term residents from displacement.

Brooklyn Community Board 16 is steadfast in its commitment to advocating for policies and development projects that prioritize deeply affordable housing, protect tenants from displacement, and ensure that new construction serves the needs of existing residents. This commitment highlights the urgent need for collaborative efforts among city agencies, developers, and community stakeholders to preserve housing stability and equity in Brownsville and Ocean Hill. Additionally, the Board emphasizes the importance of creating large-scale homeownership opportunities, which have remained stagnant in the district since the construction of the Nehemiah homes in the 1990s.

The Board looks forward to working with all relevant partners to advance these priorities and ensure that the residents of Brownsville and Ocean Hill have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing.

#### **Crime and Public Safety**

Ocean Hill and Brownsville both face elevated crime levels, particularly violent crime, which remains a significant concern for residents. Ocean Hill's violent crime rate stands at 7.3 incidents per 1,000 residents annually, slightly higher than Brownsville's rate of 6.95 per 1,000. This places Ocean Hill in the 22nd percentile for safety—meaning it is less safe than 78% of U.S. neighborhoods.

While Ocean Hill has a higher violent crime rate, Brownsville experiences a higher overall crime rate, at 26.75 incidents per 1,000 residents. The economic impact of crime is substantial in both neighborhoods. In Ocean Hill, the projected annual cost of crime is nearly \$11 million, averaging about \$277 per resident and \$700 per household. Brownsville's annual cost of violent crime is estimated at \$34.4 million, or about \$272 per resident and \$715 per household.

These statistics reinforce community concerns about public safety and highlight the need for targeted strategies—ranging from enhanced policing and prevention programs to community outreach and social services—to reduce both crime incidence and its socioeconomic impacts. The persistent safety challenges and the substantial economic burden on families and the broader community in District BK16 underscore the importance of comprehensive, community-driven solutions.

## **Parks and open space**

Access to parks and open space is a vital concern for 28.6% of survey respondents. In Brooklyn Community Board 16, parkland accounts for just 4% of the total area, compared to the citywide average of 23%. Residents have access to only 0.6 acres of city parkland per 1,000 people, far below the New York City average of 1.8 acres. However, 91% of residents live within a five-minute walk of a park, reflecting good geographic access despite limited space. Park cleanliness is rated "acceptable" for 85% of local parks, compared to 94% citywide. These statistics reveal a need for increased investment in park maintenance, comfort stations, and beautification projects to ensure that outdoor spaces are safe, clean, and welcoming for all.

The Board is seeking a good faith commitment to funding our local parks, by recognizing their role in promoting public health, recreation, and community cohesion. Several key parks such as Ocean Hill, Chester Street, and Osborn playgrounds do not have working restrooms for the second year. Many of the ongoing parks projects have seen little progress. By prioritizing the enhancement of parks and open spaces, Brooklyn Community Board 16 wants to ensure that all residents can enjoy high-quality environments that contribute to their overall well-being.

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## 5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

### HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Brooklyn Community Board 16

##### Most Important Issue Related to Healthcare and Human Services

###### **Access to healthy food and lifestyle programs**

Ocean Hill–Brownsville (CB16) stands at a critical crossroads in public health. In 2024–2025, the community's most urgent healthcare issue is access to healthy food and lifestyle programs—a concern voiced by 41.7% of local survey respondents. This is not just a statistic; it reflects daily realities for thousands of residents facing food deserts, high rates of chronic disease, and persistent barriers to affordable nutrition.

Despite the city's coordinated efforts—ranging from DFTA's senior meal programs and the DOHMH's Health Bucks and Groceries to Go initiatives, to HRA's expanded SNAP access and H+H's community health outreach—food insecurity remains a stubborn challenge. In Brownsville, there is just one supermarket for every 15 bodegas, and life expectancy lags nearly seven years behind the city average. Chronic illnesses like diabetes and hypertension are more prevalent here, fueled by limited access to fresh produce and preventive health resources.

City agencies are responding with targeted investments: nutrition incentives at farmers' markets, subsidized grocery delivery, and expanded benefits enrollment. Yet, the need for sustained, community-driven solutions is clear. Addressing food access in CB16 means more than distributing resources—it requires building local infrastructure, supporting urban agriculture, and integrating food equity into broader strategies for housing, education, and economic opportunity.

The path forward is one of partnership and persistence. By centering resident voices and leveraging citywide programs, Ocean Hill–Brownsville can transform food access from a barrier into a foundation for health, resilience, and opportunity.

##### Community District Needs Related to Healthcare and Human Services

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

Ocean Hill–Brownsville faces significant challenges in accessing comprehensive health care services. The district's only local clinic, Ocean Hill Medical Center, operates weekdays from 8 AM to 4 PM and is notably under-resourced, often unable to meet the full spectrum of community needs. The Neighborhood Health Action Center at 259 Bristol Street extends its hours to 8 PM and offers a broader array of services, including primary care, fitness classes, legal aid, and maternal and child health programs, but demand frequently exceeds capacity.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) such as the Brooklyn Multi-Service Family Health Center provide essential services like primary care, HIV testing, and health workshops within CB16. However, other centers, including Metro Community Health Center, offer a wider range of services—behavioral health, dental, audiology, and telehealth—but are located outside the district, creating additional barriers for residents who rely on public transportation.

Despite the presence of these facilities, limited clinic hours and capacity strain the system, resulting in overburdened services and long wait times. The geographic distribution of health centers within CB16 is sparse, forcing many residents to seek care outside the district, which can be especially challenging for those with mobility or financial constraints.

Specialized and mental health services are available through organizations like Brooklyn Children's Center and Brownsville Community Residential Program, which provide inpatient and outpatient care around the clock. BMS Life and Wellness Services further supports the community with WIC, psychiatric evaluations, case management, HIV/STD services, and substance abuse counseling, though these are typically available by appointment only.

A recent setback for the district was the closure of the Brownsville Sexual and Reproductive Health Center in April 2025 due to funding and staffing shortages, reducing access to critical reproductive health services for local residents.

Infrastructure and resource needs remain pressing. The last comprehensive resource guide for CB16 was published over a decade ago, leaving residents without up-to-date information on available clinics, pharmacies, immunization sites, and telehealth options. Expanding clinic hours to evenings and weekends, increasing facility capacity, and establishing new health centers within the district would significantly improve access and reduce patient load.

### **Needs for Older NYs**

Brooklyn Community District 16 is home to a significant senior population, with approximately 13% of residents aged 65 and older. Alarming, 23% of seniors live below the poverty line, far exceeding the citywide average of 14%. The district's median per capita income is just \$28,567, compared to \$48,800 citywide, underscoring persistent economic hardship and limited financial security for older adults.

#### **Nutrition & Food Security**

Food insecurity is a pressing challenge. Nearly 30% of older adults report difficulty affording healthy food, and City Meals on Wheels delivers over 620,000 meals annually in Brooklyn, serving 3,700 homebound seniors. Despite these supports, CB16 includes food desert zones, where access to affordable, nutritious food remains limited. Hunger rates across the borough highlight the need for expanded nutrition programs and culturally appropriate food access.

#### **Housing and Aging-in-Place**

Housing affordability is a critical issue. 61.7% of seniors in CB16 spend more than 30% of their income on housing, compared to 51.9% citywide. Recent supportive housing developments provide some relief:

- Redwood Senior Living (East New York) offers 80 permanently affordable, service-enriched apartments for seniors 62+, also serves Brownsville residents.
- Simba Simbi Senior Building (381 Chester Street) launched 108 low-income units for older residents in 2023.

These initiatives are vital, but demand far exceeds supply, leaving many seniors rent-burdened and struggling to age in place.

#### **Health & Chronic Disease Support**

CB16 ranks among the top five NYC districts for premature mortality, diabetes hospitalizations, and psychiatric hospitalizations (Healthy Brownsville, 2016). Citywide, 85%+ of seniors live with at least one chronic condition such as hypertension, diabetes, or arthritis, and many manage multiple illnesses. The district's health burden underscores the need for expanded preventive care, chronic disease management, and accessible home health services.

#### **Social Connection & Mental Health**

Isolation and mental health challenges are significant concerns. The Department for the Aging (DFTA) embeds licensed mental health clinicians in older adult centers citywide, offering counseling, screenings, and group therapy. Community-based organizations such as CPC provide bilingual geriatric mental health outreach, serving over 500 older adults annually. These programs are essential, but gaps remain in culturally responsive care and outreach tailored to diverse populations in CB16.

### Transportation & Mobility

Mobility barriers limit seniors' access to healthcare, food, and social connection. Seniors in CB16 rely on Market Ride services for trips to supermarkets and older adult centers, and Access-A-Ride for those with mobility limitations. With 45% of working-age adults commuting by public transit, seniors face similar or greater challenges navigating crowded, aging infrastructure. Expanded accessible, affordable transit options are needed to ensure equitable mobility.

### Summary of Critical Needs

- **Economic Security:** Address high poverty, rent burden, and low incomes among seniors.
- **Food Access:** Expand nutrition programs, home-delivered meals, and culturally appropriate food options.
- **Housing:** Grow affordable, service-enriched housing to support aging-in-place.
- **Health Management:** Target chronic illness prevention, home care, and disease support.
- **Mental Wellness:** Enhance culturally responsive counseling and community mental health outreach.
- **Transportation:** Improve accessible, affordable transit for medical, social, and grocery needs.

### Needs for Homeless

Community District 16, encompassing Ocean Hill–Brownsville, is one of New York City's lowest-income districts, with nearly 40% of residents living below the federal poverty line—double the city average. This economic hardship directly fuels high rates of housing instability, and Brownsville families experience one of the highest shelter entry rates in Brooklyn, with 8.5 shelter entries per 1,000 households, more than twice the citywide rate. The district's shelter infrastructure includes the Atlantic House Men's Shelter, which provides 200 beds for single men coping with mental illness and substance use, and the HELP Women's Shelter, which offers nightly intake and case management for women. However, many intake and drop-in options are located outside the district, such as PATH centers in Manhattan and the Bronx, creating additional transit burdens for local residents seeking immediate assistance. The district houses more than 12 shelters (domestic violence, family, hotels, single men's/women's, teen drop-in centers, etc.) and supportive housing facilities, compared to other richly resourced districts which have zero.

Supportive services and prevention programs are available through organizations like RiseBoro Homebase, which offers eviction prevention, legal support, financial coaching, case management, benefits navigation, and housing search assistance. Brooklyn Community Housing & Services (BCHS) provides transitional and supportive housing, case management for those with serious mental illness, substance abuse counseling, vocational services, and educational programs, though these resources are typically located outside CB16. For those living unsheltered, mobile street outreach and shower buses deliver hygiene services, health screenings, clothing, meals, and connections to shelter and social services throughout Brooklyn. Drop-in centers such as "The Gathering Place" administered by CAMBA in Brownsville offers daytime meals, laundry, counseling, and referrals, serving as critical lifelines for individuals in crisis.

School District 23 (Ocean Hill/Brownsville) has one of the highest rates of student homelessness in NYC. In the 2024–25 school year, more than one in five students in District 23 were identified as homeless. Of the citywide homeless student population, about 42% spent time in shelters, 53% were "doubled up" (temporarily sharing housing with others), and 5% were in hotels, motels, or unsheltered. This means thousands of District 23 students are living doubled-up or in shelters, and a smaller but significant number are unaccompanied minors or otherwise unstably housed. These rates are among the highest in Brooklyn and New York City, reflecting a persistent and growing crisis in the district.

Despite these efforts, significant gaps remain. Insufficient local intake options force residents to travel outside the district for shelter access, and bed shortages during peak seasons leave many unhoused. There are limited specialized shelters for youth, families, survivors of domestic violence, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Resource awareness is also fragmented, with the last comprehensive directory of services dating back to 2012, leaving many residents unclear about available supports.

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

Ocean Hill–Brownsville (CB16) remains one of Brooklyn's most economically challenged districts. As of 2023, approximately one-third of residents live below the federal poverty line—nearly double the borough average. The median household income in CB16 is just \$41,000–\$43,000, far below Brooklyn's average of nearly \$80,000. Over 80% of households are renters, and more than half of these renters are burdened by housing costs, with one-third spending more than half their income on rent. These conditions create persistent financial instability and increase the risk of homelessness and displacement.

Food insecurity is widespread, with nearly 36,000 individuals and 21,500 households in Brownsville relying on SNAP benefits. Despite strong outreach, gaps remain, particularly among seniors and mixed-status families. Unemployment rates in CB16 are higher than the borough average, and many residents face barriers to stable employment due to limited educational attainment and job opportunities. Public benefits such as Medicaid and cash assistance are critical lifelines, but local service centers often experience congestion and delays, making access challenging.

To address these urgent needs, CB16 requires expanded affordable housing and rent relief programs, increased SNAP outreach and nutrition support, targeted job training and workforce development, streamlined access to public benefits, and enhanced eviction prevention and legal support. These priorities are essential to improving economic stability, health, and overall well-being for low-income New Yorkers in Ocean Hill–Brownsville.

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## HEALTHCARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                                                                                                |
|--------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DFTA   | 1 / 3    | Increase transportation services capacity                                                                                                            |
| DFTA   | 2 / 3    | Enhance home care services                                                                                                                           |
| DFTA   | 3 / 3    | Increase home delivered meals capacity                                                                                                               |
| DOHMH  | 1 / 5    | Other programs to address public health issues requests                                                                                              |
| DOHMH  | 2 / 5    | Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment                                                              |
| DOHMH  | 3 / 5    | Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc. |
| DOHMH  | 4 / 5    | Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc. |
| HRA    | 1 / 1    | Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing                                                                |

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

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

#### **Other - Write In (Required)**

In 2025, residents of Brooklyn Community District 16 identified youth development and education as a central priority for building a safer, healthier, and more resilient community. Survey data highlighted several pressing concerns:

The top youth priority in CB16 is after-school programming, seen as essential for keeping young people safe, engaged, and supported. After-School Programs (41.7%) The most common priority, with residents stressing that children and teens need safe, structured activities to keep them engaged and off the streets. Many noted the lack of nearby programs, leading youth to turn to vaping, loitering, or other risky behaviors. Residents also emphasized the need for substance abuse prevention, special needs services, and workforce development, reflecting a holistic vision of youth empowerment. Addressing these issues will strengthen education, reduce crime, and build pathways to opportunity for the district's next generation. The following areas of concern ranked the highest.

1. Adolescent Substance Abuse: survey respondents expressed concern about rising rates of vaping and drug use among teens, calling for prevention programs and stronger community support.
2. Support Services for Special Needs Youth: survey respondents emphasized the need for resources for disabled, immigrant, and non-English proficient students, ensuring equity in education.
- 3.. School & Education Facilities: survey respondents cited concerns about overcrowding and limited capacity in local schools were raised, with calls for investment in infrastructure.
4. Youth Workforce Development & Summer Employment: survey respondents highlighted the importance of job training and employment opportunities to prepare young people for the future.
5. Runaway & Homeless Youth: survey respondents stressed the need for stronger safety nets and housing support for vulnerable youth to combat

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

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

Current New York City Public School data indicates that District 23 schools face significant challenges with attendance and truancy, as only about 80% of students attend daily compared to the citywide average of 90%. More than half of the students miss at least 18 days each year, which points to chronic absenteeism and one of the highest truancy rates in the borough. Educational attainment among young adults in the district is also a concern: roughly a third lack a high school diploma or equivalent, another third have only a diploma or GED, and just 5% have completed a four-year college degree, far below the city average. These educational gaps restrict access to specialized jobs in New York City's changing economy.

While some schools, such as Brooklyn Collegiate, have made strides in graduation rates, reaching 88% and matching city averages, college readiness remains inconsistent. Opportunities for advanced coursework and dual enrollment are limited, leaving many students unprepared for

higher education. The district serves a predominantly low-income student population, with nearly a quarter identified as students with disabilities. Many school facilities require upgrades to support technology, ensure ADA compliance, and create modern learning environments.

Looking ahead to 2026, the community's priorities include addressing truancy through partnerships with local organizations, expanding career and technical education to prepare students for specialized fields, strengthening support staff with more counselors and mentors, upgrading school infrastructure, and enriching the curriculum with programs in civic engagement, financial literacy, arts, and music to promote holistic development and equity in education.

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

In 2024, Brooklyn Community District 16 experienced substantial child welfare interventions, reflecting both proactive support for families and concerning trends in youth justice involvement.

#### **Child Welfare & Preventive Services**

Preventive services reached 463 families and 1,061 children, underscoring the district's commitment to supporting households before escalating to foster care. Despite these efforts, the need remains high: 1,013 child welfare investigations were conducted, with 422 children in indicated (substantiated) cases—a rate of 17.1 per 1,000 children, more than double the citywide average. These figures highlight the ongoing vulnerability of families in Ocean Hill–Brownsville and the importance of sustained early intervention.

#### **Foster Care**

In 2024, 111 children entered foster care, bringing the total number of children in care to 202 as of December 31. Notably, 42.6% were placed in kinship foster care, demonstrating the vital role of relatives in providing stability and continuity for children removed from their homes. While kinship placements are a positive protective factor, the overall foster care entry rate reflects persistent challenges in family preservation.

#### **Juvenile Justice**

Alarming juvenile justice trends emerged in 2024. Secure detention admissions rose sharply from 77 in 2023 to 123 in 2024, a rate of 12.0 per 1,000 youth ages 12–18—four times the citywide average. At the same time, "Close to Home" placements, which provide community-based alternatives to detention, nearly doubled from 7 to 12. These figures reveal both a surge in youth involvement with the justice system and a growing demand for local diversion programs.

Citywide data reinforces these concerns. In FY2024, New York City recorded 1,519 secure detention admissions, with 31.9% involving 17-year-olds. The demographic impact was stark: 59.3% of youth admitted were Black and 30.9% Hispanic, reflecting disproportionate system involvement among older youth of color. Early 2025 trends suggest continued high demand for detention services, underscoring the urgency of prevention and diversion efforts in CB16.

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## YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                   |
|--------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| SCA    | 1 / 11   | Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school     |
| SCA    | 2 / 11   | Renovate or upgrade an elementary school                |
| SCA    | 3 / 11   | Renovate or upgrade an elementary school                |
| SCA    | 4 / 11   | Renovate or upgrade an elementary school                |
| SCA    | 5 / 11   | Renovate interior building component                    |
| SCA    | 6 / 11   | Renovate interior building component                    |
| SCA    | 7 / 11   | Renovate interior building component                    |
| SCA    | 8 / 11   | Renovate or upgrade an elementary school                |
| SCA    | 9 / 11   | Renovate other site component                           |
| SCA    | 10 / 11  | Renovate or upgrade an elementary school                |
| SCA    | 11 / 11  | Renovate PA system at Dr, Betty Shabazz School P.S. 298 |
| SCA    | CS       | Renovate interior building component                    |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                                          |
|--------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACS    | 1 / 1    | Other expense budget request for ACS                                                           |
| DOE    | 1 / 1    | Other educational programs requests                                                            |
| DYCD   | 1 / 1    | Provide, expand, or enhance Cornerstone and Beacon programs (all ages, including young adults) |

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

### Most Important Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

#### **General crime**

In 2025, residents of Brooklyn Community District 16 identified crime and public safety as one of their top three overall priorities, with 28.6% of survey respondents selecting it as a pressing issue. Community members expressed ongoing concerns about general crime, police-community relations, and the need for stronger crime prevention programs. While some noted that crime rates have begun to decline, safety remains a daily challenge for many, with theft, harassment, and quality-of-life issues—such as graffiti and petty crime—continuing to affect neighborhood trust and stability.

General crime emerged as the most common and urgent public safety issue, cited by 36.4% of respondents. Police-community relations and crime prevention programs were also highlighted, indicating that residents desire both effective enforcement and proactive prevention strategies. Although emergency preparedness was mentioned less frequently, it remains important, especially in light of climate risks that have intensified storms and flooding in the area.

Residents emphasized the need for stronger crime prevention initiatives and community-based solutions to address theft, harassment, and youth crime. Suggestions included cleaner, well-lit streets and expanded after-school programs as ways to deter criminal activity. Many respondents expressed frustration with strained relationships between law enforcement and the community, stressing that building trust through better communication, accountability, and collaboration is essential for long-term safety.

With climate change increasing the frequency and severity of storms and flooding, residents underscored the importance of readiness for emergencies. Investments in rapid response systems, disaster planning, and resilient infrastructure were identified as priorities. Calls for improved emergency service delivery included demands for faster response times, better-equipped precincts and firehouses, and stronger coordination across agencies to ensure reliable emergency services.

Concerns about youth involvement in crime and public nuisance issues, such as noise and vandalism, were also prevalent. Residents advocated for expanded youth programs, mentorship opportunities, and enforcement of nuisance violations as effective solutions to these challenges.

Overall, the survey feedback from Brooklyn Community District 16 in 2025 reflects a community deeply invested in improving public safety, strengthening emergency services, and fostering a safer, more resilient neighborhood.

### Community District Needs Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

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

Brooklyn Community District 16 has historically faced significant challenges related to crime and violence. In response, the New York Police Department (NYPD) and the 73rd Precinct implemented anti-crime initiatives such as "Stop and Frisk" and "Operation IMPACT," aiming to reduce incidents and improve safety. However, these programs were criticized for being divisive and lacking adequate supervision, particularly for newly graduated officers.

Recognizing these concerns, the NYPD transitioned to a more community-focused approach. Since 2016, the "Build the Block" initiative has assigned Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) to specific areas within the district, fostering stronger engagement between law enforcement and local residents. Community District 16 served as a pilot for this program.

Recent crime statistics reflect both progress and ongoing challenges. In the first half of 2024, the 73rd Precinct reported 13 murders and 32 shooting incidents, resulting in 39 victims. While the precinct has historically led the city in shooting incidents and homicides, recent years have seen a decline. Borough-wide, Brooklyn saw major felonies drop by over 7% year-over-year in June 2025, and shootings decreased by 26% compared to the previous year. However, homicides rose by 57% in June 2025, from 7 to 11. For the first half of 2025, Brooklyn experienced a 29% drop in homicides, totaling 41 deaths, and shooting incidents and victims declined by 19% and 15% respectively, reaching the lowest mid-year figures ever recorded for the borough. Serious felony offenses, including robbery, burglary, and larceny, declined by 8% year-to-date.

Despite these improvements, residents continue to emphasize the need for a visible police presence throughout the district—on streets, in subways, along commercial corridors, near schools, and within New York City Housing Authority buildings. Maintaining this presence is seen as essential for deterring crime and supporting ongoing efforts to build trust between the police and the community.

Nevertheless, past experiences with law enforcement have left some residents hesitant to report crimes, either due to distrust or concerns about the effectiveness of police interventions. Unreported incidents, including those resolved through informal "street justice," remain a challenge. To address these issues, community members advocate for ongoing police training in community engagement, cultural sensitivity, and mental health first aid, particularly in response to opioid overdoses. Additionally, equipping officers with body cameras is recommended to enhance transparency and accountability.

Ultimately, residents of Community District 16 call for continued improvements in policing that respect the dignity of all individuals and ensure the efficient deployment of resources to achieve neighborhood equity. The ongoing evolution of public safety strategies, supported by recent declines in crime, reflects a commitment to fostering a safer, more inclusive, and resilient community.

### **Needs for Emergency Services**

Brooklyn Community District 16 faces critical challenges in emergency response, driven by both environmental risks and service delivery gaps. Residents have emphasized the urgent need for improved preparedness, particularly in light of increasing climate-related threats such as flooding and severe storms.

Investments in resilient infrastructure, rapid response systems, and comprehensive disaster planning are essential to safeguard the community. Recent trends indicate that emergency medical services (EMS) response times have increased, partly due to traffic congestion and resource allocation challenges. To address these issues, the district requires better-equipped precincts and firehouses, as well as optimized placement of emergency facilities to reduce response times. Enhanced coordination among agencies is necessary to ensure reliable and timely emergency services for all residents.

There is also a strong need for emergency personnel to receive specialized training in mental health first aid and opioid overdose response. Community members stress the importance of culturally sensitive engagement and transparent communication during emergencies, which can help build trust and improve outcomes.

A key strategy for strengthening local emergency capacity is the expansion of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). This can be achieved by partnering with local organizations, securing public and private funding, recruiting diverse volunteers, and offering regular FEMA-based training. Engaging youth through school-based programs, conducting regular drills, and

fostering ongoing community engagement are vital for sustaining CERT participation. Integration with city emergency plans and agencies ensures coordinated response efforts, while providing volunteers with essential gear and clarifying liability protections supports their effectiveness.

City agencies such as the Office of Emergency Management, FDNY and NYPD, must continue to invest in emergency preparedness, service delivery, and response capacity. By prioritizing these areas, the district can establish and sustain a safer, more resilient community equipped to respond effectively to emergencies.

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## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

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

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                     |
|--------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NYPD   | 1 / 2    | Provide resources to train officers, e.g. in community policing           |
| NYPD   | 2 / 2    | Increase NYPD Staff and Agents to support quality of life issues in CD#16 |

# CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

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

#### **Cleanliness/trash collection**

In 2025, residents of Brooklyn Community District 16 identified cleanliness and trash collection as the most urgent sanitation issue. Survey data shows that 54.5% of survey respondents selected it as their top concern. Community members reported overflowing garbage, illegal dumping, and rat infestations as daily challenges. Inconsistent pickup schedules, blocked streets preventing sanitation workers from completing routes, and insufficient enforcement of disposal rules have compounded these problems.

While other sanitation-related issues such as environmental concerns (18.2%), preparedness for extreme weather (9.1%), recycling services (9.1%), and sewer capacity (9.1%) were also noted, the overwhelming priority remains cleaner streets and reliable trash removal.

Residents emphasized that addressing these problems is not just about aesthetics — it is about public health, safety, and neighborhood pride. Cleaner streets are seen as essential to restoring confidence in city services and improving quality of life across Ocean Hill–Brownsville.

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

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

Residents regularly report flooding and ponding at high-traffic intersections during storms, caused by an outdated combined sewer system—much of it nearly 200 years old—that cannot handle modern storm volumes. These overwhelmed sewers lead to backups into streets and basements and overflow into waterways, polluting local streams and contributing microbial and chemical contamination. Without regular maintenance, blocked catch basins exacerbate these issues and drive recurring damage to streets and property. Constituent data consistently flags sewer backups, slow drainage, and standing water as top community concerns.

To reduce flooding and combined sewer overflow, the Department of Environmental Protection has installed over 300 rain gardens throughout the district. These green infrastructure elements are critical for intercepting stormwater before it enters the sewer system. However, they frequently collect windblown litter, electronics, and dumped debris—creating blockages and public hazards—while overgrown vegetation can obstruct traffic sightlines and compromise safety. These conditions diminish the positive environmental and health impacts these installations are meant to deliver.

Climate change has intensified rainfall patterns, making stormwater flooding the "new normal" across New York City. In 2025, Governor Hochul allocated \$61 million in resiliency grants, including \$10 million reserved for stormwater mitigation projects in Brooklyn and Queens. Yet in CD 16, community members still demand more proactive engagement by the Department of Environmental Protection, with regular, targeted maintenance of basins and rain gardens, and better infrastructure planning at flood-prone intersections.

Further compounding the issue is DEP's proposal to increase water rates by 8.5% in FY 2025—with funds earmarked for urgent upgrades to drinking water infrastructure, waste and stormwater systems, and lead service line replacement. Community members argue that equity requires directing this investment to historically underserved neighborhoods, such as Ocean Hill and Brownsville, which disproportionately experience flooding, sewer issues, and environmental burdens.

While other city services—such as trash collection, air quality, and sanitation—remain important to community well-being, they are currently managed through stable Department of Sanitation operations and existing regulation frameworks. In contrast, stormwater and environmental protection concerns straddle core city infrastructure, municipal service reliability, public health, and climate resilience, with inadequate maintenance directly causing infrastructure damage and pollution. The related consequences—flooding, environmental contamination, disabled transit access, and blocked roadways—are immediate and recurring, necessitating a systemic response.

CD 16 needs:

- Scheduled and frequent catch basin cleaning and inspection ahead of major rainfall, to prevent ponding, backups, and street closures.
- Regular pruning and debris removal from rain gardens, safeguarding their function and community safety.
- Stronger engagement from DEP and public education on proper maintenance practices.
- Equitable allocation of stormwater and water-system investment funds to the district, ensuring vulnerable areas benefit from resiliency grants and rate-based funding.

This multi-pronged approach addresses an ongoing environmental crisis with root causes in aging infrastructure, climate change, and unequal public investment—making stormwater management and environmental protection the most urgent core infrastructure and city service priority for CB 16 in 2025.

### **Needs for Sanitation Services**

Residents of Brooklyn Community District 16 continue to identify sanitation services as a critical priority in 2025. The most pressing concern is cleanliness and trash collection, with widespread reports of overflowing garbage, illegal dumping, and rat infestations undermining public health and neighborhood pride. Inconsistent pickup schedules and insufficient enforcement around proper disposal practices compound these challenges.

Beyond trash removal, residents emphasized the need for expanded recycling facilities, improved sewer capacity, and stronger preparedness for extreme weather events. These infrastructure concerns, while less frequently cited, are vital for long-term resilience and sustainability.

Together, these priorities reflect a community demand for cleaner streets, reliable sanitation services, and proactive infrastructure investment. Addressing these needs will not only improve daily living conditions but also strengthen public health, safety, and confidence in city services.

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## CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title           |
|--------|----------|-----------------|
| DSNY   | CS       | Install cameras |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title              |
|--------|----------|--------------------|
| DEP    | 1 / 2    | Clean catch basins |
| DEP    | 2 / 2    | Rain gardens       |
| DSNY   | 1 / 1    | Restore Trash Cans |

# HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

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

#### **Affordable housing creation**

Community District 16 faces a severe housing crisis, with 57% of residents classified as rent-burdened—meaning they pay over 30% of their income on housing. This rate is significantly higher than the citywide average. As a result, high housing costs force families to cut back on essentials such as food, healthcare, and other basic needs, putting their overall well-being at risk.

There is a notable shortage of decent, affordable housing for working families, seniors, and low-income residents in CD16. New construction is not keeping pace with the growing need, and many residents face displacement as rents continue to rise while incomes stagnate. The lack of affordable options threatens the stability of the community.

The RAD/PACT program converts public housing to Section 8, unlocking funds for much-needed repairs and upgrades. Citywide, over 36,000 NYCHA units have already been converted, with approximately 62,000 units planned for conversion. In CD16, developments such as Ocean Hill have received \$433 million for renovations, benefiting nearly 2,000 residents. However, residents need clear information and outreach about RAD/PACT, support navigating lease changes and tenant rights, and opportunities to participate in decision-making processes.

Tax lien sales put vulnerable homeowners at risk of foreclosure. Nearly 30,000 properties citywide face liens, with 40% located in Brooklyn. CD16 requires targeted outreach about payment plans and exemptions, as well as access to legal counseling to prevent displacement and help homeowners maintain stability.

Access to job training and placement is critical for economic stability in CD16. Programs such as Brooklyn Workforce Innovations and St. Nicks Alliance offer free training in fields like healthcare, construction, and technology. Residents need local recruitment and outreach, along with paid internships and apprenticeships for both youth and adults, to ensure meaningful workforce participation and upward mobility.

To address these challenges, CD16 needs more affordable housing and rent subsidies, expanded RAD/PACT education and protections, homeowner support to prevent tax lien foreclosures, and accessible workforce training and job placement opportunities.

Without bold investment and coordinated action, families in CD16 remain at risk of displacement and hardship. Housing stability, economic opportunity, and resident empowerment are essential for building a thriving community in 2025 and beyond.

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

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

Community District #16 needs ongoing education on the ULURP process and zoning regulations, especially with new term limits on board members and the potential loss of institutional knowledge.

#### **Needs for Housing**

The availability of quality housing in Community District #16 is continuing to diminish due to the age and condition of our public housing buildings and upgrades needed to keep these units available to low-income families. For residents not residing in public housing, the need for permanent affordable housing, not homeless shelters, continues to be a high priority for our community to meet the increasing needs of our senior citizens, families, and single adults with income that

ranges from fixed and/or minimum wage and above, but is not sufficient to afford other housing opportunities. There is a growing need for affordable housing for young adults whose income is below or above certain thresholds - not enough for market rate housing but too much for subsidized housing. The lack of availability of these units forces these young adults out of the community and away from their families. The price of a house is unaffordable for many of our residents. Even with government subsidies, many of our hardworking families find it difficult to attain the American dream of owning their own home because their income has not increased with the cost of living. Rental housing costs are also skyrocketing, thus making it difficult for families and single adults to maintain permanent housing within New York City or Community District #16. We need the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development to provide funding to build truly affordable housing on City-owned land inclusive of a distribution of units that can house our seniors, young adults and families at affordable income levels; and also to the greatest extent possible offer equitable features through mixed use spaces and facilities to replace neighborhood conveniences that have been lost due to the high costs of real estate and taxes, but are needed in order to sustain a good quality of life for residents. In addition, we need the city to continue providing assistance to residents who are interested in homeownership and/or need to make repairs to their homes to make the homes livable into the foreseeable future.

### **Needs for Economic Development**

Since the early 1970s, Ocean Hill-Brownsville has faced persistent disinvestment along its main commercial corridors—Pitkin Avenue, Mother Gaston Boulevard, Saratoga Avenue, Fulton Street, Rockaway Avenue, and Belmont Avenue. The effects of this disinvestment are most visible on Belmont Avenue, where, as recently as 2017, 41% of storefronts sat vacant, and many others were occupied by marginal, month-to-month tenants. This chronic vacancy has left local residents with limited access to healthy foods, clothing, furniture, dining options, and cultural enrichment activities—necessities for a thriving neighborhood.

In recent years, the City has taken steps to address these challenges. The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) have invested over \$150 million in Brownsville, targeting parks, streets, health initiatives, and affordable housing. These efforts include technical assistance and storefront improvements for businesses along Pitkin Avenue, aiming to revitalize the area and attract new investment. NYCEDC has also released requests for proposals for city-owned parcels in the East New York Industrial Business Zone, prioritizing projects that generate jobs and support the green economy. The \$9 million renovation of the East New York Industrial Building, which now houses several Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBEs) and has created over 30 new jobs, is a testament to the potential impact of such targeted investments.

The New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) has expanded its support for local entrepreneurs, certifying over 10,000 M/WBEs and committing to award \$25 billion in city contracts to these businesses by the end of Fiscal Year 2025. SBS also offers workforce placements, small business development programs, and outreach through initiatives like the Small Business Opportunity Fund, which provides loans up to \$250,000 at a fixed 4% interest rate to help local businesses grow.

Despite these efforts, Community District 16 continues to struggle with high unemployment and poverty rates. As of 2023, the poverty rate stood at 32.4%—more than double the citywide average—and the median household income was just \$41,322, about half the city median. While the national unemployment rate for 20–24-year-olds was 9.2% in August 2025, local rates remain much higher, especially among young people and males.

To achieve true neighborhood equity, it is essential for the City to expand job training and placement programs, including the Summer Youth Employment Program and Workforce1, and to concentrate resources on workforce development. Improvements to local schools and the incorporation of Career and Technical Education will also help ensure that young residents are

prepared for opportunities in the job market. By building on recent investments and focusing on comprehensive support for small businesses and workforce development, Ocean Hill-Brownsville can begin to reverse decades of disinvestment and create lasting economic opportunities for all residents.

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## HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                  |
|--------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| NYCHA  | 1 / 2    | Other capital budget request for NYCHA                 |
| NYCHA  | 2 / 2    | Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                |
|--------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HPD    | 1 / 3    | Other expense budget request for HPD                                 |
| HPD    | 2 / 3    | Other expense budget request for HPD                                 |
| HPD    | 3 / 3    | Other expense budget request for HPD                                 |
| NYCHA  | 1 / 1    | Other expense budget request for NYCHA                               |
| SBS    | 1 / 3    | Other workforce development requests                                 |
| SBS    | 2 / 3    | Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program |
| SBS    | 3 / 3    | Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program |

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

### Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

#### **Accessibility (ADA related compliance and infrastructure enhancements)**

Residents of Brooklyn Community District 16 have made it clear that transportation is a cornerstone of daily life and community well-being. Reliable, safe, and equitable mobility is essential for connecting people to jobs, schools, healthcare, and recreation. Survey responses highlight several pressing concerns that must be addressed to improve quality of life across the district.

The most urgent transportation issue is bus service. Riders consistently report long waits, overcrowded buses, and poor scheduling, with buses often arriving in bunches after extended gaps. These challenges disrupt commutes, limit access to opportunity, and erode trust in public transit. Alongside this, traffic congestion and parking operations emerged as major frustrations. Double-parked cars, construction projects, and school bus traffic clog residential streets, slowing transit and creating unsafe conditions. Weak enforcement around parking further compounds these problems, leaving residents feeling that daily mobility is unnecessarily difficult.

Equally important is the issue of ADA accessibility. Residents stressed that there are no handicap-accessible train stations in CB16, a barrier that prevents disabled residents, seniors, and families with strollers from fully participating in community life. While fewer respondents selected accessibility compared to bus service or congestion, its impact is profound and systemic. Without ADA-compliant infrastructure, improvements in transit frequency or traffic flow cannot benefit all residents equally. Accessibility is not simply about convenience — it is about equity, independence, and inclusion.

Taken together, these priorities reveal a community striving for mobility that works for everyone. Residents want buses that run on time, streets free of congestion, parking that is managed effectively, and transit systems that serve all people regardless of physical ability. Addressing these issues holistically will ensure that improvements in transportation uplift the entire district, creating a safer, more connected, and more inclusive community.

### Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

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

Community District 16 continues to face significant transportation and mobility challenges that impact the safety, accessibility, and quality of life for residents in ZIP codes 11212 and 11233. Potholes and roadway depressions frequently imperil traffic, causing vehicle damage and hazardous conditions. These issues often stem from underlying infrastructure problems that require joint inspection and timely repair by the Departments of Transportation (DOT) and Environmental Protection (DEP).

Street lighting throughout the district is inadequate, especially under elevated train lines along Broadway and Livonia Avenue and along major bus routes. Dimly lit streets contribute to an unsafe environment and may foster criminal activity. Upgrading the intensity and coverage of streetlights in these areas is essential for improving public safety.

Truck traffic is increasing, with 18-wheelers often using residential blocks instead of designated truck routes. This practice accelerates street deterioration and creates congestion. There is an urgent need for more designated truck route signage and stricter enforcement to protect residential streets.

With ongoing new housing construction, traffic volume is rising, further straining existing infrastructure. Many intersections lack sufficient traffic lights and stop signs, posing risks to pedestrians and drivers. It is imperative that DOT conduct a districtwide survey to identify and install new traffic signals and stop signs where needed.

CB16 urgently needs coordinated action from city agencies to address persistent potholes and depressions, upgrade street lighting, manage truck traffic, and improve traffic controls. These improvements are vital to ensure safe, accessible, and equitable mobility for all residents of 11212 and 11233.

### **Needs for Transit Services**

Community District 16 currently has no accessible subway stations for persons with physical disabilities. Key stations—including Halsey Street, Chauncey Street, and Rockaway Avenue on the IND line; Atlantic Avenue, Sutter Avenue, Livonia Avenue, and New Lots Avenue on the L line; and Sutter Avenue-Rutland Road, Saratoga Avenue, Rockaway Avenue, and Junius Street on the IRT 3-line—are not accessible due to their subterranean or elevated design. This lack of accessibility excludes physically challenged residents from reliable transit options.

We call upon the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) to:

- \* Fund and rehabilitate the bridge at Junius Street to enable seamless connections to Livonia Avenue station on the L line.
- \* Establish a free transfer between Junius Street (IRT 3) and Livonia Avenue (L), improving mobility for all riders.
- \* Rehabilitate New Lots Avenue station (L line) to include upgraded lighting for safety and visibility.
- \* Upgrade East New York Avenue station (LIRR) by installing cameras in the tunnel connecting stairwells to Atlantic Avenue service roads, and constructing a permanent ramp for wheelchair access to the westbound platform.

Additionally, the cleanliness and conditions of transit stations along the IRT #3 line require urgent attention. Train cars are outdated and need replacement. Elevated stations need anti-bird measures (such as spikes) to prevent nesting, and overgrown weeds at Livonia Avenue and Junius Avenue must be cleared to keep sidewalks accessible. The transit sub-station building at Livonia Avenue is unsightly; its grounds should be maintained and a mural installed to improve the neighborhood's appearance.

CB16 urgently needs comprehensive accessibility upgrades, improved station safety and cleanliness, and targeted infrastructure investments to ensure equitable, safe, and dignified transit for all residents—including those with physical disabilities.

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## TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                                     |
|--------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DOT    | 1 / 1    | Improve street lighting at Rockaway Avenue between Pitkin & Eastern Parkway               |
| NYCTA  | 1 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 2 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 4 / 13   | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure                         |
| NYCTA  | 5 / 13   | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure                         |
| NYCTA  | 6 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 7 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 8 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 9 / 13   | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 10 / 13  | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 11 / 13  | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| NYCTA  | 12 / 13  | Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure                         |
| NYCTA  | 13 / 13  | Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc. |
| DOT    | CS       | Resurface Mother Gaston Boulevard from Livonia Avenue to East New York Avenue             |
| DOT    | CS       | Resurface East New York Avenue                                                            |
| DOT    | CS       | Repair or provide new street lights                                                       |
| DOT    | CS       | Reconstruct streets                                                                       |
| DOT    | CS       | Renovate Veterans Triangle                                                                |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                            |
|--------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DOT    | 1 / 1    | Improve conditions of Bike Lanes installed throughout the CD#16. |
| NYCTA  | 1 / 1    | Maintain overgrown weeds and dirty conditions at subway stations |

# PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## Brooklyn Community Board 16

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

#### **Quality of parks and park facilities**

Recent NYC data highlights that parks, cultural, and community facilities are top priorities for residents of CB16. Persistent issues such as poor park conditions, limited accessibility, and underfunded programming pose significant barriers to equity. The most urgent challenge is ensuring these public resources are safe, accessible, and well-maintained, with programming tailored to youth, seniors, and families.

CB16 has fewer acres of parkland per resident than the citywide average, increasing demand on limited green space. Families in rent-burdened households rely heavily on parks and libraries as free public resources. Facilities such as Brownsville Recreation Center and Betsy Head Park are among the district's most heavily used, according to NYC Open Data.

NYC Parks inspection data shows that comfort stations, lighting, and playground equipment frequently fail to meet standards. Residents report unsafe conditions, including broken restrooms and inadequate lighting, which discourages park usage. Substantial capital investment is needed to address these recurring issues.

Parks are vital for exercise and stress relief in a district with high rates of diabetes, hypertension, and obesity. Limited access to safe recreation correlates with CB16's ranking among the top five NYC districts for premature mortality and diabetes hospitalizations, according to DOHMH.

DYCD-funded after-school programs serve thousands of youth annually, but recent funding cuts threaten arts, literacy, and civic engagement programming. Libraries face reduced hours and programming due to a \$16.2 million budget cut to Brooklyn Public Library in FY2025, impacting teen literacy and citizenship classes.

Facilities like Brownsville Heritage House and local arts programs foster cultural pride and civic engagement. Residents call for expanded investment in music, arts, and cultural programming to reflect Ocean Hill–Brownsville's diverse heritage.

Many CB16 schools, libraries, and recreation centers lack elevators or ADA-compliant infrastructure, according to the NYC School Construction Authority and Parks Department. Upgrades are essential to ensure inclusivity for seniors and residents with disabilities.

CB16 requires expanded park maintenance funding to repair comfort stations, lighting, and playgrounds. Facilities must be upgraded for ADA compliance to ensure equitable access for seniors and disabled residents. Youth programming in libraries and recreation centers must be protected and expanded to reduce truancy and justice involvement. Investment in cultural programming is needed to strengthen community identity and pride. Health and wellness initiatives should be integrated into parks and centers to combat chronic disease.

Betsy Head Park has consistently scored "Acceptable" (7–8/10) in inspections, though periodic litter and weed issues persist. It received \$27.8 million in upgrades including turf fields, a track, fitness equipment, pool, and Play Center. The park hosts basketball, baseball, track, pool, playground, skate park, and spray shower facilities, but ongoing maintenance and expanded programming remain necessary.

Brownsville Recreation Center on Linden Boulevard is under renovation, with the main gym and pool closed while the senior wing remains operational. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 10 PM, Saturday from 8 AM to midnight, and Sunday from 8 AM to 4 PM.

Programming includes after-school activities, a media lab, dance, rollerblading, and aquatics when available. The FY25 budget allocated \$160 million for a full rebuild. Program disruption due to renovation is a challenge, making continuity for youth and seniors critical.

Brownsville Playground has a condition score of 66/100 and received a \$608,000 investment. The indoor pool is closed, but playground and outdoor facilities remain open. Programming gaps include the absence of active volunteer groups and limited programming due to closures.

Other CB16 parks and playgrounds include Callahan-Kelly Playground, Carter G. Woodson Children's Park (repairs in progress), Nehemiah Park, Osborn Playground, Floyd Patterson Field, and more. Many lack detailed inspection data and are small playgrounds or fields with basic amenities. There is a need for targeted inspections, condition assessments, and community-use studies.

Recurring maintenance issues such as litter, weeds, and broken equipment must be addressed. Program continuity during major renovations should be ensured through alternative spaces or mobile services. Facility coverage should be expanded by gathering inspection and user data for smaller playgrounds. Funding must be aligned with usage, ensuring robust staffing for cleaning, safety checks, and community-engaged programming at high-demand sites.

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### Community District Needs Related to Parks, Cultural and Other Community Facilities

#### **Needs for Parks**

Community District #16 has 23 parks and playgrounds and 65 community facilities, including the Brownsville Recreation Center, 3 branches of the Brooklyn Public Library, Betsy Head Park and Pool (which is a New York City landmark built during the WPA era), and several other community facilities located throughout our 20 New York City Housing Authority developments. All of these parks, playgrounds, and community facilities serve residents of all ages on a daily basis and must comply with the American Disability Act and be properly maintained and upgraded regularly to ensure that the infrastructure and facilities continue to meet the needs of our residents into the foreseeable future. Our playground, parks, and community facilities provide the only source of recreation for many of our residents who are economically disadvantaged and lack the resources to travel outside of the community to recreation facilities. It is important that these open spaces and community facilities be maintained, upgraded and programmed to achieve neighborhood equity, and respect the cultural sensitivity of the community with regard to sports and other recreation activities that are in high demand in comparison to other communities across New York City with greater income and access. Our playground, parks and community facilities are used by hundreds of residents on a daily basis. They offer much needed recreation facilities for at-risk youths, low-income children and families; and in general improves the overall quality of life for residents which makes the Ocean Hill-Brownsville neighborhood more livable. Several of these parks and playgrounds are located adjacent to public schools and are used by students during school hours. According to research, green spaces, public parks, and recreation facilities have been strongly linked to reductions in crime and in particular reduction in juvenile delinquency. During the summer months, playground assistants are needed to provide structured activities in our playgrounds and parks. Community District #16 has 26 community gardens which are critically important to the historical narrative of the community and provide additional community and open space for residents, and most importantly fresh vegetables and fruits for our residents. Resources and support to maintain community gardens are equally important and much needed. To ensure that all facilities are properly maintained, and the greatest amount of community benefit can be derived, additional maintenance and recreation staff are needed in our playground, parks, and community facilities, especially in the Brownsville Recreation Center. We need signage and bag stations installed in parks throughout our district to assist with curbing dogs.

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

Brooklyn Community District 16 requires targeted investments to address pressing needs in parks, cultural facilities, libraries, and recreation centers. Residents consistently identify these public resources as essential to equity, health, and community pride, yet persistent gaps in funding, accessibility, and programming undermine their impact.

Expanded and inclusive cultural programming is critical to reflect Ocean Hill–Brownsville's diverse heritage. Facilities such as Brownsville Heritage House and local arts initiatives foster civic pride and engagement but lack the resources to broaden their reach. Protection and expansion of youth services must also be prioritized. DYCD-funded after-school programs serve thousands of young people, yet budget reductions threaten arts, literacy, and civic engagement programming. Libraries, already impacted by a \$16.2 million cut to Brooklyn Public Library in FY2025, have reduced hours and programming, directly affecting teen literacy and citizenship classes.

Accessibility and ADA compliance remain urgent priorities. Many schools, libraries, and recreation centers lack elevators and accessible infrastructure, limiting opportunities for seniors and residents with disabilities. Capital investment is required to ensure inclusivity across all facilities. Program continuity during renovations is equally important. Renovations at sites such as Brownsville Recreation Center disrupt youth and senior services, requiring funding for alternative spaces or mobile programming to maintain stability. Despite the announcement of improvements to this site, work has yet to commence.

The summer 2025 groundbreaking of the Brownsville Arts Center & Apartments (BACA) stands to bring additional opportunities in the district for creative expression and community. This project will seek to give an added space for art programs to perform and spur the districts economy.

Community-driven initiatives that reflect local culture and history must be strengthened with robust staffing for cleaning, safety checks, and civic engagement activities. High-demand sites require adequate resources to remain safe, welcoming, and responsive to resident needs. Integration of health and wellness programming into parks and centers is vital, given CB16's high rates of diabetes, hypertension, and obesity. Accessible wellness initiatives embedded in community facilities can help reduce chronic disease burdens. Finally, expanded funding for maintenance and facility upgrades is necessary to address persistent issues with comfort stations, lighting, and playgrounds, which undermine safe access and equitable use.

In summary, CB16's budget priorities are clear: expand and protect cultural and youth programming, ensure ADA compliance, maintain program continuity during renovations, strengthen community-driven initiatives, integrate health and wellness, and address ongoing maintenance needs. These investments are essential to promote equity, community pride, and improved health outcomes for all residents of Ocean Hill–Brownsville.

### **Needs for Library Services**

Brooklyn Community District 16 (Ocean Hill–Brownsville) is experiencing serious gaps in library services due to significant funding cuts—\$16.2 million in FY2025, or 13% of the Brooklyn Public Library's operating budget—which will directly impact local branches. The district's three libraries—Brownsville, Saratoga, and Stone Avenue—are essential for providing access to books, technology, and community programming, but are now facing renovations, reduced hours, and service reductions.

Brownsville Library is scheduled for a complete renovation and will close after November 21, 2025, with interim services provided through Stone Avenue Library and a Bookmobile. Saratoga Library continues to offer general circulation, children's programming, and literacy support, while Stone Avenue Library, known for its strong children's programming, will serve as a temporary hub but requires modernization.

Despite these challenges, library usage is surging citywide, with visits, program sessions, and new card applications up over 40%. In CB16, where schools struggle with attendance and college readiness, libraries are vital partners in youth education and workforce development. However, budget cuts have forced half of all branches to reduce operations to five days a week, resulting in significant reductions to teen programming, literacy classes, and citizenship classes.

To address these urgent needs, it is essential to restore funding to prevent further service reductions, expand hours and staffing to meet rising demand, protect literacy and citizenship programs for immigrant and low-income residents, invest in technology and ADA upgrades for equitable access, and strengthen outreach to seniors, youth, and families—especially in this underserved neighborhood—to foster community engagement and support.

### **Needs for Community Boards**

The CB 16 office, located at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, is currently under construction with a projected completion of Summer 2026. OMB should allocate funding so staffing can be increased from two to five employees.

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## PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                                      |
|--------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BPL    | 1 / 1    | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library                            |
| DPR    | 1 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 2 / 9    | Renovate playground and restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.                                 |
| DPR    | 3 / 9    | Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park                                   |
| DPR    | 4 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 5 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 6 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 7 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 8 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | 9 / 9    | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| BPL    | CS       | Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library                            |
| DPR    | CS       | Repair and restore the Brownsville Recreation Center to full operation.                    |
| DPR    | CS       | Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)         |
| DPR    | CS       | Renovate playground and restroom at Osborn Playground.                                     |
| DPR    | CS       | Renovate playground and restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.                                 |
| DPR    | CS       | Repair waterlines at Chester, Ocean Hill & Osborn Playground to make restrooms functional. |
| DPR    | CS       | Renovate restrooms at Chester & Osborn Playground to make restrooms functional.            |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                |
|--------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|
| DPR    | 1 / 1    | Forestry services, including street tree maintenance |

## 6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

*Note: Please see Section 7 for the full content of each request. Requests are prioritized by agency.*

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                         |
|--------|----------|-------------------------------|
| DCLA   | 1 / 1    | Mural                         |
| NYCTA  | 3 / 13   | Replace IRT 3-line trains     |
| DOHMH  | CS       | Rodent bating and remediation |
| OMB    | CS       | Increase CB16 Office Budget   |

### EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

| Agency | Priority | Title                                                                       |
|--------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DOHMH  | 5 / 5    | Increase services for expecting and new mothers for breastfeeding services. |

## 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

### CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 of 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library</b><br>Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library                                       | <b>BPL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Repointing and rehabilitation of the limestone are needed to prevent further deterioration of exterior of the Stone Avenue Library Branch which is also in need of a new roof and side entry steps. In addition, new windows and doors are also needed.                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Brooklyn Public Library supports this request and has identified these capital improvements as an unfunded need.</i>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>1 of 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Mural</b><br>Other capital request for DCLA                                                                                                                                  | <b>DCLA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Location: Livonia Avenue - Chester Street & Rockaway Ave<br>CREATE A MURAL ON LIVONIA BETWEEN CHESTER & ROCAWAY AVE                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. More information is required by DCLA to consider this request, specifically each request must be tied to one specific eligible cultural organization and mention a specific project. Please contact the DCLA public art unit for this request.</i>                                    |
| <b>1 of 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Improve street lighting at Rockaway Avenue between Pitkin &amp; Eastern Parkway</b><br>Repair or provide new street lights                                                   | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Location: Rockaway Avenue - Pitkin Avenue & Eastern Parkway<br>Install lighting on Rockaway Avenue between Pitkin Avenue & Eastern Parkway to increase safety and prevent falls. The locations are dark and create unsafe conditions for pedestrians.                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Agency Response: Agency does not support but can address the need alternatively. Going forward, please enter requests for lighting via 311 here: <a href="https://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-02491">https://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-02491</a> We have entered the request and will respond once we know more.</i> |
| <b>1 of 9</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</b><br>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <b>DPR</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Reconstruction of Floyd Paterson Field with synthetic turf for multi purpose use such as baseball, football, soccer, and cricket will improve the condition of the field and make it more conducive for recreational activities for all ages. We also request that lights be installed for night activities. |                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to Floyd Patterson Ballfields but do not have capital funding available.</i>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>2 of 9</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Renovate playground and restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.</b><br>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)                         | <b>DPR</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Renovate restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request to repair and improve the public restroom at Ocean Hill Playground but do not have capital funding available.</i>                                                                                                                                              |

**3 of 9 Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park****DPR**

Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park

Nehemiah Park and Floyd Paterson Field are located diagonally from each other. Construction of a comfort station at Nehemiah Park will service both Nehemiah Park and Floyd Paterson Field which are heavily used by residents of neighboring housing developments.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for a new public restroom at Nehemiah Park (we no longer refer to them as "comfort stations") but do not have capital funding available.*

**4 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

The basketball court and sitting area of Marion Hopkinson Playground is caving in and in need of reconstruction.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to Marion Hopkinson Playground but do not have capital funding available.*

**5 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Van Dyke Playground is used by hundreds of residents who live in Van Dyke Houses, a NYCHA development. The play equipment is in need of rehabilitation and a bathroom is requested.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to the play equipment and construction of a new public restroom at Van Dyke Playground but do not have capital funding available.*

**6 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Dr. Richard Green Playground is adjacent to a public school and several NYCHA buildings which is the only source of recreation for hundreds of children. The play equipment needs upgrading as well as the comfort station.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to the playground and public restroom at Dr. Green Playground (we no longer refer to them as "comfort stations") but do not have capital funding available.*

**7 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Rehabilitation of the play equipment and comfort station at South Pacific Playground, which is adjacent to Kingsboro Houses, will continue to provide much needed recreation for community residents.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to the play equipment and public restroom at South Pacific Playground (we no longer refer to them as "comfort stations") but do not have capital funding available.*

**8 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Livonia Park is adjacent to a senior citizen complex. New benches, checkers and chess tables and exercise equipment are needed.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have \$5 million of funding in place for improvements to Livonia Park and will be presenting the design for the site to the Community Board on January 8, 2026. We expect construction to begin in fall 2027. For more information, please visit: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker/project/10677>*

**9 of 9 Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

New and updated play equipment is needed at Fish Playground to provide recreation for children in the adjacent school as well as the community.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for improvements to Fish Playground but do not have capital funding available.*

**1 of 2 Other capital budget request for NYCHA****NYCHA**

Other capital budget request for NYCHA

Replace all sewer lines at Howard Houses. Because of its aging infrastructure, there is an increasingly need to replace sewer lines at Howard Houses to prevent further leaks and breaks in the system. The playground is also in need of a full renovation for residents of the complex. The basketball court at Langston Hughes Houses and Tilden Houses is also in need of a full renovation for residents of the complexes to include hoops, floors and benches.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYCHA understands the dire needs for the development. We will need additional funding from our partners in local government to address the needs of concern.*

**2 of 2 Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades****NYCHA**

Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades

Install security cameras, new entry doors and intercoms at Marcus Garvey Houses to help deter crime and enhance the quality of life for its residents.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYCHA will need additional funding to install cameras. We can conduct an assessment to see which areas need cameras and provide a cost estimate*

**1 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Rockaway Avenue station on the IND line is subterranean and is not ADA compliant. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk down the series of steps to access the subway system.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**2 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Sutter-Rutland Road station on the IRT line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**3 of 13 Replace IRT 3-line trains****NYCTA**

Other capital request for NYCTA

Replace IRT 3-line with new trains that are proposed. This line has not been upgraded in several years.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**4 of 13 Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure****NYCTA**

Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure

Install security cameras and upgrade lighting in the tunnel of the East New York station on the LIRR to improve security for riders. Paint or install other durable material; i.e., weatherproof tiles.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**5 of 13 Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure****NYCTA**

Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure

Rehabilitate pedestrian bridge connecting the IRT-3 at Junius Street and the L-line at Livonia Avenue to provide safe passage and connection to subway stations. Upgrade lights on the bridge to better illuminate the walkway.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**6 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Rockaway Avenue station on the IRT line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**7 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Chauncey Street station on the "J" line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**8 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The New Lots Avenue station on the "L" line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**9 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

Location: Livonia Avenue & Saratoga Avenue

The Saratoga Avenue station serves patients who seeking medical care at Brookdale Hospital on the IRT 3-line which is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**10 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Sutter Avenue station on the "L" line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**11 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Atlantic Avenue station on the "L" line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**12 of 13 Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure****NYCTA**

Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure

New Lots Avenue station on the L-line is dimly lit. Upgrade lights at the station to provide more illumination for commuters.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**13 of 13 Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.****NYCTA**

Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.

The Junius Street station on the IRT line is an elevated structure and is not handicap accessible. An elevator or escalator is needed to enable persons who cannot walk up the stairway to use the station. We're also requesting the construction of a passageway between the "Junius Street" station on the IRT-3 and the "Livonia Avenue" station on the IND-L to enable commuters to transfer between stations without descending to the street to re-enter the transit system.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**1 of 11    Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school

Location: Rockaway Avenue  
Upgrade student bathrooms, library and auditorium (curtains, sound system and air condition) and gymnasium to provide a safe and healthy environment for students and staff at Kappa V.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**2 of 11    Renovate or upgrade an elementary school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade an elementary school

The auditorium at P.S. 41 is dimly lit. Upgrading of the lighting will provide more illumination during performances and meetings.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. RESO A AUDITORIUM UPGRADE IN SCOPE.*

**3 of 11    Renovate or upgrade an elementary school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade an elementary school

Renovate cafeteria at P.S. 599. A complete renovation of the cafeteria is needed to provide better accommodations for the student body.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**4 of 11    Renovate or upgrade an elementary school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade an elementary school

The cafeteria and auditorium at P.S. 137 are in need of renovation to improve lighting and seating for the student body.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**5 of 11    Renovate interior building component****SCA**

Renovate interior building component

Renovate all school buildings in District #23 to make them ADA compliant.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. NYCPS is working on full accessibility upgrades to buildings K137 and K150*

**6 of 11    Renovate interior building component****SCA**

Renovate interior building component

K284 (The Gregory "Jocko" Jackson School of Sports, Arts, and Technology) has a swimming pool that is in substandard condition and cannot be used by students who want to learn how to swim. Restoring the pool can also provide after school programming for other community residents who desire to learn how to swim.,

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**7 of 11    Renovate interior building component****SCA**

Renovate interior building component

The cafeteria at P.S. 446 is also used as an auditorium and gymnasium. Padding is needed on the walls to prevent injury during gym.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**8 of 11 Renovate or upgrade an elementary school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade an elementary school

P.S. 178 is a very old structure and the entire building is in need of painting. All water fountains need to be replaced. The draining system in the kitchen needs repairing to enable water to drain properly. All radiators need protective covering to prevent students from getting burned when touching.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. DSF installed bottle fillers on all floors, not the first floor. Our skilled trades will expedite repair of drain in kitchen. All radiators where missing will be installed by DSF. SCA is currently performing an exterior mod & flood project. Scope of project includes painting of affected areas.*

**9 of 11 Renovate other site component****SCA**

Renovate other site component

Reconstruct the roof over the auditorium of P.S. 327 to prevent further damage when it rains.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. ROOF PROJECT IN PROCESS.*

**10 of 11 Renovate or upgrade an elementary school****SCA**

Renovate or upgrade an elementary school

Renovate Cafeteria and Auditorium at P.S. 155. A complete renovation is needed for the cafeteria and auditorium to provide better lighting and seating for the student body.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**11 of 11 Renovate PA system at Dr, Betty Shabazz School P.S. 298****SCA**

Renovate interior building component

Install new PA System at Dr. Betty Shabazz School P.S. 298.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.*

**CS Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library****BPL**

Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library

Renovation of the interior of the Saratoga Library Branch is needed to include the heating and cooling system and safety and security enhancements.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Brooklyn Public Library supports this request and has identified these capital improvements as an unfunded need.*

**CS Rodent bating and remediation****DOHMH**

Other capital request for DOHMH

Location: Livonia Avenue - E.98th Street & Van Sinderen  
RODENT BAITING AND CONTROL THROUGHOUT LOTS, TRAIN STATIONS,  
AREAS EXPERIENCING NO CLEANING AND HEAVY DUMPING.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH is happy to discuss ways to partner on reducing rodent populations, including hosting Rat Academies for property owners and proper garbage disposal*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Resurface Mother Gaston Boulevard from Livonia Avenue to East New York Avenue</b><br>Reconstruct streets | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location: Mother Gaston Boulevard - Livonia Avenue & East New York Avenue<br>DOT began resurfacing in 2024 along the eastern section of the district and has not continued street repairs since that time.                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                             | Agency Response: The agency does not understand the request as written and requires more clarification. Please provide specific locations for us to investigate.                                                                                                               |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Resurface East New York Avenue</b><br>Reconstruct streets                                                | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location: East New York Avenue - Mother Gaston Blvd & Junius Street - Mother Gaston Blvd & Junius Street<br>Resurface East New York Avenue between Mother Gaston Blvd and Junius Street. Years of continued construction has left East New York Avenue in disrepair.                                                                           |                                                                                                             | Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. This is part of a DDC capital project.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Repair or provide new street lights</b><br>Repair or provide new street lights                           | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location: Livonia Avenue - E.98th Street & Junius Street<br>The IRT 3-line runs along Livonia Avenue between Junius Street and East 98th Street. Additional lights are needed along Livonia Avenue to brighten the street and make it less conducive to criminal activities.                                                                   |                                                                                                             | Agency Response: Agency does not support but can address the need alternatively. This is not a budget request. This site was inspected recently and no additional lighting was determined to be needed but some minor repairs were made.                                       |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Reconstruct streets</b><br>Reconstruct streets                                                           | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location: Broadway - Saratoga Avenue & Saratoga Avenue<br>Broadway between Saratoga Avenue and Van Sinderen Avenue is a very busy commercial thoroughfare. It's been more that 40 years since this segment of Broadway has been reconstructed to remove hazardous roadway conditions. Agency needs to indicate a timeline and confirm funding. |                                                                                                             | Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. The agency supports this request but funding cannot be determined at this time. DOT has an unfunded capital project to reconstruct Broadway, remove the concrete roadway, and install pedestrian safety improvements. |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Renovate Veterans Triangle</b><br>Upgrade or create new plazas                                           | <b>DOT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location: New Lots Avenue - Mother Gaston Blvd & Hegeman Avenue<br>Renovate Veterans Triangle including upgrading light fixtures to improve safety. The triangle is used by area residents and MTA bus riders due to adjacent bus stop.                                                                                                        |                                                                                                             | Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. We inspected the lighting here and determined it is sufficient. Please reach out to the Parks Department for other changes/management of the public space here.                                               |

**CS      Repair and restore the Brownsville Recreation Center to full operation.****DPR**

Other requests for park, building, or access improvements

Funding was allocated to fix the BRC since 2023.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have \$160 million of funding in place for demolition of the old structure and construction of a brand new Brownsville Recreation Center. The project will be managed by the NYC Department of Design and Construction and we will be hosting a public program review meeting in the near future.*

**CS      Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Location: Livonia Avenue & Thomas S Boyland St.  
Rehabilitate Betsy Head Pool and Bath House. Due to many years of use, the swimming pool is in need of renovation as well as the bath house.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request for repairs and improvements to Betsy Head Pool and Bath House but do not have capital funding available.*

**CS      Renovate playground and restroom at Osborn Playground.****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Renovate playground and restroom at Osborn Playground.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have \$1.5 million of funding in place for improvements to the public restroom at Osborn Playground and expect construction to start in 2027. We have \$772,000 in place for installation of new of adult fitness equipment at Osborn Playground and expect construction to be completed in fall 2026. For more information, please visit: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker/project/10391> We support the request for improvements to other sections of the playground but do not have capital funding available.*

**CS      Renovate playground and restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.****DPR**

Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)

Renovate playground and restroom at Ocean Hill Playground.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. We support the request to repair and improve the public restroom at Ocean Hill Playground but do not have capital funding available.*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Repair waterlines at Chester, Ocean Hill &amp; Osborn Playground to make restrooms functional.</b><br>Other capital budget request for DPR                                    | <b>DPR</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Repair waterlines at Chester Playground to make restroom functional and re-open restrooms that have been inoperable for 3 years.                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have \$8 million of funding in place for improvements at Chester Playground and are doing our best to include repairs to the public restroom as part of the existing capital contract. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2026.</i> |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Renovate restrooms at Chester &amp; Osborn Playground to make restrooms functional.</b><br>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field) | <b>DPR</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Renovate restrooms at Chester Playground. As of Nov. 2025, the capital project is 5% completed since 2022. Bathrooms continue to remain inoperable.                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. We have \$8 million of funding in place for improvements at Chester Playground and are doing our best to include repairs to the public restroom as part of the existing capital contract. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2026.</i> |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Install cameras</b><br>Increase number of surveillance cameras for illegal dumping                                                                                            | <b>DSNY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Location: Junius Street - Livonia Avenue & New Lots Ave - Livonia Avenue & Junius Street<br>Junius Street, East New York Avenue, Broadway, New Lots Ave are always being dumped on.                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. The agency supports this request, but funding is not available at this time.</i>                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Increase CB16 Office Budget</b><br>Other capital request for OMB                                                                                                              | <b>OMB</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CB16 office cannot properly service one of the most impoverished districts in New York and the country if competitive salaries cannot be offered to recruit and maintain a competent and strong workforce to support our constituents |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. As of the FY 2027 Preliminary Budget, each Community Board's budget is being maintained.</i>                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>CS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Renovate interior building component</b><br>Renovate interior building component                                                                                              | <b>SCA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Renovate all bathrooms in schools in District #23 to provide a safe and healthy environment for students and staff.                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

## EXPENSE BUDGET REQUESTS

|                                                                                      |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 of 1</b>                                                                        | <b>Other expense budget request for ACS</b><br>Other expense budget request for ACS | <b>ACS</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| Expand early care and education programs provided by day care and headstart centers. |                                                                                     | <i>Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.</i> |

**1 of 2    Clean catch basins**

Clean catch basins

**DEP**

When litter and debris clog our catch basins, flooding and ponding occur during heavy rainfall at heavily trafficked locations which makes it difficult and unsafe for pedestrian crossing. Periodic cleaning of our catch basins is required.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**2 of 2    Rain gardens**

Inspect storm sewer on specific street segment and service, repair or replace as needed

**DEP**

Many rain gardens are overgrown and not maintained. DEP needs to collect and disclose when they are cleaned. Additional manpower is needed to clean the rain gardens more frequently.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**1 of 3    Increase transportation services capacity**

Increase transportation services capacity

**DFTA**

Many of our elderly and homebound residents live alone. Without this service, they would not be able to get to their medical appointments and shop for groceries.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYC Aging will need additional funding for this.*

**2 of 3    Enhance home care services**

Enhance home care services

**DFTA**

Many of our seniors live alone and are in need of assistance to perform activities of daily living in their home such as bathing, feeding, and or housekeeping.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. NYC Aging will need additional funding for this.*

**3 of 3    Increase home delivered meals capacity**

Increase home delivered meals capacity

**DFTA**

Many of our low-income elderly residents who live alone do not have sufficient income to shop for groceries and prepare daily nutritional meals. An expansion of the Meals-on-Wheels program will enable this population to eat more healthy and frequently.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. NYC Aging reviews HDM expenses every quarter and adjust budget accordingly.*

**1 of 1    Other educational programs requests**

Other educational programs requests

**DOE**

For various reasons, not every student is prepared to attend college. Therefore, they should have the option to learn a skilled trade while in high school that will equip them to compete in the job market. Career and Technical Education Programs will prepare our high school students for entry level employment in a specific occupation and is aligned with business/industry standards.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**1 of 5 Other programs to address public health issues requests****DOHMH**

Other programs to address public health issues requests

According to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the rate of preterm births in Community District #16, a key driver of infant death, is the second highest in the city. Maternal and infant health services are needed to promote healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and healthy infant growth and development. The long-term goal of maternal and infant health programs is to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH agrees maternal mortality among communities of color continues to be a public health concern and we are looking into ways of expanding services and education*

**2 of 5 Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment****DOHMH**

Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health needs and encourage treatment

Gun violence is very prevalent in our community. When gun violence ends a life, it also impacts the lives of survivors (families and friends) who struggle to cope with the loss of a loved one. In addition, COVID-19 has impacted the mental health of our residents. Preventive and treatment programs are needed for all ages.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH looks forward to discussing further ways we can partner with communities to address public health concerns including providing resources and materials for dissemination*

**3 of 5 Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.****DOHMH**

Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.

Expand services and programming to address Dementia and Alzheimer's.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH would like to discuss further and also suggest mental health first aid training and 988 resources*

**4 of 5 Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.****DOHMH**

Create or promote programs for education and awareness on preventing chronic diseases including quitting smoking, nutrition, physical activity, etc.

Cancer is one of the top 10 diseases that impact our community. We need education and resources for breast cancer, prostate cancer, throat cancer, stomach cancer, and colon cancer.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH agrees that cancer is one of the leading causes of shorter life expectancy rates in NYC, it is one of the drivers DOHMH is looking at with our HealthNYC initiative. We invite the public to take advantage of Health and Hospitals clinical services for cancer screenings and the NY State Department of Health's website for more comprehensive information on cancer including a database of cancer rates by type in geographic break downs.*

**5 of 5 Increase services for expecting and new mothers for breastfeeding services.****DOHMH**

Other expense request for DOHMH

Increase services for expecting and new mothers for breast feeding services, to educate and encourage breastfeeding.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DOHMH agrees maternal mortality among communities of color continues to be a public health concern and we are looking into ways of expanding services and education*

**1 of 1 Improve conditions of Bike Lanes installed throughout the CD#16.****DOT**

Other traffic improvement requests

Bike lane striping are fading, and safety-related installations such as vertical stakes are damaged or missing. Repairs are needed to ensure the function of bike lanes and safety of users.

*Agency Response: The agency does not understand the request as written and requires more clarification. Roadway markings and vertical element refurbishments are triggered by roadway resurfacing or specific requests. Please provide specific locations and we can investigate further.*

**1 of 1 Forestry services, including street tree maintenance****DPR**

Forestry services, including street tree maintenance

Street trees throughout the district are in need of pruning. Tree limbs are covering streetlights and creating a condition conducive to criminal activities.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Parks' block pruning program provides neighborhood-based, proactive tree maintenance by addressing a portion of the street trees in each CB every year. Parks inspects, then prunes all city-owned street trees above 4" in diameter on a routine 7-year cycle, which is an industry standard. The goals of block pruning are to reduce damage caused during storms, avoid blocking traffic signals, remove dead branches, improve tree health and structure, and encourage growth away from built infrastructure. If there are individual trees in need of pruning for public safety in between this cycle, we encourage anyone to submit a service request by locating the tree on the NYC Tree Map (and clicking on the "report a problem" tab), calling 311, or using our online tree service request system. Our inspectors will visit the tree and determine the appropriate action in accordance with our Tree Risk Management Program.*

**1 of 1 Restore Trash Cans****DSNY**

Provide more on-street trash cans and recycling containers

Restore trash cans to Marion Street & Rockway Avenue and Livonia Avenue and Chester Street. Additionally, ensure that cans are present in high traffic areas that contribute to road debris.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. DSNY will look into replacing any missing cans that were already in place. Funding for additional litter baskets above what was in place is currently not available.*

**1 of 1 Provide, expand, or enhance Cornerstone and Beacon programs (all ages, including young adults)**

**DYCD**

Provide, expand, or enhance Cornerstone and Beacon programs (all ages, including young adults)

Many of our impoverished families lack financial resources to provide structured activities for their children. We need continued funding of our Cornerstone and Beacon programs which provide a range of free educational, cultural and recreational resources to our children and youth.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. DYCD is funded to continue support of Beacon and Cornerstone community centers.*

**1 of 3 Other expense budget request for HPD**

**HPD**

Other expense budget request for HPD

Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households. The supply of decent affordable housing for extremely low and low income households is decreasing. As a result, many reside in substandard housing that impacts their health. Others are forced into homeless shelters.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. HPD finances and supports different types of projects. Many projects are 100% affordable, and a portion of those units are ELI/VLI. Some projects contain a majority of ELI/VLI units. While HPD is breaking affordable housing production records, there is more work to be done. HPD will continue to maximize the use of subsidy and Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) to projects in our development pipeline throughout the Five Boroughs, including those serving Very Low Income (VLI) and Extremely Low Income (ELI) populations.*

**2 of 3 Other expense budget request for HPD**

**HPD**

Other expense budget request for HPD

HPD - Provide more housing for medium income households. Maintaining permanent housing is becoming more difficult for low wage working individuals and families. Medium income housing will enable them to become less rent burden and remain in the community

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. Thank you for this request. We agree that your district need additional affordable housing. HPD will continue to use all tools available, including but not limited to subsidy, tax exemptions, and Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) to fund the construction of affordable housing from the development pipeline to maximize available resources.*

**3 of 3 Other expense budget request for HPD**

**HPD**

Other expense budget request for HPD

HPD - Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling building. Many of our multi family housing stock are in need of roof replacement, heating and electrical upgrades. Financing programs such as the Participation Loan Program and Multifamily Housing Rehabilitation Program are needed to facilitate the physical and financial sustainability and affordability of privately-owned multifamily buildings.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. HPD is constantly adding new rehabilitation and preservation projects to its development pipeline. Please do not hesitate to identify buildings that would benefit from such efforts.*

**1 of 1 Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing**

**HRA**

Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs/vouchers for permanent housing

According to the American Community Survey, about a third of families in Community District #16 are facing poverty. Many of these families are at risk of losing affordable housing for a variety of reasons, such as minimum wage jobs, temporary unemployed due to illness, and lost of job. Programs such as Homebase are needed to provide families with monetary assistance and resources to remain in permanent housing.

*Agency Response: This request has already been completed. Homebase and other similar programs are available for all qualified New Yorkers, including District 16. The Agency invites you to use the Homebase locator at <https://www.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/homebase-locations.page>*

**1 of 1 Other expense budget request for NYCHA**

**NYCHA**

Other expense budget request for NYCHA

Replace windows and appliances in apartments at Howard Houses to improve energy efficiency and living conditions for residents.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**1 of 1 Maintain overgrown weeds and dirty conditions at subway stations**

**NYCTA**

Improve subway station or train cleanliness, safety and maintenance

Regularly maintain overgrown weeds and dirty conditions at subway stations along the IRT #3/L-line Junius Street between New Lots Ave and Livonia Avenue.

*Agency Response: Agency does not support and cannot accommodate. PLEASE CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY AND PROMPTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.*

**1 of 2 Provide resources to train officers, e.g. in community policing**

**NYPD**

Other NYPD staff resources requests

Distribute new recruits to the 73rd for better coverage of Ocean Hill and Brownsville.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. 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.*

**2 of 2 Increase NYPD Staff and Agents to support quality of life issues in CD#16**

**NYPD**

Other NYPD staff resources requests

The district is experiencing a large number of abandoned cars that need to be identified and removed from our streets. Also, traffic near area schools cause congestion in early morning and afternoon hours. Traffic agents are needed to help mitigate traffic issues.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. 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.*

**1 of 3 Other workforce development requests****SBS**

Other workforce development requests

A comprehensive one stop small business center to include M/WBE programs and technical assistance to support local businesses and entrepreneurs is needed.

*Agency Response: Agency supports but cannot accommodate. Although SBS does not have additional funding for a new Business Solutions Center or its equivalent at this time, the agency can meet community needs through existing resources. SBS can do targeted outreach to promote small business resources in partnership with CB 16. We can also deploy our Mobile Outreach Unit. We encourage community boards interested in increased promotion of our services locally to contact us at [intergov@sbs.nyc.gov](mailto:intergov@sbs.nyc.gov).*

**2 of 3 Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program****SBS**

Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program

Location: Belmont Ave - Rockaway Ave & Rockaway Ave  
There are a number of vacant storefronts along the Belmont Avenue commercial corridors where property owners need financial support to renovate.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. SBS provides support for small businesses in need of financing assistance. Interested business-owners and community-based organizations should call the SBS Hotline for more information and to receive a referral to services at (888) SBS-4NYC. Interested business owners can also visit the "NYC Funds Finder" site, a platform for business owners seeking capital which they can visit at [nycfundsfinder.nextstreet.com](http://nycfundsfinder.nextstreet.com).*

**3 of 3 Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program****SBS**

Support development of local Storefront / Facade Improvement Program

Location: Pitkin Ave - Howard Ave & Howard Ave  
There are a number of stores along the Pitkin Avenue commercial corridor that need facade improvement and property owners are in need of financial assistance.

*Agency Response: Agency supports and can accommodate. SBS has resources to help guide business-owners pursuing storefront and facade improvements. Resources include best practices in storefront design such as *Storefront Improvements: A Guide for Neighborhood Commercial Districts* and *Top 10 Storefront Design Tips*. SBS also provides support for small businesses in need of financing assistance. Interested business owners can also visit the "NYC Funds Finder" site, a platform for business owners seeking capital which they can visit at [nycfundsfinder.nextstreet.com](http://nycfundsfinder.nextstreet.com). <https://nycfundsfinder.com/>*