

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

Fiscal Year
2020



**Brooklyn
Community District
8**

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NYC
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February 2019

INTRODUCTION

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

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report represents Brooklyn Community Board 8's *Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020*. 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 2018.

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

If you have questions about this report or suggestions for changes please contact:

CDNEEDS_DL@planning.nyc.gov

This report is broadly structured as follows:

a) Overarching Community District Needs

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

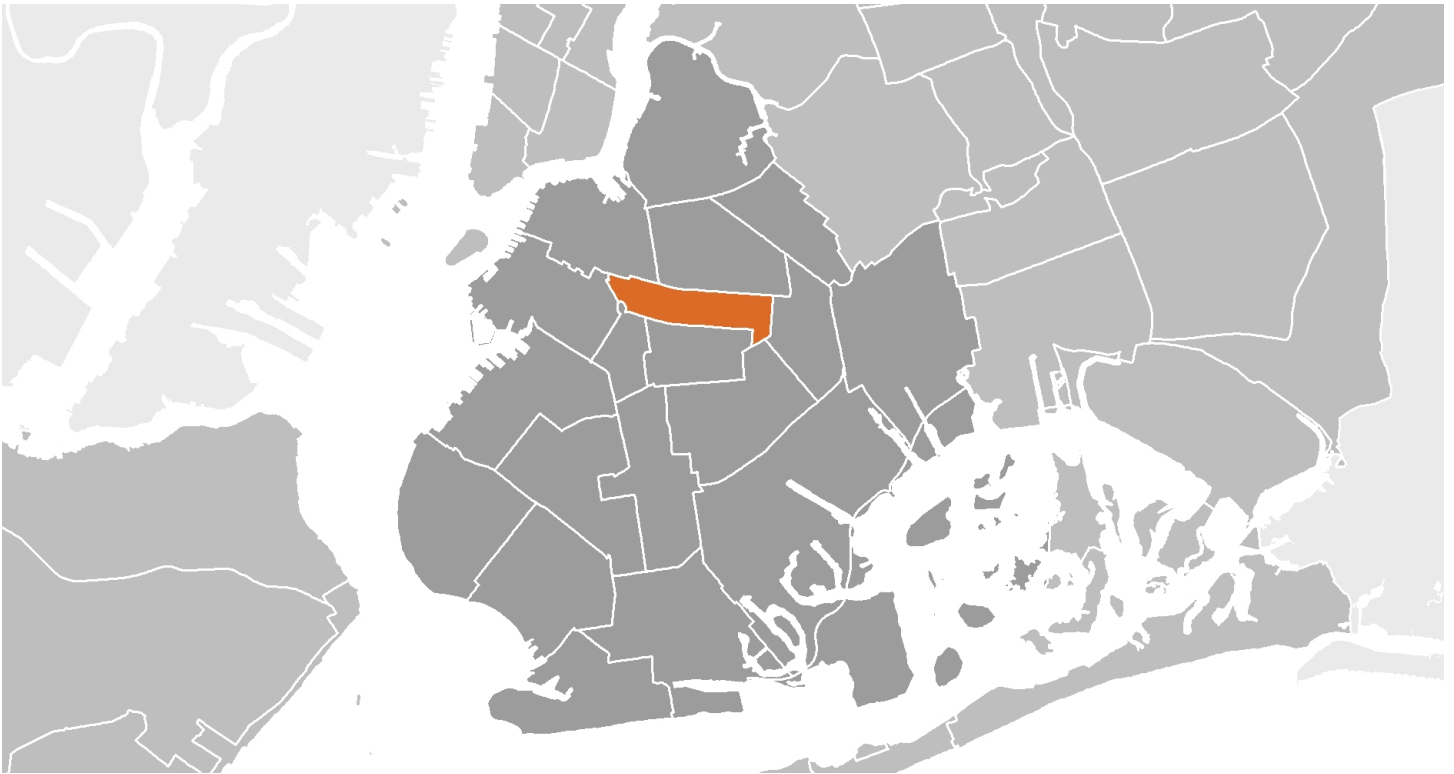
b) Policy Area - Specific District Needs

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

c) Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY20 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.

Brooklyn Community Board 8



Statements of Community District Needs

and

Community Board Budget Requests

for

Brooklyn Community District 8 Fiscal Year 2020

Published by the Department of City Planning
February 2019

Disclaimer

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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 8

Address: 1291 St. Marks Avenue,

Phone: 718-467-5574

Email: brooklyncb8@gmail.com

Website: www.brooklyncb8.org

Chair: Ms. Nizjoni Granville

District Manager: Michelle George

2. Community District Profile

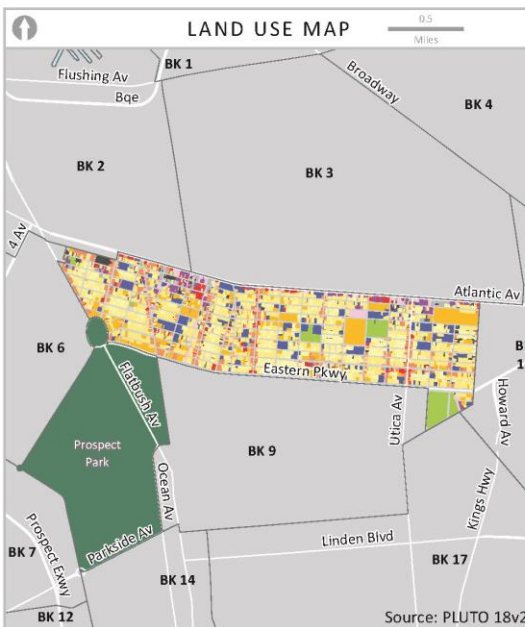
Visit the Community District Profiles to view data, maps, and other resources describing New York City's 59 community districts at: <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/>

Brooklyn Community District 8



Neighborhoods¹: Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, Weeksville

POPULATION & DENSITY		
2000 ²	2010 ³	2000-2010
96,076	96,317	0%
2012-2016 Estimate ⁴		127,627
Square Miles		1.6
Population Density		60,198/sq mi



COMMUNITY BOARD PERSPECTIVES

Top 3 pressing issues identified by Brooklyn Community Board 8 in 2018:

1. Affordable housing
2. Neighborhood preservation
3. Police-community relations

To learn more, please read Brooklyn CD 8's Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2020.

Website: www.brooklyncb8.org
Email: info@brooklyncb8.org

Land Use Category	# Lots	% Lot Area
1 & 2 Family Bldgs	2,732	19%
Multifamily Walk-up	3,149	32%
Multifamily Elevator	188	13%
Mixed Use	1,028	9%
Commercial	111	2%
Industrial	109	3%
Transportation/Utility	41	1%
Public/Institutional	212	10%
Open Space	15	5%
Parking	170	3%
Vacant	260	2%
Other	50	0%

Click here for a more detailed land use map of Brooklyn CD 8

A Snapshot of Key Community Indicators

COMMUNITY ASSETS ⁵	
Public Schools	42
Public Libraries	1
Hospitals and Clinics	12
Parks	8
Click to visit the NYC Facilities Explorer	

RENT BURDEN ^{4, 6}	
Brooklyn CD 8	44%
Brooklyn	46%
NYC	45%
of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent	

ACCESS TO PARKS ⁷	
Brooklyn CD 8	92%
Citywide Target	85%
of residents live within walking distance of a park or open space	

MEAN COMMUTE TO WORK ^{4, 8}	
Brooklyn CD 8	42 minutes
Brooklyn	42 minutes
NYC	40 minutes

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY ⁴	
Brooklyn CD 8	9%
Brooklyn	23%
NYC	23%
of residents 5 years or older have limited English proficiency	

CRIME RATE ⁹	
Brooklyn CD 8	12.1
Brooklyn	11.3
NYC	11.8
major felonies were reported per 1,000 residents in 2016	

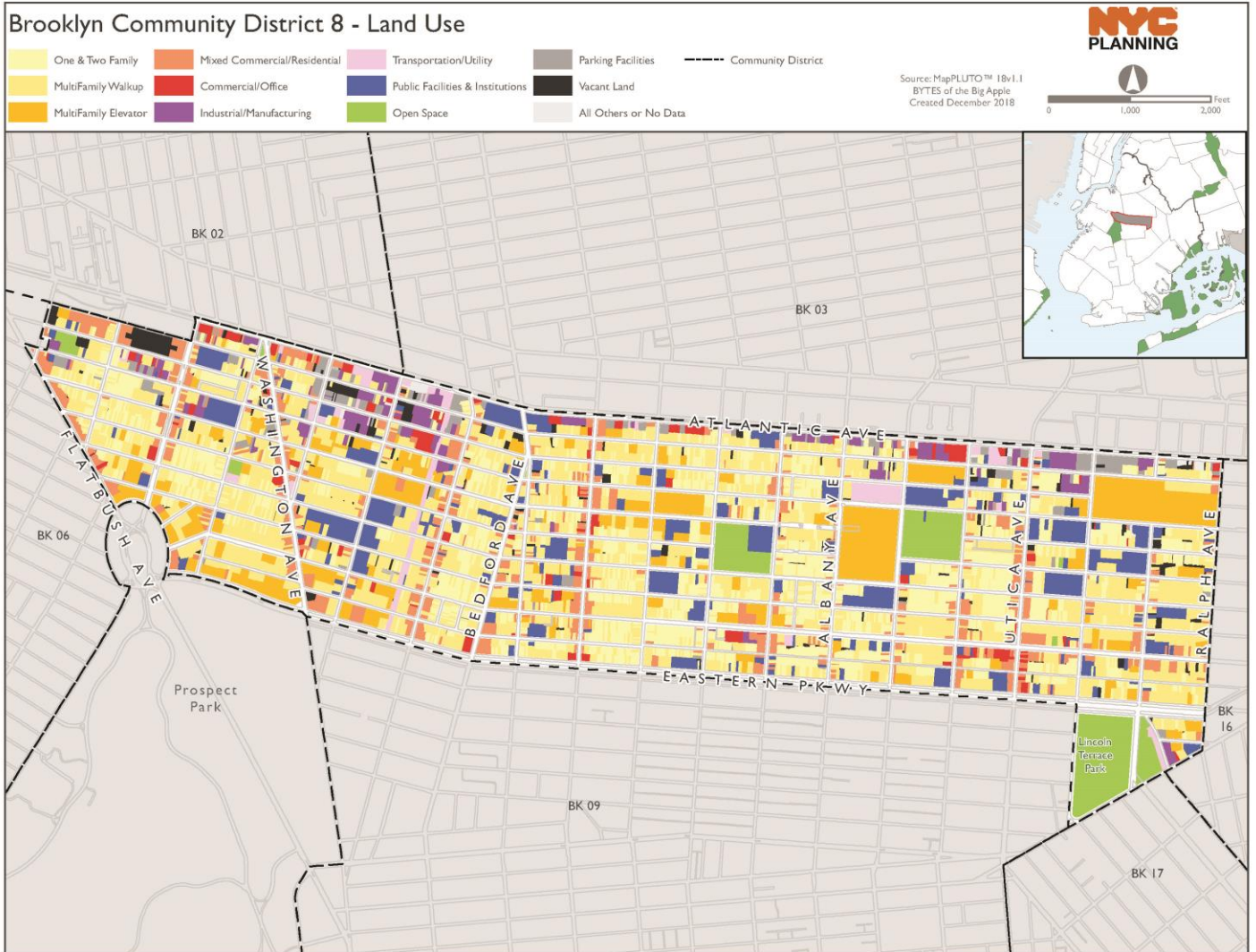
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ^{4, 10}	
Brooklyn CD 8	38%
Brooklyn	34%
NYC	36%
of residents 25 years or older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher	

UNEMPLOYMENT ^{4, 10}	
Brooklyn CD 8	5.7%
Brooklyn	5.7%
NYC	5.5%
of the civilian labor force was unemployed on average from 2012 to 2016	

NYCgov POVERTY MEASURE ¹¹	
Brooklyn CD 8	21%
Brooklyn	22%
NYC	20%
of residents have incomes below the NYCgov poverty threshold. See the federal poverty rate here.	

¹Neighborhoods may be in multiple districts. Names and boundaries are not officially designated. ²2000 US Census; ³2010 US Census; ⁴American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates, calculated for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs). PUMAs are geographic approximations of community districts. ⁵NYC Dept of City Planning Facilities Database (2017); ⁶Differences of less than 3 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ⁷NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (2016). DPR considers walking distance to be 1/4 mile for parks less than 6 acres, and 1/2 mile for larger parks and pools. ⁸Differences of less than 2 minutes are not statistically meaningful. ⁹NYPD CompStat, Historic Complaint Data (2017); ¹⁰Differences of less than 2 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. ¹¹2011-2015 NYCgov Poverty Measure by PUMA. This metric from the Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity accounts for NYC's high cost of housing, as well as other costs of living and anti-poverty benefits.

2. Community District Land Use



3. Overview of Community District

Community Board No. 8 encompasses the neighborhoods of Prospect Heights, North Crown Heights, and Weeksville. The community is bounded by Atlantic Avenue on the north, Ralph Avenue on the east, Eastern Parkway on the south, and Flatbush Avenue on the west.

District 8 has seen rapid, and at times, damaging changes to the community in the last few years. The cultural diversity that we were once renowned for is reverting to conflicts between the old and the new, as customs and ways of life are vastly misunderstood between populations. There has been an increase in mounting tensions between residents of different races, and it is very evident during conversations where "progressive" elements are discussed. Many of these changes are wrought by expansive gentrification and the addition of hundreds of units of luxury housing, that further serves to push out less economically advantaged individuals, thus leading the way for even more disparities between residents.

We remains one of the most populated according to land mass despite a small decrease in population according to latest findings and demographic publications by the NYC Dept. of City Planning. Our population is only growing as the Pacific Park (Atlantic Yards Project) buildings continue to open for residents. The radically changing population is creating and abundance of new challenges. Once an economically and culturally diverse community, conditions causing gentrification such as an increase in the construction of luxury condominiums, the construction of housing developments outside of the price range for long term residents despite their so-called "affordable" billing, rising rents due to increased property taxes in the historic districts, and oft-times just basic greed, is causing noticeable shifts in economic status, ethnic, and cultural make-up in the community. This in turn leads to increasingly taut tensions between longtime community residents and new residents, with the end result being a feeling of a "tale of two cities," where long time residents indicate a belief that "progressive" tactics are being completed and implemented only to satisfy the desires and whims of new residents, or a belief that key infrastructural changes that Community Board 8 has clamored for for year or even decades tend to only be addressed when new, Caucasian residents bring the issues to the City's attention. Additionally, many long term residents feel as though their needs are being flouted for the sake of the newer and more often wealthier and affluent Caucasian neighbors. Additionally, more and more new residents are illustrating an insensitivity to the culture of their neighbors and apply pressure on city agencies to suppress the expression of these cultural staples. There has been a marked increase in complaints against black-owned establishments that have existed in relative harmony in the community for decades, and some of these business owners believe that the complaints are being made only because they are black. Furthermore, to make matters worse, new infrastructure installments such as bike lanes and CitiBike docks are further alienating residents from each other and contributing to the divide. It is the goal of the District office of Community Board 8 to bring residents together on common issues and forge a bridge of understanding while attempting to stifle sentiments of entitlement that have a tendency to infuriate those that are less privileged and oft systemically oppressed.

Due to District 8 remaining at the pinnacle of "hot" destinations in Brooklyn, both residential and commercial gentrification continues to travel further eastward into the District. Commercial spaces face dramatic turnover rates because tenants are ill equipped to cover the excessive amount of rents commercial landlords charge for their properties. Commercial strips that have experienced a resurgence and revitalization in the last decade and a half like Flatbush, Vanderbilt, Washington, and Franklin Avenues, are seeing rapid turnover and also an increase in vacant storefront spaces. Competition for affordable commercial space is causing additional chasms to form between upper and lower tier businesses and creating an influx of businesses that require alternative money making strategies such as possession of a liquor license to meet the high overhead operating costs. Unfortunately, this causes unsustainable competition between businesses and contributes to the rapid commercial turnover. We currently have a minimum of 125 businesses that hold liquor licenses and each month, are faced with at least one business going out of business or being forced to sell because they cannot turn a profit. In fact, many long term businesses are shuttering their doors as they enter new lease agreements with property owners because of the astronomical increase in monies charged for the spaces they rent, or occasionally, because of unfounded complaints from residents that did not anticipate life next to a bar or restaurant when they rented their spaces.

Despite the many positives within the District, there are many blaring challenges that must be faced and overcome. Included in these challenges are the enormously high poverty rate amongst minority and foreign born residents; the

3. Overview of Community District

glaring unemployment rate of adult minority males; the alarming discomfort of residents with each other because of the perpetuation of negative stereotypes and an unwillingness to cooperate with each other; police insensitivity in some circumstances; the problems that occur with a booming nightlife scene; an alarmingly high decrease in truly affordable housing units available in the district, especially for seniors and low and middle-income residents; lack of quality medical services and hospital coverage; and uncertain public school options due to constant school closures and co-locations. These issues require special consideration and priority from government officials. Community Board No. 8 is committed to participating in the formulation of plans to address service delivery, housing, infrastructure and over all quality of life needs and concerns of the residents within the district.

The furnishing of requests detailed within will facilitate achievement of Community Board No. 8's goals for Fiscal Year 2019 and beyond.

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Brooklyn Community Board 8 are:

- *Affordable housing*
- *Neighborhood preservation (development trends)*
- *Police-community relations*

Preserving the character of our community from out of scale development projects is one of our greatest priorities. Historic designation of certain areas was designed to assist with this goal. Unfortunately, a Landmarks Preservation Commission performing in a manner that is antithetical to historic preservation does little to protect the historic areas, and we are seeing more and more conversions of single family homes into multiple condominiums with vertical and horizontal extensions, terraces, etc., all of which detract from the charm of other houses on the historic blocks. Also, historic designation for certain blocks does not protect the entire community from large scale luxury development designed for segments of the nation's population that is not native to New York City, and also not designed for the majority of those who have made Brooklyn their home. These developments serve to push out underprivileged populations from the community, thus clearing the way for a new population of economically advantaged individuals and a less heterogeneous population. Already, in certain communities, we see a dangerous homogeneous precedent being set, with few people of color in the developments. We maintain that development must be done in such a way that the neighborhoods are preserved and that truly affordable housing is maximized. Construction of luxury co-op buildings have helped to elevate rents not only across District 8 but the city as a whole. Currently, the affordable housing stock is diminishing at an alarming rate, with units being decommissioned from rent stabilization and with private units rising at one of the fastest paces throughout the city. While Mayor deBlasio's Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) zoning text amendment at first glance appears as though it should help create affordable housing, in actuality, it does very little in solving the affordable housing crisis and leads to a plethora of increasingly unaffordable rents in a decimated housing market. Parity amongst residents is dissipating just as quickly as rent stabilized units. We do not believe MIH goes far enough neither in protecting nor creating affordable housing at the rate it is needed. It needs to be heavily fortified and strengthened, and designed to actually serve the City and its residents rather than developers. We need our electeds to take a hard line stance against developers that are making our city unaffordable for its residents. It is unfortunate that the saying, "New York City is not for New Yorkers anymore" is becoming more and more true.

Permanent affordable housing for varying income levels beyond "upper middle class" remains one of our highest priorities. Both low and moderate income single individuals and families, seniors, and disabled alike, require additional resources for housing. This need is more prevalent in District 8 now more than ever due to gentrification. If an adequate number of additional units of affordable housing are unable to be constructed, existing property owners need to be given incentives to maintain affordable rent rates for their existing units. District 8 is one of the City's leaders in rent increases and lack of affordability. Fewer options for cash-strapped renters and owner greed is leading to an increase in landlord harassment of rent stabilized tenants and tenants in under market rate priced units. We must ensure that our residents are not victims of landlord harassment because they reside in rent controlled or stabilized apartments that keeps the rate collected at below what developers have set as market rate for that unit. Also, preferential rent rates are leading to housing uncertainty for tenants that believe they are safe from the housing crisis until their landlords exercise their preferential rent rate, hiking the monthly rate to more than the tenant can afford, thus leading to the unit vacancy increase and the artificial advancement of the unit toward legal destabilization. The lack of affordability and of housing options are leading to an increased rate of displacement and a high number of working homeless individuals and families. We encourage additional social service programs that help residents stay in their homes and prevent them from entering the shelter system and a transitory life.

That being said, public safety concerns are on the rise as the gentrifying population and existing population are occasionally at odds with one another over services provided. Because of the gentrifying nature of business development, we have seen an influx of bars and restaurants and all of the problems that come along with a vibrant night life scene. We often field resident complaints about loud establishments that are left unchecked by the local police department because their resources are too scarce to investigate all complaints. We also field complaints from black owned establishments of police interference and racially charged and motivated police actions against their

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

businesses. The Neighborhood Coordinating Officer Program (NCO) should help rectify some of the individual community complaints, but it will not resolve racially charged issues and police harassment of black owned establishments. It is our goal to help strike an accord between businesses and residents so that residents can enjoy their dwelling spaces while restaurants and bars are able to operate with minimal complaints. We are actively strategizing how best to assuage the feelings of racial bias that black owned businesses have toward the NYPD and some residents, and are working with our local police precincts to deter false complaints against establishments.



Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Services to reduce or prevent homelessness

Community Board No. 8 has a high resident displacement rate due to rising rents, rising property taxes due to historic designation, and a gentrifying neighborhood. More and more of our residents are struggling to pay their rent and meet other monthly expenses. Increases in owner costs, or perceived increases due to not as high profit margins, are being transferred to tenants. We also have a large number of individuals living in homeless shelters and transitory housing that need permanent abodes. If services and legislation are in place to reduce the rates at which rents are increased and tenants forcibly displaced, we can help stem the tide of the path to homelessness.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

Since the closure of St. Mary's Hospital over a decade ago, Community Board 8 has been under-served in terms of health care. We lack a hospital and trauma center, and residents are forced to travel out of the district for care. Despite a growing number of dialysis centers in the District, we still do not have enough centers to meet the demands of the community. There is a major healthcare crisis affecting the residents of Central Brooklyn due to budget cuts on various levels, and consequently, citywide, the healthcare system has been decimated with the number of hospitals closures, currently slated for closure, or recently saved but still struggling to provide adequate services. Hospitals strapped for cash are reducing services and the lack of equipment necessary to treat some patients leaves many without medical attention for so long that their ailments become worse and even more difficult to treat. Our community, in other words, is close to becoming a "medial desert." In addition, the number of clinics in our District continue to dwindle and the subsequent reduction in services causes longer waits for care or leaves residents no other option than to seek care outside of their home area and community. Furthermore, hospitals and healthcare centers in our area are poor performers, with not a single one in our catchment area scoring higher than a D rating in an independent study of hospital performance. This leads to the exacerbation of chronic ailments and also heightens the distrust toward the medical community.

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

A growing and oft neglected population, our senior population requires special services and care that should come automatically to a class of well-deserving citizens. We need to recognize and reward the efforts and hard work of our senior population by providing them the fundamental means of existing above the Federal poverty line, which unfortunately for many seniors living in New York City, is not a reality with rising medical and health insurance bills and increases rent and property tax burdens. As proponents of elderly care and in recognition of the special needs of the elderly in District 8, we appeal to a course of action that will make this goal possible. More services focused on improving the quality of life, residential opportunities, home-care and health-care need to be provided by City-operated and neighborhood based agencies. Services should focus on the forgotten population that earns too much to be eligible for Medicaid, and consequently do not qualify for Medicaid paid services as well as those that earn too much to qualify for low income senior housing opportunities. We acknowledge the City's efforts to increase eligibility for certain services such as SCRIE and DRIE and property tax breaks by raising the maximum yearly income. However, more needs to be done as to be eligible for the programs, seniors must still bear a large cost burden. SCRIE and DRIE should be available to every senior, not just those that are paying more than 30% of their income in rent. Factors such as taxes on income, healthcare insurance costs, medical and prescription copays, basic necessities, and the like need to be factored in as well. Finally, an emphasis on home-care will help reduce costly institutional care and the burdens placed upon kin that serve as caregivers, and will also provide additional freedom to relatively self-sufficient individuals. Services for non-institutionalized seniors should include innovative senior centers that instruct the seniors how to navigate the technological world, easily accessible and reliable transportation, truly affordable housing and housing security, prescription drug coverage and assistance, and other social and recreational activities.



Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Services for the Homeless

Many of the shelters in District 8 lack the adequate tools necessary to provide their residents with the resources to assist them with getting back on their feet and re-entering stable housing environments. These resources are not limited to financial assistance, and instead constitute a plethora of services that should be rendered, including but not limited to, financial planning, increased training for better employment opportunities, skills training for the unemployed, reintegration services for those recently released from prison, and any necessary mental health screening to ensure that the shelter recidivism rate is as low as possible. The lack of these services is a disservice to the men, women, and children that reside in these shelters and an even greater affront to the community that houses the shelter. Also, as more people strive to stay out of homeless shelters (the population that rely on friends and relatives for overnight housing) additional programs are needed to help them find affordable housing options. As the city becomes ever more expensive and affordable rental units available become fewer and fewer, it is imperative that the city increase the value of housing vouchers for clients that are voucher eligible so that they can find a unit. Housing lotteries have become more competitive and unfortunately for many in the shelter system, they fail to meet all necessary requirements in the initial screening process and are deemed ineligible and not considered for the unit.

Community District Needs Related to Services for Low-Income and Vulnerable New Yorkers

As more and more people become economically unstable, it is imperative that adequate services be available for them to make their financial statuses more secure. Education and training programs, housing assistance programs, and cash and food assistance programs are all needed to help the economically vulnerable get back on their feet. Additionally, since cash strapped homes can lead to rising tensions between partners, domestic violence prevention programs are needed to dispel anger and angst that might otherwise be taken out on domestic partners. Feelings of inadequacy can arise from people that feel as though they are failing in their attempts to be good parents, partners/spouses, caregivers, etc., and thus can contribute to substance abuse related issues as a means of escapism. Support in areas of social services must include addiction treatment options and counseling to help people understand that their perceived failures are not worth the risk of their health, well-being, and relationships. Programs designed to assist with coping with issues often outside of an individuals control must be provided and easily accessible. HRA/DSS must work with DOHMH to create these programs. Finally, our elderly must be looked after. They must be cared for and their safety from abuse and predatory behavior ensured. Services to help educate them on signs and symptoms of elder abuse and scams are needed.



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/48	DHS	Other request for services for the homeless	Incentives need to be provided to property owners and managing agents to accept the rental assistance vouchers provided to families when trying to move them to permanent housing. Presently, the stigma of homelessness makes people too hesitant to see past the circumstance and act in a humane fashion. It is unfortunate that greed gets in the way, but some form of incentive should be provided to convince property owners and landlords to do the right thing.	Community Wide
3/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs	As rent rates in District 8 continue to increase, more and more families and individuals are on the verge of homelessness. Programs should be expanded to help them avoid entering the shelter system and becoming statistics. Rental assistance programs are in dire need to help cover the gap between affordability and unaffordable. The financial value of housing vouchers should be increased to match the rental rates that are being charged for units.	Community Wide
6/48	DOHMH	Reduce rat populations	With the large number of development projects scattered throughout the District, and renovation projects ongoing in our historic districts, the number of rodent complaints has skyrocketed. While the city has always had a large rodent population, the "out of sight, out of mind" complex was strong. However, rodents are more visible today than at any other time in the last two decades. A greater number of inspectors and exterminators are needed to quickly address baiting concerns and identify rodent havens and burrows for treatment. Additionally, DOHMH should consider a policy change mandating that developers bait more than just the perimeter of their projects and instead bait a wider berth so that some of the strain of reducing rodent populations is removed from the Department's shoulders.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
11/48	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment	The stigma of admitting to having a mental illness is great, especially in immigrant and communities of color where sentiments such as "mental illness is not a disease you can afford to have," continue to be a plague. This stigma prevents those suffering from symptoms from seeking help. Programs such as THRIVE NYC are a great start, but the fear of being identified in the community as having an illness prevents many from seeking their services. More education on what mental illness versus what it is not is direly needed to help eliminate the negative stigma that is pervasive in many communities. An understanding of the different ways people can suffer from mental illness can go a long way in helping de-stigmatize the condition and also allow sufferers to seek help.	Community Wide
13/48	DOHMH	Promote vaccinations and immunizations	Unfortunately, erroneous reports not backed by factual data have frightened some parents into declining immunization for their children. This practice puts other children at risk and also has the potential to bring back diseases that could actually be avoided via immunization and education. Factual data regarding the link between immunizations and autism is very necessary to prevent parents from making an uninformed decision that could have major deleterious ramifications on not only their children, but the broader community, especially as their non-immunized children become school age. Education and immunization promotion services are needed to deflate and eliminate these "alternative facts" and erroneous reports not upheld by factual science.	Community Wide
20/48	HRA	Other domestic violence services requests	Funding should be provided for preventative services to educate women and men of all ages on the telltale signs of all forms of abuse physical, emotional, sexual, and psychological and how to exit a situation that could be potentially life threatening, not only for her- or himself, but for any children in the home as well. This will provide pre-emptive services and prevent further destruction of familial ties and bonds. Additionally, the necessary psychological counseling is urgently needed to ensure that past victims can prevent falling victim again in future relationships.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
22/48	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	As informational resources proceed further into the digital era, and fewer services are provided without the use of online tools, it is imperative that our seniors acquire the technical skills needed to navigate the world wide web to gain access to services. Too often, seniors do not possess the technical savvy to research their problems online or access the help available from online resources. Computer literacy programs and purchase assistance programs will help remedy this. Funding is imperative for services such as these, and computer training programs should be available in every senior center.	Community Wide
26/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance adult protective services	We must keep in mind that our elderly population is at risk for abuse from family members and home health aides seeking to take advantage of their frail emotional and physical states. Our elderly population is the most vulnerable and often forgotten. They require considerable attention to maintain their safety and well-being, thus preventing them from being subjected to unnecessary hardship, pain, and mental aggravation in the form of fear.	Community Wide
27/48	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.	District 8 is severely plagued by other health ailments including diabetes, heart disease, asthma, stroke, obesity, and many other conditions that require substantial medical care for those afflicted. The inability to afford healthy food options combined with the lack of healthy food options for residents on the eastern end of the district only compounds these problems. Lower income residents without excess expendable cash should have access to quality fresh food and be trained in healthy living without exceeding their budget. Programs stressing proper nutrition should be provided for families as a preventive measure to stem the development of diseases caused by poor dietary habits and lack of exercise.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
28/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance educational programs for adults	Financial education and planning is direly needed in less economically advantaged households. Due to the inevitability of having to stretch their finances even further than they are capable, it is imperative that residents have access to financial planning and budgeting information to learn how to properly plan their monthly spending. They must be educated on what is and is not a priority in order to avoid the inevitable if they are not careful: homelessness. People applying for one-shot deals to cover back rent should automatically be enrolled in such financial planning courses to obtain the tools to prevent them from needing these emergency services again.	Community Wide
33/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance job training	Not every person lacking job skills and basic training for resume creation and interview success tips lives within a NYCHA development or is eligible to receive cash assistance. Job training opportunities need to be expanded beyond those living in NYCHA housing and receiving cash assistance. These programs are needed to help the underachieving gain self-sufficiency and move away from a life living off of other people and potentially public assistance when they no longer have a support system.	Community Wide
35/48	DOHMH	Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services	While HIV transmission rates are down citywide, transmission of other non-HIV related diseases is on the rise, and in District 8, we rank in the top 10 in all categories of increased STD infection according to the latest Dept. of Health data. The fear of HIV has been lessened over time because of new drugs created to help prevent infection and drugs designed to help a person live longer. Adequate education should be provided regarding the use of prophylactics and engaging in safe sexual practices to prevent the unnecessary spread of the disease.	Community Wide
37/48	DFTA	Enhance programs for elder abuse victims	Too often, our elders are too ashamed or afraid to speak up for themselves, leading them to suffer continued abuse at the hands of caregivers or even strangers. We encourage DFTA to increase outreach efforts and initiate public service announcements to inform seniors of their options and services should they ever come face to face with elder abuse. We also advocate for increased public awareness programs to help people identify the signs and signals of elder abuse.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
38/48	DFTA	Increase transportation services capacity	The elderly have a difficult enough time traveling. Unreliable public transportation options are at times their only choice. An increase in senior transportation, whether via para transit or taxi vouchers, should be provided--especially for those that live alone and have minimal contact with the outside world.	Community Wide
43/48	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	As the number of dementia and Alzheimers disease cases grow in the community, additional funds to maintain/increase services are required. Asthma rates have increased due to harsh conditions within the community (i.e. massive construction projects, demolition, renovation efforts). Longer clinic hours need to be initiated for people that need emergency treatment but cannot afford a hospital emergency room visit.	Community Wide
44/48	DFTA	Enhance home care services	Homebound seniors should not have to live a life of unintentional isolation because they are self-sufficient enough to be able to live on their own still. Medicaid ineligible seniors should not be forced to pay exorbitant out of pocket costs for assistance in day to day needs. We encourage increasing home care services for homebound seniors to include not only basic care and assistance, but also for interactive conversation and companionship to prevent the ails of isolation.	Community Wide
48/48	HRA	Expand access to public health insurance such as Medicaid	With the federal government extracting every ounce of worth from the Affordable Care Act, now more than ever, individuals in need of health care must have a viable option for health care than the skeleton plans designed to undermine what the ACA was attempting to accomplish. Decreasing eligibility requirements to receive Medicaid, or even having a payment system to make more people Medicaid eligible would help bridge the gap between those with quality health insurance and those without. Costs of private markets are increasing drastically due to cuts in federal subsidies and fewer people are able to afford private insurance. Having Medicaid as an option would allow access to the preventative care many people need to prevent grave illnesses.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Other/Inclusionary programs designed to create an inclusive and positive environment for youth

Early intervention is the key to saving the future of our youth. It is well documented that inner-city children have a higher risk for crime, dropping out of school and other educational deficits, gang involvement, drug use, and incarceration. We urge funding for activities that target our youth, including but not limited to increased after school and out of school time programs, organized activities, and educational enrichment services. Children that are mentally stimulated and active have a lesser likelihood of getting into trouble. Also, we must not forget those youth that have already gotten caught up in the criminal justice system; they must be protected to prevent recidivism and a return to whatever actions caused their legal troubles in the first place. These youth need mentorship programs to provide positive role models that will help them see that anything is possible when one does the right thing and puts in the effort. Often, the ease of quick money and the feeling of power are what leads youth astray and down the wrong path. It should be our goal to eliminate the allure of quick money and power and prevent as many youth as possible from succumbing to the "from kindergarten to prison" mentality. Gang intervention is crucial as many youth, especially those in single parent households without the benefit of a strong and stable extended family, often seek alternative forms of "family" life and tend to be more prone to joining a gang in an attempt to obtain a family or sense of belonging. Youth should be encouraged to build stronger ties to their peers in constructive activities to create the positive atmosphere of unity rather than division. Unity is of utmost importance now more than ever, especially in today's divisive climate and with social media leading to more and more youth feeling disconnected and isolated due to bullying. Integrated activities are necessary to build tolerance and an understanding of differences. These things, we believe, will lead to an automatic reduction in gang activity, bullying, and social isolation. Programs that focus on inclusion rather than exclusion of others will help build bridges and create bonds of friendship among those that would otherwise feel as though they are alone. Early drug and alcohol usage is rampant in our community. Because of the idolization of certain drugs in urban music and by elders in the community, youth think it is "cool" and ok to dabble in drugs. The push to legalize marijuana makes it appear that using the psychotropic drug does not cause any harm. While natural cannabis might indeed be harmless, distributors are adding new substances to marijuana to create new flavors and elicit new emotions, and these concoctions can be extremely dangerous. Also, while marijuana may no longer be considered a "gateway drug," there are other drugs popularized by the media that are easily obtainable. We need to ensure that our youth are given the incentive to stay in school and stay off drugs, especially as hundreds of millions of dollars are being spent to battle the opioid epidemic. Combined with positive role models and mentorship, accessible after school programs, positive socializing programs, et al, we can create an environment where youth can be disinclined to dabble in underage drinking and drug use. Moreover, additional scrutiny should be placed on e-cigarettes, vapes, hookah, nicotine cigarettes, etc., as these are all too easily obtainable and are considered normal and acceptable means of obtaining a high.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

We urge the Dept. of Education to provide funds to upgrade the interior and exterior of our schools so that students will not be preoccupied or disheartened by dilapidated conditions, and also to create a curriculum that is conducive to structured learning and less frustration. We encourage smaller class sizes for all grades as they are necessary to give each student an equal and ample amount of individual attention and one-on-one interaction with their teacher. Our children deserve and require a well-rounded education that includes not only the fundamentals of math, language arts, and reading comprehension, but also science, social studies, and the arts. Revolving educational methods such as Traditional education versus Progressive versus the newly implemented Common Core are doing a disservice to our students. Common Core institutes methods and practices that parents are not familiar with and as a result, struggle to assist their children with their homework. Also, the focus on inane things such as "test prep" instead of actual material learning impedes students' progress. Students in NYC public schools, especially schools in less economically advantaged communities, are falling behind, and this is unacceptable. A focus on basic, practical education is necessary. Parents should not be highly enchanted with charter schools because they do not have faith their children would be as successful in a public school. The curriculum should focus on all disciplines--math, the arts, science, English/language arts, a foreign language from an early age, and social studies so that we are not educating a class of people that will



Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

grow up educationally stunted. Each area of instruction should be assimilated in the curriculum of New York City's schools as this would greatly enhance students' active desire to participate in their learning and instruction. We support academic enrichment through creative expression, including but not limited to literature, crafts, dance, music and fine arts. Incorporating all of these disciplines helps to stimulate and enhance brain and logical thinking development, which fosters a more profound learning process in all areas. Furthermore, a broadened curriculum for foreign languages should be implemented in public schools to enhance an appreciation of the various cultural mores and customs that students will encounter throughout life, including the workforce. If the DOE notices that a particular charter school's curriculum is creating more successful students, we encourage implementing elements of that curriculum into that of the DOE's. Also, a set disciplinary standard should be implemented city-wide so that teachers know precisely what mechanisms are in place for handling unruly children. Teachers are not "glorified babysitters" and should be given the requisite tools to be successful in their duties.

Community District Needs Related to Services for Children and Child Welfare

As the number of children in the foster care system rises, allowances must be made for resources for kinship care and foster parent training and recruitment services. Too many children are being forced into a system that cannot protect them or look after them properly. Oftentimes, the conditions in group homes where children are placed until they find foster homes, or rather, IF they find foster homes, are more dangerous than the situation they were removed from. To make matters worse, ACS officials often remove children from homes when there is no actual cause for removal. Parents in situations like this should have some sort of recourse. While we acknowledge that there exist heinous cases where there is no other means to protecting the child, it must be noted that not every perceived case of abuse is an actual case of abuse. More focus should be placed on educating parents how best to care for and discipline their children in a rapidly changing climate where corporal punishment is viewed as abuse and cause for a child to be taken out of the home. Efforts should be focused more on keeping children in the home except in those dire cases where there is strong evidence that abuse and neglect is rampant and little to no regard is given to the child's or children's well being. We must remember that poverty does not mean that a child is improperly cared for or not loved. A spanking does not equal abuse. Case workers with ACS need to be better trained on recognizing actual cases of abuse and removing those children at great risk rather than removing all children because of protocol. As it stands now, parents are given no authority in their homes and are not given an opportunity to rear their children properly as they are fearful of penalties and fearful of children and youth recognizing that they are granted more power and authority than the parent. This leads to negative behaviors and acting out in many cases for our youth and with severe residual ramifications for the youth. As the number of children presently in the foster care system greatly exceeds the number of homes available, increased efforts must be made to provide the proper mental health care to prevent children from further losing a sense of self-image, self-worth, and their identity. Efforts must be made to assure children that their lives have meaning despite a lack of parental and familial influences. Identity crises and issues of esteem can easily form when children are institutionalized and begin to question the necessity of their existence. Unnecessarily removing children from a home when there is no evidence of actual abuse or endangering a child and sending said children to live in an institutional setting has the potential to affect their self worth and view of themselves and set their life on a tangential course that is dangerous and life threatening. It is critical that both group and one-on-one therapy sessions be provided immediately after removing the child to prevent these crises of identity from arising. In addition, programs for youth who are aging out of the foster care system are needed. These programs assist in the critical adjustment and transition period for youth who are forced to live and survive on their own with minimal to no supervision just because they have reached a "legal" age. It must be remembered that age of maturity does not always correlate with age in years. In order to assure that these individuals are able to live successfully without resorting to crime, programs must be instituted to assist them with job training and placement, money management, higher learning, and the like.



Community District Needs Related to Youth and Community Services and Programs

Community building exercises should be practiced to validate the “It Takes A Village” approach to child rearing. Too often, young parents reject the advice of a dwindling population of older nurturers, thus leading to a burgeoning violent youth culture. Youth without strong role models in the home need to have access to role models from elsewhere, and neighbors are a great place to look. Adults need to assume their role as parents, guardians, and mentors to our youth. Basic socialization requires that informal authority figures be active social agents.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/15	SCA	Renovate or upgrade an elementary school	Provide a new PA system, new classroom doors, a new cafeteria floor, new curtains for the auditorium, and a new gymnasium floor. The current PA system does not reach the entire building, the doors do not close all the way so they cannot be locked, the tiles are buckling in the cafeteria, and the gym floor cannot be sanded again. These are the specific requests from the school. SCA last year stated that it unable to prioritize funding for these requests. However, in the wake of multiple school shootings and unnecessary student deaths, it is imperative that the PA system and properly functioning doors be provided. How will SCA explain student deaths because the doors were unable to close and lock and an announcement of an emergency situation unable to be made?	PS 243 1580 Dean Street
6/15	SCA	Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school	Provide new electrical system throughout the building, modernize/update the auditorium, provide new tables for the lunchroom, install new doors with locks, upgrade pipes/water system in the building. These requests were made by the school directly. Last year, SCA stated that funding for part is recommended. What part, and when will it be completed? In the wake of the massive amount of school shootings in recent months, it is imperative that every school be equipped with doors that are able to close and lock in a hurry as this can save lives. How will SCA explain the loss of life if a shooting occurs in a school and tens of children murdered simply because the door to their classroom could not lock?	PS 335 130 Rochester Avenue
CS	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	We thank the DOE and SCA to agree to create a designated District 13 middle school in the B15 building of the Atlantic Yards/Pacific Park Development. We look forward to the school's design and completion, and the great impact it will have on the parents of middle school students in Prospect Heights.	B15 building 37 Sixth Avenue



Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
19/48	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth	With the passage of Raise the Age legislation, many of our youth are now presented with an opportunity to receive services necessary for their continued community presence within their home communities. With ATS options, youth can receive the mental health services they need, training, mentoring, and counseling services to begin the process of properly integrating into the community to build social capital. Intervention programs are key to helping reduce the number of youth straying toward incarceration, and programs geared toward this end are necessary.	Community Wide
29/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance skills training and employment services for high school students at risk of dropping out	Early intervention is the key to saving the future of our youth. It is well documented that inner-city children have a higher risk for crime, dropping out of school and other educational deficits, gang involvement, drug use, and incarceration. We urge funding for activities that target at-risk youth. Funding for youth development and delinquency and prevention programs is necessary to serve our youth and quell the growing trend toward life-ruining activities.	Community Wide
31/48	DOE	Expand or improve nutritional programs, e.g., school meals	It is regrettably laughable that the DOE would state that it is committed to providing healthy food choices and maintaining high nutritional standards by offering delicious and attractive menu options, and that their nutritional standards always meet, and many times exceed, USDA Nutrition Standards for school meals. If that were the case, would students be served unappetizing and fattening meals that are moldy, unidentifiable meats, spoiled milk, expired and moldy juice, and foods that are so hyper processed, they cannot even pass as the substance they claim to be? Numerous news exposes based on the 2017 investigation of the DOE food program speak a different tune to what the DOE claims, and this lack of honesty within the agency is disheartening.	Community Wide
34/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	Primary school is an important time in our children's lives. It is in primary school that the foundation for education is laid. After school programs are effective tools in enhancing and enriching education as well as providing social skill building opportunities.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
36/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance street outreach services	A large portion of homeless youth belong to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non binary, non conforming, and queer (LGBTQ) population. They are often ostracized and shunned by their families and are forced to choose to either be comfortable with who they are or change/hide/pretend to be someone they are not simply to continue receiving familial support. In order to be true to themselves, they leave abusive situations and are forced to the streets. Efforts should be made to reach out to these youth to remove them from abusive situations and prevent them from becoming part of the growing homeless population.	Community Wide
45/48	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance primary prevention services to strengthen families	Families need certain tools to learn to get along. Intergenerational assistance is needed to help bridge the gaps between younger and older generations that, to be blunt, do not understand each other. Children these days have the mindset that a parent is supposed to be a friend, and because parents are afraid of legal repercussions for reprimanding their children the way they were, attitudes are often left unchecked, which can cause friction in the home. Children, parents, and extended family need to be educated on the modern family structure and what the new social "norm" is for family ties.	Community Wide



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Other/Opportunistic criminals, police-community relations, and public nuisances

While statistics indicate that crime is down precipitously in District 8 (primarily within the 77th Precinct, that actually led Brooklyn North in crime reduction for calendar year 2017), there are still many individuals that engage in "crimes of opportunity." As more people rely on delivery options for their needs rather than going to a brick and mortar store, delivery companies' policies of leaving unattended packages allow for opportunist criminals to increase their activity. Stolen packages are rarely reported to the police as the delivery company and merchandiser work together to resolve the issue with the consumer. Ergo, additional patrol officers are needed to dissuade these opportunist criminals from decimating the delivery industry. Reliance on the NCO program is not enough. District 8 is experiencing widespread and increasing tensions between new residents that do not understand the cultural nuances of older residents. The District office has seen an uptick in complaints against practices that are common in our District from residents that desire to impose their will on the entirety of the community and push out anything that does not conform to their standards. For instance, in our manufacturing zone, steel bands that were once allowed to practice in a number of the vacant lots in preparation of the West Indian Day Parade, are now either being disallowed to practice or severely restricted in their practice hours. Residents that recently purchased condominiums in the M1 zone on lots converted to residential use, have relied on the 77th Precinct to eliminate the practice of the bands, thus impeding their performance during the parade. It is necessary that officers from the 77th and 78th Precinct be instructed on how to assuage tensions between residents with competing interests and competing notions of what is and is not acceptable in the community. The needs of one group should never be sacrificed for the needs of another, but unfortunately, this trend is propagating at an accelerated rate. Finally, over the last decade and a half, once dreary commercial corridors have been revitalized and are experiencing an economic boom caused by the hospitality industry, and more specifically, bars and restaurants. However, with bars and restaurants, or any areas where access to alcohol, groups of people, and open spaces such as backyards and sidewalk cafes are involved, there are going to be noise complaints and other public nuisance issues such as public intoxication, public urination, rowdy crowds, etc. It is imperative that the 77th and 78th Precincts investigate noise complaints in a timely fashion. All precincts are equipped with noise readers and have the capacity to determine if sound decibel levels are above legal limits or not. Unfortunately, because officers are unresponsive to the complaints, these nuisances remain unchecked, thereby giving free license to insensitive proprietors that revel in the fact that they can operate without incentive to be neighborly. While we are certainly aware that there are individuals that will file false 311 complaints, we advocate for our precincts to actively investigate nuisance complaints and weed out those that are legitimate from the false ones so that proper action can be taken.

Community District Needs Related to Policing and Crime

While our police Comp Stat numbers reflect an overall decline in crime, residents will tell a different story: that crime is increasing or at the very least, remaining the same, especially in the eastern portion of the District. The eastern side of Community Board 8 is more heavily populated than the western and central portions because of NYCHA developments and large apartment buildings in addition to the private single to four family houses. While the Neighborhood Coordinating Officer (NCO) program appears to be achieving success, there is still a need for additional patrol in the area bounded by Troy Avenue and Ralph Avenue from Atlantic Avenue to Eastern Parkway. The blocks of Sterling and Park Places in this area are especially problematic. Consequently, additional police officers are needed for the 77th and 78th Precincts and PSA #2 to effectively monitor the community and NYCHA developments in our District and to put additional officers in these problem areas. It is troubling to hear that multiple sex trafficking rings were discovered in District 8. We need to monitor the situation closely to ensure that women, especially underage women, are protected from sexual predators. Our local precincts need to monitor constant traffic at locations and listen closely to resident complaints that houses are being used for nefarious purposes. We encourage the NYPD to work closely with the Kings County District Attorney's office to educate the public on the signs of sex trafficking so that the public can assist in identifying problem locations.



Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
10/15	NYPD	Add NYPD parking facilities	With the construction of Pacific Park around the 78th Precinct, there is a dearth of parking spaces available for officers of the precinct. The 77th Precinct also lacks adequate parking spaces and the result is officers angle parking on the sidewalk in front of private homes, double parking on residential streets, or disobeying alternate side parking rules. The city should look into purchasing vacant lots around the precincts to convert to parking lots for officers and reduce the propensity of officers often breaking the laws they are sworn to uphold.	Community Wide



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
15/48	NYPD	Increase resources for youth crime prevention programs	We advocate for the NYPD to do an analysis of youth crimes by precinct and fund programs in those areas with high rates of youth crime to help stem the increasing numbers of young people in youth detention centers.	Community Wide
18/48	NYPD	Increase resources for domestic violence prevention programs	Assaults against women and women-identified individuals have increased, especially in the wake of the current political climate. According to our CompStat records, reported rapes have steadily increased in District 8 as well. It is imperative that domestic violence prevention, education, and intervention services be provided across all groups (with special focus on teenagers and the LGBTQ population) and all avenues. Domestic abuse is not only physical; a focus on the deleterious effects of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and psychological torture from partners should be prioritized.	Community Wide
30/48	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	While we are aware that staffing levels are allocated based on graduating classes and Administrative processes, there is an inherent need for undercover officers to assist with the growing gang population on the eastern end of the District, and vice offices to address the increasing sex trafficking operations in CB8. Additionally, an increase in street drugs to compete with not as easily available prescription drugs, has led to more drug houses in our community. Undercovers are needed to infiltrate these rings and close these houses down, thus making the community safer for all. A great benefit of the closure of these drug houses is also the reduction of opioid drugs readily available to the seeking public.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Other/Cleanliness, trash collection, vermin control, noise nuisances from construction and nightlife scene

Environmental concerns affecting citizens include sewer capacity, ponding issues, noise pollution from construction and a vibrant nightlife scene, air quality, street cleanliness and corner basket collection, and vermin. All of these issues have an equal bearing on the CB 8 population and are top concerns for the District. For instance, vermin complaints, especially rodent complaints, have nearly quadrupled in the last year. Complaints are not just for one portion of the District anymore; they have become district wide. Other concerns are noise on our busiest commercial strips from bars and restaurants and widespread construction projects; ponding issues around catch basins that are either overburdened or clogged with litter; poor air quality due to massive construction projects throughout the district is of importance because of the high asthma rate; and finally, street cleanliness has lowered over the past fiscal year as the number of cleaners has been reduced and also because corner baskets are overflowing.

Community District Needs Related to Water, Sewers and Environmental Protection

Complaints of flooding in the basements of homes in the District are increasing as are ponding complaints around certain intersections and uneven roadways. The Right of Way Bioswale installation projects occurring throughout the city are designed to assist with runoff and flooding for sewers not equipped to handle the quantity of water running through the system. Unfortunately, these bioswales are neither well maintained nor adequate to handle the growing strain on our sewer. We hope that the city allocates funds to implement other methods to employ to assist with runoff and sewer capacity such as providing incentive for homeowners and developers to create green roofs or green areas in their yard spaces. Many residents prefer to concrete over their front and back yards in an effort to reduce the possibility of any vegetation attracting rodents. What is not understood is that all of this concrete is impermeable and increases the runoff to the sewer. We need to incentivize residents to have as much green space and vegetation on their property as possible to help absorb rain water, while providing a valuable environmental benefit. Unfortunately, this form does not allow us to specifically request funding for the maintenance of bioswales or funding for homeowners to create green roofs or gardens. However, to reiterate: we advocate for incentives for homeowners to create green roofs and as much vegetation on their property as possible to absorb rain water. We also advocate for increasing the size of tree pits to not only allow for root growth, but also to increase the amount of permeable surfaces in the city's concrete jungle.

Community District Needs Related to Sanitation Services

Sanitation issues continue to plague District 8. Whether it is overflowing corner baskets, high litter rates, illegal dumping, untimely trash pick up, or housing development garbage strewn about our streets--it all adds up to a district that looks, in the words of one of our former garage superintendents, "as though a trash bomb has exploded on our streets." While our scorecard reflects clean streets, this is only due to the efforts of BK8 putting additional cleaners on the streets to clean problem areas. Unfortunately, in the last fiscal year, the number of cleaners has reduced due to the paucity of alternative to sentencing individuals, and our scorecard is now reflecting the limited additional cleaning. Sanitation services are not as they used to be when section supervisors followed brooms and trucks to ensure that they were doing their duties properly and effectively. Due to not having the watchful eye of supervisors, some DOS personnel have gotten lackadaisical in their work. We get complaints of missed collections, bags that have broken open and the san-men and women not using the brooms and shovels on each truck to clean up the resulting mess. It is imperative that section supervisors be restored so that they can ensure proper service delivery and hold accountable the san-men and women that do not follow proper department policy and protocol. Also, section supervisors are crucial in ensuring that vehicle owners are abiding by the mandated Alternate Side Parking laws. They will be able to issue summonses to vehicles that have not moved for ASP, issue violations for improperly disposed of trash, unsightly storage of trash in front yards, etc. They provided an invaluable service and we need them back urgently.



Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
16/48	DSNY	Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws	Illegal dumping creates blight and makes it appear as though the community does not care about itself. As it stands, existing resources are not sufficient to stem this tide of community blight. Illegal dumping must be stopped and penalties strengthened for those that illegally dump waste. Because current laws target those that dump from vehicles, black market dumpers that use shopping carts and dump near corner baskets are often overlooked. These dumpers need to be penalized for their actions. It should not be acceptable for them or anyone else to dump on our streets and feel as though they can get away with it.	Community Wide
23/48	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	Provide enforcement for proper commercial trash receptacles for mixed-use buildings along primary and secondary corridors. Mixed-use buildings without trash storage receptacles for residential use cause an alarming rate of corner basket misuse. Residential tenants that have no location within their premises to place their garbage, are led to place their household trash in corner baskets, or, in instances when a corner basket is not present, simply leave their trash bags on the sidewalk in an area it does not belong. Proper enforcement of container/receptacle laws will help eliminate this cycle, and also potentially lead to a decrease in vermin along commercial corridors.	Community Wide
24/48	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	While we have been assured that our commercial strips receive 6 day a week basket collection, we constantly receive complaints of overflowing baskets that have not been collected and dumped in days. These complaints are usually from residents in and around the vicinity of Vanderbilt and Washington Avenues. We urge additional litter basket collection, the addition of extra baskets where necessary, and the monitoring of existing baskets to ensure that they are not being improperly used.	Community Wide
32/48	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Separate organic collection is useful in diminishing the amount of trash sent to landfills daily. We are highly disappointed that the City discontinued organics collection because it did not properly plan an effective strategy for collection. Organics collection can not only save the city millions of dollars a year, but can actually allow the city to profit from the collection. Organic waste can be broken down by biodigesters and the compost sold to other municipalities for their fertilizer needs. We urge the city to re-institute organics collection.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
39/48	DSNY	Other garbage collection and recycling requests	We advocate for containerized garbage collection for all of CB 8's NYCHA developments. This will help to eliminate maintenance workers putting garbage curbside immediately after the Dept. of Sanitation has collected it. As an immediate side effect, our streets will look much cleaner and people will take more pride in their community. For ParkRock, Weeksville Houses, and Kingsboro Houses.	Community Wide
40/48	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	It is imperative that Pooper Scooper laws be enforced and that signs alerting dog owners that it is their responsibility to clean up after their dogs are installed. AS A RESULT, WE ARE ASKING THAT FUNDING TO RE-INSTATE THE SIGNAGE UNIT BE PROVIDED. Furthermore, additional Sanitation Police Officers are also needed to issue summonses to dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs as canine waste has the potential to create health hazards for humans and other dogs. Dog owners must be held responsible for properly caring for their pets.	Community Wide



Main Issue Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Affordable housing preservation

Permanent affordable housing for underserved income levels remains one of our highest priorities. Extremely low, low, and middle income single individuals and families, seniors, and disabled alike, require additional resources for housing. This need is more prevalent in District 8 now more than ever due to gentrification and sharply rising rents. If additional units of affordable housing are unable to be constructed, existing property owners need to be given incentives to maintain affordable rent rates for their existing units. District 8 is one of the City's leaders in rent increases and lack of affordability, and it is quickly becoming one of the leaders in landlord harassment of rent stabilized and controlled tenants. Fewer options and owner greed is helping to push long term residents from their apartments. We must look out for those that are most in danger of losing their homes and becoming victims of landlord greed.

Community District Needs Related to Land Use

For years, CB 8 has petitioned the NYC Dept. of City Planning to re-zone portions of the District to prevent over-development and the decimation of a unique housing infrastructure. The Crown Heights West Rezoning Plan was enacted as a result of this petition. While it did provide some protections for the area studied, it did have unintended side effects such as higher than ordinary buildings on commercial strips. We are seeing more proposals for buildings 10 stories or higher, all of them taking advantage of loopholes in the plan. As a result, in an effort to maximize benefit from an under-utilized portion of our M1 zone, a sub committee of our then Housing (now Land Use) committee was formed to look at and create a proposal for the area bounded by Atlantic Avenue to the north, Bergen Street to the south, Grand Avenue to the west, and Franklin Avenue to the east. Unfortunately, because the innovative plan is not one that DCP has utilized in the past, we are experiencing push back on the proposal, with DCP preferring to impose their own plan that diminishes what our MCROWN proposal seeks to achieve: maximization of housing with 20% dedicated to affordable units, and maximization of jobs with mandatory commercial spaces in most development projects. We need land use proposals that will protect the little buildable land we have while maximizing community needs.



Community District Needs Related to Housing Needs and Programming

We urge the City to consider using derelict, fallow housing for affordable housing opportunities rather than attacking community gardens and taking away green space for small scale development projects. Property owners should be held accountable for their property and should know that if they refuse to take care of it, there is the possibility that they can lose it to address a grave need at truly affordable rates, not inflated rates that are grossly unaffordable. We believe that a proper accounting of vacant NYCHA units should be done, especially considering the dire need for affordable units. The units that are deemed uninhabitable because of various repair needs need to be fixed and made available for occupation as soon as possible. It is saddening that we have thousands of families living in temporary shelters when there are over 4,000 vacant NYCHA units that could be used for permanent housing if only they were habitable. Demolition by neglect is inhumane and immoral, and should be deterred by any means necessary. We need our local lawmakers to seriously consider the issue of arbitrary market rate rents that developers force on a community. The city needs to take a hard line stance on the amount of rent that can be charged to prevent displacement of residents. Following the federal guidelines for the Area Median Income is not feasible in a city with a high standard of living such as New York City. Competition is great for the few so-called affordable units that are available, and the families most in need are ineligible usually because of poor credit. With HUD proposing to increase the burden of responsibility to 35% of income, the strain on already struggling families is merely going to increase. Our elected officials need to step in and institute policy changes that address the glaring and blatant greed of developers that are decimating the housing market in New York City. We believe that the Mayor and City Council have the ability to enact legislation that can help reduce this financial burden by capping rent rates that developers can charge, especially when they enter certain underdeveloped or underprivileged communities. No one should be at risk of displacement, and consequently, our local government needs to do a better job of ensuring that no one faces this danger. Mandatory Inclusionary Housing, or MIH was enacted by the deBlasio administration in an effort to help create affordable housing in the city. Unfortunately, MIH is proving to be an epic failure as it does not go far enough or create nearly enough truly affordable units in the midst of the large quantities of overpriced luxury units. MIH should be revamped so that the city can maximize its benefits from tax reductions for developers. The current 20% of "affordable units" is laughable and is merely continuing the purge of people of color and less wealthy individuals from New York City.

Community District Needs Related to Economic Development

The revitalization of our commercial strips is one of our top priorities. We request that Small Business Services and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce continue to work with District 8 for the revitalization of Utica, Kingston, and Nostrand Avenues, each between Atlantic Avenue and Eastern Parkway. These under-developed strips have the same potential to be as vibrant as Flatbush, Vanderbilt, Washington, and Franklin Avenues. Also, we seek the assistance of SBS and the Chamber in helping reduce the number of vacant storefronts on otherwise vibrant strips because of rising commercial rent and landlord greed.



Capital Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/15	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Too many city dwellers are living well below the poverty line. As such, many families are forced to combine households in units that are way too small for the capacity they are designed for. Having additional low-income housing opportunities will help rectify this problem of apartment sharing and overcrowding.	Community Wide
2/15	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless	Seniors, the disabled, and the homeless are often left out of housing conversations. As vulnerable populations, they need to be watched carefully and catered to just as much as families. Many seniors and disabled individuals live on fixed incomes of minimal amounts, and are thus unable to afford the current housing market. This leads them to homelessness and homeless shelters. Housing needs to be created specifically for these populations to prevent the vicious cycle of people entering homeless shelters.	Community Wide
3/15	HPD	Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling buildings	Many small scale landlords desire to maintain their apartments but are unable to afford to afford the rising costs of doing so without raising rents to unaffordable levels. Loan programs to help them with rehabilitation projects are necessary to ensure that these landlords and property owners do not have liens levied against their properties because of code enforcement violations.	Community Wide
8/15	NYCHA	Increase energy efficiency and environmental performance of NYCHA developments	The Brownsville power grid is insufficient to support its service base. Con Ed has identified that NYCHA developments place most of the strain on the grid. An audit of energy efficiency and environmental performance should be conducted to ensure that NYCHA developments are running efficiently and using as little energy as possible to function effectively. The use of energy efficient bulbs in all units and common areas and the installation of solar panels on NYCHA buildings will aid tremendously in this effort and also reduce the electricity bill owed to Con Edison.	Community Wide
9/15	EDC	Build or expand affordable work or research lab spaces	A Food & Drink Small-scale Manufacturing, Package and Bottling Incubator space is needed in CB8. A number of locations in our manufacturing district (M1) can potentially serve as the venue for small-scale manufacturing in local food and drink besides Sunset Park and the Brooklyn Navy Yard.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/48	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	As the affordable housing market continues to be stressed by man-made conditions, more financial rental assistance services are needed to assist tenants with maintaining their housing independence.	Community Wide
4/48	HPD	Expand tenant protection programs	More and more landlords are resorting to illegal tactics to evict tenants from their homes or make conditions so bad that residents elect to leave their homes, thus allowing them to raise rents. Tenant education services and legal services to inform tenants of their rights are in high demand.	Community Wide
7/48	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	CB8 has an abundance of restaurants and bars which would benefit from trained staff that live in the community. Comptroller Stringer has released information stating that the number of bars and restaurants has increased more than 500% in CB 8 between 2000 and 2015. Necessary training services for the hospitality industry is necessary to allow the movement of employees from low-paying introductory jobs to the higher paying "front of the house" and managerial positions.	Community Wide
8/48	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	CB 8 is a growing community and an attractive spot for filming, culinary arts, and even fashion designers. Many of our residents have interests in, or untapped potential, to fill openings in many of these areas and thrive. Training programs geared toward helping our residents of all ages engage their interests and skills is essential. The creation of a Culinary Arts Program and Culinary Education and Training Facility Space situated in Community District 8 boundaries would address the need and interest for these skills by these businesses and our hospitality industry. Additionally, training programs geared toward different positions in film and theater production is crucial for increasing diversity in the industry.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
9/48	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	As more and more landlords are allowing currently occupied rent controlled and rent stabilized apartments to drift into the ranks of uninhabitability to push out long term tenants, this allows them to then renovate recently vacated apartments to collect higher rents. We need to ensure that enforcement agents use their full power to encourage landlords to make repairs for long term tenants rather than just focusing on improving the habitability for higher rent paying tenants. If landlords are unwilling to make necessary repairs, we urge the City to do so for them and bill them for the repairs, with the threat of vacating their ownership of the property should they not reimburse and pay hefty fines. This in turn will deter illegal tactics to get rid of low rent paying tenants.	Community Wide
10/48	DOB	Address illegal conversions and uses of buildings	More and more small property owners (owners of two to four family houses) are beginning to divide what are supposed to be single units into two to three apartments. We need to ensure that they have the proper permits to do this so that conversions are properly done and up to city code.	Community Wide
14/48	SBS	Provide commercial lease support for business owners	With the current climate of capitalism focused on profit maximization, many of our commercial tenants are suffering from what is now being referred to as "commercial gentrification." Property owners with commercial spaces are often raising rents on commercial properties at lease renewal by astronomical amounts, usually tripling or quadrupling the previous rent rate. The majority of our businesses cannot survive these increases and are forced to close, thus leading to high turnover and vacancy rates. Lease negotiation support for commercial tenants is necessary to assist them in overcoming the greed barrier to remain in their spaces and continue the trend of economic growth in CB 8.	Community Wide
25/48	DCP	Other zoning and land use requests	Study the rezoning of the manufacturing district bounded by Grand and Franklin Avenues between Atlantic Avenue and Bergen Street (blocks 1125, 1126, 1133, 1134, 1141, and 1142), as well as the south side of Atlantic Avenue between Grand and Vanderbilt Avenues (blocks 1122 and 1124) for mixed residential and manufacturing use according to Community Board 8s M-CROWN proposal as amended and submitted to the Department of City Planning.	Community Wide



Expense Requests Related to Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
46/48	NYCHA	Improve public housing maintenance and cleanliness	All NYCHA developments should be equipped with containers for garbage storage since maintenance staff currently places garbage curbside multiple times per day. This leads to curbs of NYCHA developments always having garbage outside, which is unsightly and unsanitary. Containerized collection will provide a place to house garbage until pickup day.	Community Wide



Transportation

Main Issue Related to Transportation

Traffic safety

Over the last few years, District 8 has had several traffic calming studies performed that have proven to be an effective tool in slowing vehicular traffic, thus making our district safer for its residents. However, these calming measures have led to traffic back-ups on key strips and at many high-traffic intersections. These blockages cause irritation in drivers, and sometimes makes them drive erratically or recklessly, thus reducing the safety effects of the calming measures. Also, the addition of bike lanes in a community that has its fair share already, is beginning to cause friction between residents. Recently, double parking courtesies issued during Alternate Side Parking were rescinded on blocks with newly installed bike lanes, creating cantankerous attitudes often levied toward District office staff. It is imperative that when DOT looks to install bike lanes and brings their proposal to a Community Board, that the agency takes into consideration the long term effects the bike lanes will have on residents. These effects are not just limited to revocation of double parking courtesies, but also the slowing down of traffic, new threats posed to pedestrians, and the like. Additionally, residents have requested a courtesy of being allowed to double park in the bike lane during ASP hours without fears of getting a ticket to reduce the possibility of traffic being blocked if a vehicle does not move from the curb and double parked cars are parked in the travel lane to keep the bike lane free.

Community District Needs Related to Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

Equitable treatment toward pedestrians, bikers, and vehicle owners is needed. Currently, DOT's and the Mayoral administration's focus is primarily on bikers and pedestrians, thus restricting driver movement ever further. Parking is being reduced, streets closed to create pedestrian plazas (PP) (which in turn cause residual traffic backups that were not adequately vetted prior to the implementation of the PP), shared bike lanes installed on extremely narrow streets (which cannot possibly be safe for bikers), and travel lanes being removed from already crowded roadways. The composite effect of this is driver angst, which serves to derail all that Vision Zero is attempting to do. Whereas we do believe our streets need additional calming measures to make them safer, we advocate for equitable measures. Out of the box thinking is necessary if the city truly intends to curb accidents. For instance, all way crossings at intersections should be implemented in some of the more heavily used areas to allow pedestrians time and space to cross the street without fear of moving vehicles. Also, bikers need to be held accountable for reckless biking. While the city and Transportation Alternatives is quick to throw out doctored numbers supporting their claims of vehicles causing pedestrian and biker injuries, these same statistics should be produced for bikers causing pedestrian injuries and also for bikers that are responsible for collisions with vehicles because of illegal tactics they were employing while riding. Equality is not a four letter word.

Community District Needs Related to Transit Services

Many seniors and people with disabilities rely on bus service to travel. It becomes disheartening knowing that some people prefer to remain home rather than attempt to rely upon unreliable bus service in District 8. We request better service along our bus lines, especially during non peak hours and weekends.

Capital Requests Related to Transportation

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
11/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	The Franklin Avenue Shuttle line is in dire need of repainting. Efforts should be made to ensure that the shuttle line is held to the same quality standards as other major transit stations.	Park Place stop

**Transportation****Expense Requests Related to Transportation**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
21/48	NYCTA	Provide a new bus service or Select Bus Service	Re-instate the B 71 bus line. This line was an integral part of accessing the cultural icons of the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Grand Army Plaza Library, and Prospect Park.	Community Wide



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Park care and maintenance

Our parks, cultural institutions, and libraries provide invaluable resources, education and entertainment to our residents. They should be maintained in a manner that will allow them to continue providing pleasure and enjoyment to their users and visitors. That being said, it is unfortunate that many of our parks and playgrounds are neglected in terms of trash pickup, maintenance, and even security. The District office receives at least one complaint a week about illegal activity in a park or playground, in addition to multiple complaints of garbage strewn parks and overflowing trash cans on Parks property. We understand that the Parks Department has limited resources and are unable to clean parks daily and also to provide PEP officers at every park and playground, but more needs to be done to keep our parks and playgrounds cleaner and safer. We encourage a rotation of PEP officers to patrol our parks and playgrounds just to inform people that their activity is monitored. While this will not entirely stop illegal activity, we believe it will help dispel some of it as people will think twice before engaging in activity that can lead to potential fines. It is time that the city restores Parks' budget so that the department can provide adequate services to the community and we at CB 8 can stop making excuses for the lack of services. Additionally, many of the street trees in District 8 are in terrible shape. Many are dying and/or have dead limbs, a good number are in need of pruning and care, and newly planted trees are not properly maintained and consequently die young. In addition to newly planted trees not being properly cared for by contractors, in some circumstances, trees not suitable for the soil or climate are planted, and do not thrive, raising residents' ire and dissatisfaction with service delivery.

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

The need for safe and well-maintained parks and playgrounds are essential for the children in District 8. A regular maintenance program with adequate manpower is crucial. Currently, maintenance staff needs to be increased for all of our Parks and Playgrounds, malls along Eastern Parkway, and the St. John's Recreation Center. Additional Playground Associates, Park Enforcement Officers, and other personnel are required to keep children at play free from harassment and dangerous elements that lurk in unguarded areas. It has been proven that with personnel in our parks, they are cleaner and safer for those that utilize them. Also, while we are aware that the response to each of our Capital requests will be, "The Department supports this request but does not have funds to accommodate the request. Please contact your local elected officials," we will maintain our Capital requests in the hopes that the City Council and Mayor will notice the trend in Community Board requests and increase the budget for the Parks Department.

Community District Needs Related to Cultural and other Community Facilities and Programming

We urge the City to continue its financial support for the renovation of our cultural institutions. The Brooklyn Children's Museum (BCM) is one of New York City's unique educational and cultural treasures. Since its inception in 1899, it has been recognized for educational excellence and innovation and has had strong local and national impact while attendance continues to grow. Funding is required to complete necessary repairs and upgrades, and is also needed to maintain operating hours for the museum and staff levels at a livable wage. Weeksville Heritage Center (WHC) is another cultural jewel in District 8. The newly completed educational center and office space should further enhance the eastern end of the District. WHC is a multi-dimensional museum dedicated to preserving the history of the 19th century African American community of Weeksville, Brooklyn. Using a contemporary lens, the center activates this unique history through the presentation of innovative, vanguard and experimental programs. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding dedicated to WHC to keep it open for enough hours to provide potential visitors with its services and cultural enrichment.



Community District Needs Related to Library Facilities and Programming

In recent years, the three public library systems serving NYC have been threatened annually with drastic cuts. Libraries provide job seekers assistance, adult literacy, English as a Second Language, computer training, tax preparation, US Passport processing, fine arts exhibits, access to the internet, and serve as a repository for historic material. Taken as a whole, the Brooklyn Public Library system requires its full funding due to its multi-service delivery to youth and adults alike.

Community District Needs Related to Community Boards

Community Boards are the first advocates for community residents facing issues with other city agencies. It is our charter mandated duty to interface with community residents and city municipalities to ensure service delivery in a timely manner. 311 is not an adequate substitution for the interaction of community boards and community residents. Residents increasingly complain about the difficulty of obtaining useful and accurate information from the 311 system concerning resolution of complaints submitted via the central hotline and other general questions. The net result of the 311 hotline has been stagnation in service delivery and complaint resolution. Community Boards in general lack adequate operational funding. The meager budget provided for each of the fifty-nine boards citywide has not kept up with inflation and any increased operating costs. Community Boards possess the only budget that has not seen an increase in the past two decades despite increases in operation costs. We operate on a meager budget yet perform a valuable service to the community and city. Staff at community boards are more likely to be underpaid compared to their counterparts at larger agencies with bigger budgets despite similar job responsibilities. Employees are not paid living wages to sustain living in a city that is becoming more and more unaffordable. We urge the Mayor and the City Council to consider a much needed increase for operating costs and staff maintenance for all Community Boards. We hope the City Council and Borough President's office will continue to battle with us to keep the voice of local government alive in every community.



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/15	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	Acquire land, or re-appropriate a city-owned building for use by Community Board 8. Rescue 2 of the FDNY will be relocating from its base at 1472 Bergen Street shortly. The building and land is city-owned, and can be remodeled to support not only the CB 8 district office, but also house meeting space for the Board. This will in turn save the City millions of dollars in rent payments.	Community Wide
12/15	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	As the number of people with dogs increases in the community, it is imperative that we have a park with a dog run that allows pet owners a safe and friendly environment to give their pets exercise. Specifically for Brower Park and Lincoln Terrace Park.	Community Wide
13/15	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	Install lamp posts around Dean Street Playground. Currently, there is a lighting issue in Dean Street playground. The playground does not have an operating system and in the past relied upon stadium lights to illuminate the area. Light posts placed strategically around the park will illuminate the playground without creating a nuisance situation for the park's residential neighbors.	Dean Street Playground
14/15	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Upgrade the fitness equipment at Lincoln Terrace Park. The equipment in the adult fitness area is highly utilized and in dire need of replacement.	Lincoln Terrace Park
15/15	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	Install lights around playground area in Brower Park. There are currently no lights in the playground, and the area is completely dark and encourages dangerous activities.	Brower Park



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/48	OMB	Other community board facilities and staff requests	In FY 2016, the Boards' budgets were slightly increased to accommodate the collective bargaining agreement. However, the operating budget for Community Boards are still woefully inadequate, not keeping pace of inflation and any increased operating costs. The costs for acquiring much needed newer technology, computer software, upgraded hardware, as well as internet/web access capabilities is expensive. In addition, according to Chapter 70, Section 2800 (21f) of the City Charter, we are required to have experts such as planners to assist us in our Charter mandated duties. We do not currently have the funds available to hire such experts and/or consultants. It is consequently imperative that all the Community Boards' budgets be increased.	Community Wide
12/48	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Existing resources are currently not sufficient to accommodate this request. We urge the Parks Department to hire additional Park Enforcement Personnel (PEP officers) to enforce the rules of the park such as no littering, no fire (BBQ), and no off leash dogs during specified hours and many others. Funding must be provided in order to rectify these problems and make our parks and playgrounds safe and enjoyable for all.	Community Wide
17/48	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	Existing resources to accommodate this request are currently not sufficient. Too often, we get complaints about trash in neighborhood parks and playgrounds. We urge the Parks Department to increase efforts to keep our parks and playgrounds litter free. Of course, this request does not absolve those that utilize our parks and playgrounds from doing their part to keep the parks clean as well.	Community Wide
41/48	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	Financial/economic literacy programs for teens are direly needed. Learning to save and invest is essential for economically disadvantaged residents. This information needs to be learned during adolescence so that as adults, residents will be financially stable. The Brooklyn Public Library should engage residents with financial literacy programs and make such programs accessible to all.	725 St Marks Avenue



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
42/48	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	We are pleased with the number of new trees that have been planted in the district over the last few years. The Parks Department must hold contractors accountable for not following the mandates of their contract as many of the recently planted trees are either dead or dying. Better street tree maintenance is needed to prevent these issues from plaguing a valuable resource. Additionally, older trees need better care such as pruning and larger tree pits to remain healthy and vibrant.	Community Wide
47/48	DCLA	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	Cultural Affairs needs to assist our cultural institutions with advertisement opportunities across the city. A greater emphasis needs to be placed on the importance of the arts, culture, and diaspora history.	Community Wide

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /

Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/15	HPD	Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households	Too many city dwellers are living well below the poverty line. As such, many families are forced to combine households in units that are way too small for the capacity they are designed for. Having additional low-income housing opportunities will help rectify this problem of apartment sharing and overcrowding.	Community Wide	
2/15	HPD	Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless	Seniors, the disabled, and the homeless are often left out of housing conversations. As vulnerable populations, they need to be watched carefully and catered to just as much as families. Many seniors and disabled individuals live on fixed incomes of minimal amounts, and are thus unable to afford the current housing market. This leads them to homelessness and homeless shelters. Housing needs to be created specifically for these populations to prevent the vicious cycle of people entering homeless shelters.	Community Wide	
3/15	HPD	Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling buildings	Many small scale landlords desire to maintain their apartments but are unable to afford to afford the rising costs of doing so without raising rents to unaffordable levels. Loan programs to help them with rehabilitation projects are necessary to ensure that these landlords and property owners do not have liens levied against their properties because of code enforcement violations.	Community Wide	
4/15	DCAS	Renovate, upgrade or provide new community board facilities and equipment	Acquire land, or re-appropriate a city-owned building for use by Community Board 8. Rescue 2 of the FDNY will be relocating from its base at 1472 Bergen Street shortly. The building and land is city-owned, and can be remodeled to support not only the CB 8 district office, but also house meeting space for the Board. This will in turn save the City millions of dollars in rent payments.	Community Wide	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
5/15	SCA	Renovate or upgrade an elementary school	Provide a new PA system, new classroom doors, a new cafeteria floor, new curtains for the auditorium, and a new gymnasium floor. The current PA system does not reach the entire building, the doors do not close all the way so they cannot be locked, the tiles are buckling in the cafeteria, and the gym floor cannot be sanded again. These are the specific requests from the school. SCA last year stated that it unable to prioritize funding for these requests. However, in the wake of multiple school shootings and unnecessary student deaths, it is imperative that the PA system and properly functioning doors be provided. How will SCA explain student deaths because the doors were unable to close and lock and an announcement of an emergency situation unable to be made?	PS 243 1580 Dean Street	
6/15	SCA	Renovate or upgrade a middle or intermediate school	Provide new electrical system throughout the building, modernize/update the auditorium, provide new tables for the lunchroom, install new doors with locks, upgrade pipes/water system in the building. These requests were made by the school directly. Last year, SCA stated that funding for part is recommended. What part, and when will it be completed? In the wake of the massive amount of school shootings in recent months, it is imperative that every school be equipped with doors that are able to close and lock in a hurry as this can save lives. How will SCA explain the loss of life if a shooting occurs in a school and tens of children murdered simply because the door to their classroom could not lock?	PS 335 130 Rochester Avenue	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
7/15	DoITT	Funding for Videoconferencing for Community Board meetings and committee meetings	CB8 is faced with many obstacles when it comes to getting community members to our meetings. Videoconferencing is a way in which more people can attend meetings and participate in them without leaving the comfort of home. It also remedies instances where committee's with important votes cannot legally conduct business if a quorum is not present. We urge DOITT to create a process by which all community boards can use videoconferencing for all of their meetings to enhance participation.	Community Wide	
8/15	NYCHA	Increase energy efficiency and environmental performance of NYCHA developments	The Brownsville power grid is insufficient to support its service base. Con Ed has identified that NYCHA developments place most of the strain on the grid. An audit of energy efficiency and environmental performance should be conducted to ensure that NYCHA developments are running efficiently and using as little energy as possible to function effectively. The use of energy efficient bulbs in all units and common areas and the installation of solar panels on NYCHA buildings will aid tremendously in this effort and also reduce the electricity bill owed to Con Edison.	Community Wide	
9/15	EDC	Build or expand affordable work or research lab spaces	A Food & Drink Small-scale Manufacturing, Package and Bottling Incubator space is needed in CB8. A number of locations in our manufacturing district (M1) can potentially serve as the venue for small-scale manufacturing in local food and drink besides Sunset Park and the Brooklyn Navy Yard.	Community Wide	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
10/15	NYPD	Add NYPD parking facilities	With the construction of Pacific Park around the 78th Precinct, there is a dearth of parking spaces available for officers of the precinct. The 77th Precinct also lacks adequate parking spaces and the result is officers angle parking on the sidewalk in front of private homes, double parking on residential streets, or disobeying alternate side parking rules. The city should look into purchasing vacant lots around the precincts to convert to parking lots for officers and reduce the propensity of officers often breaking the laws they are sworn to uphold.	Community Wide	
11/15	NYCTA	Repair or upgrade subway stations or other transit infrastructure	The Franklin Avenue Shuttle line is in dire need of repainting. Efforts should be made to ensure that the shuttle line is held to the same quality standards as other major transit stations.	Park Place stop	
12/15	DPR	Other requests for park, building, or access improvements	As the number of people with dogs increases in the community, it is imperative that we have a park with a dog run that allows pet owners a safe and friendly environment to give their pets exercise. Specifically for Brower Park and Lincoln Terrace Park.	Community Wide	
13/15	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	Install lamp posts around Dean Street Playground. Currently, there is a lighting issue in Dean Street playground. The playground does not have an operating system and in the past relied upon stadium lights to illuminate the area. Light posts placed strategically around the park will illuminate the playground without creating a nuisance situation for the park's residential neighbors.	Dean Street Playground	
14/15	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Upgrade the fitness equipment at Lincoln Terrace Park. The equipment in the adult fitness area is highly utilized and in dire need of replacement.	Lincoln Terrace Park	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Capital Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 15 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
15/15	DPR	Enhance park safety through design interventions, e.g. better lighting	Install lights around playground area in Brower Park. There are currently no lights in the playground, and the area is completely dark and encourages dangerous activities.	Brower Park	
CS	SCA	Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school	We thank the DOE and SCA to agree to create a designated District 13 middle school in the B15 building of the Atlantic Yards/Pacific Park Development. We look forward to the school's design and completion, and the great impact it will have on the parents of middle school students in Prospect Heights.	B15 building 37 Sixth Avenue	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 48 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/48	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	As the affordable housing market continues to be stressed by man-made conditions, more financial rental assistance services are needed to assist tenants with maintaining their housing independence.	Community Wide	
2/48	DHS	Other request for services for the homeless	Incentives need to be provided to property owners and managing agents to accept the rental assistance vouchers provided to families when trying to move them to permanent housing. Presently, the stigma of homelessness makes people too hesitant to see past the circumstance and act in a humane fashion. It is unfortunate that greed gets in the way, but some form of incentive should be provided to convince property owners and landlords to do the right thing.	Community Wide	
3/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs	As rent rates in District 8 continue to increase, more and more families and individuals are on the verge of homelessness. Programs should be expanded to help them avoid entering the shelter system and becoming statistics. Rental assistance programs are in dire need to help cover the gap between affordability and unaffordable. The financial value of housing vouchers should be increased to match the rental rates that are being charged for units.	Community Wide	
4/48	HPD	Expand tenant protection programs	More and more landlords are resorting to illegal tactics to evict tenants from their homes or make conditions so bad that residents elect to leave their homes, thus allowing them to raise rents. Tenant education services and legal services to inform tenants of their rights are in high demand.	Community Wide	

6. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 Expense Requests

Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 48 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
5/48	OMB	Other community board facilities and staff requests	In FY 2016, the Boards' budgets were slightly increased to accommodate the collective bargaining agreement. However, the operating budget for Community Boards are still woefully inadequate, not keeping pace of inflation and any increased operating costs. The costs for acquiring much needed newer technology, computer software, upgraded hardware, as well as internet/web access capabilities is expensive. In addition, according to Chapter 70, Section 2800 (21f) of the City Charter, we are required to have experts such as planners to assist us in our Charter mandated duties. We do not currently have the funds available to hire such experts and/or consultants. It is consequently imperative that all the Community Boards' budgets be increased.	Community Wide	
6/48	DOHMH	Reduce rat populations	With the large number of development projects scattered throughout the District, and renovation projects ongoing in our historic districts, the number of rodent complaints has skyrocketed. While the city has always had a large rodent population, the "out of sight, out of mind" complex was strong. However, rodents are more visible today than at any other time in the last two decades. A greater number of inspectors and exterminators are needed to quickly address baiting concerns and identify rodent havens and burrows for treatment. Additionally, DOHMH should consider a policy change mandating that developers bait more than just the perimeter of their projects and instead bait a wider berth so that some of the strain of reducing rodent populations is removed from the Department's shoulders.	Community Wide	

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Brooklyn Community Board 8 submitted 48 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
7/48	EDC	Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs	CB8 has an abundance of restaurants and bars which would benefit from trained staff that live in the community. Comptroller Stringer has released information stating that the number of bars and restaurants has increased more than 500% in CB 8 between 2000 and 2015. Necessary training services for the hospitality industry is necessary to allow the movement of employees from low-paying introductory jobs to the higher paying "front of the house" and managerial positions.	Community Wide	
8/48	EDC	Expand programs for certain industries, e.g. fashion, film, advanced and food manufacturing, life sciences and healthcare	CB 8 is a growing community and an attractive spot for filming, culinary arts, and even fashion designers. Many of our residents have interests in, or untapped potential, to fill openings in many of these areas and thrive. Training programs geared toward helping our residents of all ages engage their interests and skills is essential. The creation of a Culinary Arts Program and Culinary Education and Training Facility Space situated in Community District 8 boundaries would address the need and interest for these skills by these businesses and our hospitality industry. Additionally, training programs geared toward different positions in film and theater production is crucial for increasing diversity in the industry.	Community Wide	
9/48	HPD	Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations	As more and more landlords are allowing currently occupied rent controlled and rent stabilized apartments to drift into the ranks of uninhabitability to push out long term tenants, this allows them to then renovate recently vacated apartments to collect higher rents. We need to ensure that enforcement agents use their full power to encourage landlords to make repairs for long term tenants rather than just focusing on improving the habitability for higher rent paying tenants. If landlords are unwilling to make necessary repairs, we urge the City to do so for them and bill them for the repairs, with the threat of vacating their ownership of the property should they not reimburse and pay hefty fines. This in turn will deter illegal tactics to get rid of low rent paying tenants.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
10/48	DOB	Address illegal conversions and uses of buildings	More and more small property owners (owners of two to four family houses) are beginning to divide what are supposed to be single units into two to three apartments. We need to ensure that they have the proper permits to do this so that conversions are properly done and up to city code.	Community Wide	
11/48	DOHMH	Create or promote programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment	The stigma of admitting to having a mental illness is great, especially in immigrant and communities of color where sentiments such as "mental illness is not a disease you can afford to have," continue to be a plague. This stigma prevents those suffering from symptoms from seeking help. Programs such as THRIVE NYC are a great start, but the fear of being identified in the community as having an illness prevents many from seeking their services. More education on what mental illness versus what it is not is direly needed to help eliminate the negative stigma that is pervasive in many communities. An understanding of the different ways people can suffer from mental illness can go a long way in helping de-stigmatize the condition and also allow sufferers to seek help.	Community Wide	
12/48	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Existing resources are currently not sufficient to accommodate this request. We urge the Parks Department to hire additional Park Enforcement Personnel (PEP officers) to enforce the rules of the park such as no littering, no fire (BBQ), and no off leash dogs during specified hours and many others. Funding must be provided in order to rectify these problems and make our parks and playgrounds safe and enjoyable for all.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
13/48	DOHMH	Promote vaccinations and immunizations	Unfortunately, erroneous reports not backed by factual data have frightened some parents into declining immunization for their children. This practice puts other children at risk and also has the potential to bring back diseases that could actually be avoided via immunization and education. Factual data regarding the link between immunizations and autism is very necessary to prevent parents from making an uninformed decision that could have major deleterious ramifications on not only their children, but the broader community, especially as their non-immunized children become school age. Education and immunization promotion services are needed to deflate and eliminate these "alternative facts" and erroneous reports not upheld by factual science.	Community Wide	
14/48	SBS	Provide commercial lease support for business owners	With the current climate of capitalism focused on profit maximization, many of our commercial tenants are suffering from what is now being referred to as "commercial gentrification." Property owners with commercial spaces are often raising rents on commercial properties at lease renewal by astronomical amounts, usually tripling or quadrupling the previous rent rate. The majority of our businesses cannot survive these increases and are forced to close, thus leading to high turnover and vacancy rates. Lease negotiation support for commercial tenants is necessary to assist them in overcoming the greed barrier to remain in their spaces and continue the trend of economic growth in CB 8.	Community Wide	
15/48	NYPD	Increase resources for youth crime prevention programs	We advocate for the NYPD to do an analysis of youth crimes by precinct and fund programs in those areas with high rates of youth crime to help stem the increasing numbers of young people in youth detention centers.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
16/48	DSNY	Increase enforcement of illegal dumping laws	Illegal dumping creates blight and makes it appear as though the community does not care about itself. As it stands, existing resources are not sufficient to stem this tide of community blight. Illegal dumping must be stopped and penalties strengthened for those that illegally dump waste. Because current laws target those that dump from vehicles, black market dumpers that use shopping carts and dump near corner baskets are often overlooked. These dumpers need to be penalized for their actions. It should not be acceptable for them or anyone else to dump on our streets and feel as though they can get away with it.	Community Wide	
17/48	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	Existing resources to accommodate this request are currently not sufficient. Too often, we get complaints about trash in neighborhood parks and playgrounds. We urge the Parks Department to increase efforts to keep our parks and playgrounds litter free. Of course, this request does not absolve those that utilize our parks and playgrounds from doing their part to keep the parks clean as well.	Community Wide	
18/48	NYPD	Increase resources for domestic violence prevention programs	Assaults against women and women-identified individuals have increased, especially in the wake of the current political climate. According to our CompStat records, reported rapes have steadily increased in District 8 as well. It is imperative that domestic violence prevention, education, and intervention services be provided across all groups (with special focus on teenagers and the LGBTQ population) and all avenues. Domestic abuse is not only physical; a focus on the deleterious effects of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and psychological torture from partners should be prioritized.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
19/48	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance preventive services and community based alternatives for youth	With the passage of Raise the Age legislation, many of our youth are now presented with an opportunity to receive services necessary for their continued community presence within their home communities. With ATS options, youth can receive the mental health services they need, training, mentoring, and counseling services to begin the process of properly integrating into the community to build social capital. Intervention programs are key to helping reduce the number of youth straying toward incarceration, and programs geared toward this end are necessary.	Community Wide	
20/48	HRA	Other domestic violence services requests	Funding should be provided for preventative services to educate women and men of all ages on the telltale signs of all forms of abuse physical, emotional, sexual, and psychological and how to exit a situation that could be potentially life threatening, not only for her- or him-self, but for any children in the home as well. This will provide pre-emptive services and prevent further destruction of familial ties and bonds. Additionally, the necessary psychological counseling is urgently needed to ensure that past victims can prevent falling victim again in future relationships.	Community Wide	
21/48	NYCTA	Provide a new bus service or Select Bus Service	Re-instate the B 71 bus line. This line was an integral part of accessing the cultural icons of the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Grand Army Plaza Library, and Prospect Park.	Community Wide	
22/48	DFTA	Enhance educational and recreational programs	As informational resources proceed further into the digital era, and fewer services are provided without the use of online tools, it is imperative that our seniors acquire the technical skills needed to navigate the world wide web to gain access to services. Too often, seniors do not possess the technical savvy to research their problems online or access the help available from online resources. Computer literacy programs and purchase assistance programs will help remedy this. Funding is imperative for services such as these, and computer training programs should be available in every senior center.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
23/48	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	Provide enforcement for proper commercial trash receptacles for mixed-use buildings along primary and secondary corridors. Mixed-use buildings without trash storage receptacles for residential use cause an alarming rate of corner basket misuse. Residential tenants that have no location within their premises to place their garbage, are led to place their household trash in corner baskets, or, in instances when a corner basket is not present, simply leave their trash bags on the sidewalk in an area it does not belong. Proper enforcement of container/receptacle laws will help eliminate this cycle, and also potentially lead to a decrease in vermin along commercial corridors.	Community Wide	
24/48	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	While we have been assured that our commercial strips receive 6 day a week basket collection, we constantly receive complaints of overflowing baskets that have not been collected and dumped in days. These complaints are usually from residents in and around the vicinity of Vanderbilt and Washington Avenues. We urge additional litter basket collection, the addition of extra baskets where necessary, and the monitoring of existing baskets to ensure that they are not being improperly used.	Community Wide	
25/48	DCP	Other zoning and land use requests	Study the rezoning of the manufacturing district bounded by Grand and Franklin Avenues between Atlantic Avenue and Bergen Street (blocks 1125, 1126, 1133, 1134, 1141, and 1142), as well as the south side of Atlantic Avenue between Grand and Vanderbilt Avenues (blocks 1122 and 1124) for mixed residential and manufacturing use according to Community Board 8s M-CROWN proposal as amended and submitted to the Department of City Planning.	Community Wide	Councilwoman Laurie

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
26/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance adult protective services	We must keep in mind that our elderly population is at risk for abuse from family members and home health aides seeking to take advantage of their frail emotional and physical states. Our elderly population is the most vulnerable and often forgotten. They require considerable attention to maintain their safety and well-being, thus preventing them from being subjected to unnecessary hardship, pain, and mental aggravation in the form of fear.	Community Wide	
27/48	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.	District 8 is severely plagued by other health ailments including diabetes, heart disease, asthma, stroke, obesity, and many other conditions that require substantial medical care for those afflicted. The inability to afford healthy food options combined with the lack of healthy food options for residents on the eastern end of the district only compounds these problems. Lower income residents without excess expendable cash should have access to quality fresh food and be trained in healthy living without exceeding their budget. Programs stressing proper nutrition should be provided for families as a preventive measure to stem the development of diseases caused by poor dietary habits and lack of exercise.	Community Wide	
28/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance educational programs for adults	Financial education and planning is direly needed in less economically advantaged households. Due to the inevitability of having to stretch their finances even further than they are capable, it is imperative that residents have access to financial planning and budgeting information to learn how to properly plan their monthly spending. They must be educated on what is and is not a priority in order to avoid the inevitable if they are not careful: homelessness. People applying for one-shot deals to cover back rent should automatically be enrolled in such financial planning courses to obtain the tools to prevent them from needing these emergency services again.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
29/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance skills training and employment services for high school students at risk of dropping out	Early intervention is the key to saving the future of our youth. It is well documented that inner-city children have a higher risk for crime, dropping out of school and other educational deficits, gang involvement, drug use, and incarceration. We urge funding for activities that target at-risk youth. Funding for youth development and delinquency and prevention programs is necessary to serve our youth and quell the growing trend toward life-ruining activities.	Community Wide	
30/48	NYPD	Assign additional staff to address specific crimes (e.g. drug, gang-related, vice, etc.)	While we are aware that staffing levels are allocated based on graduating classes and Administrative processes, there is an inherent need for undercover officers to assist with the growing gang population on the eastern end of the District, and vice offices to address the increasing sex trafficking operations in CB8. Additionally, an increase in street drugs to compete with not as easily available prescription drugs, has led to more drug houses in our community. Undercovers are needed to infiltrate these rings and close these houses down, thus making the community safer for all. A great benefit of the closure of these drug houses is also the reduction of opioid drugs readily available to the seeking public.	Community Wide	
31/48	DOE	Expand or improve nutritional programs, e.g., school meals	It is regrettably laughable that the DOE would state that it is committed to providing healthy food choices and maintaining high nutritional standards by offering delicious and attractive menu options, and that their nutritional standards always meet, and many times exceed, USDA Nutrition Standards for school meals. If that were the case, would students be served unappetizing and fattening meals that are moldy, unidentifiable meats, spoiled milk, expired and moldy juice, and foods that are so hyper processed, they cannot even pass as the substance they claim to be? Numerous news exposes based on the 2017 investigation of the DOE food program speak a different tune to what the DOE claims, and this lack of honesty within the agency is disheartening.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
32/48	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection	Separate organic collection is useful in diminishing the amount of trash sent to landfills daily. We are highly disappointed that the City discontinued organics collection because it did not properly plan an effective strategy for collection. Organics collection can not only save the city millions of dollars a year, but can actually allow the city to profit from the collection. Organic waste can be broken down by biodigesters and the compost sold to other municipalities for their fertilizer needs. We urge the city to re-institute organics collection.	Community Wide	
33/48	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance job training	Not every person lacking job skills and basic training for resume creation and interview success tips lives within a NYCHA development or is eligible to receive cash assistance. Job training opportunities need to be expanded beyond those living in NYCHA housing and receiving cash assistance. These programs are needed to help the underachieving gain self-sufficiency and move away from a life living off of other people and potentially public assistance when they no longer have a support system.	Community Wide	
34/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance after school programs for elementary school students (grades K-5)	Primary school is an important time in our children's lives. It is in primary school that the foundation for education is laid. After school programs are effective tools in enhancing and enriching education as well as providing social skill building opportunities.	Community Wide	
35/48	DOHMH	Provide more HIV/AIDS information and services	While HIV transmission rates are down citywide, transmission of other non-HIV related diseases is on the rise, and in District 8, we rank in the top 10 in all categories of increased STD infection according to the latest Dept. of Health data. The fear of HIV has been lessened over time because of new drugs created to help prevent infection and drugs designed to help a person live longer. Adequate education should be provided regarding the use of prophylactics and engaging in safe sexual practices to prevent the unnecessary spread of the disease.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
36/48	DYCD	Provide, expand, or enhance street outreach services	A large portion of homeless youth belong to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non binary, non conforming, and queer (LGBTQ) population. They are often ostracized and shunned by their families and are forced to choose to either be comfortable with who they are or change/hide/pretend to be someone they are not simply to continue receiving familial support. In order to be true to themselves, they leave abusive situations and are forced to the streets. Efforts should be made to reach out to these youth to remove them from abusive situations and prevent them from becoming part of the growing homeless population.	Community Wide	
37/48	DFTA	Enhance programs for elder abuse victims	Too often, our elders are too ashamed or afraid to speak up for themselves, leading them to suffer continued abuse at the hands of caregivers or even strangers. We encourage DFTA to increase outreach efforts and initiate public service announcements to inform seniors of their options and services should they ever come face to face with elder abuse. We also advocate for increased public awareness programs to help people identify the signs and signals of elder abuse.	Community Wide	
38/48	DFTA	Increase transportation services capacity	The elderly have a difficult enough time traveling. Unreliable public transportation options are at times their only choice. An increase in senior transportation, whether via para transit or taxi vouchers, should be provided--especially for those that live alone and have minimal contact with the outside world.	Community Wide	
39/48	DSNY	Other garbage collection and recycling requests	We advocate for containerized garbage collection for all of CB 8's NYCHA developments. This will help to eliminate maintenance workers putting garbage curbside immediately after the Dept. of Sanitation has collected it. As an immediate side effect, our streets will look much cleaner and people will take more pride in their community. For ParkRock, Weeksville Houses, and Kingsboro Houses.	Community Wide	

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Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
40/48	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	It is imperative that Pooper Scooper laws be enforced and that signs alerting dog owners that it is their responsibility to clean up after their dogs are installed. AS A RESULT, WE ARE ASKING THAT FUNDING TO RE-INSTATE THE SIGNAGE UNIT BE PROVIDED. Furthermore, additional Sanitation Police Officers are also needed to issue summonses to dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs as canine waste has the potential to create health hazards for humans and other dogs. Dog owners must be held responsible for properly caring for their pets.	Community Wide	
41/48	BPL	Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs	Financial/economic literacy programs for teens are direly needed. Learning to save and invest is essential for economically disadvantaged residents. This information needs to be learned during adolescence so that as adults, residents will be financially stable. The Brooklyn Public Library should engage residents with financial literacy programs and make such programs accessible to all.	725 St Marks Avenue	
42/48	DPR	Forestry services, including street tree maintenance	We are pleased with the number of new trees that have been planted in the district over the last few years. The Parks Department must hold contractors accountable for not following the mandates of their contract as many of the recently planted trees are either dead or dying. Better street tree maintenance is needed to prevent these issues from plaguing a valuable resource. Additionally, older trees need better care such as pruning and larger tree pits to remain healthy and vibrant.	Community Wide	
43/48	DOHMH	Other programs to address public health issues requests	As the number of dementia and Alzheimers disease cases grow in the community, additional funds to maintain/increase services are required. Asthma rates have increased due to harsh conditions within the community (i.e. massive construction projects, demolition, renovation efforts). Longer clinic hours need to be initiated for people that need emergency treatment but cannot afford a hospital emergency room visit.	Community Wide	

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44/48	DFTA	Enhance home care services	Homebound seniors should not have to live a life of unintentional isolation because they are self-sufficient enough to be able to live on their own still. Medicaid ineligible seniors should not be forced to pay exorbitant out of pocket costs for assistance in day to day needs. We encourage increasing home care services for homebound seniors to include not only basic care and assistance, but also for interactive conversation and companionship to prevent the ails of isolation.	Community Wide	
45/48	ACS	Provide, expand, or enhance primary prevention services to strengthen families	Families need certain tools to learn to get along. Intergenerational assistance is needed to help bridge the gaps between younger and older generations that, to be blunt, do not understand each other. Children these days have the mindset that a parent is supposed to be a friend, and because parents are afraid of legal repercussions for reprimanding their children the way they were, attitudes are often left unchecked, which can cause friction in the home. Children, parents, and extended family need to be educated on the modern family structure and what the new social "norm" is for family ties.	Community Wide	
46/48	NYCHA	Improve public housing maintenance and cleanliness	All NYCHA developments should be equipped with containers for garbage storage since maintenance staff currently places garbage curbside multiple times per day. This leads to curbs of NYCHA developments always having garbage outside, which is unsightly and unsanitary. Containerized collection will provide a place to house garbage until pickup day.	Community Wide	
47/48	DCLA	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	Cultural Affairs needs to assist our cultural institutions with advertisement opportunities across the city. A greater emphasis needs to be placed on the importance of the arts, culture, and diaspora history.	Community Wide	

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48/48	HRA	Expand access to public health insurance such as Medicaid	With the federal government extracting every ounce of worth from the Affordable Care Act, now more than ever, individuals in need of health care must have a viable option for health care than the skeleton plans designed to undermine what the ACA was attempting to accomplish. Decreasing eligibility requirements to receive Medicaid, or even having a payment system to make more people Medicaid eligible would help bridge the gap between those with quality health insurance and those without. Costs of private markets are increasing drastically due to cuts in federal subsidies and fewer people are able to afford private insurance. Having Medicaid as an option would allow access to the preventative care many people need to prevent grave illnesses.	Community Wide	