

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

Fiscal Year
2019



Submitted to:
NYC
PLANNING
January 2018

Bronx
Community District 06

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 Bronx Community Board 6's *Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019*. 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 2017.

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

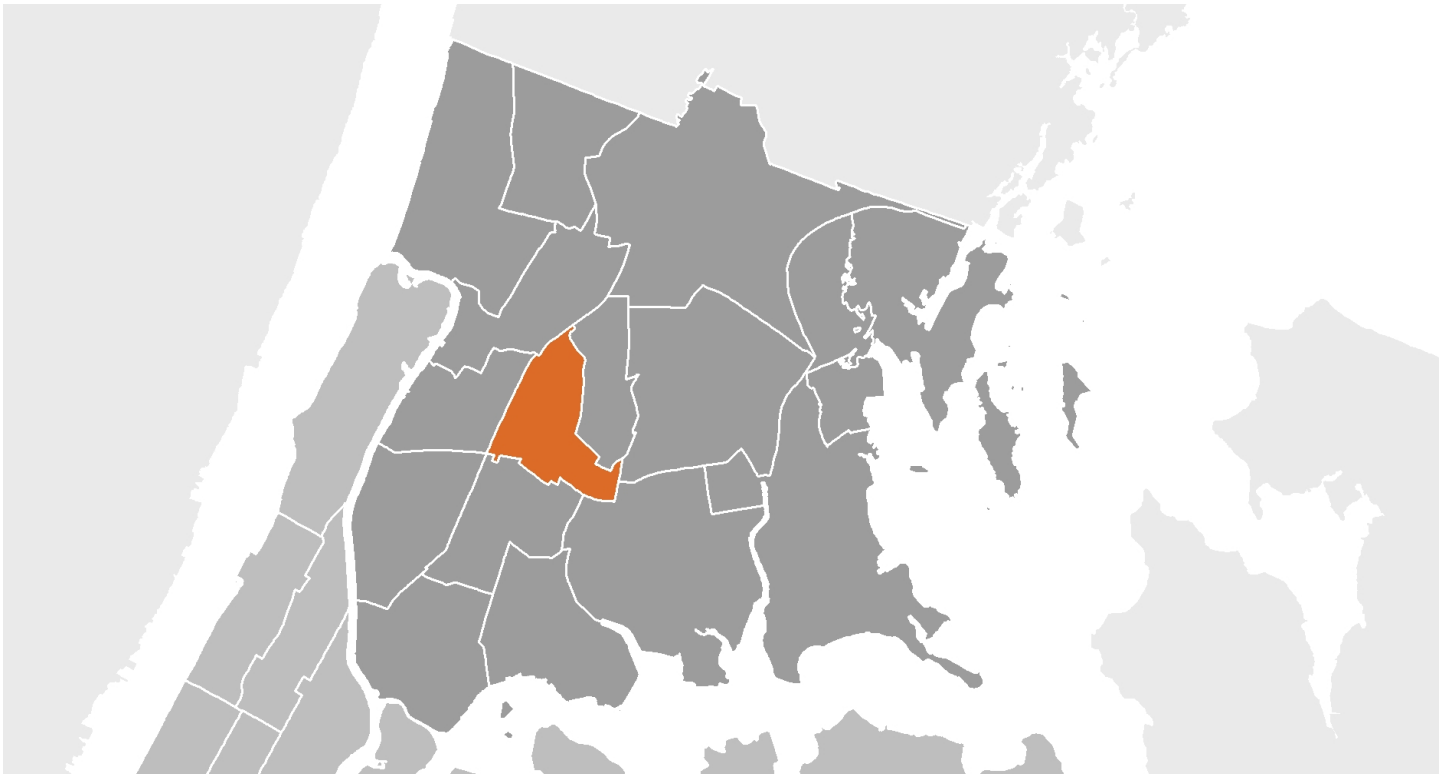
Sections 1 – 4 provide an overview of the community district and the top three pressing issues affecting this district overall as identified by the community board. Any narrative provided by the board supporting their selection of their top three pressing issues is included.

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 FY19 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.



Statements of Community District Needs

and

Community Board Budget Requests

for

Bronx Community District 6 Fiscal Year 2019

Submitted to the Department of City Planning
January 2018

Disclaimer

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of Bronx Community Board 6 for Fiscal Year 2019. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board.

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

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

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

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1. Community Board Information

Bronx Community Board 6

Address: 1932 Arthur Avenue, 403-A

Phone: (718) 579-6990

Email: jsanchez@cb.nyc.gov

Website: <http://www.bronxcb6.org>

Chair:

District Manager: Mr. John Sanchez

Community Board Officers:

Ms. Carly Wine, Community Associate

Ms. Carla Leon, Community Assistant

2. Community District Profile

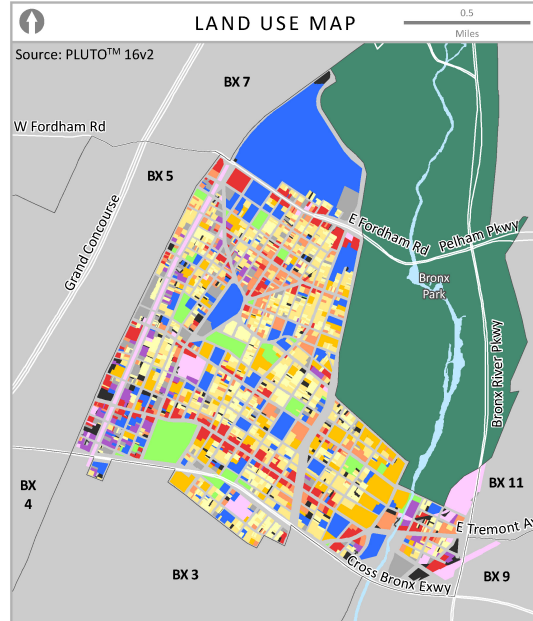
Visit the Community District Profiles to view data, maps, and other resources describing New York City's 59 community districts at: <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/>

Bronx Community District 6



Neighborhoods¹: Bathgate, Belmont, Bronx Park South, East Tremont, West Farms

POPULATION & DENSITY		
2000 ²	2010 ³	2000-2010
75,688	83,268	+10%
2011-2015 Estimate ⁴		N/A
Square Miles		1.5
Population Density		55,512/sq mi



COMMUNITY BOARD PERSPECTIVES

Top 3 pressing issues identified by Bronx Community Board 6 in 2017:

1. Crime
2. Schools
3. Unemployment

To learn more, please read [Bronx CD 6's Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2018](#).

Website: www.bronxcb6.org
Email: bronxcb6@bronxcb6.org

Land Use Category	# Lots	% Lot Area
1 & 2 Family Bldgs	1,302	11%
Multifamily Walk-up	1,304	16%
Multifamily Elevator	136	10%
Mixed Use	391	8%
Commercial	214	7%
Industrial	95	3%
Transportation/Utility	45	3%
Public/Institutional	158	25%
Open Space	63	6%
Parking	248	6%
Vacant	206	3%
Other	36	<1%

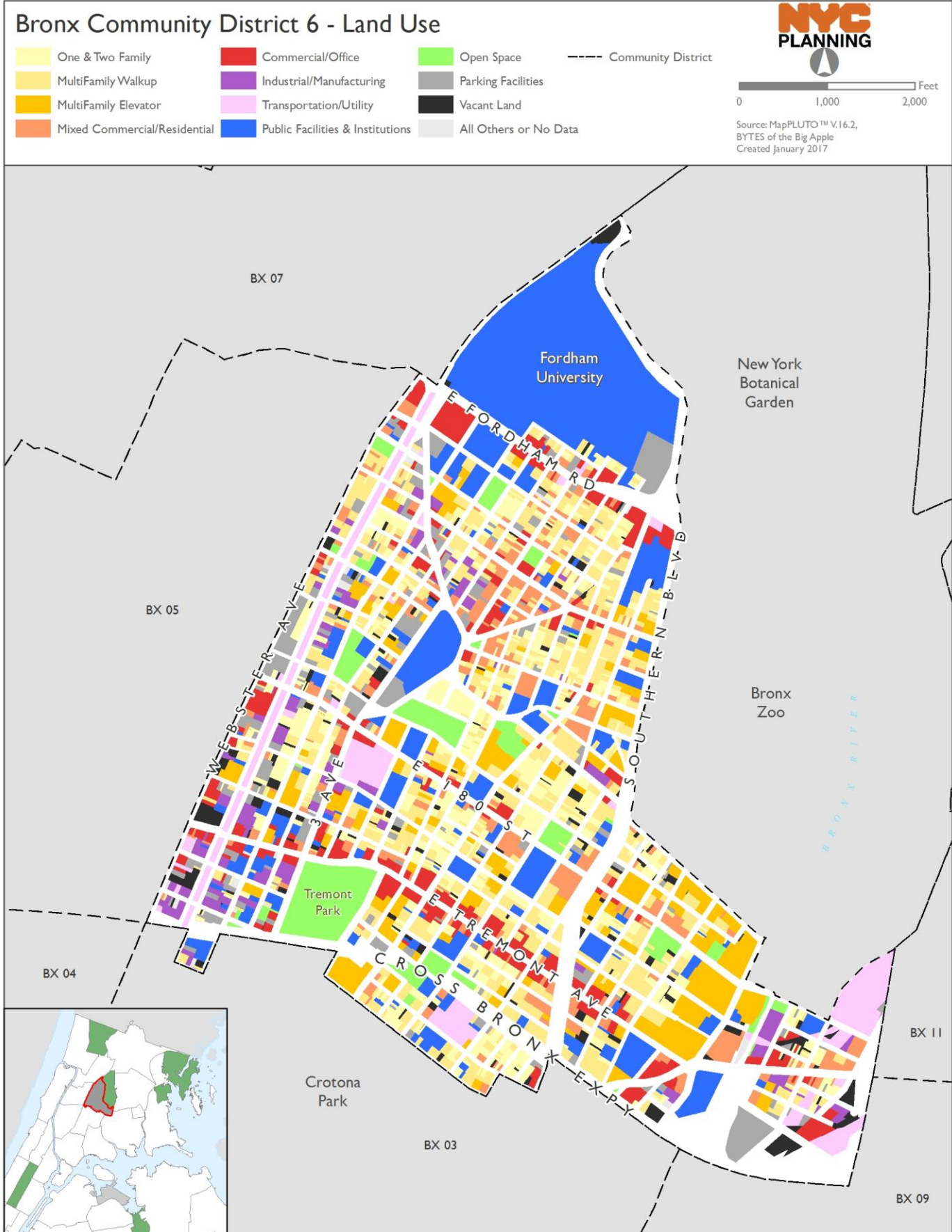
[Click here for a more detailed land use map of Bronx CD 6](#)

A Snapshot of Key Community Indicators

COMMUNITY ASSETS ⁵		RENT BURDEN ^{4, 6}		ACCESS TO PARKS ⁷	
Public Schools	62	Bronx CD 6	Bronx	Bronx CD 6	Citywide Target
Public Libraries	3	52%	51%	99%	85%
Hospitals and Clinics	27	of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent	NYC	of residents live within walking distance of a park or open space	
Parks	17		45%		
Click to visit the NYC Facilities Explorer					
MEAN COMMUTE TO WORK ^{4, 8}		LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY ⁴		CRIME RATE ⁹	
Bronx CD 6	Bronx	Bronx CD 6	Bronx	Bronx CD 6	Bronx
43	43 minutes	28%	26%	17.4	14.3
minutes	NYC	of residents 5 years or older have limited English proficiency	NYC	major felonies were reported per 1,000 residents in 2016	NYC
	40 minutes		23%		11.8
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ^{4, 10}		UNEMPLOYMENT ^{4, 10}		NYCgov POVERTY MEASURE ¹¹	
Bronx CD 6	Bronx	Bronx CD 6	Bronx	Bronx CD 6	Bronx
12%	19%	18.2%	14%	31%	28%
of residents 25 years or older have earned a bachelor's degree or higher	NYC	of the civilian labor force was unemployed on average from 2011 to 2015	NYC	of residents have incomes below the NYCgov poverty threshold. See the federal poverty rate here.	NYC
	36%		9.5%		21%

¹Neighborhoods may be in multiple districts. Names and boundaries are not officially designated. ²2000 US Census; ³2010 US Census; ⁴American Community Survey 2011-2015 5-Year Estimates, calculated for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs). PUMAs are geographic approximations of community districts. BX 6 shares PUMA 3705 with BX 3, and the ACS population estimate cannot be reliably disaggregated. 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 Planning Board #6 is located in the Central part of the Bronx, serving the communities of Belmont, Bathgate, Tremont and West Farms with a total mile area of 983.8. According to the 2010 census, our population was 83,268. Bronx CB 6 is primarily populated by low income residents.

It is tied for the highest unemployment rate in NYC at 18.2% and has the second highest percentage of its population under the age of 18 at 30%. 60% of residents receive some form of income assistance with 31.4% of residents living under the NYCgov poverty threshold. The median income is about \$22,600 per year.

At present, major development is slated for Community Board 6 with nearly 3,000 new housing units and at least 72,000 square feet of commercial/retail space in the next 5-10 years. The growing population requires the construction of more schools to ease overcrowding as well as additional day care facilities.

CB 6 has the East Tremont commercial corridor which has several small businesses, but also several vacant commercial spaces. This corridor has great potential, but the small businesses need assistance in getting organized to fulfill it. Developing this corridor would help create more jobs that pay living wages.

The vitality of the district is improving, but there is an opportunity to better leverage the major institutions in our district such as Fordham University, The Bronx Zoo, Botanical Garden, the Bronx River Art Center, and the Fordham Road and Belmont BIDs.

4. Top Three Pressing Issues Overall

The three most pressing issues facing Bronx Community Board 6 are:

- *Crime*
- *Schools*
- *Unemployment*

1. SCHOOLS:

Bronx Community Board #6 schools are severely overcrowded and underperforming. The School Construction Authority's most recent capital plan states that there is a 1,144 student seat need between the Fordham/Belmont and Tremont/West Farms neighborhoods. This does not include the 912 seats funded in Tremont/West Farms that are not in the design and scope phase. It's imperative that with increased housing development that there is also infrastructure investment in schools to support the growing population.

When it comes to school performance, more than 70% of students in CB 6 are not proficient in Math and Reading based on NY State Test scores for 3rd - 8th graders. Overcrowded and underperforming school districts are a major deterrent to new families thinking of moving into the neighborhood.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT:

Community Board 6 has the highest unemployment rate of any community board in NYC (18.2%). Also, due to the fact that only 12.3% of residents older than 25 have a college degree, it's vital that there are increased job opportunities for those with a high school diploma and those without it. Unemployment rates are correlated to crime rates and it is an issue that if improved can have ripple effects in other areas.

3. CRIME:

Certain areas of crime are increasing in the district. As of October 2017, the district has seen an increase in grand larcenies, murders, rapes, petty larcenies, and misdemeanor assaults compared to 2016. While the NCO program has helped reduce crime, it still is a concern to many. The impact of shootings is especially troublesome as it discourages city residents from moving into the neighborhoods, businesses from opening in the district, and other stakeholders from investing in the area due to a perception of danger. While increased NYPD presence is important so are the underlying causes of crime that must be addressed through efforts to reduce unemployment, supporting the previously incarcerated, and steering low-level offenders toward diversion and educational programs.



Health Care and Human Services

Main Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

Services to reduce or prevent homelessness

Many Health and Human service issues derive from homelessness. For example, low-income residents who are homeless do not have access to healthy food options, are most likely to get an infectious disease, have mental issues and are prone to domestic violence.

Community District Needs Related to Health Care Facilities and Programming

Health issues are of great concern to Community Board 6 which is arguably the district most in need of improved health care and wellness in NYC. As of 2015, Bronx Community Board 6 ranks first in the percentage of adults that are obese (35%), ranks third in the percentage of adults with diabetes, fourth in child asthma hospitalizations, sixth in the number of hospitalizations due to stroke, and 7th in rate of adult psychiatric hospitalizations. Moreover, these statistics are exacerbated by Bronx Community Board 6 ranking last in supermarket square footage per 100 people.

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.

[2015 Community Health Profile](#)

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

Seniors are in need of more education on safety as well as recreation activities. There are few senior centers for older new yorkers in the district as well as places for them to access resources.

Community District Needs Related to Facilities and Services for the Homeless

Community Board 6 has the highest number of shelters (21) and organizations that provide services for the homeless population, i.e. people with substance abuse, rehabilitation services, formerly incarcerated etc. The board has had more than its fair share of shelters and does not wish to have additional facilities. We advocate for more permanent housing rather than shelters.

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

According to the Census Tract, from 2009 -2013, the median income for Bronx residents was 34,388, and the percentage of people living below the poverty line was 29.8%. Residents in District 6 are among this population. District 6 serves as a home to many immigrants. Due to documentation issues, lack of experience and education needed, many of these residents may not have access to high paying jobs. Thus they may become pan handlers, or work at fast food or retail jobs which pay minimum wage. Many undocumented residents also risk their lives working in unhealthy circumstances and dangerous jobs such as construction sites. The low income population of District 6 is a disturbing issue and great concern because it affects other aspects of their lives, i.e. health care, education, and may also augment cases of domestic violence. Seniors who do not have food stamps or have a fixed budget cannot afford to eat properly and are prone to health issues.

Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/17	DFTA	<i>Renovate or upgrade a senior center</i>	<i>Currently, about 1000 square feet of upstairs space at Mt. Carmel Center for Senior Citizens is empty and unused in the facility. It will require full renovation in order to be utilized, and will enable more services and programming to be available to seniors in the community.</i>	<i>Mt Carmel Center For Seniors 2405 Southern Blvd</i>



Expense Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance job training</i>	<i>There are more than 2,000 housing units being constructed in the district and residents should be trained in construction and maintenance jobs for these future units. Due to the ongoing nature of construction residents should be prepared and able to work in their communities. HRA should release an RFP and contract with a construction company that is committed to training local residents on a large scale.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
2/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance job search and placement support</i>	<i>There needs to be stronger job placement support for those without college degrees in CB 6. Only 7.2% of residents over the age of 25 have a college degree and as a result job placement needs to be targeted to the population for jobs that do not require a bachelor's degree ie (construction or tech industry).</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
5/25	DFTA	<i>Enhance educational and recreational programs</i>	<i>Funding should be increased for direct outreach services for senior citizens. These services, including nutrition counseling, recreation, and assistance handling financial matters, should be provided both on site at community organizations and at local senior citizens centers. This funding should also provided for increased home visitation services for those seniors who are no longer able to travel to centers and service providers' offices.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
11/25	HRA	<i>Expand access to public health insurance such as Medicaid</i>	<i>Outreach, education, enrollment assistance and training is needed to increase access to public health insurance for vulnerable communities, such as those who live below the poverty line and/or those who are immigrants.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
14/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs</i>	<i>According to the Community District Profile for CB6, 52% of households in our district spend 35% or more of their income on rent. Our district has the highest rate of poverty with 43.9% of residents with incomes below the poverty level. Considering these indicators, funding is needed to expand rental assistance programs so that our residents don't end up homeless.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
16/25	DOHMH	<i>Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.</i>	<i>CB6 communities rank 1st in levels of obesity and 3rd in frequency of diabetes out of all communities in New York City. Increased funding should be provided to community organizations to encourage healthy eating and exercise, as well as expand GrowNYCs Fresh Bodega initiative in CB6.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
23/25	DHS	<i>Provide programs for homeless veterans</i>	<i>Funding is needed for expanded programming and regular case consultation meetings to ensure chronically homeless veterans are moved into shelters, and that each veteran within the system receive the attention needed to create a pathway to permanent housing for each veteran.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
24/25	DFTA	<i>Increase home delivered meals capacity</i>	<i>According to the Department of City Planning, 8.2% of residents are senior citizens. More funding is needed for case management agencies to identify the need for home delivered meals for seniors in our community.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>



Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Main Issue Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

School and educational facilities (Capacity)

SCA states that School District 12, which is largely in CB 6, has an unfunded need of 572 seats. Furthermore, more than 3,000 units of housing are being built between 2017-2025 which will result in a larger student population. We will need new schools in our district to accommodate this increased need.

Community District Needs Related to Educational Facilities and Programs

CB 6 has a 1,144 school seat need between the Belmont/Fordham and Tremont/West Farms neighborhoods as well as 912 seats that are funded but not in the scope and design phase. This great student seat need does not account for the nearly 3,000 additional units of housing that will be developed in the district in the next 10 years. The district needs more elementary and middle schools to ease overcrowding.

Community District Needs Related to Services for Children and Child Welfare

Provide more day care centers so that parents can get jobs. Enhance funding for child protective services.

Community District Needs Related to Youth and Community Services and Programs

Expand Beacon programs, adolescent & adult literacy programs, young fathers parenting skills.

Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/17	SCA	<i>Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school</i>	<i>SCA states that School District 12, which is largely in CB 6, has an unfunded need of 572 seats. We request that an elementary school is built to accommodate the over 2,000 units of housing being built between 2015-2025 which will result in a larger student population. We also request that SCA accelerates its timeline to design and scope the 912 seats that are funded.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
2/17	SCA	<i>Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school</i>	<i>SCA states that School District 12, which is largely in CB 6, has an unfunded need of 572 seats. School District 12, which is in CB 6, currently has a greater than 160% utilization rate for its middle schools. We request that a middle school is built to accommodate the over 2,000 units of housing being built between 2015-2025 which will result in a larger student population. A new school is necessary to ease overcrowding. We also request that SCA accelerates its timeline to design and scope the 912 seats that are funded.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
9/17	SCA	<i>Provide technology upgrade</i>	<i>PS 188x, a District 75 School at 770 Grote Street has extremely slow bandwidth and outdated laptops and desktops. Their student population uses these technologies more than the average school</i>	<i>PS 188x 770 Grote Street</i>



Public Safety and Emergency Services

Main Issue Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

General crime

While crime has largely declined across the city, there are still categories of crime that have increased in CB 6. As of October 2017, the district has seen an increase in grand larcenies, murders, rapes, petty larcenies, and misdemeanor assaults compared to 2016. While the NCO program has helped reduce crime, it still is a concern to many. This District has a large stretch of local businesses along the East Tremont strip, including bodegas, which are sometimes burglarized.

Community District Needs Related to Policing and Crime

Shootings and other crimes have declined in the community but certain crimes have increased such as petit larceny (13.9%), misdemeanor assault (3.9%), and rape (27.8%). Expanding the NCO program as well as the NYPD Explorer and other youth programs would help further reduce crime by allowing officers to be more present as well as have more youth involved in their community. Increasing the number of officers assigned to the 48th Precinct could also be helpful in reducing crime.

Supporting Materials:

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) found in the Appendix into a browser.

[48th Pct Crime](#)

Expense Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/25	NYPD	<i>Increase resources for youth crime prevention programs</i>	<i>The NYPD Explorers program is proven to prevent youth from committing crimes. We request an increase in funding for the NYPD Explorers program in the 48th Precinct</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests



Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Main Issue Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Cleanliness/trash collection

Trash collection has always been an issue in this District. It is not uncommon to see heaps of trash on streets, on corners, Plazas in open spaces, such as parks. It is also common to see overflowing trash cans all over the District. We have gotten numerous complaints about there not being enough trash cans at bus stops, especially in the shopping strips causing residents to throw trash on the ground. This is undoubtedly a hazard to all residents, as it contributes to the overall pollution and rodent infestation in the District.

Expense Requests Related to Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/25	DSNY	<i>Provide more on-street trash cans and recycling containers</i>	<i>There is a desperate need in our district for additional street corner garbage collection cans. The Sanitation Department should purchase and allocate additional collection cans to our district. The need for additional collection cans is particularly acute along our district commercial strips (Arthur Avenue, East Tremont Avenue).</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
13/25	DSNY	<i>Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up</i>	<i>Southern Boulevard experiences a lot of garbage build up needing to be cleared more frequently.</i>	<i>Southern Boulevard East Tremont Ave East Fordham Road</i>
15/25	DSNY	<i>Provide more frequent litter basket collection</i>	<i>Litter baskets are frequently filled to the brim and overflowing, contributing to more garbage on the streets and sidewalks.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>



Main Issue Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Commercial district revitalization

A huge segment of this district is the East Tremont strip, which boasts of numerous small businesses and several vacant commercial spaces. Due to this, it is incumbent that the District pays attention to these small businesses and their needs. In 2015 after handing out numerous surveys about what these business owners needed, the Community Board hosted a meeting with the Small Business Owners and representatives of city agencies, to address their concerns. During that meeting, it was obvious that these business owners had severe issues. Ranging from issues with landlords, garbage pick-up, etc. Community Board 6 is host to 2 BIDS, Fordham Road and Belmont. These two BIDS are very successful in educating their merchants on their rights and responsibilities. The East Tremont strip, which was rezoned in 2011, has had little development which takes advantage of the up zoning. The strip has the potential to revitalize the neighborhood with more employment opportunities, housing, and schools.

Community District Needs Related to Economic Development

Although Community Board 6 has two Business Improvement Districts,(Belmont and Fordham) merchants on the East Tremont commercial corridor are struggling. There is little diversity in the types of retail businesses offered on the strip, comprising fast food chains and discount stores East Tremont has slowly become a gritty area and an unpleasant place to shop. There are also more than half a dozen vacant commercial spaces in the district which discourages investment in the area.



Capital Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for medium income households</i>	<i>HPD has been doing an admirable job in providing income for low and extremely low-income households. However, in order to spur more development it is important that more housing is provided for middle-income households in the form of rentals and home ownership opportunities in order to have people more invested in the community.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
7/17	EDC	<i>Expand public programming and activation of public spaces on City-owned sites</i>	<i>Explore the feasibility to develop the city-owned land at 1899 Belmont Ave to be used as a public market or plaza for the community. This can include an RFEI or RFP.</i>	<i>Block 2947, Lot 18</i>
14/17	NYCHA	<i>Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades</i>	<i>Bronx Community Board 6 greatly appreciates the 64 security cameras allocated for our district, however we are in need of more cameras. We request to have more cameras near 1010 East 178th Street and Monterey Houses, as well as lighting in hallways and around the perimeter of buildings.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
15/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless</i>	<i>We are requesting more funding be allocated for housing for special needs households in our district. With 52% of households in our district spending 35% or more of their income on rent, many residents in our district are struggling to make ends meet in order to keep their homes. Our seniors and formerly homeless residents are especially vulnerable and at risk of losing their homes with fixed incomes.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
17/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households</i>	<i>52% of households in our district spend 35% or more of their income on rent. Our district is in need of more affordable housing (20-30% AMI) so that our residents are able to achieve a higher quality of life without concern of losing their homes.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>

5. Summary of Community District Needs and Budget Requests

Land Use, Housing and Economic Development



Expense Requests Related to Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/25	HPD	<i>Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations</i>	<i>Increase funding for the Proactive Preservation Initiative in The Bronx to give HPD the tools it needs to identify building distress and survey more buildings. There are thousands of violations in CB 6 apartment buildings and HPD needs more staff to address them.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
12/25	DOB	<i>Expand code enforcement</i>	<i>Bronx Community Board 6 is requesting funding be allocated for the expansion of code enforcement in city buildings. Often times, building owners and management will fail to comply to city regulations, resulting in unsafe and unhealthy conditions for our residents.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
17/25	SBS	<i>Help job seekers connect to employment</i>	<i>Bronx Community Board 6 is tied for first in unemployment rates in New York City at 18.2%. Additionally, 31.4% of residents live below the poverty threshold. More needs to be done directly in our district so that our residents are provided with viable job options to help lift themselves and their families out of poverty. Employment should include the culinary and tech industries.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
18/25	DCP	<i>Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs</i>	<i>The West Farms area, specifically E 180th between Southern Blvd. to Morris Park Ave should be studied to see if it can be up zoned for higher commercial and residential projects.</i>	<i>East 180th St Southern Blvd. Morris Park Ave</i>
22/25	SBS	<i>Provide or expand occupational skills training programs</i>	<i>The rate of unemployment (18.2%) coupled with the rate of educational attainment (12.3% of residents older than 25 have a college degree) in our district call to focus the need for occupational skills training programs in our district. With rapid development occurring in our district, our community can greatly benefit from construction training and job placement.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
25/25	SBS	<i>Support storefront / facade improvements</i>	<i>We request SBS apply for grants to improve storefront facades on East Tremont</i>	<i>East Tremont Ave Southern Blvd. Webster Ave</i>



Transportation

Main Issue Related to Transportation

Bus service (frequency and access)

Community Board 6 only has two train stations, (West Farms-East Tremont and E 180th) and they are both on the eastern border of the district. Thus residents rely on bus service which is often delayed and crowded. Bus service needs to be improved especially since the neighborhood's population is increasing with new housing developments.

Community District Needs Related to Transit Services

Residents often complain of subways not working, running on time etc. MTA does not have in place cleaning crews for the upkeep of surrounding areas, cutting weeds, garbage etc.



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Main Issue Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Park care and maintenance

Although this District is endowed with numerous parks, most residents are not comfortable being there, because of the low level of parks care and maintenance. Frequently, residents, have reported trash in our parks. There have also been complaints about our parks not being open or closed on time. In some instances, there have been reports of homeless people sleeping in the parks. Many of our parks need to have trees inspected frequently.

Community District Needs Related to Parks and Recreational Facilities and Programming

Additional Parks personnel is needed for the upkeep, i.e. cleaning, monitoring, pruning of all parks, malls.

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

Although Community Board 6 will host a state of the arts cultural center (Bronx River Arts Center) more support is need for after school programs and beacon programs to fulfill the need of the growing youth population in our district.

Community District Needs Related to Library Facilities and Programming

Community Board #6 has always been supportive of Libraries. To date because of our recommendations our libraries have received funding for capital as well as expense budgets. According to a recent memo received from the Vice President for Government and Community Affairs of NYPL, our continued support has allowed the NYPL to provide essential programs and services, such as ESOL classes, after school programs, technology training and world class research services, to the residents of this community.

Community District Needs Related to Community Boards

Although the budgets for community planning boards have increased, the current budget only allows for the hiring of a third staff person. The responsibilities of the community board are monumental , there are at least 50 volunteer board members, numerous meetings, and many issues on a daily basis that require immediate attention.



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Capital Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Bathgate Playground has a large field of grass that is unusable for the public and the nearby school, PS 3. We request the field be renovated for community use.	Bathgate Playground
4/17	DPR	Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	There is undeveloped parkland adjacent to Quarry Ballfield and across the street from Monterey Houses NYCHA building that has become subject to undesirable activity due to its underutilization. The surrounding community is advocating for this land to become a park with community flowerbeds and benches. The city should provide funding for the development of this empty land into a park to be enjoyed by the community.	181st Street Quarry Road Lafontaine Avenue
5/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	We request that Fairmount Playground be renovated including the asphalt and benches so it can be used for the community. Currently the disrepair of the park precludes community use.	Fairmount Playground
10/17	DCLA	Purchase equipment for cultural facility	We request funding for the purchase of a new VoIP phone system for the Bronx River Art Center.	Bronx River Art Center 1087 E Tremont Avenue
11/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Construct a track path around the open field in Vidalia Park.	Vidalia Park
12/17	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	For the Tremont Branch, we are requesting \$2.5 million for a HVAC upgrade, roof replacement and parapet restoration and \$725,000 for an ADA Compliant Elevator.	Tremont Branch Library 1866 Washington Avenue
13/17	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	For the Belmont Branch, we are requesting \$1 million for an Exterior renovation and \$1.5 million for a HVAC replacement.	Belmont Branch Library 610 East 186th Street



Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Expense Requests Related to Parks, Cultural and other Community Facilities

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/25	DPR	<i>Provide better park maintenance</i>	<i>In order to increase the level of service and parks and to keep up with new additions to the parks system, 81 City Park Workers are requested to service the parks throughout the borough. These CPW's will be fix posted, and be placed on mobile crews as well as cut grass.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
8/25	DPR	<i>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</i>	<i>Provide more programming inside parks within Community Board 6. We have large parks such as Tremont Park that would benefit from fitness classes led by the Parks Department.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
9/25	DCLA	<i>Support nonprofit cultural organizations</i>	<i>Provide more funding for Bronx River Art Center and DreamYard to provide more in school programming for our community</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
10/25	DPR	<i>Other park maintenance and safety requests</i>	<i>There exists a need for additional Park Enforcement Officers throughout the Bronx. 22 Additional Permanent Officers would bring the total number of officers to 75 which would allow better enforcement of quality of life concerns throughout the Bronx.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>
19/25	NYPL	<i>Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs</i>	<i>Currently, only 15 of the city's libraries are open 7 days a week. Increased funding will ensure that at least one branch in every Council District is open 7 days. This is particularly important at this moment, when more people than ever rely on our services, from early literacy to ESOL classes for immigrants and story times for homeless families.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>

6. Additional Information and Other Budget Requests

Additional Documents

[AM Sepulveda Letter of Support E Tremont BID](#)

[Sen. Rivera Letter of Support E Tremont BID](#)

[Sen. Diaz Letter of Support Tremont BID](#)

[AM Pichardo Letter of Support E Tremont BID](#)

[Sen. Diaz Letter of Support Vidalia Park](#)

Other Capital Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
16/17	SBS	<i>Build or expand incubator or affordable work or research lab spaces</i>	<i>The city should expand Fordham Foundry's incubator space so that it can extend programming to more community members and provide them with the opportunity to pursue their business goals.</i>	<i>Fordham Foundry 557 E Fordham Road</i>

Other Expense Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
20/25	SBS	<i>Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs</i>	<i>Businesses along the East Tremont corridor are in need of assistance. As it exists now, it does not serve to draw customers from outside the neighborhood in. There is little economic activity.</i>	<i>East Tremont Avenue Southern Boulevard Webster Avenue</i>
21/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance adult literacy programs services</i>	<i>In Bronx Community Board 6, fewer than one in five adults has a college degree (18%), and more than one-third of adults have not completed high school (38%). Adult literacy programs need to be expanded so that the large number of adults without a high school or college degree do not fall behind.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 17 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/17	SCA	<i>Provide a new or expand an existing elementary school</i>	<i>SCA states that School District 12, which is largely in CB 6, has an unfunded need of 572 seats. We request that an elementary school is built to accommodate the over 2,000 units of housing being built between 2015-2025 which will result in a larger student population. We also request that SCA accelerates its timeline to design and scope the 912 seats that are funded.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	<i>New York State Senator Ruben Diaz, Sr.; New York State Assemblymember Luis R. Sepulveda</i>
2/17	SCA	<i>Provide a new or expand an existing middle/intermediate school</i>	<i>SCA states that School District 12, which is largely in CB 6, has an unfunded need of 572 seats. School District 12, which is in CB 6, currently has a greater than 160% utilization rate for its middle schools. We request that a middle school is built to accommodate the over 2,000 units of housing being built between 2015-2025 which will result in a larger student population. A new school is necessary to ease overcrowding. We also request that SCA accelerates its timeline to design and scope the 912 seats that are funded.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
3/17	DPR	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	<i>Bathgate Playground has a large field of grass that is unusable for the public and the nearby school, PS 3. We request the field be renovated for community use.</i>	<i>Bathgate Playground</i>	<i>Assemblyman Victor Pichardo; Councilmember Ritchie Torres</i>
4/17	DPR	<i>Provide a new or expanded park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	<i>There is undeveloped parkland adjacent to Quarry Ballfield and across the street from Monterey Houses NYCHA building that has become subject to undesirable activity due to its underutilization. The surrounding community is advocating for this land to become a park with community flowerbeds and benches. The city should provide funding for the development of this empty land into a park to be enjoyed by the community.</i>	<i>181st Street Quarry Road Lafontaine Avenue</i>	
5/17	DPR	<i>Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)</i>	<i>We request that Fairmount Playground be renovated including the asphalt and benches so it can be used for the community. Currently the disrepair of the park precludes community use.</i>	<i>Fairmount Playground</i>	<i>Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.; Assemblymember Michael A. Blake</i>
6/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for medium income households</i>	<i>HPD has been doing an admirable job in providing income for low and extremely low-income households. However, in order to spur more development it is important that more housing is provided for middle-income households in the form of rentals and home ownership opportunities in order to have people more invested in the community.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 17 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority / Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
7/17	EDC	Expand public programming and activation of public spaces on City-owned sites	Explore the feasibility to develop the city-owned land at 1899 Belmont Ave to be used as a public market or plaza for the community. This can include an RFEI or RFP.	Block 2947, Lot 18	Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.
8/17	DFTA	Renovate or upgrade a senior center	Currently, about 1000 square feet of upstairs space at Mt. Carmel Center for Senior Citizens is empty and unused in the facility. It will require full renovation in order to be utilized, and will enable more services and programming to be available to seniors in the community.	Mt Carmel Center For Seniors 2405 Southern Blvd	Councilmember Ritchie Torres
9/17	SCA	Provide technology upgrade	PS 188x, a District 75 School at 770 Grote Street has extremely slow bandwidth and outdated laptops and desktops. Their student population uses these technologies more than the average school	PS 188x 770 Grote Street	
10/17	DCLA	Purchase equipment for cultural facility	We request funding for the purchase of a new VoIP phone system for the Bronx River Art Center.	Bronx River Art Center 1087 E Tremont Avenue	
11/17	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Construct a track path around the open field in Vidalia Park.	Vidalia Park	New York City Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.; New York State Assemblymember Luis R. Repulveda
12/17	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	For the Tremont Branch, we are requesting \$2.5 million for a HVAC upgrade, roof replacement and parapet restoration and \$725,000 for an ADA Compliant Elevator.	Tremont Branch Library 1866 Washington Avenue	
13/17	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	For the Belmont Branch, we are requesting \$1 million for an Exterior renovation and \$1.5 million for a HVAC replacement.	Belmont Branch Library 610 East 186th Street	
14/17	NYCHA	Install security cameras or make other safety upgrades	Bronx Community Board 6 greatly appreciates the 64 security cameras allocated for our district, however we are in need of more cameras. We request to have more cameras near 1010 East 178th Street and Monterey Houses, as well as lighting in hallways and around the perimeter of buildings.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Capital Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 17 capital budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority /
Continued

Support (CS)	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
15/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for special needs households, such as seniors, or the formerly homeless</i>	<i>We are requesting more funding be allocated for housing for special needs households in our district. With 52% of households in our district spending 35% or more of their income on rent, many residents in our district are struggling to make ends meet in order to keep their homes. Our seniors and formerly homeless residents are especially vulnerable and at risk of losing their homes with fixed incomes.</i>	Community Wide	
16/17	SBS	<i>Build or expand incubator or affordable work or research lab spaces</i>	<i>The city should expand Fordham Foundry's incubator space so that it can extend programming to more community members and provide them with the opportunity to pursue their business goals.</i>	Fordham Foundry 557 E Fordham Road	
17/17	HPD	<i>Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households</i>	<i>52% of households in our district spend 35% or more of their income on rent. Our district is in need of more affordable housing (20-30% AMI) so that our residents are able to achieve a higher quality of life without concern of losing their homes.</i>	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
1/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance job training</i>	<i>There are more than 2,000 housing units being constructed in the district and residents should be trained in construction and maintenance jobs for these future units. Due to the ongoing nature of construction residents should be prepared and able to work in their communities. HRA should release an RFP and contract with a construction company that is committed to training local residents on a large scale.</i>	Community Wide	
2/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance job search and placement support</i>	<i>There needs to be stronger job placement support for those without college degrees in CB 6. Only 7.2% of residents over the age of 25 have a college degree and as a result job placement needs to be targeted to the population for jobs that do not require a bachelor's degree ie (construction or tech industry).</i>	Community Wide	
3/25	NYPD	<i>Increase resources for youth crime prevention programs</i>	<i>The NYPD Explorers program is proven to prevent youth from committing crimes. We request an increase in funding for the NYPD Explorers program in the 48th Precinct</i>	Community Wide	
4/25	DPR	<i>Provide better park maintenance</i>	<i>In order to increase the level of service and parks and to keep up with new additions to the parks system, 81 City Park Workers are requested to service the parks throughout the borough. These CPW's will be fix posted, and be placed on mobile crews as well as cut grass.</i>	Community Wide	
5/25	DFTA	<i>Enhance educational and recreational programs</i>	<i>Funding should be increased for direct outreach services for senior citizens. These services, including nutrition counseling, recreation, and assistance handling financial matters, should be provided both on site at community organizations and at local senior citizens centers. This funding should also provided for increased home visitation services for those seniors who are no longer able to travel to centers and service providers' offices.</i>	Community Wide	
6/25	HPD	<i>Expand programs for housing inspections to correct code violations</i>	<i>Increase funding for the Proactive Preservation Initiative in The Bronx to give HPD the tools it needs to identify building distress and survey more buildings. There are thousands of violations in CB 6 apartment buildings and HPD needs more staff to address them.</i>	Community Wide	
7/25	DSNY	<i>Provide more on-street trash cans and recycling containers</i>	<i>There is a desperate need in our district for additional street corner garbage collection cans. The Sanitation Department should purchase and allocate additional collection cans to our district. The need for additional collection cans is particularly acute along our district commercial strips (Arthur Avenue, East Tremont Avenue).</i>	Community Wide	
8/25	DPR	<i>Provide more programs in parks or recreational centers</i>	<i>Provide more programming inside parks within Community Board 6. We have large parks such as Tremont Park that would benefit from fitness classes led by the Parks Department.</i>	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
9/25	DCLA	Support nonprofit cultural organizations	Provide more funding for Bronx River Art Center and DreamYard to provide more in school programming for our community	Community Wide	
10/25	DPR	Other park maintenance and safety requests	There exists a need for additional Park Enforcement Officers throughout the Bronx. 22 Additional Permanent Officers would bring the total number of officers to 75 which would allow better enforcement of quality of life concerns throughout the Bronx.	Community Wide	
11/25	HRA	Expand access to public health insurance such as Medicaid	Outreach, education, enrollment assistance and training is needed to increase access to public health insurance for vulnerable communities, such as those who live below the poverty line and/or those who are immigrants.	Community Wide	
12/25	DOB	Expand code enforcement	Bronx Community Board 6 is requesting funding be allocated for the expansion of code enforcement in city buildings. Often times, building owners and management will fail to comply to city regulations, resulting in unsafe and unhealthy conditions for our residents.	Community Wide	
13/25	DSNY	Provide more frequent garbage or recycling pick-up	Southern Boulevard experiences a lot of garbage build up needing to be cleared more frequently.	Southern Boulevard East Tremont Ave East Fordham Road	
14/25	HRA	Provide, expand, or enhance rental assistance programs	According to the Community District Profile for CB6, 52% of households in our district spend 35% or more of their income on rent. Our district has the highest rate of poverty with 43.9% of residents with incomes below the poverty level. Considering these indicators, funding is needed to expand rental assistance programs so that our residents don't end up homeless.	Community Wide	
15/25	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	Litter baskets are frequently filled to the brim and overflowing, contributing to more garbage on the streets and sidewalks.	Community Wide	
16/25	DOHMH	Create or promote programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc.	CB6 communities rank 1st in levels of obesity and 3rd in frequency of diabetes out of all communities in New York City. Increased funding should be provided to community organizations to encourage healthy eating and exercise, as well as expand GrowNYCs Fresh Bodega initiative in CB6.	Community Wide	
17/25	SBS	Help job seekers connect to employment	Bronx Community Board 6 is tied for first in unemployment rates in New York City at 18.2%. Additionally, 31.4% of residents live below the poverty threshold. More needs to be done directly in our district so that our residents are provided with viable job options to help lift themselves and their families out of poverty. Employment should include the culinary and tech industries.	Community Wide	

7. Summary of Prioritized Budget Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 Expense Requests

Bronx Community Board 6 submitted 25 expense budget requests, organized by priority.

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location	Supporters
18/25	DCP	<i>Study land use and zoning to better match current use or future neighborhood needs</i>	<i>The West Farms area, specifically E 180th between Southern Blvd. to Morris Park Ave should be studied to see if it can be up zoned for higher commercial and residential projects.</i>	<i>East 180th St Southern Blvd. Morris Park Ave</i>	
19/25	NYPL	<i>Extend library hours or expand and enhance library programs</i>	<i>Currently, only 15 of the city's libraries are open 7 days a week. Increased funding will ensure that at least one branch in every Council District is open 7 days. This is particularly important at this moment, when more people than ever rely on our services, from early literacy to ESOL classes for immigrants and story times for homeless families.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
20/25	SBS	<i>Expand programs to support local businesses and entrepreneurs</i>	<i>Businesses along the East Tremont corridor are in need of assistance. As it exists now, it does not serve to draw customers from outside the neighborhood in. There is little economic activity.</i>	<i>East Tremont Avenue Southern Boulevard Webster Avenue</i>	
21/25	HRA	<i>Provide, expand, or enhance adult literacy programs services</i>	<i>In Bronx Community Board 6, fewer than one in five adults has a college degree (18%), and more than one-third of adults have not completed high school (38%). Adult literacy programs need to be expanded so that the large number of adults without a high school or college degree do not fall behind.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
22/25	SBS	<i>Provide or expand occupational skills training programs</i>	<i>The rate of unemployment (18.2%) coupled with the rate of educational attainment (12.3% of residents older than 25 have a college degree) in our district call to focus the need for occupational skills training programs in our district. With rapid development occurring in our district, our community can greatly benefit from construction training and job placement.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
23/25	DHS	<i>Provide programs for homeless veterans</i>	<i>Funding is needed for expanded programming and regular case consultation meetings to ensure chronically homeless veterans are moved into shelters, and that each veteran within the system receive the attention needed to create a pathway to permanent housing for each veteran.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
24/25	DFTA	<i>Increase home delivered meals capacity</i>	<i>According to the Department of City Planning, 8.2% of residents are senior citizens. More funding is needed for case management agencies to identify the need for home delivered meals for seniors in our community.</i>	<i>Community Wide</i>	
25/25	SBS	<i>Support storefront / facade improvements</i>	<i>We request SBS apply for grants to improve storefront facades on East Tremont</i>	<i>East Tremont Ave Southern Blvd. Webster Ave</i>	

Appendix - Supporting Materials

The Community Board has provided the following supporting materials which can be accessed by clicking on the link(s) below or by copying and pasting the link(s) into a browser.

Health Care and Human Services



2015 Community Health Profile

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=3FB17AA9-0584-413B-8D82-9691D0A7ABD8>

Public Safety and Emergency Services



48th Pct Crime

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=47B81748-DD8C-4AD7-AFD7-4AA059EEF310>

Additional Information and Requests

Sen. Diaz Letter of Support Vidalia Park

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=2C871AD8-9FEA-4EF9-B28B-EDA78584F362>

AM Pichardo Letter of Support E Tremont BID

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=BB7E260E-8896-4400-8E89-6A21A5462728>

Sen. Diaz Letter of Support Tremont BID

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=930D1D06-F1E7-42DD-9A86-53EBBE7E0DDE>

Sen. Rivera Letter of Support E Tremont BID

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=BF369D46-B4E2-4DFE-91B4-5367B99460AC>

AM Sepulveda Letter of Support E Tremont BID

<https://a002-oom03.nyc.gov/IRM/Handlers/Campaign/Attachments.ashx?attachmentId=198838D7-3089-4B04-8BB0-FB04F0B766F4>