Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests

Fiscal Year 2021





# Bronx Community District 8

# INTRODUCTION

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

# HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report represents the Statement of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. This report contains the formatted but otherwise unedited content provided by the community board, collected through an online form available to community boards from August to November, 2019.

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: <u>CDNEEDS\_DL@planning.nyc.gov</u>

This report is broadly structured as follows:

# **1. Overarching Community District Needs**

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

# 2. Policy Area-Specific District Needs

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

# 3. Community Board Budget Requests

The final section includes the two types of budget requests submitted to the City for the FY21 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.

# <u>Disclaimer</u>

This report represents the Statements of Community District Needs and Community Board Budget Requests of this Community District for Fiscal Year 2021. 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 8

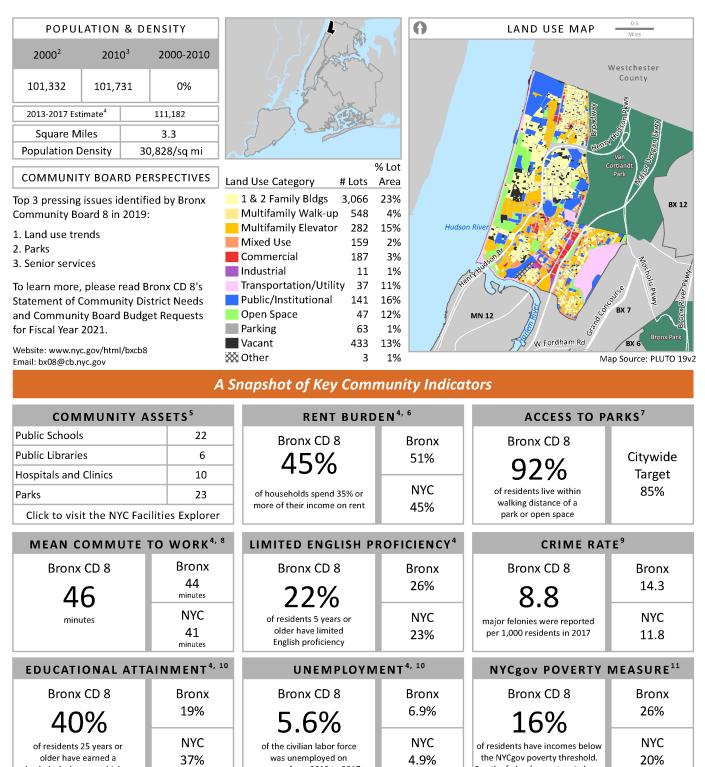
Address: 5676 Riverdale Avenue, 100 Phone: (718) 884-3959 Email: bx08@cb.nyc.gov Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8 Chair: Rosemary Ginty District Manager: Ciara Gannon

# 2. COMMUNITY DISTRICT PROFILE AND LAND USE MAP

# **Bronx Community District 8**

See BX 8's profile online at communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov

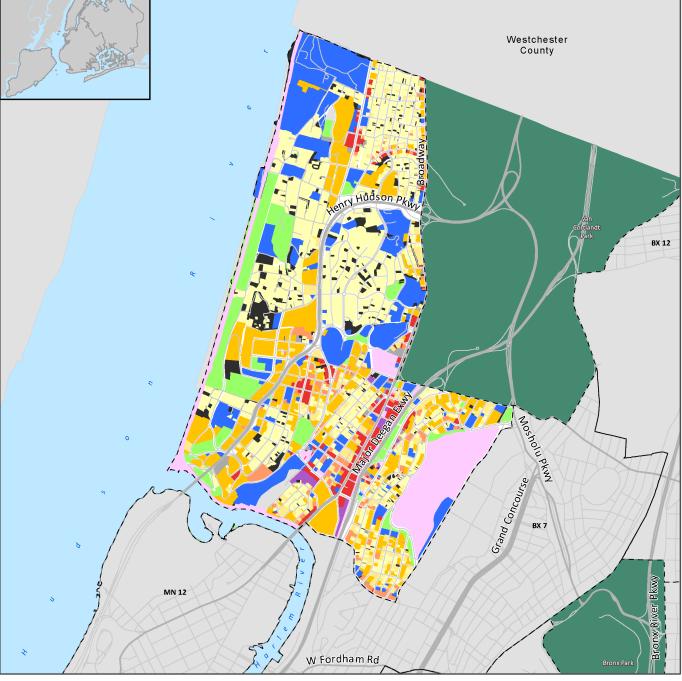
Neighborhoods<sup>1</sup>: Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Marble Hill (MN), North Riverdale, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil



bachelor's degree or higher average from 2013 to 2017 See the federal poverty rate here. See the federal poverty rate her

are not statistically meaningful. <sup>7</sup>NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (2019). DPR considers walking distance to be 1/4 mile for parks less than 6 acres, and 1/2 mile for larger parks and pools. <sup>8</sup>Differences of less than 2 minutes are not statistically meaningful. <sup>9</sup>NYPD CompStat, Historic Complaint Data (2018); <sup>10</sup>Differences of less than 2 percentage points are not statistically meaningful. <sup>11</sup>2013-2017 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.

# One & Two Family Buildings Commercial/Office Buildings Open Space Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Walkup Buildings Image: Commercial/Manufacturing Parking Facilities Image: Community Districts Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Elevator Buildings Image: Commercial/Residential Buildings Image: Community Districts Image: Community Districts Image: Community Districts Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Elevator Buildings Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Elevator Buildings Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Elevator Buildings Image: Community Districts MultiFamily Elevator Buildings Image: Community Districts Image: Community



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# **3. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT**

Bronx Community Board 8 (BxCB8) includes the neighborhoods of Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights, Marble Hill, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil and Van Cortlandt Village. The majority of residents are between the ages of 18 and 64. There are, however, a significant number of children and senior citizens in BxCB8. BxCB8 has various types of housing including cooperative apartments, condominium units, one family houses, 2-4 family houses and multi-family apartment buildings. Board 8 has three New York City Housing Authority Developments: Marble Hill, Fort Independence and Bailey Houses. Our community has 68 park sites, with two of the most prominent being Van Cortlandt Park and Wave Hill. The NYCHA Developments are in need of major refurbishments for necessary work required on mechanical systems, including repair, maintenance, and replacement of heat and hot water systems and elevators. Funding for necessary exterior work, including repair, maintenance, and replacement of roofs and windows is also required. In addition, we request funding to maintain sufficient personnel for full staffing of all caretaker positions at Marble Hill, Fort Independence and Bailey Houses, and to hire additional skilled trade workers to service Marble Hill, Fort Independence and Bailey Houses. Our senior citizens are very important to us, and we support independent, healthy living for seniors. It is our determination to ensure that all of their concerns are addressed. Accordingly, we request funding: - to address the unique mental health issues in the geriatric community, including dementia care - to monitor home care firms - to fund administrative costs of outreach and home visiting programs for frail home-bound adults - to educate community on home safety design and modifications in order to allow older adults to safely remain in their homes - to increase count-down and audible crossing signals, and longer traffic light/walk changes on wide streets - to fund community based mental health services for older adults in centers and home settings. School aged children comprise a significant component of our population. Our children deserve a safe and supportive learning environment, and services to promote their development. We request funding for: - upgrade of playground surfaces and classroom Smart Boards, and - an upgrade of security to the many parks and playgrounds in our community. Our parks engage people of all ages, from all around the City, in healthy outdoor activities. However, many of our parks are in need of maintenance, reconstruction, and repair. We request funding for: - construction and related plumbing repairs in Fort Four Park, (hazardous condition in) Bailey Avenue playground, - a rest room at West 251st Street in Van Cortlandt Park adjacent to the parade grounds - construction of a pond wall at Spuyten Duyvil Park - erosion control measures in Ewen Park - reconstruction of the steps of the historic south side entrance to the Van Cortlandt House Museum renovation of Van Cortlandt Park Stadium - renovation of the Strong Street playground, and - sufficient maintenance personnel in our parks. Our libraries are an invaluable cultural and educational resource. We request funding for: -Riverdale Branch: HVAC unit replacement, ADA upgrade – ADA bathrooms, full interior renovation; - Spuyten Duyvil Branch: expansion, boiler & HVAC unit replacements, ADA upgrade, general interior renovation. BxCB8 recognizes the need for programs to deal with food waste and collection of refuse in our community. We request funding for: the NYC organic composting project - expansion of organic recycling - increase of Sanitation Enforcement's staffing for enforcement of illegal dumping and pooper-scooper laws - an SUV to transport WEP workers with equipment to wider areas in the community requiring maintenance. We request funding for Department of Environmental Protection to: - increase resources for sewer inspections, cleaning and repair of curb drains, catch basins and sewer lines to alleviate flooding, - daylighting of Tibbets Brook both inside and outside Van Cortlandt Park to divert and prevent billions of gallons of water from overwhelming our combined sewer. BxCB8 is dedicated to the promotion of public safety. We request funding for additional Argus cameras for the 50th Precinct. BxCB8 recognizes the need to maintain safe streets in good condition, to promote the efficient flow of traffic and transportation throughout our community. We request funding for: - an increase in resurfacing to fifteen lane-miles - full reconstruction of the crumbling step street at Summit Place between Heath and Bailey Avenues, and - restoration to full Bx10 & Bx20 bus service to level prior to 2011 cuts. Finally, we request funding to enhance and promote the commercial areas in BxCB8 for: - a beautification project at Broadway West 225th Street up to West 242nd Street - benches and bike racks in commercial corridors, and - planning funds for community merchant organizations. Thank you for your consideration.

# **4. TOP THREE PRESSING ISSUES OVERALL**

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

The three most pressing issues facing this Community Board are:

# Land use trends (zoning, development, neighborhood preservation, etc.)

Preservation of our Special Natural Area District (SNAD), in order to save the thriving green, bucolic nature of our neighborhoods is paramount to both their history and sustainability. Our commitment is unshakeable!

#### Parks

Parks: Our parks have proven to be more and more popular, and their upkeep and facilities have not kept pace. While we possess the largest natural park (Van Cortlandt) and one of the cultural/botanical/architectural gems (Wave Hill) with-in the five boroughs which attract their own attention, we must assure that the residents have adequate green facilities within the City's 10-minute walk commitment that will enable all residents to keep healthy.

#### **Senior services**

Senior Services: We are committed to the care and the improvement of the quality of life for our senior citizens. As our population ages, more services must be provided to respond to the unique needs of our seniors. We are determined to support community-based geriatric mental health services, home care, home safety, and innovative programs at our senior centers. The elderly have spent their lives providing for us, and we have an obligation to respect them and care for their particular needs in a timely manner.

# 5. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

# HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

#### Most Important Issue Related to Health Care and Human Services

#### Programs, services or facilities for seniors

There is a pressing need for Dementia Care programs owing to the fact that Bronx Community Board 8 has a high population of seniors, and there is a need for outreach programs to educate family caregivers on dementia, personcentered caregiver support, and expansion of tuition assistance to allow eligible middle class participants to attend accredited social day services, facilitating their remaining in the community they helped build.

# Community District Needs Related to Health Care and Human Services

# **Needs for Health Care and Facilities**

Funding for Innovative Services for Seniors (ISS) geriatric mental health program, meal services for seniors, and safe crossings. DFTA liaison for BxCB8.

# **Needs for Older NYs**

The following programs and services are critical for Bronx Community Board 8's Aged population: -Dementia Care, -Homecare, -Home Safety -Safe Crossings, -Innovative Programming, -Geriatric Mental Health services.

#### **Needs for Homeless**

BXCB8 does have some homeless individuals sleeping on sidewalk and park benches. They also pan handle at shopping plazas and other public areas in BXCB8. Counselors are needed to assist them with shelter resources.

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

Increase Division of Housing Community Base and Centers; Increase Common Space for Youth and Senior Citizens (Fort Independence & Marble Hill)

# Capital Requests Related to Health Care and Human Services

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

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
5/29	DFTA	Enhance home care services	Non-subsidized social adult day programs have closed, leaving only one non-profit SADC in Bronx CB8. The need for dementia care is increasing. Expand tuition assistance for non- profit programs to allow more eligible seniors to afford SADC and fund outreach programs to educate family caregivers on dementia, safety issues and caregiver support opportunities.	
12/29	DFTA	Increase transportation services capacity	Senior Center Transportation: Transportation service funding in Senior Center contracts. Walkability in many sections of our community board is difficult – having steep hills, step streets and long blocks. Regular bus service provides limited North-South routes and even fewer East- West routes. Frail/disabled residents continue to experience difficulties with Access-A-Ride and delayed taxi fare reimbursements	
14/29	DFTA	Other senior center program requests	Bronx CB8 has a large concentration of older adults. The cost of operating and staffing senior centers is growing and cash flow is difficult. Continue to increase administrative funding to ensure qualified professional staff and increase outreach to lessen isolation and potential abuse. Continue to shorten time to release funding	

# YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

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

# Schools and educational facilities (Maintenance)

Each student deserves a seat in our schools to ensure the optimum environment to provide a good education. However, the reality is that our schools increase capacity to the maximum at the expense of lunch rooms, auditoria, and gymnasia to house students. Our physical school capacity must increase to meet the student population which requires it. The provision and maintenance of air conditioning units, as well as 'smart boards,' in our schools are needed to improve the children's learning environments. Library upgrades provide support for curriculum, instruction and specialized efforts geared to improve student literacy.

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

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

Each student deserves a seat in our schools to ensure the optimum environment to provide a good education. However, the reality is that our schools increase capacity to the maximum at the expense of lunch rooms, auditoria, and gymnasia to house students. Our physical school capacity must increase to meet the student population which requires it. The provision and maintenance of air conditioning units in our schools are needed to improve the children's learning environments. Library upgrades provide support for curriculum, instruction and specialized efforts geared to improve student literacy.

# Needs for Youth and Child Welfare

No comments

# Capital Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	Install security measures at PS81- Emergency automatic locks & bullet proof glass on all classroom doors	
9/26	SCA	Renovate exterior building component	Upgrade blacktop recess yard to safe pavement and add play equipment	
13/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	PS 81 Air Conditioning for Auditorium	

# Expense Requests Related to Youth, Education and Child Welfare

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/29	DOE	Other educational programs requests	Bronx Theater High School funds to support Performance Arts in the Black Box Theater Programs go from September through June	
21/29	DOE	Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material	Industrial-size copy machine w/toner & service	
23/29	DOE	Improve school safety	Renovation of Main Office- Flooring, furniture, etc	

# PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

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

#### **Crime prevention programs**

Anti crime focus -In response to reports of robberies, we support the installation of Argus cameras in designated areas of our community to deter criminal activity, and to create a documentary record of any crimes or conditions in said areas.

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

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

In response to reports of robberies, and in consideration of the many school aged children travelling through our community, the Argus project, installing cameras at designated sites, will hopefully serve as a deterrent to crime, and also provide law enforcement with a tool to document the commission of any criminal activity, to assist them in the investigation of such activity.

#### **Needs for Emergency Services**

No comments

# Capital Requests Related to Public Safety and Emergency Services

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
12/26	NYPD	Provide surveillance cameras	Argus Cameras for high priority areas: Broadway & West 225th Street including the area of West 225th Street to Exterior Street & Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west & Manhattan College Parkway; Johnson & Riverdale Avenues from West 230th to West 232nd Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Reservoir Avenue to Fort Independence Street; Independence Street at West 239th Street including south to West 235th Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Van Cortlandt Avenue West; Orloff Avenue to Saxon Avenue; Bailey Avenue, Summit Place to West 234th Street; Riverdale Avenue, West 236th to West 238th Streets	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/29	NYPD	Other NYPD programs requests	At the intersection of Sedgwick Ave and Hillman Ave. There are two schools at this location: PS 95 and AmPark	

# CORE INFRASTRUCTURE, CITY SERVICES AND RESILIENCY

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

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

#### Water runoff and flooding

Increase sewer inspections, cleaning and repair of curb drains, catch basins and sewer lines to alleviate serious local flooding problems. In addition, we need to divert millions of gallons of water from overwhelming our sewer system by construction for daylighting of Tibbets Brook both inside and outside of Van Cortlandt Park.

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

# Needs for Water, Sewers, and Environmental Protection

Funding for the completion of the Tibbett Brooks daylighting research; Restore Mosholu Golf Course & Driving Range (part of Croton Water Treatment Plant agreement)

# **Needs for Sanitation Services**

Organic Recycling Expansion: Increase funding to expand Education and Outreach staff in order to maximize participation in Organic Recycling Program and support organic recycling drop-off centers in CB8.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
8/26	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	Support expenditure of DEP funds under the Open Waters/City-Wide Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) in CD8 in accordance with 2014 NYS DEC requirements for green infrastructure coverage and expenditures and 2018 Bronx CB 8 Resolution calling for it as the "primary focus" of the LTCP, in consultation with CB8 E&S Committee 30	
10/26	DEP	Evaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgrounds	Funds necessary to daylight freshwater wetland known as Tibbetts Brook, which currently discharges into the Van Cortlandt Lake Weir and the Broadway sewer, and reconnect it to the Harlem River to reduce combined sewer overflow.	
20/26	DSNY	Provide new or increase number of sanitation trucks and other equipment	Purchase an additional Haulster for snow season mobility	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
9/29	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	Personnel funding adequate to operate 5 Motorized Litter Patrol vehicles (MLP) for DSNY to clean hard to get to areas (e.g., step streets)	
13/29	DEP	Clean catch basins	Weir & Chamber Maintenance: Interagency Tibbetts Brook weir maintenance plan that uses best practices to mitigate flooding in Van Cortlandt Lake, VCP, and Broadway sewer	
16/29	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	Enforcement of dog waste removal laws by posting signs and increasing ticketing	

18/29	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Organic Recycling Expansion: Increase funding to expand Education and Outreach staff in order to maximize participation in Organic Recycling Program and support organic recycling drop-off centers in CB8.
24/29	DEP	Investigate air quality complaints at specific location	Air, asbestos and Noise Inspectors: Increase funds for more inspectors to alleviate enforcement issues due to construction boom and uptick in noise complaints in CB8.
25/29	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	Overfilled Street Baskets: more frequent basket pick-up service to alleviate overfilled baskets, particularly in heavily trafficked commercial areas, and alleviate illegal dumping.

# HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

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

#### Land use and zoning

Preservation of our Special Natural Area District (SNAD), in order to save the thriving green, bucolic nature of our neighborhoods is paramount to both their history and sustainability.

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

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

Separate Riverdale [NA2] and Staten Island [NA1] Special Natural Districts (SNAD) from each other to concentrate on the distinct differences for planning and development in Riverdale. Building "as of right" limits the community's ability to preserve the character and architectural heritage which they established and/or intentionally moved into.. The community should have some say on development within the context of existing buildings, parks, schools, and other immediate amenities.

#### **Needs for Housing**

Maintain full staffing of all caretaker positions at NYCHA Marble Hill, Fort Independence and Bailey Avenue, and Houses complexes. Hire additional skilled trade workers to service these sites. Funding for roof maintenance and roof replacement at Fort Independence Houses. These have been severe and long-standing issues for the residents.

#### **Needs for Economic Development**

A Small Business Services (SBS) business area beautification

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/26	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade public housing developments	Replacement of Boilers at Marble Hill (\$12.6m) and Fort Indep. (\$6.3m)	
11/26	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space	Apartment Kitchen Renovations- 8.37 M; Floor & Doors0 \$9.96 M; Radiator/ Convector/ Baseboard \$1.86 M.	
26/26	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade public housing developments	Restroom Accommodations for elderly and disabled tenants (grab bar installation)	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
3/29	NYCHA	Other housing support requests	Rodent control	
15/29	SBS	Conduct BID Feasibility Analysis or support BID Formation Planning for a selected commercial district	Placement of SBS Neighborhood 360 Fellow in CB8 to assist in merchant association organization	
19/29	SBS	Other expense commercial district revitalization requests	Benches and/or Street Seats in commercial zones to help transform our commercial districts into vibrant social spaces	
22/29	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	Affordable Housing Serving Older District Residents: To reduce homelessness and allow older residents with low/moderate income to continue to age in their familiar communities, fund housing subsidies for current residents to avail themselves of neighborhood preferences in new and existing affordable senior housing buildings and to prevent financial-driven evictions from current units	

27/29 SBS

Support non-profit organizational development and capacity building In order to bring business services to business owners in CB8

# TRANSPORTATION

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

#### Most Important Issue Related to Transportation and Mobility

#### Subway service (frequency and access)

BxCB8 office is located at the far end of our district, making it inaccessible to residents for constituent services, as well as participation in CB meetings and access to and from train and subway service.

Community District Needs Related to Transportation and Mobility

# Needs for Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure

Construction of a contiguous side walk on north side of West 254th Street from Netherland Avenue to MTA Railroad Terrace (at the Riverdale MetroNorth Rail Road station). The many local residents are forced to walk on West 254 St, exposing themselves to catastrophic vehicular danger. The very hilly nature of this district requires many highmaintenance step streets. Reconstruction and maintenance of the step streets is sorely needed. BxCB8 has generally good subway and MNRR train service to the West Bronx and Manhattan, but needs elevator access to the #1 IRT subway terminus at West 242nd Street - a key access point to Van Cortlandt Park for millions of NYC residents, It also has inadequate bus service in the district connecting to the subways, minimizing their utility to local residents. Bx10 and Bx20 bus lines had been severely curtailed in 2011 and need to be restored to full service.

#### **Needs for Transit Services**

Increase Bx10 and restore full BX 20 service to level prior to 2011 cuts. These cuts have caused a tremendous issue with overcrowding, and reduction of subway ridership.

# Capital Requests Related to Transportation and Mobility

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
4/26	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Install elevator at 242 St. #1 subway terminus for handicap access to subway, Van Cortlandt Park, etc.	
14/26	DOT	Repair or build new step streets	Rehabilitate step street at Summit Place between Heath Avenue & Bailey Avenue	
19/26	DOT	Other capital traffic improvements requests	CSX: Supplement funding from the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee to purchase the land known as the former Putnam Right-of- Way alongside the Major Deegan Expressway from West 230th St to Van Cortlandt Park South from CSX Railroad to create a greenway.	
21/26	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Capital)	Create a sidewalk on the north side of W. 254th Street from Riverdale Avenue to Palisade Avenue to rehabilitate the infrastructure on the street to provide for adequate drainage	
23/26	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Capital)	Build a sidewalk staircase connecting Independence Ave from 5900 Arlington Ave to West 261st Street	
25/26	DOT	Other capital traffic improvements requests	Increase the resurfacing of streets in Community Board 8 to fifteen lane miles	

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
7/29	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Expense)	AGING - Safe Crossings Inspect and maintain pavement at cross-walks throughout the district to mitigate falls that often lead to health decline and death and refresh cross-walk lines striping to increase driver and pedestrian visibility. Install Accessory Pedestrian Signals (auditory, chirping signals). Lengthen pedestrian walk signals and add audible crossing signals near large senior populations and shopping areas	

11/29	DOT	Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals	Install countdown pedestrian traffic signals throughout CB8
26/29	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	Restore full Bx20 service: to level prior to 2011 service cuts
28/29	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Expense)	Increase funding for school crossing guards throughout CB 8

# PARKS, CULTURAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

# **Bronx Community Board 8**

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

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

BxCB8 office is located at the far end of our district, making it inaccessible to residents for constituent services, as well as participation in CB meetings. It is a windowless, inhospitable environment for City employees and residents alike. DCAS should work hand-in-hand with our office and leadership to facilitate a workable solution promptly. Our parks are not being properly maintained due to lack of staff, and projects that are needed are not being done, such as: - Fort Four Park restroom reconstruction - Bailey Avenue playground redesign and reconstruction - Spuyten Duyvil Park pond wall construction - Ewen Park erosion control measures - Strong Street playground renovation. In addition, Van Cortlandt Park awaits the construction of a restroom at Broadway and West 251st Street (next to the Parade Grounds), renovation of the steps on the historic south side entrance to the VCP Museum, and renovation of the VCP stadium which should otherwise be condemned.

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

#### **Needs for Parks**

Bronx Community Board 8 has a longstanding request for construction of a new restroom and related plumbing repairs in Fort Four Park, a heavily used park. Partial funding has been provided by elected officials, but more is needed. At the community's request, we strongly urge that the remaining funds needed to complete this project be granted in a timely manner to carry this project forward. We continue to request implementation of the Bailey Avenue playground redesign and reconstruction, Spuyten Duyvil Park pond wall construction, Ewen Park erosion control measures, Strong Street playground renovation, and in Van Cortlandt Park the construction of a restroom at Broadway and West 251st Street (next to the parade grounds), as well as renovation of the steps on the historic south side entrance to the VCP Museum, and renovation of the VCP stadium.

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

No comments

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

Bronx Community Board 8's five branch libraries - Jerome Park, Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil and Van Cortlandt - are heavily used resource and programming centers. The libraries are home to all from seniors to students and toddlers. Funding the requests of the libraries is essential to ensure full purpose operation. BxCB8 supports the following requests for critical upgrades: -Riverdale - HVAC replacement, ADA upgrade, and full interior renovation; -Spuyten Duyvil - HVAC and boiler replacement, including ADA upgrade, with general interior renovation, -Van Cortlandt - relocation funding. In addition, WiFi service should be provided to all branches, and expansion of 6-day-a-week branch opening.

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

Building "as of right" limits the community's ability to preserve the character and architectural heritage which they established and/or intentionally moved into. The community should have some say on development within the context of existing buildings, parks, schools, and other immediate amenities. BxCB8 office is located at the far end of our district, making it inaccessible to residents for constituent services, as well as participation in CB meetings. It is also a windowless, inhospitable environment for City employees and residents alike. DCAS should work hand-in-hand with our office and leadership to facilitate a workable solution promptly.

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
2/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	PARKS & RECREATION - Restroom Construction at Broadway and West 251st Street in Van Cortlandt Park adjacent to the Parade Grounds. The lack of the facility in a very high use area for local residents creates a sanitary health and safety risk.	Broadway & West 251st Street
3/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Redesign and reconstruction of Bailey Avenue playground. Drains at southeast end of playground require immediate repair to eliminate pools of standing water, which are a health hazard.	
5/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Renovation of Van Cortlandt Mansion: in VCP to bring into code compliance, provide handicapped accessibility, and do repairs associated with waterproofing the structure, paint exterior fence, and repair deteriorated stairs on the historic southside entrance.	
6/26	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	Exterior upgrade which will beautify the exterior to complete the patron's experience	
15/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	PARKS & RECREATION - Erosion control measures in Ewen Park to prevent runoff downhill toward Riverdale Avenue. It was noted that the slope is used for sledding in the winter and that this should be considered if and when erosion-control measures are undertaken.	
16/26	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	Funds to ensure our branches can continue to meet the growing need in our community.	
17/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	PARKS & RECREATION - Reconstruction of the Pond Wall at Spuyten Duyvil Park to prevent water run off onto the roadway in the parking lot of the Metro North station.	

18/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Repair of the "birding (foot)bridge" over Tibbetts Brook outside the fence around the golf course in Van Cortlandt Park [Committee notes that project is partially funded]	
22/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Roof replacement, replacement of leaky windows & exterior doors, renovation of sinking floors & bathrooms including upgrading to ADA compliance, and repair or replacement of stoves, refrigerators, cooling handlers, and HVAC control panel [It is a DPR facility].	
24/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	PARKS & RECREATION Renovation of Van Cortlandt Park Stadium	
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	LIBRARIES funding for relocation of branch, including furniture, equipment and ADA compliance.	3874 Sedgwick Avenue

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

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/29	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Parks Maintenance Personnel and Enforcement - DRP Personnel for Lawns and Landscaped areas and Enforcement: PARKS & RECREATION - Gardeners and other personnel sufficient for maintenance, especially of lawns and landscaped areas, and enforcement in CB8 parks, especially on weekends and times of high use.	
2/29	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	PEP personnel to alleviate the chronic double parking on Broadway at Van Cortlandt Park, whether through issuance of summonses or other means	
10/29	DPR	New equipment for maintenance (Expense)	Purchase replacement tractor and accompanying trailer and a lawnmower to aid in maintenance of CB8 parks.	

17/29	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	Purchase of a mini-packer garbage truck for CB8 parks
20/29	DPR	New equipment for maintenance (Expense)	Purchase of New Crew-cab Pick-up Trucks with a lift-gate to replace aging vehicles in CB8 neighborhood parks.

# 6. OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

# **Other Capital Requests**

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

# **Other Expense Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
6/29	Other	Other expense budget request	DEP staff to protect & maintain DEP property in and around Jerome Park Reservoir; supervise public access to CB8 residents	
29/29	Other	Other expense budget request	Increase in funding for the Crime Victims Unit of the DA's Office	

# 7. SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS

# **Capital Budget Requests**

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/26	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade public housing developments	Replacement of Boilers at Marble Hill (\$12.6m) and Fort Indep. (\$6.3m)	
2/26	DPR	Provide a new, or new expansion to, a building in a park	PARKS & RECREATION - Restroom Construction at Broadway and West 251st Street in Van Cortlandt Park adjacent to the Parade Grounds. The lack of the facility in a very high use area for local residents creates a sanitary health and safety risk.	Broadway & West 251st Street
3/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Redesign and reconstruction of Bailey Avenue playground. Drains at southeast end of playground require immediate repair to eliminate pools of standing water, which are a health hazard.	
4/26	NYCTA	Improve accessibility of transit infrastructure, by providing elevators, escalators, etc.	Install elevator at 242 St. #1 subway terminus for handicap access to subway, Van Cortlandt Park, etc.	
5/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Renovation of Van Cortlandt Mansion: in VCP to bring into code compliance, provide handicapped accessibility, and do repairs associated with waterproofing the structure, paint exterior fence, and repair deteriorated stairs on the historic southside entrance.	
6/26	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	Exterior upgrade which will beautify the exterior to complete the patron's experience	
7/26	SCA	Renovate interior building component	Install security measures at PS81- Emergency automatic locks & bullet proof glass on all classroom doors	

SCA	Renovate interior building component	area of West 225th Street to Exterior Street & Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west & Manhattan College Parkway; Johnson & Riverdale Avenues from West 230th to West 232nd Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Reservoir Avenue to Fort Independence Street; Independence Street at West 239th Street including south to West 235th Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Van Cortlandt Avenue West; Orloff Avenue to Saxon Avenue; Bailey Avenue, Summit Place to West 234th Street; Riverdale Avenue, West 236th to West 238th Streets PS 81 Air Conditioning for Auditorium
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west & Manhattan College Parkway; Johnson & Riverdale Avenues from West 230th to West 232nd Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Reservoir Avenue to Fort Independence Street; Independence Street at West 239th Street including south to West 235th Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Van Cortlandt Avenue West; Orloff Avenue to Saxon Avenue; Bailey Avenue, Summit Place to West 234th Street; Riverdale
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west & Manhattan College Parkway; Johnson & Riverdale Avenues from West 230th to West 232nd Street; Sedgwick Avenue, Reservoir Avenue to Fort Independence Street;
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west & Manhattan College Parkway; Johnson &
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames Place, Claflin Avenue & West 197th Street; Broadway & West 242nd Street west &
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge & University Avenues, Webb Avenue & Eames
		Broadway to 230th Street; Kingsbridge &
		area of West 225th Street to Exterior Street &
NYPD	Provide surveillance cameras	Argus Cameras for high priority areas: Broadway & West 225th Street including the
	community facilities or open space	Baseboard \$1.86 M.
NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade NYCHA	Apartment Kitchen Renovations- 8.37 M; Floor & Doors0 \$9.96 M; Radiator/ Convector/ Breach and \$1.86 M
	playgrounds	
	stormwater greenstreets, green	overflow.
	rain gardens,	Harlem River to reduce combined sewer
	•	discharges into the Van Cortlandt Lake Weir and the Broadway sewer, and reconnect it to the
	location or property	known as Tibbetts Brook, which currently
DEP	Evaluate a public	Funds necessary to daylight freshwater wetland
SCA	Renovate exterior building component	Upgrade blacktop recess yard to safe pavement and add play equipment
	playgrounds	Committee 30
	stormwater greenstreets, green	Resolution calling for it as the "primary focus" of the LTCP, in consultation with CB8 E&S
	rain gardens,	and expenditures and 2018 Bronx CB 8
	infrastructure, e.g.	requirements for green infrastructure coverage
		<i>Open Waters/City-Wide Long Term Control Plan</i> (LTCP) in CD8 in accordance with 2014 NYS DEC
-	DEP	Iocation or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgroundsSCARenovate exterior building componentDEPEvaluate a public location or property for green infrastructure, e.g. rain gardens, stormwater greenstreets, green playgroundsNYCHARenovate or upgrade NYCHA community facilities or open space

15/26	DPR	Decemption of an	
	2	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	PARKS & RECREATION - Erosion control measures in Ewen Park to prevent runoff downhill toward Riverdale Avenue. It was noted that the slope is used for sledding in the winter and that this should be considered if and when erosion-control measures are undertaken.
16/26	BPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	Funds to ensure our branches can continue to meet the growing need in our community.
17/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	PARKS & RECREATION - Reconstruction of the Pond Wall at Spuyten Duyvil Park to prevent water run off onto the roadway in the parking lot of the Metro North station.
18/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	Repair of the "birding (foot)bridge" over Tibbetts Brook outside the fence around the golf course in Van Cortlandt Park [Committee notes that project is partially funded]
19/26	DOT	Other capital traffic improvements requests	CSX: Supplement funding from the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee to purchase the land known as the former Putnam Right-of- Way alongside the Major Deegan Expressway from West 230th St to Van Cortlandt Park South from CSX Railroad to create a greenway.
20/26	DSNY	Provide new or increase number of sanitation trucks and other equipment	Purchase an additional Haulster for snow season mobility
21/26	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Capital)	Create a sidewalk on the north side of W. 254th Street from Riverdale Avenue to Palisade Avenue to rehabilitate the infrastructure on the street to provide for adequate drainage
22/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a building in a park	Roof replacement, replacement of leaky windows & exterior doors, renovation of sinking floors & bathrooms including upgrading to ADA compliance, and repair or replacement of stoves, refrigerators, cooling handlers, and HVAC control panel [It is a DPR facility].

23/26	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Capital)	Build a sidewalk staircase connecting Independence Ave from 5900 Arlington Ave to West 261st Street	
24/26	DPR	Reconstruct or upgrade a park or amenity (i.e. playground, outdoor athletic field)	PARKS & RECREATION Renovation of Van Cortlandt Park Stadium	
25/26	DOT	Other capital traffic improvements requests	Increase the resurfacing of streets in Community Board 8 to fifteen lane miles	
26/26	NYCHA	Renovate or upgrade public housing developments	Restroom Accommodations for elderly and disabled tenants (grab bar installation)	
CS	NYPL	Create a new, or renovate or upgrade an existing public library	LIBRARIES funding for relocation of branch, including furniture, equipment and ADA compliance.	3874 Sedgwick Avenue

# Expense Budget Requests

Priority	Agency	Request	Explanation	Location
1/29	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	Parks Maintenance Personnel and Enforcement - DRP Personnel for Lawns and Landscaped areas and Enforcement: PARKS & RECREATION - Gardeners and other personnel sufficient for maintenance, especially of lawns and landscaped areas, and enforcement in CB8 parks, especially on weekends and times of high use.	
2/29	DPR	Enhance park safety through more security staff (police or parks enforcement)	PEP personnel to alleviate the chronic double parking on Broadway at Van Cortlandt Park, whether through issuance of summonses or other means	
3/29	NYCHA	Other housing support requests	Rodent control	
4/29	NYPD	Other NYPD programs requests	At the intersection of Sedgwick Ave and Hillman Ave. There are two schools at this location: PS 95 and AmPark	
5/29	DFTA	Enhance home care services	Non-subsidized social adult day programs have closed, leaving only one non-profit SADC in Bronx CB8. The need for dementia care is increasing. Expand tuition assistance for non- profit programs to allow more eligible seniors to afford SADC and fund outreach programs to educate family caregivers on dementia, safety issues and caregiver support opportunities.	
6/29	Other	Other expense budget request	DEP staff to protect & maintain DEP property in and around Jerome Park Reservoir; supervise public access to CB8 residents	
7/29	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Expense)	AGING - Safe Crossings Inspect and maintain pavement at cross-walks throughout the district to mitigate falls that often lead to health decline and death and refresh cross-walk lines striping to increase driver and pedestrian visibility. Install Accessory Pedestrian Signals (auditory, chirping signals). Lengthen pedestrian walk signals and add audible crossing signals near large senior populations and shopping areas	

8/29	DOE	Other educational programs requests	Bronx Theater High School funds to support Performance Arts in the Black Box Theater Programs go from September through June
9/29	DSNY	Other cleaning requests	Personnel funding adequate to operate 5 Motorized Litter Patrol vehicles (MLP) for DSNY to clean hard to get to areas (e.g., step streets)
10/29	DPR	New equipment for maintenance (Expense)	Purchase replacement tractor and a ccompanying trailer and a lawnmower to aid in maintenance of CB8 parks.
11/29	DOT	Provide new traffic or pedestrian signals	Install countdown pedestrian traffic signals throughout CB8
12/29	DFTA	Increase transportation services capacity	Senior Center Transportation: Transportation service funding in Senior Center contracts. Walkability in many sections of our community board is difficult – having steep hills, step streets and long blocks. Regular bus service provides limited North-South routes and even fewer East- West routes. Frail/disabled residents continue to experience difficulties with Access-A-Ride and delayed taxi fare reimbursements
13/29	DEP	Clean catch basins	Weir & Chamber Maintenance: Interagency Tibbetts Brook weir maintenance plan that uses best practices to mitigate flooding in Van Cortlandt Lake, VCP, and Broadway sewer
14/29	DFTA	Other senior center program requests	Bronx CB8 has a large concentration of older adults. The cost of operating and staffing senior centers is growing and cash flow is difficult. Continue to increase administrative funding to ensure qualified professional staff and increase outreach to lessen isolation and potential abuse. Continue to shorten time to release funding
15/29	SBS	Conduct BID Feasibility Analysis or support BID Formation Planning for a selected commercial district	Placement of SBS Neighborhood 360 Fellow in CB8 to assist in merchant association organization
16/29	DSNY	Increase enforcement of canine waste laws	Enforcement of dog waste removal laws by posting signs and increasing ticketing

17/29	DPR	Improve trash removal and cleanliness	Purchase of a mini-packer garbage truck for CB8 parks
18/29	DSNY	Provide or expand NYC organics collection program	Organic Recycling Expansion: Increase funding to expand Education and Outreach staff in order to maximize participation in Organic Recycling Program and support organic recycling drop-off centers in CB8.
19/29	SBS	Other expense commercial district revitalization requests	Benches and/or Street Seats in commercial zones to help transform our commercial districts into vibrant social spaces
20/29	DPR	New equipment for maintenance (Expense)	Purchase of New Crew-cab Pick-up Trucks with a lift-gate to replace aging vehicles in CB8 neighborhood parks.
21/29	DOE	Provide more funds for teaching resources such as classroom material	Industrial-size copy machine w/toner & service
22/29	HPD	Provide or enhance rental subsidies programs	Affordable Housing Serving Older District Residents: To reduce homelessness and allow older residents with low/moderate income to continue to age in their familiar communities, fund housing subsidies for current residents to avail themselves of neighborhood preferences in new and existing affordable senior housing buildings and to prevent financial-driven evictions from current units
23/29	DOE	Improve school safety	Renovation of Main Office- Flooring, furniture, etc
24/29	DEP	Investigate air quality complaints at specific location	Air, asbestos and Noise Inspectors: Increase funds for more inspectors to alleviate enforcement issues due to construction boom and uptick in noise complaints in CB8.
25/29	DSNY	Provide more frequent litter basket collection	Overfilled Street Baskets: more frequent basket pick-up service to alleviate overfilled baskets, particularly in heavily trafficked commercial areas, and alleviate illegal dumping.
26/29	NYCTA	Expand bus service frequency or hours of operation	Restore full Bx20 service: to level prior to 2011 service cuts

27/29	SBS	Support non-profit organizational development and capacity building	In order to bring business services to business owners in CB8	
28/29	DOT	Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, including traffic calming (Expense)	Increase funding for school crossing guards throughout CB 8	
29/29	Other	Other expense budget request	Increase in funding for the Crime Victims Unit of the DA's Office	