



**FY 2018 BOROUGH LEVEL BUDGET CONSULTATION
September 19, 2016**

**Manhattan Community Boards
255 Greenwich St.
New York, NY**

1) Are the firehouses fully staffed? Is there a need for additional personnel?

Eight classes of Probationary Firefighters have graduated from 2013-2016, with another class presently in our academy. Due to a Federal lawsuit, the Department was prohibited from hiring any new firefighters for almost five years, and thus incurred a significant amount of overtime.

So, we are pleased that, with each incoming class, we are closer to our budgeted firefighter headcount, which is sufficient to meet our current and ongoing needs. Additionally, the next open competitive Firefighter exam remains on schedule for Fall 2017.

As per department staffing guidelines, all units are fully staffed at the start of each tour. Members are hired on overtime to ensure all units start each tour with the requisite number of firefighters.

2) Does the FDNY have a plan to increase the numbers of inspectors, fire marshals and code inspectors? How much funding is needed?

The Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) now operates with funding for 110 Fire Marshals and 26 Supervising Fire Marshals. Current Headcount is 136 BFI personnel. The Citywide South Command is responsible for Brooklyn, Staten Island and Manhattan (south of 110 Street). There are approximately 24 Fire Marshals and 7 Supervising Fire Marshals assigned to this location. OMB has funded the new needs request for additional Fire Marshals (36 lines) to increase staffing.

Relative to Fire Safety Inspectors, as more public safety initiatives are being introduced in New York City, we review and update personnel accordingly.

3) What plans FDNY have to respond to increasing number gas leak complaints? Is there a need for increasing the funds? Is there any funding for proactive inspections?

The Department is currently absorbing the increased response to reported gas leaks utilizing existing resources.

To assist in conducting operations at gas leaks safely and effectively, the department is in the process of issuing new altar gas meters to all engine companies. Ladder Companies, and units assigned to the Special Operations Command, already possess gas metering capabilities. The new gas meter distribution is being funded by donations from Con Edison and National Grid.

4) What funds have been allocated to expand the FDNY safety education outreach program for FY18? IS there any change from prior FY 17?

Our Fire Safety Education Unit continues to educate more New Yorkers on how to reduce safety risks. Fire safety education is an essential mission of the Department as it is our mission to prevent fires as well as fight them. On a daily basis we work to educate the public about safeguarding themselves, their family, homes, property, friends, and neighbors from fire and other hazards. The agency has an extremely dedicated Fire Safety Education Unit, comprised of active and retired firefighters who conduct thousands of community-based outreach programs to provide fire safety education to more than 700,000 New Yorkers and visitors annually.

Notably, the Department in partnership with the Mayor's Office, NYC Council, FDNY Foundation, and Kidde - a corporate partner - launched the nation's largest Smoke/Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector giveaway and installation program, #GetAlarmedNYC. The \$4 million program aims to distribute/install 100,000 photoelectric combination smoke/co alarms into the homes of New Yorkers. Emphasis has been placed on neighborhoods that our Bureau of Fire Investigation reported having high rates of fire deaths and injuries.

In regards to Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training, the agency's CPR program provides compressions-only bystander CPR training to community groups, students, health professionals and corporate employees upon request throughout the five boroughs, free of charge. The unit is supported by funding from the FDNY Foundation and NYC Service and is staffed by four Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and one officer from our Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The unit has morning and afternoon shifts, working with classes of between 15 and 30 people. For large events, we assign EMTs on overtime. Classes usually last no longer than 45 minutes, but can take up to an hour.

The existing budget is \$350,000 (\$250,000 from NYCService and \$100,000 from the FDNY Foundation).

In Fiscal 2016, the Department's CPR Unit trained a total of 21,233 people (a new record), with limited resources. Since 2007, the Unit has provided free training to over 100,000 New Yorkers in a program which target a mix of communities Citywide, with an emphasis on minority communities where the death rate from cardiac arrest is highest. The overall goal is to increase the number of City residents trained in bystander CPR and improve cardiac survival rates in New York City. Also with additional funding, we can increase the number of people trained annually and add onto this record of success.

5) What is the budget allocation for firefighter safety gear and equipment for the actual FY 17? Does the FDNY need more funding to upgrade the firefighter safety gear and equipment for FY 18? Does the FDNY need to increase the funding for the replacement of front-line fire-fighting apparatus?

The Fire Department does not need additional funding to upgrade Firefighter safety gear and equipment at this time. The projected Quartermaster cost for FY17 is \$16.4M, which includes all protective gear and equipment for all Firefighter ranks. These items include: bunker coat with name, bunker pants with suspenders, helmet with front piece, bunker boots, gloves, and hood.

The Fire Department, due to the size of our fleet and the requirements of front-line service life, is constantly purchasing new emergency response vehicles. Our current policy is to replace all front-line fire apparatus after 10 years, 364 days of service.

6) What initiatives are funded to replace EMS units with environmental friendly engines units? How many units were replaced in the last fiscal year? How much funding is needed for this program?

Presently the Fire Department's ambulance fleet totals 540 vehicles. These vehicles serve a front line service life of five years, 364 days and therefore the agency looks to replace approximately 90 ambulances annually. The agency also continuously updates our vehicle specifications to ensure we purchase the most energy efficient ambulances possible. Moreover both the Department's fire apparatus and ambulance fleets must conform to stricter Federal emission control standards than regular commercial (diesel) vehicles and presently both fleets operate several times cleaner than they were a mere ten years ago.

Meanwhile we continue work on a project to place charging stations at the street-corner locations Citywide where ambulances are normally dispatched to medical emergencies from (allowing ambulance crews to turn off their motors but be able to maintain ambient temperatures within the crew / patient compartments and power to all Department radio and computer systems). As part of this program all new ambulances are being purchased with an auxiliary power unit. This unit will also allow the motor to be turned off while keeping critical systems active. Additionally ambulance crews will be able to use the proposed charging stations to re-energize the auxiliary power unit to ensure the auxiliary unit remains viable and that engine idling may be reduced as much as possible. We estimate use of these auxiliary power units, in conjunction with the charging stations, may significantly reduce ambulance idling time.

These vehicles have a per-unit cost of approximately \$232,000 (which includes the vehicle (four wheel drive on half the order), radios, and the auxiliary power unit on all models) with an additional \$50,849 for equipment needed for Basic Life Support (BLS) units; \$93,300 for Advanced Life Support (ALS) units, and \$106,151 for our Rescue-HazTac units.

7) Please provide a list of how many fire houses in Manhattan were renovated last fiscal year and the type of renovation performed. What is fire houses renovation plan for the next year? How much funding is needed for the renovations by districts?

The Department is assessing and creating a priority list of firehouse renovations throughout the City. OMB has increased our capital funding for routine and larger renovation projects. After the assessment is completed, new needs will be requested as required of the January plan through budget submissions.

The requested list of firehouse renovations are below.

Completed FY 16			
Site	Address	Board	Scope of work
Engine 55	363 Broome St.	2	Bathroom renovation
Engine 5	340 E 14 th Street	3	Kitchen & Bathroom renovation
Engine 54	782 Eighth Ave.	5	Bathroom renovation
Engine 74	120 W. 83 rd ST.	7	Bathroom renovation
Engine 59	111w 133 rd St.	10	Bathroom renovation
Engine 53	1836 Third Ave.	11	Bathroom renovation
Planned FY 17			
Engine 55	363 Broome St.	2	Roof and waterproofing
Rescue 1	530 W. 43 rd St.	4	Bathroom renovation
Engine 23	215 W. 58 th St.	4	HVAC/Kitchen/Bathroom/exterior renovations
Engine 16	234 East 29 th St.	6	Bathroom renovation
Engine 21	238 East 40 th St.	6	Bathroom renovation
Engine 40	131 Amsterdam	7	HVAC and Bathroom renovation
Engine 22	159 East 85 th St.	8	Bathroom renovation
Engine 44	221 E 75 th St.	8	Apparatus floor replacement and kitchen renovation

8) Does the FDNY need more funding to upgrade the 9-1-1 communication system infrastructure? If yes, how much funding is needed? What is the upgrading plan for FY 18?

The initiative to update communications systems across the Fire Department and Police Department, called the Emergency Communications Transformation Program, is headed by the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications. As the initiative develops, the Fire Department will continue to use the 911 systems and computer automated technology to determine the most appropriate unit(s) to respond to incoming emergencies in as little time as possible.

9) What budget priorities would FDNY like Community Boards to support in FY18?

Fire Commissioner Nigro has continuously prioritized the expansion of fire and life safety education outreach. Throughout 2016, the Department held its second annual citywide Open House and a series of Summer Block Parties were held at more than 200 firehouse and EMS stations. These events were used as community-based venues to promote fire and life safety practices, provide tips and literature in

several key languages, provide free smoke/carbon monoxide alarms, and promote healthy living. These events strengthened community relations, and the Department seeks to continue similar events throughout our neighborhoods in the upcoming year.

10) Please explain any particular features of your budgeting process that CB's should take into account when formulating their requests.

The Department adheres to the standard budgetary process. We ask that budget requests be submitted no later than March of each year for OMB consideration. The type of justification required depends on whether the budget request is Expense or Capital. Budget requests classified as: Public Health and Safety, Legal Mandates or Cost Reduction is the types of City funded budget requests that OMB reviews in a priority order.