



THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

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FY '19 Expense Priorities

1. Baseline funding for city funded NORCS (DFTA)

Explanation: NORCs in CD 3, of which there are six, provide Supportive Services Programs to maximize and support the successful aging in place of older residents. Many of the City's NORCs can access health and social services in their own buildings, building complexes or locally within their neighborhoods. These programs are a model for bringing necessary care and support to seniors living in age-integrated buildings or neighborhoods.

2. Increase DHS funding for DHS Peace officers and include Third Street Men's Shelter as designated shelter requiring Peace Officers (DHS)

Explanation: CB 3 is home to over 15 shelters, among the highest in the City. Project Renewal Third Street Men's Shelter is a large shelter that needs more effective security for the safety of both shelter residents and neighbors. DHS peace officers are urgently needed for this facility. NYPD reported decrease in calls and incidents when a police car was assigned to this block, but lack of funding for overtime ended this program.

3. Increase DFTA funding for social services for senior affordable housing (DFTA)

Explanation: Approximately 8200 seniors (65+) in CB 3 live below the poverty line, which is approximately 33% of seniors in the District. Many of these seniors rely on affordable housing. An increase in DFTA funding would ensure a social worker at each facility along with other needed senior services.

4. NYCHA Staffing: Housing maintenance staff: ground and building maintenance and skilled trades (NYCHA)

Explanation: There is a serious backlog of repairs and maintenance. Building maintenance has dramatically deteriorated as repair wait-times have become intolerably long, well below NYCHA's service response goals

5. Fully fund senior centers – increase funding for over-utilized senior centers (DFTA)

Explanation: Many senior centers in CB 3 have experienced a recent increase in membership without an increase in funding. This is in addition to centers that have historically been over-utilized and under-funded. A large number of senior centers are currently funded by DFTA with each DFTA funded senior center being contracted for a specific number of meals and other services. However, the senior centers that do not receive enough funding go to the City Council. DFTA should fully fund all senior centers and more equitably allocate resources to meet service needs in over-utilized centers.

6. Increase funding for Runaway Homeless Youth (DYCD)

Explanation: Runaway and homeless youth need protection and help reuniting with their families whenever possible. According to Safe Horizon, there were over 1,600 homeless youth under 24 years old in NYC in 2016. Funding is needed for programs that provide services such as drop-in centers, crisis shelters, transitional independent living programs, and street outreach and referral services. Funding is also needed for specialized programming for runaway and homeless pregnant and parenting youth, as well as LGBTQ youth.

7. Increased HASA funding for supportive housing (HRA)

Explanation: in 2016, the HASA program was expanded. Now, all NYC residents with HIV or AIDS who meet financial need requirements are eligible. This eligibility expansion guarantees a rental subsidy to low-income people living with HIV regardless of if they are HIV+ or have an AIDS diagnosis. It has a significant impact on addressing the number of HIV+ people who are homeless.

8. Cornerstone Programs (DYCD)

Explanation: CB 3 currently has four Cornerstone Programs, which provide engaging, high-quality, year-round programs for adults and young people that enhance skills and promote social interaction, community engagement, and physical activity. CB 3 programs are run by Chinatown YMCA, Henry Street Settlement, University Settlement, and Grand Street Settlement.

9. Compass Programs (DYCD)

Explanation: CB 3 is home to more than 20,500 children under 18 years of age, many of whom need programs like the Comprehensive After School System of NYC (COMPASS), which is made up of over 800 programs serving K-12. Many programs in the Lower East Side have waitlists and there is a lack of funding particularly for neighborhood-based elementary as well as high school slots that need to be increased.

10. Increased funding for social workers in family shelters (DHS)

Explanation: There are 362 social workers in 72 families with children sites. CB 3 has social workers in only 2 facilities.

11. Increased funding for Chamber on the Go (SBS)

Explanation: SBS deploys specialists to small businesses. CB 3 would like this expanded to our district.

12. Park Maintenance Staff (DPR)

Explanation: Additional funds are needed to increase year-round workforce for parks maintenance so that there is less of a need to rely on temporary or seasonal staff.

13. Playground Associates (DPR)

Explanation: Playground Associates provide seasonal recreation activities for children.

14. Funding for in-house synthetic fields and purchase of materials and installation (DPR)

Explanation: In-house installation of synthetic turf will allow installation to be done much more quickly and less expensively. There are not adequate recreational fields in CB 3, creating need for installation of new fields.

15. Funding for in-house synthetic field repair crew (DPR)

Explanation: Funding to allow repair of heavily used fields by an in-house crew will facilitate quicker and less expensive repair.

16. Funding for CB 3 Community Gardens (DPR)

Explanation: General expense funding for gardens, soil, and garden related programming is needed.

17. Additional Parks Enforcement Police (DPR)

Explanation: Parks Enforcement Police provide a uniformed presence where they safeguard Parks properties and facilities and enforce rules and regulations in regard to quality-of-life conditions.

18. Chinatown Rezoning Resources (DCP)

Explanation: This rezoning is very high priority for the community. City Planning is working with many rezoning projects, including Mandatory Inclusionary Housing. Additional resources are needed to ensure the appropriate planning for Chinatown.

19. DOB Staffing--priority need is first another liaison for Manhattan. Additionally more plan examiners and inspectors are very needed. (DOB)

Explanation: Construction has increased considerably in the last few years. An additional liaison is needed to accommodate the additional work. Regarding inspectors and examiners, for the first time DOB is not meeting its goal of auditing 20% of professionally certified applications. Some inspections have been documented as taking up to a year to close that were formerly closed in a few weeks.

20. HPD Staffing--Project Managers for Inclusionary Housing Program (HPD)

Explanation: The Inclusionary Housing Program has grown in terms of units produced and projects in pipeline. The Program now needs project managers to coordinate with necessary divisions.

21. Decibel meters that can measure the 2007 noise code (NYPD)

Explanation: Current NYPD decibel meters are old ones that cannot measure bass—which is the usual problem causing quality of life complaints in CB 3.

22. Funding for needed FDNY heavy equipment: Tow Trucks and Grapplers (FDNY)

Explanation: Funding will allow FDNY to purchase their own equipment rather than borrowing from other City agencies.

23. Stabilizing NYC –baseline funding in HPD (HPD)

Explanation: This is a coalition comprised of fifteen CBOs, a citywide legal service provider and a citywide housing advocacy to combat tenant harassment and preserve affordable housing. This project combines legal, advocacy and organizing resources into a citywide network to help tenants take their predatory equity landlords to task for patchwork repairs, bogus eviction cases, and affirmative harassment. This Network has received City Council discretionary funds for the past 3 years and needs to have baselined funding to ensure continued effectiveness in preserving affordable housing.

24. Tree pruning and stump removal (DPR)

Explanation: Funding would go towards keeping up with demand for pruning and stump removal requests.

25. Increased funding for Summer Youth Employment (DYCD)

Explanation: Youth unemployment rates continue to be at record highs in NYC. The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provides New York City youth between the ages of 14 and 24 with paid summer employment for up to six weeks in July and August. This year, there were over 70,000 jobs available, but more than 140,000 applications were received. In the current economy, more slots are needed for our low- and moderate - income youth.

26. Funding for additional safe haven beds (DHS)

Explanation: Community Board 3 is currently experiencing a crisis with street homeless. There are not only more homeless, some of the beds previously designated for street homeless have been re-designated for subway homeless, which is also dramatically increasing. Safe haven beds are low-threshold housing that enable street homeless to transition to housing and have proven effective. Currently there are not always beds available and street homeless have had to wait for this form of shelter.

27. SEPS Program – homeless prevention program (HRA)

Explanation: In CB 3, 36% of renter households are severely rent burdened and low income. This program can help eligible individual adults and adult families (families without children) at risk of entry to shelter and those already in shelter to secure permanent housing. The number of households that can be approved to receive the SEPS Rent Supplement is limited due to available funding. Therefore increased funding is necessary. This is a necessary anti-eviction program to prevent increase in homelessness.