

# BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 10 - SANITATION AND PARKS

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FEBRUARY 2026

New York City  
Independent  
Budget Office



# TEAM IBO

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# WHAT IS IBO?

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**The Independent Budget Office** is a **nonpartisan City agency** that provides data-driven analysis of how New York City raises and spends money. IBO examines the City budget, taxes, and major policy issues to give all New Yorkers clear, reliable information for decision-making. Our work includes....



**Three Charter-mandated reports**



**Year-round reports on relevant budgetary and policy issues**



**Testimonies at City Council hearings**



**Presentations & general resources**



# CITY BUDGET BASICS

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New York City  
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# THE IMPORTANCE OF NYC'S BUDGET

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Creating the City's **\$118 billion budget** is a process in which many City policy decisions are made. **Budgets are a blueprint for...**



## ***Revenues***

How much money the City will receive



## ***Expenditures***

How the City government will spend money on services and infrastructure



## ***Balancing the budget***

which is required by NYC law

# Who makes decisions on the NYC budget?



## **NYC** Mayor's Office of Management and Budget

The Mayor / Office of Management & Budget:

- Draft and propose financial plans to City Council. Responsible for preparing and executing the City's expense, revenue, and capital budgets.
- Manage City budget and oversee agency activities.
- The budget reflects Mayoral priorities.

# OTHER KEY BUDGET ACTORS

## The Mayor



## The Comptroller

- Acts as **NYC's Chief Financial Officer**, oversees: Audit and Procurement and Pensions
- Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

## Community Boards

- 59 Community boards in the 5 boroughs
- Advise on local land use and zoning
- 30 days prior to submission of departmental budget estimates, CBs submit their annual needs statements

## The City Council



Made up of **51 members** representing each council district, with **35 standing committees** that practice oversight of NYC functions, City Council...

- Negotiates and approves the budget before new year.
- Responds to budget proposals.
- Holds public meetings to question agencies and collect community input.

## The NY State Financial Control Board

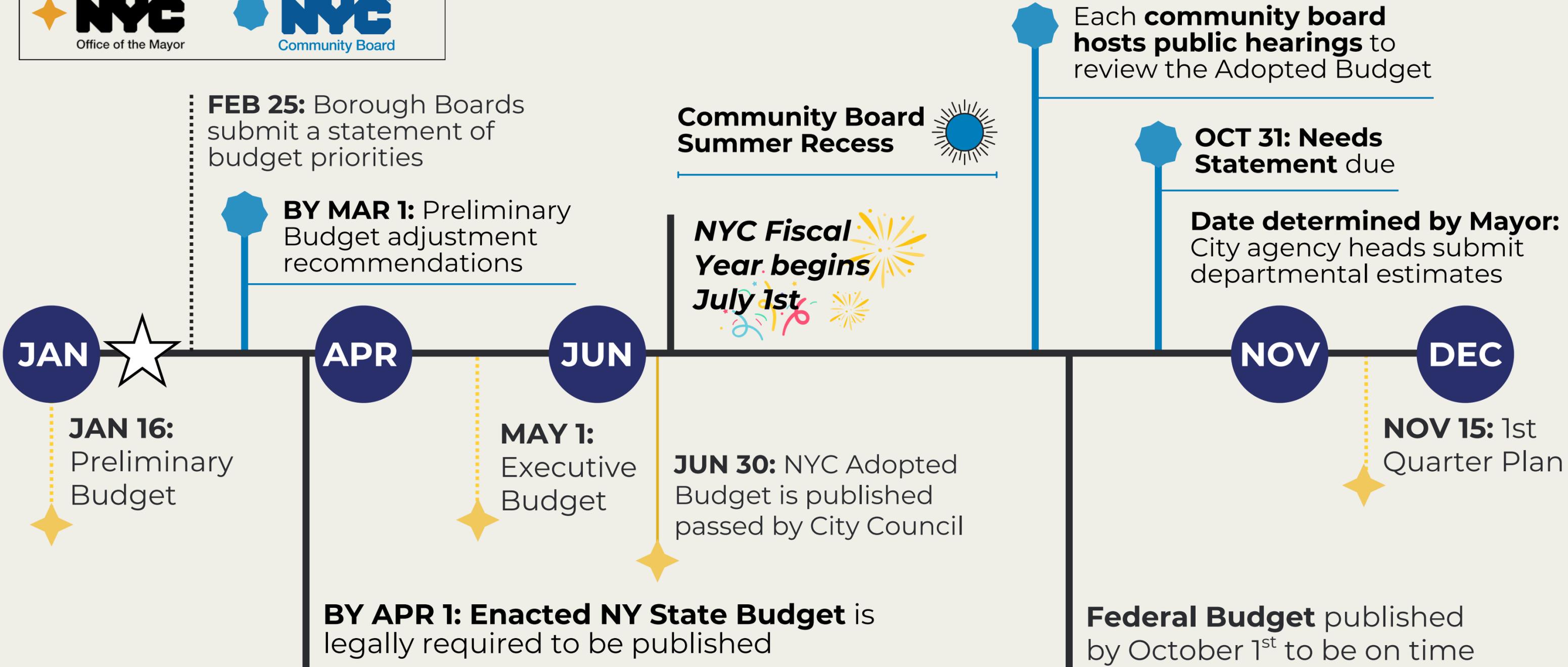
- Created by the State Legislature in September 1975 in response to the NYC Fiscal Crisis.
- Oversees City's fiscal management when appropriate.

## NYC IBO

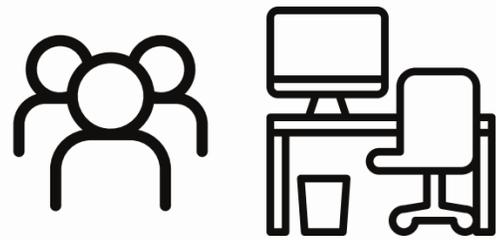
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# THE CITY BUDGET TIMELINE

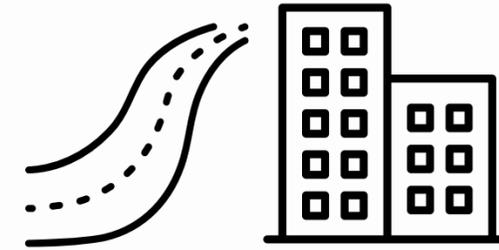


# What are the 2 types of NYC budgets?



## The Expense Budget

("Operating Budget") **covers day-to-day expenses** like salaries, supplies, and services.



## The Capital Budget

Funds **physical infrastructure** for either government or public use (roads, bridges, libraries, etc.).

### What Counts as an Expenditure?

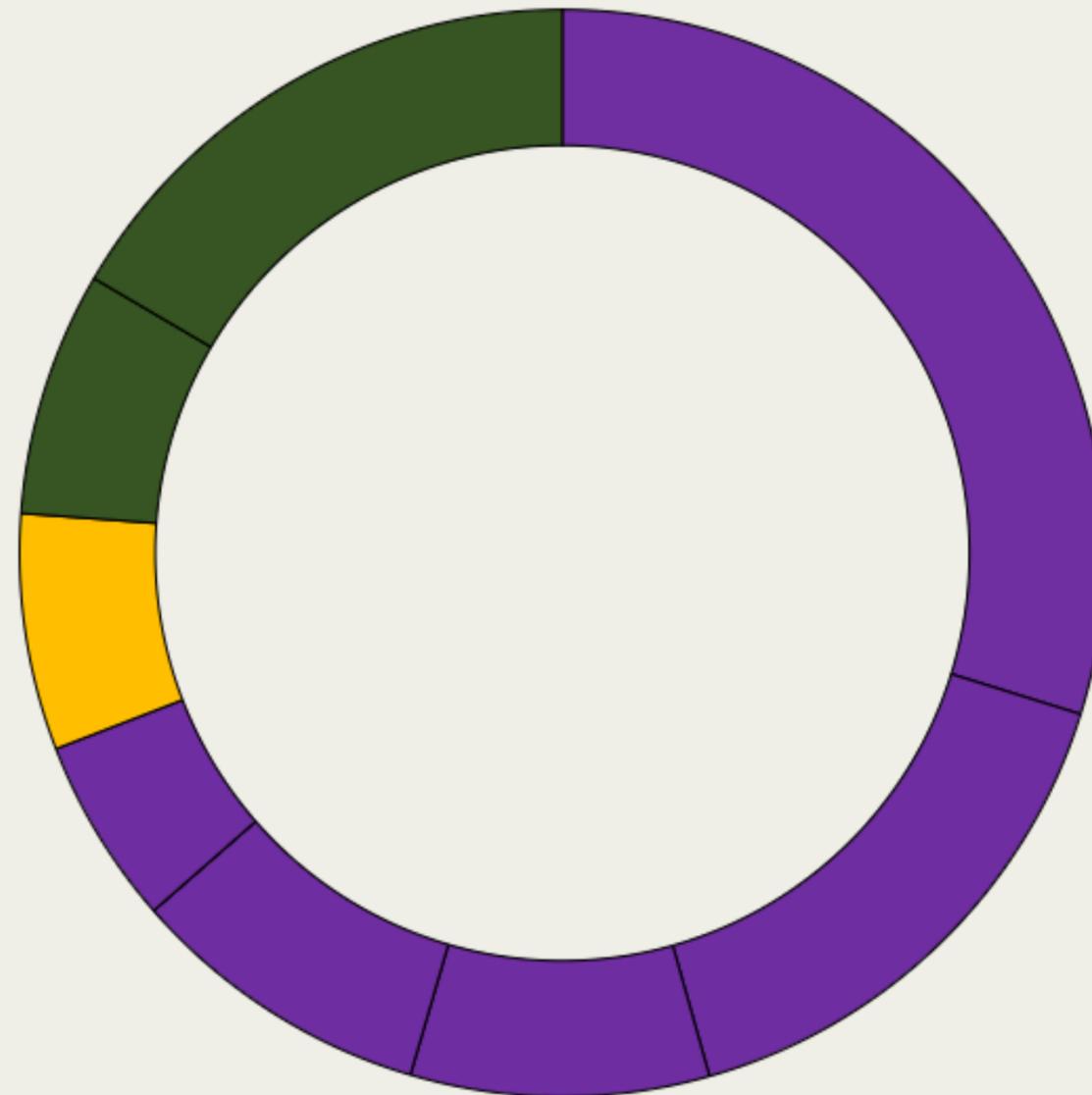
- **Salaries & Benefits:** Paying City employees and covering health insurance, pensions, etc.
- **Services for New Yorkers:** Housing subsidies, homeless shelters, public schools, etc.
- **Operations & Maintenance:** Keeping services running, fixing things, paying outside contractors.
- **Debt Service:** Paying back money the City borrowed (bonds) to build capital projects.

### What Counts as a Capital Project?

- **Expensive:** Costs at least \$50,000
- **Long-Term:** Minimum useful life of 5 years (3 for IT projects)

# Where does NYC get its money from?

**2026 Adopted  
Revenue Budget  
\$118 Billion**



## ■ Taxes

**30%** - Property Taxes

**16%** - Personal Income Taxes

**9%** - Business Income Taxes

**9%** - General Sales Taxes

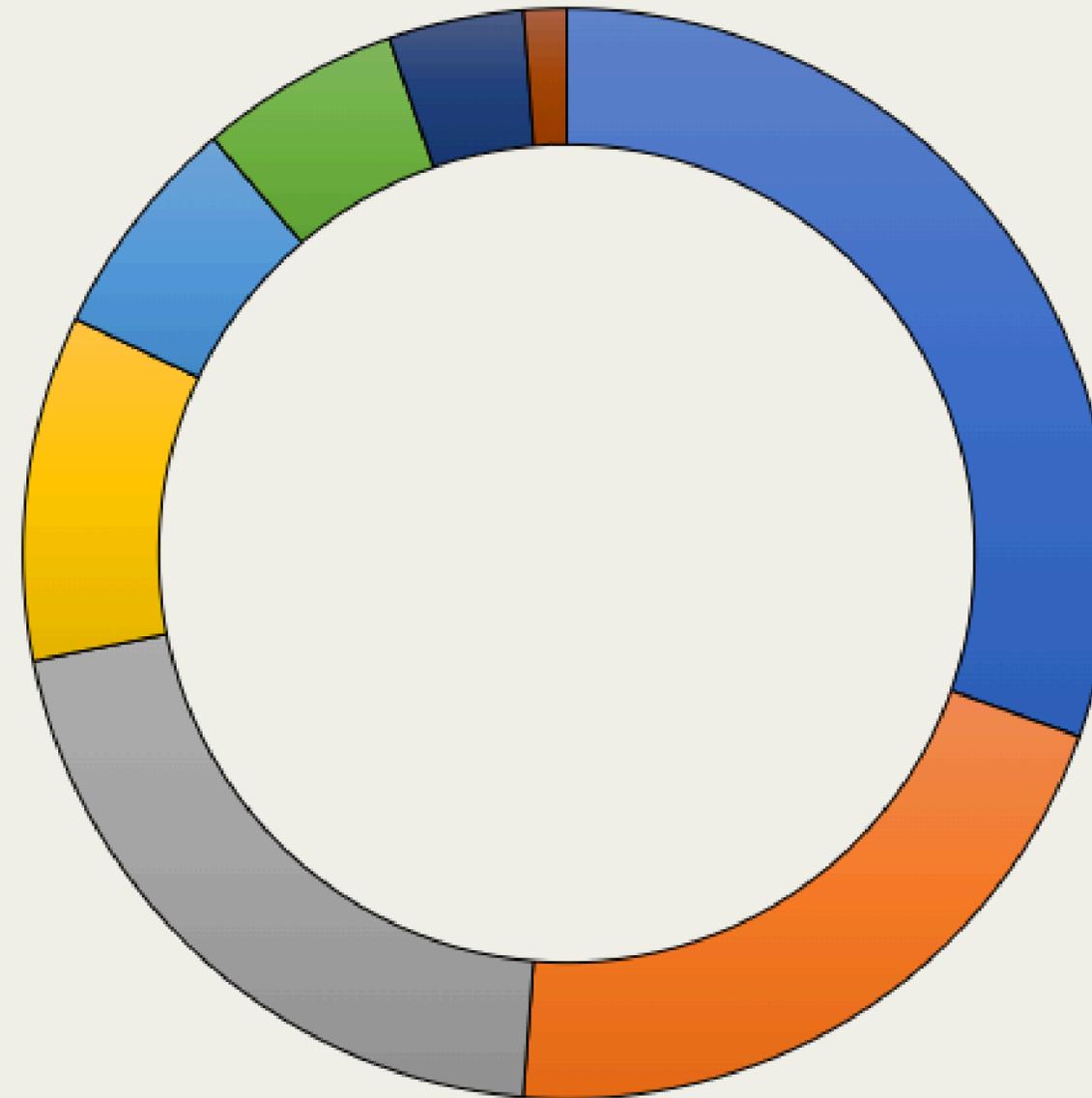
## ■ Federal & State Aid

**16%** - State Grants & Contracts  
e.g. Foundation Aid Formula

**7%** - Federal Grants & Contracts  
e.g. SNAP, Medicaid contributions

# Where is the money going?

**2026 Adopted  
Expense Budget  
\$118 Billion**



- Education - 31%
- Health and Social Services - 20%
- Pensions, Fringe, and Claims - 21%
- Public Safety and Judicial - 10%
- Housing and Infrastructure - 7%
- General Government Operations - 6%
- Debt Service - 4%
- Parks, Rec and Cultural - 1%



# SANITATION

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Questions:

1. How big is DSNY's budget and what does it pay for?
2. How are sanitation resources distributed across the City?
3. What determines street basket placement and frequency?
4. What does DSNY staffing look like over time?



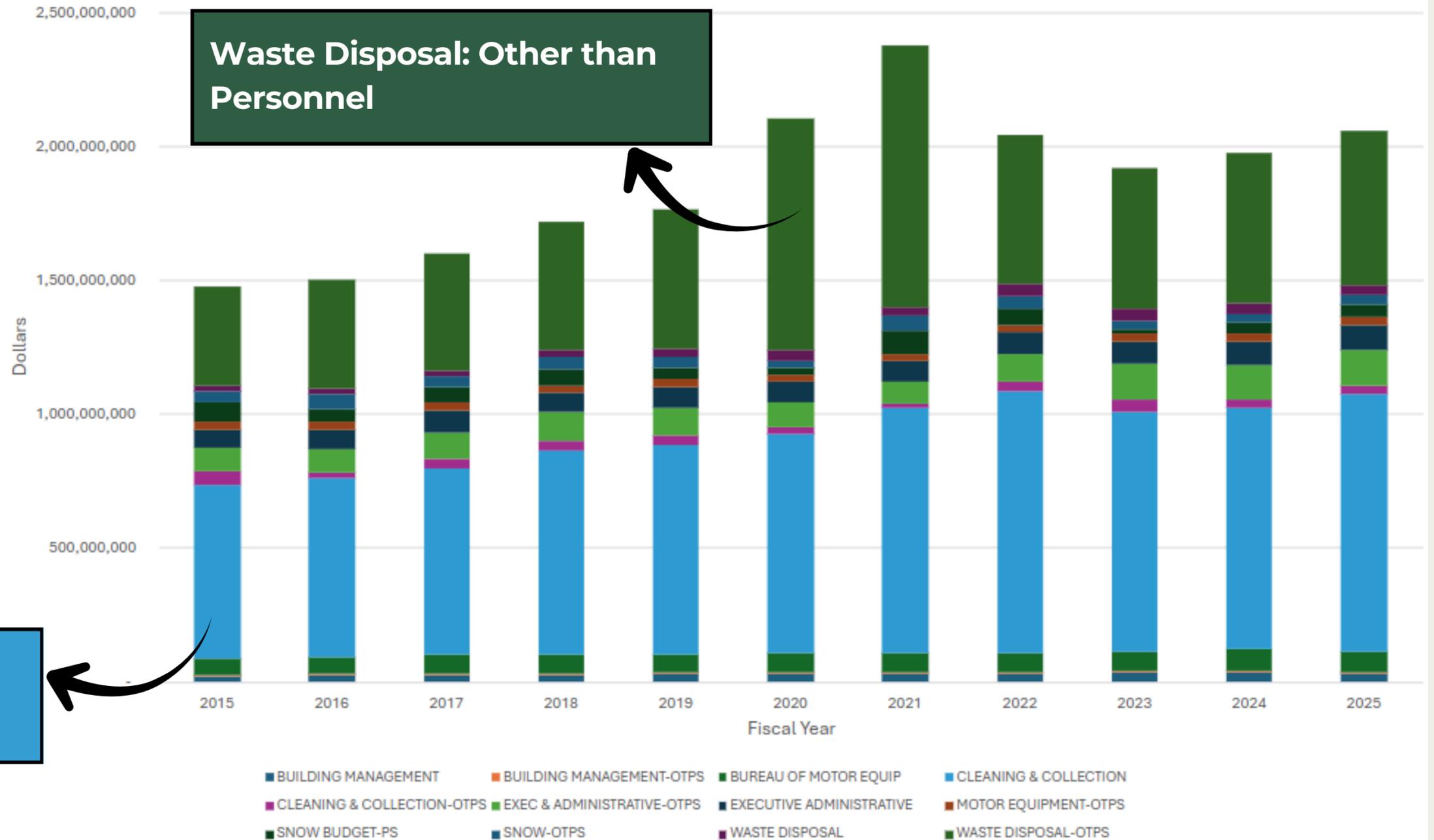


# Department of Sanitation

## Structure

- A **Unit of Appropriation (U/A)** is a funding category the City Council legally approves for an agency's budget.
- U/As set the spending limits for each category while allowing agencies flexibility within those approved amounts.

Figure 1.  
DSNY Budget by Unit of Appropriation from 2015 through 2025



Cleaning and Collection:  
Personnel

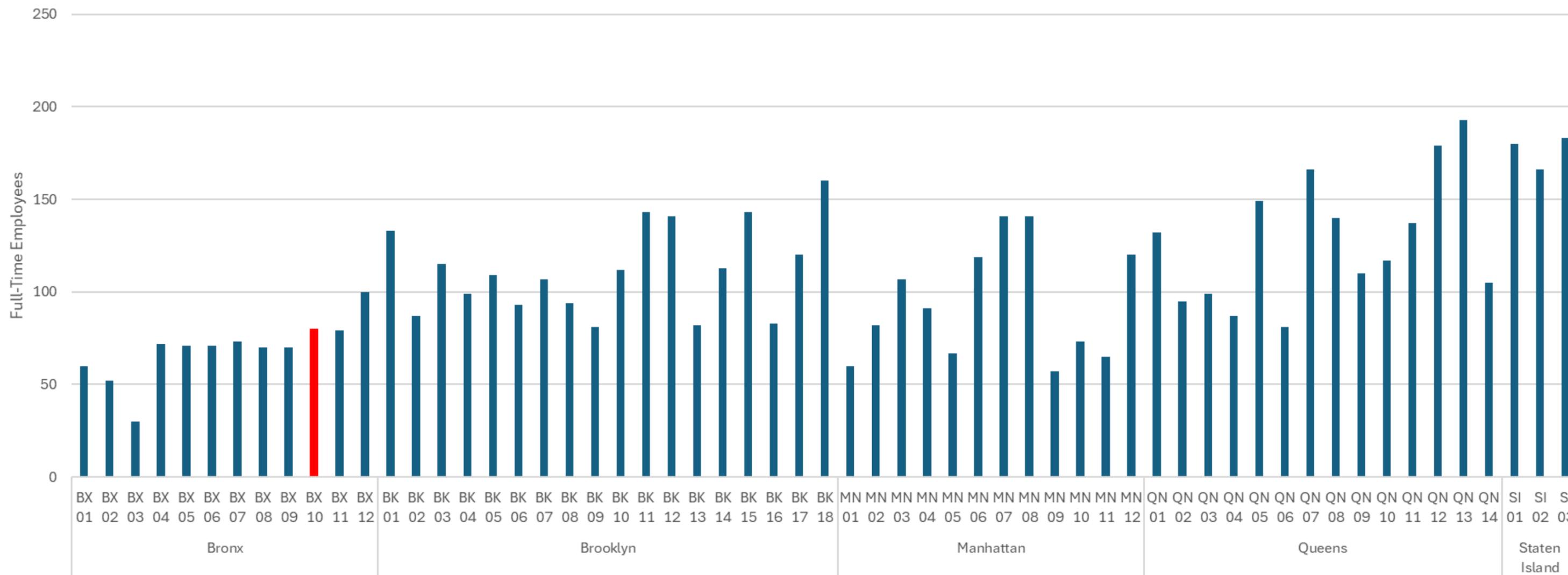
Waste Disposal: Other than  
Personnel



# Department of Sanitation

## Headcount by District

FY 2026 DSNY Cleaning & Collections Full Time Employees by Community District

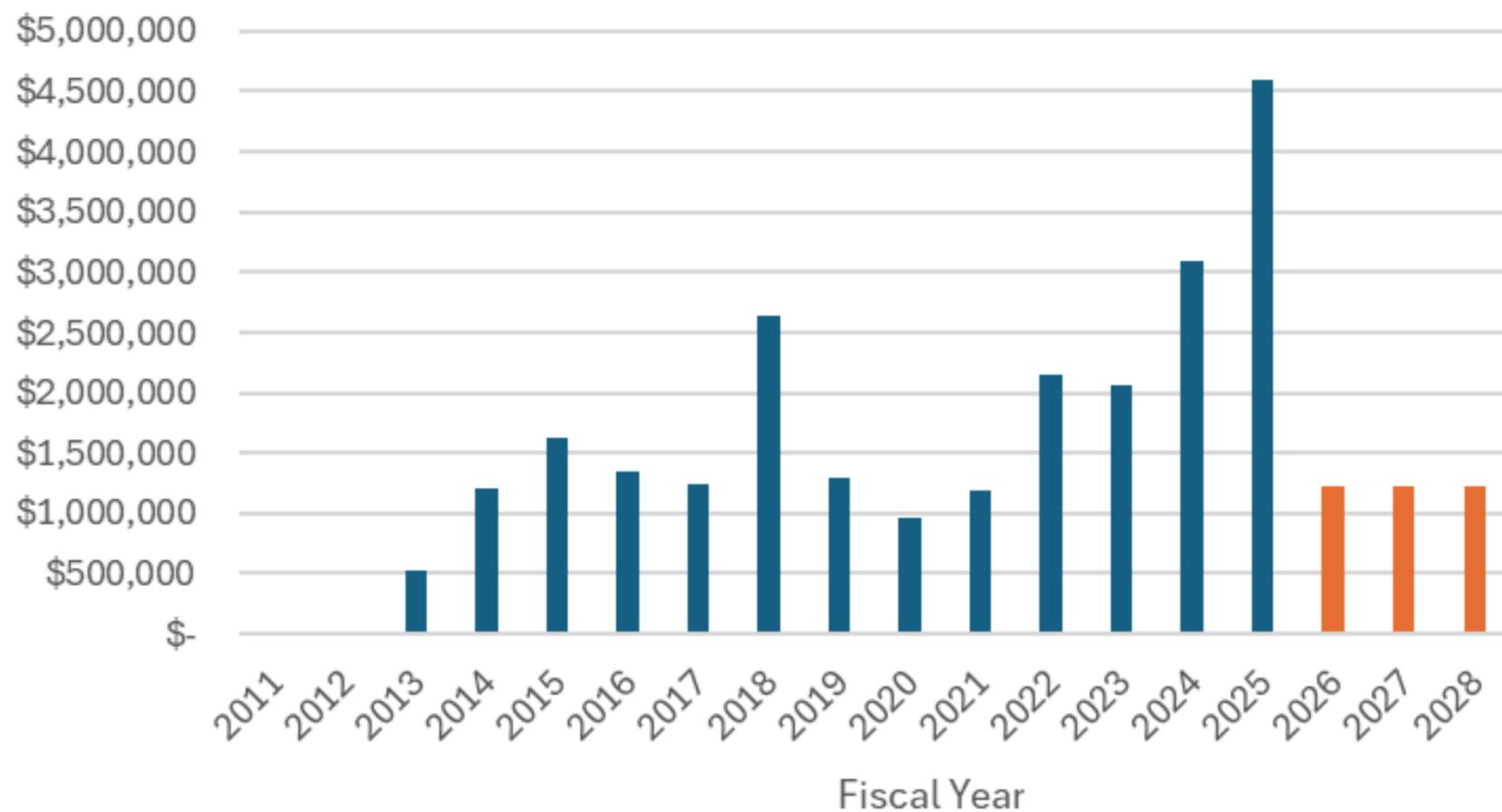




# Department of Sanitation

## How are Street Baskets Funded by DSNY?

Street Baskets OTPS Expense Budget



### Street Baskets

- Found on the **corners of commercial streets** and **near transportation hubs**.
- Community members can suggest a location for a new public litter basket, or request that a current one be replaced.
- Baskets are generally located along standard collection routes and are placed within commercial or mixed-use areas or near public transportation.





# PARKS & RECREATION

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## Questions

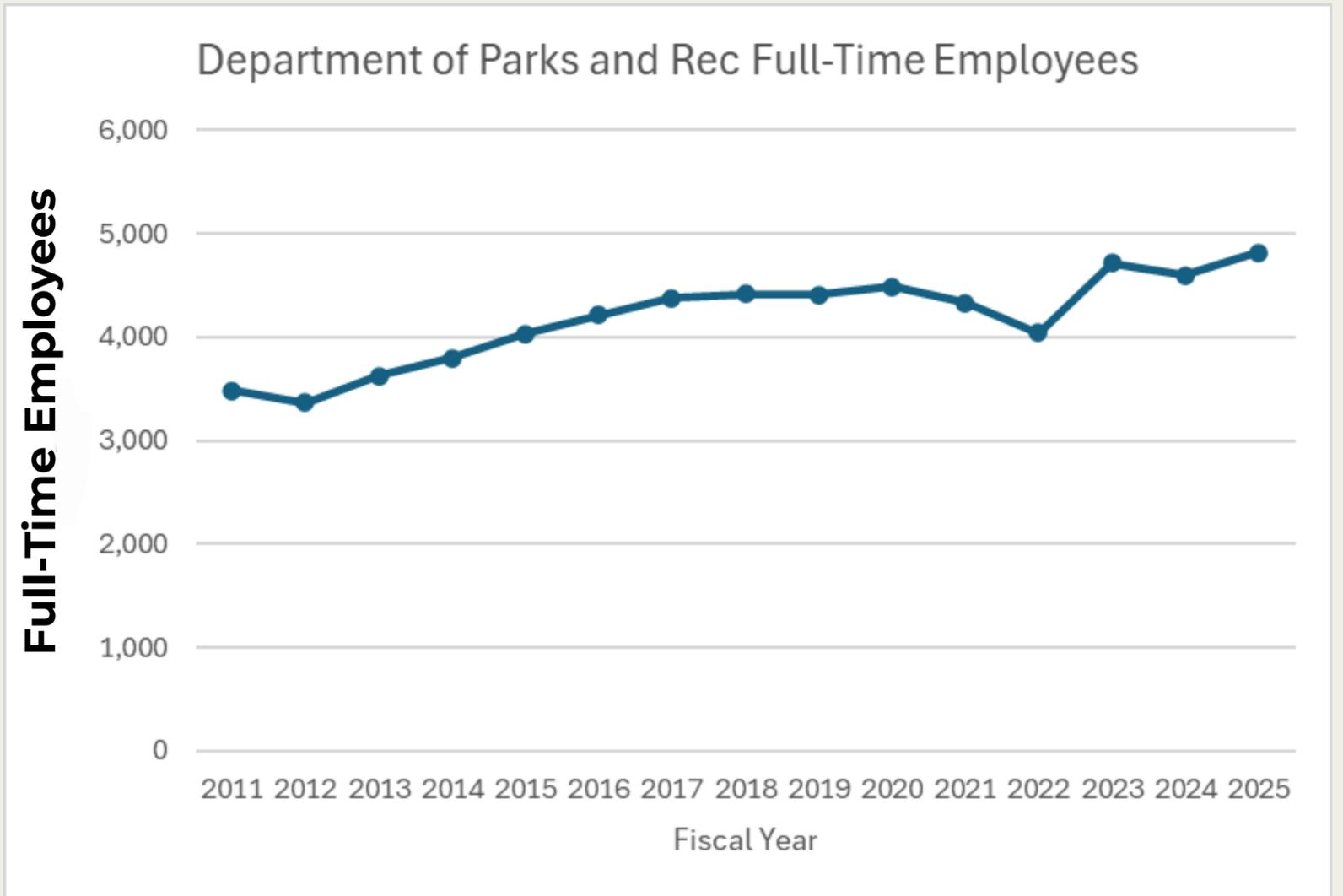
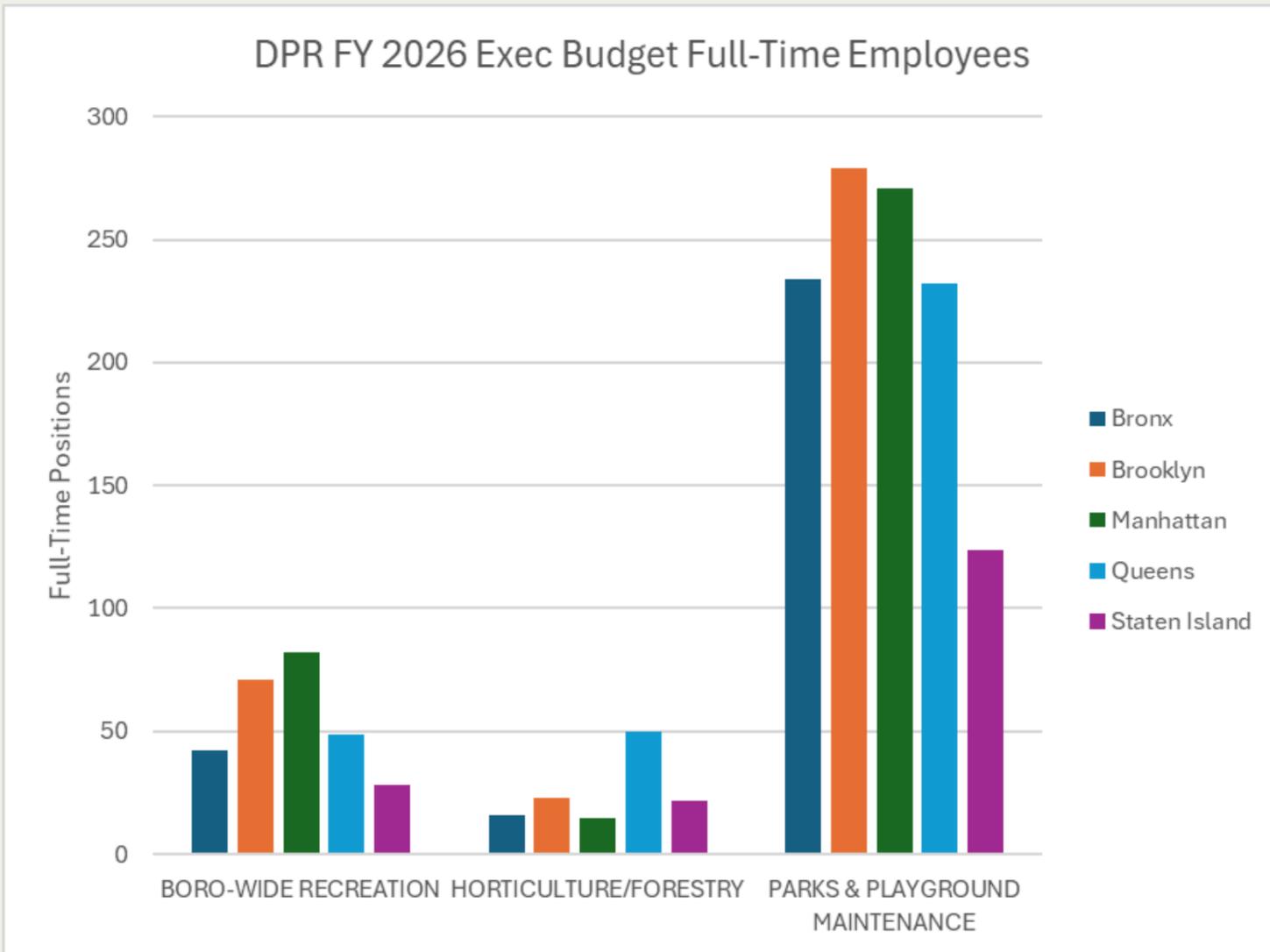
1. How large is the DPR budget and how is it split between capital and operating dollars?
2. How are parks funded and staffed differently across neighborhoods?
3. How has DPR staffing changed over time?
4. What is the role of conservancies in maintaining parks?





# Parks and Recreation

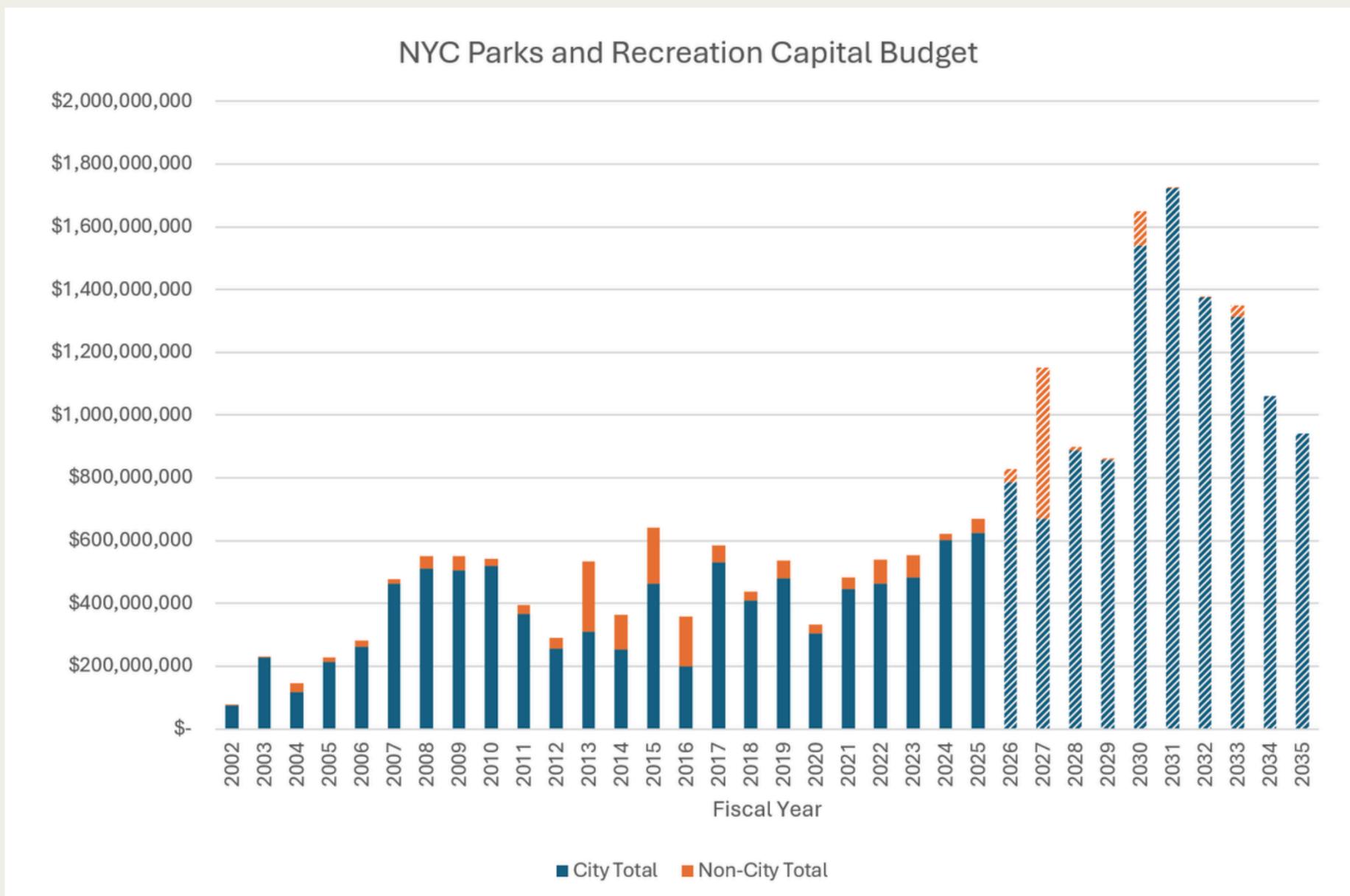
## Headcount





# Parks and Recreation

## Capital Budget

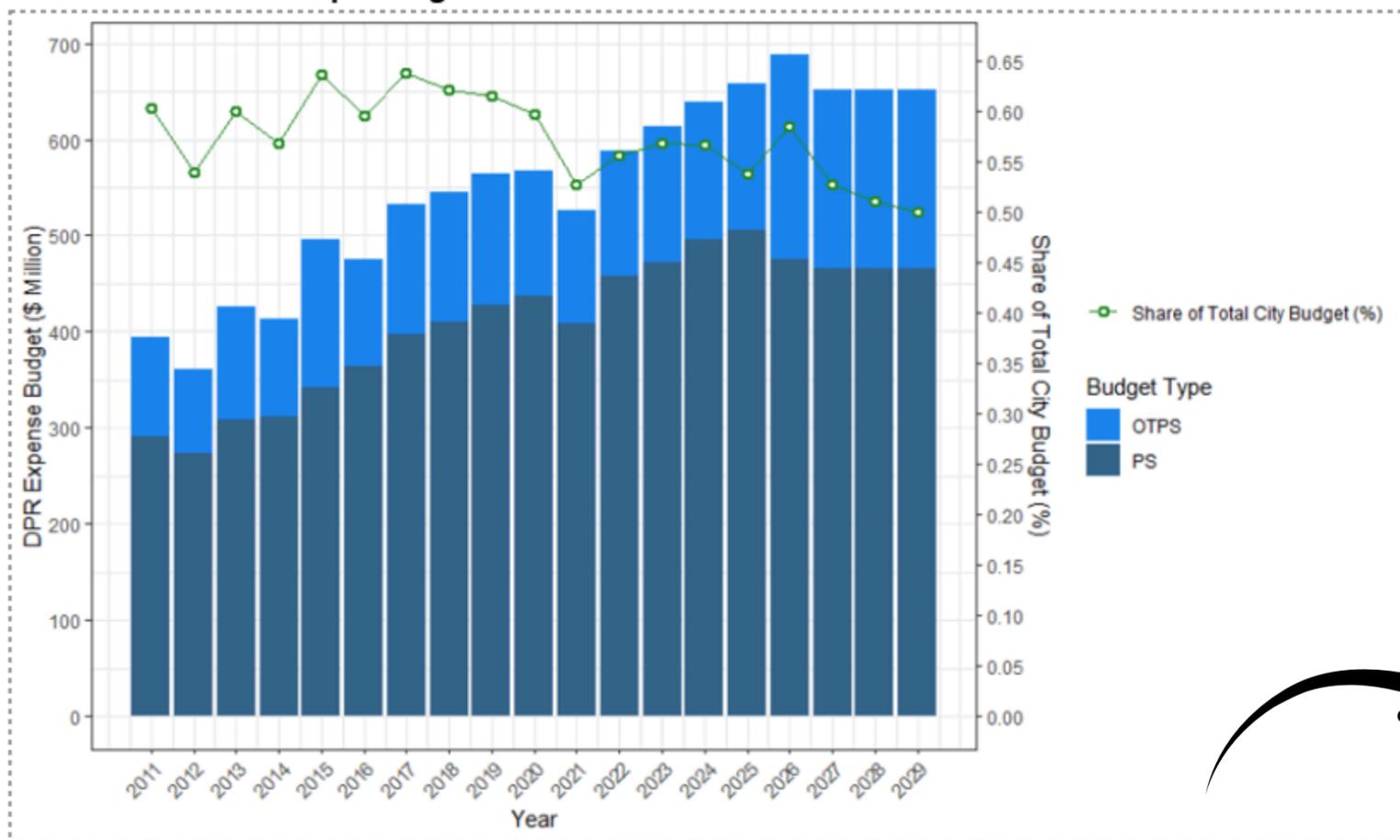




# Parks and Recreation

## 1% for Parks

Figure 2. NYC Department of Parks and Recreation Expense Budget, Personnel vs. Non-Personnel spending 2011 – 2029.



- The last time DPR's budget was around or above the 1% threshold was in 1977.
- Although DPR budgets have increased, the percentage spent relative to the overall budget since 2001 has remained at less than 0.6% of the City's overall budget.

**One Percent for Parks?  
A Historical and Current  
Overview of the Parks  
Budget (IBO 2023)**





# Parks and Recreation

## Park Conservancies

### Wide Range of Budgets for Conservancies

- Central Park Conservancy, Manhattan
- Prospect Park Alliance, Brooklyn
- Randall's Island Park Alliance, Manhattan
- Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, Bronx
- Alliance for Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens



One Percent for Parks?  
A Historical and Current  
Overview of the Parks  
Budget (IBO 2023)

Conservancies are independent, privately-funded nonprofit organizations that support parks and are **not part of the city's DPR budget**. DPR relies on conservancies to boost funding for parks, but these are **not evenly distributed** across the City.



# Community Board Office Hours

New York City Independent Budget Office 

## COMMUNITY BOARD OFFICE HOURS

March 4, 2026, 12pm-1pm  
via Zoom  
(see next slide for March 5)



**Scan here to register**  
\* Limited spots are available

Working on your Preliminary Budget Statement? Connect with IBO analysts to have your budget and funding questions answered!

 Community and Social Services  Housing and Buildings  Education  
...and much more!

New York City Independent Budget Office 

## COMMUNITY BOARD OFFICE HOURS

March 5, 2026, 6pm-7pm  
via Zoom  
(see prev slide for March 4)



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# Thank you!



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# COMING UP IN THE NYC BUDGET PROCESS



## What IBO reports/presentations would you like to see?

Past examples include...

**NYC's Budget in \$100**

**Federal Changes, Local Impact**

**Progress in First Years Towards Class Size Compliance**

**Citi Bike: Lessons for the Future of New York City's Bike Share**

**Adult Protective Services: Higher Demand and Fewer Staff**

**Cooling Centers: How NYC Beats the Heat!**

**The Expansion of New York City's Right to Counsel Program**