

NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT TEAM

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor's Office is calling upon community boards, council members, and business improvement districts to [submit information](#) that will inform the process of creating neighborhood support teams.

Neighborhood support teams will work with existing City resources to address quality of life issues in specific geographic areas over the course of one year. Similar to a recent effort to address quality of life concerns on 125th Street in East Harlem, support teams will coordinate across agencies and use the insights and ideas of local communities to solve problems creatively.

BACKGROUND & OVERVIEW

On August 31, 2016, Mayor de Blasio signed Local Law 102, which requires the City to develop a list of no fewer than three (3) geographic areas that would benefit from interagency collaboration to address issues such as sanitation services, transportation problems, social service needs, public health issues, and public safety concerns. This includes but is not limited to graffiti issues, road and sidewalk quality, street cleanliness, noise pollution, public space issues, and access to city services or community centers.

This [request for expressions of interest](#) is designed to draw on the insights of community stakeholders to better understand the specific quality of life issues affecting New York City's neighborhoods and residents. The City will analyze the results of these submissions and release a report on the findings, which will inform a formal application process. The application will include a written form and may have other components such as stakeholder interviews, community meetings and/or objective observations of the conditions in the relevant communities. The application will be scored based on objective criteria, to be determined by the results of the request for expressions of interest. Sample criteria may include: the comprehensiveness and complexity of the issue, whether addressing this issue would promote equal access to public resources and services, whether there have been prior attempts to address these concerns, and the level of community buy-in.

The City will then select a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) geographically diverse locations to receive neighborhood support teams, which will consist of the appropriate City agencies and community members and will develop and execute plans to address quality of life conditions identified by the support team. The City reserves the right to conclude that none of the proposals are feasible and to select locations and neighborhood support teams through an alternative method.

Neighborhood support teams will work to create and execute a one-year action plan. At the end of one year, the support team will determine any relevant next steps, though in all cases support teams will aim to establish a sustainable, community-driven framework for continued city agency responses. Support team recommendations are advisory. City services are offered subject to agency review, budgets, and the need to allocate limited resources.

SCHEDULE

February 15	Request for Expressions of Interest Released
March 31	Expressions of Interest Due
May 1	Application Released with City Analysis & List of Areas for Further Evaluation
June 2	Application Due
July 10	Neighborhood Support Teams Announced

Who can submit an expression of interest?

Submissions can come from Community Boards, Council Members, or Business Improvement Districts, with no more than one application per entity. We encourage these groups to gather input and information from local stakeholders and to work with other relevant groups when drafting their submission.

Submissions must name a relevant contact person to serve as the community liaison should the City decide to further evaluate the area or convene stakeholder interviews or community meetings. The City's preference is a community liaison with a demonstrated ability to engage and convene local stakeholders.

What types of issues and areas qualify?

Identified issues should affect a significant cross section of the community and must cover a geographic area no smaller than three contiguous blocks and no larger than a Community District.

Submissions should identify issues that can be addressed at the City level and that require City services as a core part of the solution. Issues should impact multiple community stakeholders and require coordination amongst several agencies to be addressed fully.

Neighborhood support teams will work within existing City resources to address issues, and any budgetary implications should be considered when submitting a proposal.

For the purposes of this program, "quality of life" issues refer to a condition that has an adverse effect on the quality of life for residents and visitors in a geographic area, including but not limited to a condition involving sanitation, transportation, social services, public health, or public safety, as determined by the office designated by the Mayor to oversee this initiative. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti, road and sidewalk quality, street cleanliness, noise pollution, public space issues, and access to city services. While we recognize that the availability of affordable housing, access to transportation, and quality job opportunities are paramount to quality of life for individuals and families, these neighborhood support teams are focused primarily on issues impacting the neighborhood experience.

What does it mean to have a neighborhood support team?

The areas selected to receive neighborhood support teams will be announced on July 10, 2017. Neighborhood support teams will consist of relevant City agency staff and community stakeholders. The exact composition of the support teams will depend on the information received in response to the request for expressions of interest and the subsequent application process.

Neighborhood support teams will work within the community to clearly identify and understand the issues, as well as create and execute a one-year action plan. Action plans will utilize existing City resources, and they will vary for each neighborhood support team depending upon the specific location, the issues identified, and community participation. At the end of one year, support teams will help develop a sustainable, community-driven framework for continued evaluation and response.

What is the timeline for the support team to start/finish their work?

After the teams are announced in July, an initial meeting will be convened for each neighborhood support team so that all participants have a shared understanding of the issues and can then map out

an action plan for addressing them. Neighborhood support teams will meet once every two (2) months for the first six (6) months and then once every three (3) months for the duration of the year.

The formal work of the support teams will last at least one year, at which point there will be a survey of satisfaction to determine next steps. In all cases, support teams will aim to establish a sustainable, community-driven framework for continued city agency response.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Fill out and submit an expression of interest form by March 31, 2017 at 11:59PM. Mailed forms must be postmarked by March 31, 2017. Any responses or amendments to responses received after the deadline will not be considered in the review process. You may submit your form either:

Online (preferred method): [Click here](#) to access the form. You will be able to save and return to your application before submitting.

By Email or Mail: [Click here](#) to download a PDF version of the form. Save a copy to your computer, open the document and click below the questions to enter your answers. Save it as a PDF, and send it back to us via email or mail.

- Email completed PDF forms to neighborhoodsupport@cityhall.nyc.gov
- Mail completed PDF forms to
Community Affairs Unit
c/o Neighborhood Support Team
253 Broadway, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10007

For more information, contact: neighborhoodsupport@cityhall.nyc.gov