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District Needs Statement for Fiscal Year 2026

Introduction

Community District 3 Manhattan (CD 3) spans the East Village, Lower East Side, and part of Chinatown. It is bounded by 14th Street to the north, the East River to the east, the Brooklyn Bridge to the south, and Fourth Avenue and the Bowery to the west, extending to Baxter and Pearl Streets south of Canal Street. This community is filled with a diversity of cultures, religions, incomes, and languages. Its character comes from its heritage as a historic and present-day first stop for many immigrants. CD 3 is one of the most densely populated Community Districts in New York City, with approximately 141,787 residents.[1] Our community is diverse: we identify as 26% Asian, 7% Black, 26% Hispanic, and 34% White.[2] With this diversity comes different language needs. Twenty-seven percent of the district speaks English less than "very well," which highlights the need for translation and interpretation services. Within CD 3 the percentage break down of languages is: 17% speak Spanish, 21.6% speak Asian and Pacific Island languages, and 56.6% speak only English.[3] Our residents are very proud of their historic and diverse neighborhood, however, the very characteristics that make this district unique also make it a challenging place to plan and ensure services for all residents and businesses.

Many people within our community live on the edge of homelessness and economic survival. Inequality and housing precarity are tied to rising housing costs and stagnating incomes within the Community District. In the 2nd quarter of 2023, there was a 3% increase in median asking rents in CD 3 compared to the same time period in 2022. The median asking rent of CD 3 in Q2 2024 is $4,425 a month. This would require a renter household to have an income of $163,000 to not be considered rent burdened,[4] while the median household income for CD 3 is $58,540 and 84.2% of district residents are renters.[5] The gap between the lowest and highest earners in CD 3 continues to widen.[6] As of 2022, 24 percent of renter households in CD 3 were severely rent burdened (spent more than 50 percent of household income on rent).[7] The district now has the highest diversity (income diversity gap) in

[1] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown
[2] Ibid.
[3] U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). *Language Spoken at Home 2022: ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables.* https://data.census.gov/table?q=United%20States&t=Language%20Spoken%20at%20Home&g=795XX00US3604103
[4] StreetEasy. (2024). *StreetEasy Data Dashboard*. https://streeteasy.com/blog/data-dashboard.
[5] U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). *Selected Housing Characteristics: 2022: ACS 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles*. https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP1Y2022.DP04?q=DP04:%20Selected%20Housing%20Characteristics&g=795XX00US3604103.
[6] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.
[7] Ibid.

household incomes out of all 59 districts in New York City and it continues to grow.[8]

Many residents in CD 3 live in areas that have experienced disproportionate negative impacts from pollution, due to historical and existing social inequities without equal protection and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations otherwise known as Environmental Justice Areas. Out of CD 3's 30 total 2010 census tracts, 22 were designated as Environmental Justice Areas in 2024 by the Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice, 73% of the neighborhood.[9] CD 3 is also a coastal community that was severely impacted by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, and the area is increasingly vulnerable to future climate change impacts and extreme weather scenarios that affect the waterfront. Several coastal resiliency projects have been planned for the district and are in various phases of approval, funding, or construction. This issue of coastal vulnerability is further compounded by the city's identification of a majority of CD 3 being an environmental justice area.

Economic Development

Community District 3's economic ecosystem continues to be impacted with the residual impacts from the COVID 19 shutdown.

- Retail stores, restaurants, bars, arts venues, personal care salons, hotels and many other local businesses are still recovering from significant revenue losses and continue to struggle to pay expenses such as rent, mortgages, utilities, and payroll.[10]
- Unemployment reached a high of 20 percent in May 2020 but has now dropped to 4.8 percent for New York City as of April 2024[11] Businesses now struggle to hire staff.

There was a sustained loss of independent "mom-and-pop" stores providing a variety of goods and services in CD 3 prior to the pandemic. As the local economy becomes more homogenous, residents must increasingly leave our community or shop online to meet basic needs—a trend that was accelerated by COVID-19.[12] Since reopening after the pandemic, there has been a slight decrease in chain stores in Manhattan. This slight increase is reflected in CD 3. Zip Code 10009 had 27 chain stores in 2022 which decreased to 26 in 2023, a 3.7% change. Zip Code 10002 currently has 47 chain stores; down from 48 stores in 2022.[13]

The still significant presence of these chain stores has altered the character of the CD 3 by shifting purchasing power to mass-market retailers and constructing facades out of context with the rest of the historical community.[14] Retail

[8] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.
[9] Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justic. (2024). *EJNYC: A Study of Environmental Justice Issues In New York City.* https://climate.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/EJNYC_Report_FIN_20240424.pdf
[10] Center for an Urban Future (2020). *Supporting Small Business Through Coronavirus: Ideas From Experts And Leaders Across NYC.* https://nycfuture.org/research/supporting-small-business-through-coronavirus
[11] New York State Department of Labor (2024). *Labor Statistics for the New York City Region.* https://dol.ny.gov/labor-statistics-new-york-city-region
[12] Center for an Urban Future (2023). *State of the Chains 2023*. https://nycfuture.org/pdf/CUF_StateoftheChains_2023.pdf
[13] Ibid.
[14] Ibid.

stores that do survive in our community are threatened by the rising costs of doing business in NYC without sufficient relief or protection from the City.

Merchant Organizing and Additional Opportunities for City Support

CD 3 is represented by the following Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and Merchant Organizations:

- **The Chinatown Partnership—***Broome to Worth Street and from Allen to Broadway*:
  Supplemental clean streets initiative, streetscape improvements, enhanced lighting gateways, and wayfinding projects. The BID seeks to preserve the neighborhood's unique culture while ensuring its vitality in the future with placemaking initiatives such as, Open Streets, Weekend Walks, festivals, and many other Chinatown marketing initiatives.

- **The LES Partnership—***Orchard Street and currently seeking to expand to include a large section of the Lower East Side with Houston Street as its northern border*:
  Current services include public space maintenance, sanitation, programming for Essex Market for food security, resident health and marketing services. There are plans to expand. CB 3 would like the Partnership to also expand services and obtain funds for mechanized equipment for street cleaning operations, power washing, graffiti removal and horticultural maintenance.

- **The Union Square Partnership (USP)** *—In CD 3, 14th Street east to First Avenue*:
  USP provides supplemental services including sanitation, safety, marketing services for businesses, and streetscape improvements. USP is currently short term streetscape improvements and interventions to activate public spaces while seeking funding and city support on long-term capital improvements.
- **The Village Alliance***—In CD 3, 8th Street east to Second Avene and some businesses to east and west*:
  This BID focuses on sanitation and public safety (75% of the budget). It does not receive any programmatic funding. Impact is measured by the amount of trash and graffiti removed, low vacancies, and participants in membership. A current issue for the BID is the number of people in the area who have substance abuse conditions which disrupts many businesses. The BID would like to fund outreach and services for this population.

- **East Village Independent Merchants Association (EVIMA)***—A merchant-led membership-based organization in the East Village*:
  Conduct merchant organizing, marketing and promotion, commercial lease assistance. The organization grew with an Avenue NYC grant but has been operating in a reduced capacity since the grant ran out. There is need for stable funding.

It is important to note that many merchants are still not organized into associations and therefore under-supported in a substantial portion of the district.

As our community continues to be burdened by a high cost of doing business, Community Board 3 has identified several ways that the City can help grow and strengthen our local economy:

- Provide Direct Support for Merchant Organizations – Continue financial and programming support for our local merchant-based organizations and BIDs

- Prioritize comprehensive adult education and job training / workforce programs to support district residents to access living wages, career mobility, and job quality.
- Continue financial and programming support for our local workforce development organizations and spaces like the Zero Irving Tech Training Center.

Housing and Land Use

Housing in CD 3 is increasingly unaffordable for many residents, and the district has become increasingly socially stratified:

- Community District 3 currently has the highest income diversity rate of any community district in New York City with 11.9% of the district having an income of less than $10,000 and around 13.8% of residents with an income of over $200,000.[15]
- 26% of residents live below the poverty line and 50% of households have incomes under $50,000.[16]
- Median asking rents in CD 3 went up 3% in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. The median asking rent for the second quarter 2023 is $4,425.[17]
- 38% of low-income renter households in CD 3 are severely rent burdened and spend more than half their monthly income on housing.[18]

Additionally, CD 3 is experiencing a crisis of street homelessness, and it is clear that new affordable and supportive housing is needed, but it must be targeted at affordability levels appropriate for current neighborhood income.[19] The points below show a need for an increase in affordable housing development in general and specifically targeted at low incomes, such as

- In 2022, median household income was just $58,540[20]
- CD 3 sits at 50% of Area Median Income (AMI), while other Lower Manhattan districts are well above 100% AMI, displaying CD 3 as the last area of affordability in the lower half of the borough and as an area with a high-level need for diverse housing options to fit the varying incomes that reside here.[21]

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[15] U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). *Income in the past 12 months (in 2022 inflation adjusted dollars). 2022 American Community Survey 1-year estimates.* https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP1Y2022.DP03?t=Income (Households, Families, Individuals)&g=795XX00US3604103&y=2022&d=ACS 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles

[16] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.

[17] StreetEasy. (2024). *StreetEasy Data Dashboard*. https://streeteasy.com/blog/data-dashboard.

[18] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.

[19] NYC DHS. (2019). *NYC HOPE 2019 Results*. https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dhs/downloads/pdf/hope-2019-results.pdf.

[20] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.

[21] NYC Housing Preservation & Development. (2024). *Area Median Income*. https://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/area-median-income.page

- From 2010–2022, CB 3 gained 4,835 new housing units, but since 2014, only 1,434 new income-restricted units have been built.[22]

In the face of these challenges, CB 3 has identified several housing and land use needs the City should address:

Build and Preserve Affordable Housing

Since 2010, city-wide housing development of new units has lagged far behind population growth, largely due to restrictive regulations and high construction costs. At the same time, the share of rent-burdened households paying more than 30 percent of their income for housing has steadily increased, while the number of apartments available at low rents has shrunk, leaving the lowest-income households with few options.[23]

There is a need for more deeply affordable housing in CD 3 to address the crises of inadequate housing supply, affordability, inequality, and homelessness in the district. New opportunities for affordable housing must be found, including senior housing, supportive housing, housing for the formerly homeless, hotel and commercial conversions to residential uses, community opportunities to purchase distressed properties, and long-term preservation of existing affordable housing in the district. CD 3 also needs more family-sized affordable housing, with higher volumes of 2- and 3-bedroom affordable units than the typical affordable unit mix. In addition, the homeownership rate in CD 3 is 15.8%, which is lower than the citywide share of 32.7%.[24] Along with expanding affordable rental housing, there is a need to expand affordable homeownership opportunities like the kind seen in previous decades with programs like Mitchell-Lama.

Sufficient funding for capital projects and housing subsidy programs from the City will be required to ensure much needed affordable housing continues to be constructed and renovated. Additionally, unnecessary administrative and bureaucratic roadblocks in the approval process are some of the largest financial costs in building new affordable homes, which often renders desirable projects financially unfeasible. Community-based organizations in CD 3 which provide essential services to tenants dealing with the termination of basic services, egregious building code violations, and avoidable evictions need expanded support to ensure tenants can remain in their homes and that existing affordable housing is protected.

Provide Support for the Expansion of Community Land Trusts (CLTs)

CLTs are proving to be an effective mechanism for permanently preserving affordable housing. In CD 3, the Cooper Square CLT owns the land under 23 buildings, and the Cooper Square Mutual Housing Association manages 26 total buildings, with 418 housing units and more than 2 dozen storefronts, ensuring that they are a permanently affordable resource in the area. There has also been a new Community Land Trust established in Chinatown and

[22] NYC Equitable Development Data Explorer. (2023). *Housing Production: Chinatown & Lower East Side* https://equitableexplorer.planning.nyc.gov/data/district/3809/hopd/tot.
[23] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.
[24] Ibid.

This Land is Ours CLT, incorporated in 2020, is seeking to acquire City-owned land for senior and family housing, accessible and supportive housing. In CD 3 there is a need for more support for planning and operations of CLTs that are looking to expand and as well as support for emerging CLTs that need technical assistance and education. CLTs also need priority consideration when disposing of City-owned property and need financial incentives to encourage the transition of City-foreclosed properties into CLT ownership.

Preserve the Viability of HDFC Buildings

Increasing operating costs, a lack of affordable refinancing options, and gentrification-fueled property value escalation has resulted in many Housing Development Fund Cooperatives (HDFCs) being converted to market- rate housing or being lost to foreclosure.[25] To ensure they remain a financially solvent and safe source of affordable housing in our district, HDFCs need expanded support services, financial training, enhanced and stronger resale restrictions including sales price caps, and long-term tax abatements.

Expand Support for Residential Resiliency Upgrades

In CD 3, over 21,000 dwelling units are located within the 2015 FEMA-identified 100-year floodplain and over 27,500 units are located within the 500-year floodplain.[26] Current programs that finance residential resiliency upgrades are not being widely used in CD 3, and there is a need for the City to tailor programs to the specific financial needs of low- and moderate-income housing providers, including HDFC co-op boards, so that they can complete critical building infrastructure upgrades and take proactive steps to become environmentally resilient.

NYCHA and Section 8 Housing

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) owns and manages over 14,900 units of low-income housing in CD 3 and the preservation of these apartments as viable, secure, publicly owned housing is vital to ensure that our community remains diverse and economically integrated. Changes in agency leadership, new federal monitoring, uncertain funding from HUD, and proposals for increasing public- private partnerships underscores the fragile condition of NYCHA funding and operations in CD 3. The latest reports estimate a 20-year capital investment need of $78.3 billion of capital and repair need, significantly more than the $31.8 estimated in a 2018 report.[27] CB 3 has identified the following as pressing district needs:

- **Capital improvements and repairs**
  To the extent possible, the capital repairs in CD 3 NYCHA buildings need to be funded and construction and repairs expedited. .[28] Other service outages include unplanned elevator, heat, hot water, water, and electricity

[25] Stewart, Nikita. New York Times. (2018). *Under City Program, Renters-Turned-Homeowners Could Become Renters Again*. https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/29/nyregion/co-op-low-income-nyc-rent.html.
[26] NYC Department of City Planning. (2024). NYC Flood Hazard Mapper. https://www.nyc.gov/site/planning/data-maps/flood-hazard-mapper.page.
[27] NYC Housing Authority. (2023). *July 12, 2023 Press Release*. https://www.nyc.gov/site/nycha/about/press/pr-2023/pr-20230712.page
[28] NYC Housing Authority. (2024). *June 10, 2024 Press Release*. https://www.nyc.gov/site/nycha/about/press/pr-2024/pr-20240610.page.

services occurred at the rate of 22.9 outages per building in CD 3 in 2023, down from 23.5 in 2022.[29]

- **Bridge the NYCHA digital divide**
  All NYCHA developments have internet services, but internet accessibility depends on affordability for residents. The Big Apple Connect initiative offers free internet services to 45 Allen Street, Baruch, Campos Plaza II, Hernandez, Lower East Side I Infill, Lower East Side Rehab (Group 5) and Meltzer Tower. Riis I & Riis II, Seward Park Extension and Wald are covered under the licensing agreements announced by the City in May 2021 offering symmetrical in-unit service. The remaining CB3 developments (Bracetti Plaza, First Houses, Gompers, La Guardia, La Guardia Addition, LES II & III, Rutgers, Smith, Stanton Street, Two Bridges URA (site 7), Vladeck and Vladeck II) are not currently included in either of these initiatives – although households are able to sign up for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for a discount on broadband service and connected devices.[30]

- **Community Participation in NextGen NYCHA, RAD, and the Trust for Public Housing**
  The NYCHA 2.0 programs, including NextGen NYCHA infill and Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT), the local iteration of the federal Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, as well as the Blueprint for Change proposal to create a preservation trust, are new models for public housing that may introduce the private sector into NYCHA properties and could dramatically change the way developments are managed and funded. Several developments in CD 3 have been discussed as possible sites for implementation of the three programs. There must be increased community engagement and transparency from NYCHA regarding these new programs, to better understand how they would impact public housing stock and public housing residents in our community district.

Health and Human Services

Technology

COVID-19 underlined the technological disparities in CD 3. Twenty five percent of households in CD 3 do not have internet access, while 44% have no broadband access to the internet.[31] This disparity will impact CD 3 residents' access to school, health care, and social services and, if left unaddressed, will have significant long-term and short-term impacts on the health and livelihood of our community.

New Refugees and Asylum Seekers

[29] Block, Lucy; Huerta, Itzamna. (May 22, 2024). *How is affordable housing threatened in your neighborhood? 2024.* Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development. https://anhd.org/report/how-affordable-housing-threatened-your-neighborhood-2024.
[30] Office of the Chief Information Officer, NYCHA
[31] NYC Open Data. (2022). *Internet Master Plan: Broadband Adoption and Infrastructure by Community District*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/City-Government/Internet-Master-Plan-Broadband-Adoption-and-Infras/rxpf-yca2/data.

Our district has seen an increase in new refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers. Shelters and respite centers have been being set up by DHS, OEM, HPD, and HHS. A lack of coordination and standards for notifying communities and creating partnerships with the community has impeded the ability for local groups to help. In 2024, a group of East Village / Lower East Side schools, community-based organizations, faith communities, and others has been convened to help coordinate. There continues to be a need for necessities such as basic essential goods, food, and clothing. Many suffered or were exposed to traumatic events over the course of their journey to New York City and require culturally and linguistically competent mental health services for children and adults. Many face significant language barriers and are in need of ESOL and other adult education programs such as job training. Local service providers have also reported receiving requests for immigration legal services to obtain work permits. Many of the families have young children. There is a need for childcare programs that can serve families regardless of their immigration status. There will also be a greater need for employment services and benefits enrollment assistance. There is a need for expedited work authorization so that these new immigrants may be gainfully employed. Currently, new asylum seeker families are in shelters located in Community District 3. Many have lived in shelters for more than a year.[32]There is a need for long-term affordable housing.

Education -

In 2023-2024, there were 10,302 students in NYC Geographic District 1.[33] This area includes 19 schools in the Community School District 1 portfolio as well 7 other NYC public schools within the School District 1 geographic boundary.

In addition, the CD3 area encompasses these schools that are outside NYC Geographic District 1 -- PS1, PS2, PS42, PS124, PS126, MS131, Emma Lazarus High School, Pace High School, High School for Dual Language & Asian Studies, Essex Street Academy, Lower Manhattan Arts Academy, New Design High School, Urban Assembly Academy of Government and Law, Cascades High School, Forsythe Satellite Academy.

New Students

In school year 2023-2024, 1,000 new students from asylum seeker families enrolled into the elementary and middle schools in School District 1.[34] Schools will continue to need additional resources, staffing, and teachers. These families live both in and outside of the district – many in hotels, shelters, and other types of facilities creating the need for free transportation for students. Schools should have sufficient Bilingual Education classes, and ENL (English as a New Language) classes so that these new students may access classroom instruction and the new literacy curriculum being rolled out. Students and their families faced much trauma on their journey to New York City, Mental health services and programming in the school is required. In addition, besides Spanish, schools will need staff fluent in other languages of the students and their families such as Portuguese and indigenous dialects.[35]

[32] Report by email by from Office of District 1 Superintendent to the CB3 office July 2024
[33] New York City Department of Education. (2021). *Demographic Snapshots, School Years 2019-20 to 2023-24*.
[34] Report by email by from Office of District 1 Superintendent to the CB3 office July 2024
[35] Report by email by District 1 Superintendent at the CB3 June 2023 Health, Seniors, & Human Services / Youth, Education, & Human Rights Committee meeting.

Priority education needs in CD 3:

- **Social workers and counselors**
  All schools have social workers but for the majority of schools, this is a part time position focused on managing mandated services. Approximately 10 out of 19 schools in School District 1 report a need for a full-time social worker who can support the mandated services, support students and families' additional needs and work proactively to support future needs before they arise.[36] Schools need full time support staff as opposed to itinerant staff because it better supports relationship building.[37]

- **Technology**
  Technological enhancements, including the provision of necessary devices, WiFi/internet and technical support, are needed to ensure our students are not left behind. This will be even more urgent as schools plan for greater use of technology in learning and communications. While all of students were provided with tablets for remote learning, this is a consumable item. Schools need additional tablets with hot spots since some families do not have WiFi. Because tablets are being used for remote learning in classrooms or at home, there is also a need for headphones.[38]

- **After school programs**
  Families in CD 3 rely heavily on community-based programs during after-school hours, weekends, and holidays because 35 percent of our children under 18 years of age live below poverty level.[39] The biggest need is for after-school options for 2nd grade and under. Age restrictions on enrollment lead to a lack of free affordable options for the youngest learners. It also means families are not entering our schools in 2nd grade and under but instead opting for full day programs so they can work. There is a need to provide support to families to access public education in 2nd grade and under because this would provide the most benefit to early childhood literacy development.[40]

- **Learning to Read Well**
  There will is a need for increased focus on professional development related to various aspects of literacy. [41]

- **Students in Temporary Housing**
  After-school for STH in non-Title 1 schools is needed to ensure that after-care is available for working families of STH. An example of this is a Henry Street Settlement program that offers free arts programming for NYCHA families. Expansion of opportunities such as this is needed and would benefit students and families.[42]

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[36] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1, email communication, July 24, 2024
[37] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1, email communication, August 21, 2023
[38] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1, email communication, September 1, 2022
[39] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.
[40] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1, email communication, August 21, 2023
[41] Ibid.
[42] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1, email communication, September 1, 2022

Need for a New School

Community School District 1 (CSD1) schools are outdated and under-resourced, many schools cannot update their facilities and require students from multiple schools to share common areas.

CD 3 needs a new public-school facility for the following reasons:

- 63% of CSD1 schools share a building with one or more schools resulting in inadequate access to gym, arts and enrichment, science labs, and acceptable hours for school lunch. Sixteen percent of schools share a gym and/or yard space with three or more schools and almost 1⁄4 of these schools share gym facilities between two schools. This lack of access is further exacerbated by the fact that 35 percent of gym facilities are used for multiple purposes, creating "cafegymalabatoriums."[43]
- The NYC Department of Education (DOE) mandates 120 minutes of physical education per week. Students in CD 3 do not have equal access to physical education and activity due to inadequate space.
- Inadequate, aging buildings were not designed for today's students. Middle and high school students often learn in classrooms designed for elementary school students. CD 3 has schools built from 1900 on—the average age of CD 3 schools is 80 years old. (*See school age chart in appendix*.)
- The lack of technology infrastructure in all these aging buildings prevents CD 3 children from access to 21st Century College and Career Ready skills. With the advent of updated state testing moving to an online format, these aging buildings will limit students' ability to compete in this new online testing format. There is a dearth of K-8 schools in the western side of School District 1 where the proposed site is located.

Unmet Needs

Community Board 3 has overlapping unmet needs that restrict the ability for our social service organizations to serve our most underserved residents, particularly children and seniors.

- **Families no longer qualified for programs due to outdated income requirements**
  Many families now surpass the federal maximum income requirement for programs serving low-income families (such as Head Start). This is often the result of wage increases from minimum wage to living wage without corresponding increases in maximum income requirements. Families earning a living wage are still in need of these programs.

- **Pay disparity and competitive compensation**
  There is a lack of pay parity between staff of DYCD funded programs and staff of DOE funded programs. Staff of DOE programs receive COLA, while staff of DYCD programs do not, the result is that pay parity is not sustained. Service providers saw an exodus of staff from DYCD funded programs as a result.

In 2021, City Council legislation required pay parity for educators in early childhood programs, whether funded by

[43] Mustillo, K., Deputy Superintendent School District 1.

DOE or DYCD (CBO based). However, the pay parity is not sustained. While first year CBO-based teachers receive a salary that is comparable to that of DOE teachers, DOE teachers also receive salary increases over time whereas CBO teachers do not.[44] Service providers saw an exodus of staff from DYCD funded programs as a result. In order to operate sustainable programs, pay parity is needed regardless of funding agencies.[45]

The lack of competitive compensation for staff impacts mental health programs and youth serving programs as well. Local providers report recruitment and retention of highly qualified staff is hindered by the inability to offer competitive compensation. This compensation would not only enable them to serve more people, but also promote recruitment and retention of a diverse, culturally sensitive, linguistically competent staff.[46] Youth service providers report that they are unable to recruit and retain more direct service staff such as program group leaders because they are competing with other industries such as the retail industry when hiring.[47]

Older Adults

CD 3 needs critically important investments to help older residents live healthier and more fulfilling lives as they age in place, specifically, case management, healthcare assistance, and activities that support aging-in-place in CD 3[48]:

- There are 39,441 residents (25.4 percent of total CD 3 population) over the age of 60[49];
- 36.8 percent of seniors aged 65+ in the district live below the poverty line[50];
- 32 percent of seniors are living with a disability;
- 29 percent of seniors experience ambulatory difficulties; and
- 53 percent of seniors live alone[51]

In practice, seniors require care on a continuum that covers their diverse cultural, health and wellness needs. Priority concerns of seniors that have been identified are:

- Concerns about isolation
- Food access

[44] Education Alliance (n.d.) https://edalliance.org/.
[45] Cheng, M., Director Child Development Services, Ho, W., President and CEO, Chinese American Planning Council, email communication, August 18-25, 2023
[46] Burrowes, Hyacinth. (2023). *Manhattan Community Board 3 Mental Health Resources Survey*. https://www.nyc.gov/assets/manhattancb3/downloads/resources/CB3-mental-health-survey-directory-2023.pdf
[47] Presentation by University Settlement at the CB3 June 2023 Health, Seniors, & Human Services / Youth, Education, & Human Rights Committee meeting.
[48] Burrowes, Hyacinth. (2023). *Manhattan Community Board 3 Mental Health Resources Survey*. https://www.nyc.gov/assets/manhattancb3/downloads/resources/CB3-mental-health-survey-directory-2023.pdf
[49] U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). *Population 60 years and over in the United States: American Community Survey 5-estimates Subject Tables*. https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=United States&t=Older Population&g=795XX00US3604103
[50] FURMAN
[51] U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). *Population 60 years and over in the United States: American Community Survey 5-estimates Subject Tables*. https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=United States&t=Older Population&g=795XX00US3604103

- Wellness concerns such as needs for physical activity, mental stimulation, coping with depression, low self-esteem & self-worth issues (especially amongst the oldest)
- Staying informed with accurate information about health and other issues

Programs at Older Adult Centers and Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) provide programs to address these concerns:

- **Older Adult Centers**
  According to the Department for the Aging (DFTA), in CD 3 there are 13 DFTA-funded Older Adult Centers (formerly known as senior centers).[52] Each center is particularly important as they are culturally sensitive to the needs of our diverse communities. Given the growing senior population, there is a need to maintain and expand the existing facilities and to address significant capital maintenance needs.

- **Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities**
  In addition to senior centers, NORCs are also vital in CD 3. A NORC is a multi-age housing development or neighborhood that was not originally designed for seniors, but now is home to a significant number of older persons. There are eight NORCs in CD 3 that provide Supportive Services Programs to maximize and support the successful aging in place of older residents (*See appendix for list of NORCs in CD 3)*.

  Often, NORC residents can access health and social services in their own buildings, building complexes or locally within their neighborhoods. Both the City Council and DFTA recognize the need for NORCs in the community and are working to budget more NORC programs. NORC programs are a model for bringing necessary care and support to seniors living in age-integrated buildings and neighborhoods. Nurses and social workers are necessary to provide supportive services.

Lack of proper facility maintenance by NYCHA

Many of our programs are held in NYCHA community rooms and serve mostly NYCHA residents. Because the programs are not run by NYCHA, the housing authority does not maintain the facilities. The settlement houses and other nonprofits who run the programs receive funding for programming and staff, but do not receive capital funding for needed extensive repairs.

There are intolerable conditions that have been ongoing for years—plumbing backups in facilities used by Cornerstone programs, the ceiling falling in a senior center and raw sewage in a preschool program are among the significant problems. The situation is so dire that some of our settlement houses have taken it into their own hands to fix the problems. However, this diverts funds needed for operating these programs that serve our residents. The smaller organizations do not have the resources to do the major fundraising needed to both meet organizational goals and to raise funds to repair NYCHA facilities. NYCHA resources are needed for maintenance that allows use of facilities to properly serve the clients. This includes proper maintenance of compactor rooms to prevent infestation, immediate repair of leaks and other work orders with management of work orders by NYCHA staff,

[52] NYC Department for the Aging. (n.d.) *Aging Connect*. https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dfta/about/contact-aging-connect.page

proper maintenance of systems such as pumps and waste systems.

Health Care Needs and Services

COVID-19 has highlighted health justice inequities that are particularly notable in CD 3 because of the large gap between the lowest and highest income populations and concentration of lower income communities of color who are at two to three times higher risk of contracting COVID-19 than wealthier, white residents.[53] Underlying health conditions and low-paying essential jobs are two of the most visible conditions causing this disparity. There are seven federally qualified health care centers in CD 3 according to the Health Resources and Services Administration locator tool.

The changes in responding to health care needs due to COVID-19 have highlighted areas of unmet needs as well as new trends in the provision of health care. In 2022, approximately 3 percent of CD 3 residents were uninsured.[54] The trends and priorities below were reported to the CB 3 Health and Human Services Committee by the following community health care facilities: Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, the Betances Health Center, and the Gouverneur Health Facility.

Mental Health Services

During 2021, the aftereffects of the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for heightened mental health services, both general and targeted. Models of care that eliminate or decrease barriers to access, including the CONNECT model and improved telehealth services, should be expanded, scaled, and made sustainable. Mental health support services should also be expanded, including programs that focus on mindfulness and well-being, in addition to programs for those with diagnosed mental illnesses. The demand for mental health services among the Asian-American community has grown partly due to anti-Asian hate crimes and isolation associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Targeted mental health services, including services for migrant families, individuals and families experiencing homelessness, young people, older adults, and other priority populations in CB3, should also be strengthened.[55]

In addition, behavioral health services are a priority for people with underlying conditions: seniors, first responders, and those with substance abuse disorders and pre-existing health conditions, people with disabilities, and those who have experienced traumatic changes in their employment. An overall plan to address the continuing increase in substance abuse and an increase in outreach/harm reduction services is needed.

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[53] Serkez, Y. (June 4, 2020). *Who is Most likely to Die from the Coronavirus?* https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/04/opinion/coronavirus-health-race-inequality.html.
[54] U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). *Selected Characteristics of health Insurance Coverage in the United States. 2022 American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2022.S2701?q=United States&t=Health Insurance&g=795XX00US3604103.
[55] Burrowes, Hyacinth. (2023). *Manhattan Community Board 3 Mental Health Resources Survey*. https://www.nyc.gov/assets/manhattancb3/downloads/resources/CB3-mental-health-survey-directory-2023.pdf

Mental Health Services for Youth

Suicide is now the second leading cause of death among youth 10-24 years old in the U.S., and self-harm is reported to be on the rise among NYC youth, normalized through communities formed on social media that reinforce negative mentalities and attitudes.[56]

There is a need for more services and programs deliberately and inclusively designed for youth, with a strong peer component, and with few barriers to access. Mental health services that address youth-specific issues through youth-designed strategies and approaches are needed especially for LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth who deal with stigma, discrimination, and racism on a regular basis.

After school programs are needed more than ever to help children and youth to build the cognitive, socio-emotional, and intellectual skills they need to succeed and thrive as students and adults.

Health

Health disparities with a root in social determinants

People of color and those with lower income experience a disproportionate burden of preventable disease, death, and disabilities.[57] Maintaining social supports and community programs (such as smoking-cessation, medical screenings, and family planning as a few examples) are necessary.

Pediatricians are seeing children left behind socially, educationally, and emotionally. Enhanced services for these children will be needed for the near future and on an ongoing basis for several years.

Telehealth

Telemedicine has proved to be important in enabling community residents to access care. The biggest challenge facing telehealth is the lack of internet access—25% percent of households in CD 3 do not have internet access, while 44% have no broadband access to the internet.[58]

Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Facilities

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[56] Burrowes, Hyacinth. (2023). *Manhattan Community Board 3 Mental Health Resources Survey*. https://www.nyc.gov/assets/manhattancb3/downloads/resources/CB3-mental-health-survey-directory-2023.pdf.
[57] New York City Department of Health. (2018). *Community Health Profile 2018: Lower East Side and Chinatown*. https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2018chp-mn3.pdf.
[58] NYC Open Data. (2022). *Internet Master Plan: Broadband Adoption and Infrastructure by Community District*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/City-Government/Internet-Master-Plan-Broadband-Adoption-and-Infras/rxpf-yca2/data.

After suffering losses of hospital resources and nursing home/rehab beds, our community is in critical need to ensure these services. There are currently no Alzheimer's dedicated beds/units in the district. From 2006 to 2022, the number of long-term care facility beds in Lower Manhattan decreased from 1,085 beds across eight facilities to 353 beds across two facilities.[59] This includes the 219 beds lost when Rivington House was closed.[60] Rivington House closed in 2015 when the Allure Group bought them. The community facility deed restriction was lifted for a fee of $16.15 million to the City and then Rivington House was sold to Rivington Street Investors for $116 million.

The Allure Group is required by the New York State Attorney General's office to open a new health care facility on the Lower East Side. The original deadline was 2022 but has been extended because of COVID. CB 3 is working with the Attorney General's office and state elected officials to ensure that the much-needed nursing home beds are replaced by Allure.[61]

The remaining long-term care providers are Gouverneur Skilled Nursing Facility with a total of 295 beds for rehabilitation and long-term care beds and New East Side Nursing Home with 58 beds. The skilled nursing facility at Gouverneur operates at 93% percent occupancy rate—greater than the New York City average and the national average.[62]

Food Security

Between May 2022 and May 2024, the food price index rose 9.9%—this rise in food costs is particularly burdensome to low-income residents and senior citizens.[63] Food pantries and community fridges operated by local community organizations or GrowNYC continue to fill the gaps of food security.

Older adults continue to demonstrate a very high need for food assistance, including free delivered meals and home delivered groceries, due to the continuing rising cost of food.

There continues to be an increase in home delivery of food weekly as reported by Vision Urbana.

Homeless Population

[59] New York State Department of Health (2022). *NYS Nursing Home Profiles*. https://profiles.health.ny.gov/nursing_home/index.
[60] Hobbs, A. (2016). *Lower Manhattan hit hardest by nursing home decline, stats show*. DNAInfo. https://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20161010/lower-east-side/nursing-care-facility-closures-department-of-healthdata-rivington-house.
[61] Press Release https://ag.ny.gov/press-release/2018/ag-schneiderman-announces-settlement-allure-group-revitalize-harlem-nursing-home. Settlement documents https://ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/allure_settlement_doc.pdf
[62] Gouverneur Hospital Community Advisory Board report at the CB3 June 2019 Health, Seniors, & Human Services / Youth, Education, & Human Rights Committee meeting.
[63] US Department of Agriculture (2024) *Food Price Outlook*. https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-price-outlook/

In April, 2024 , more than 147,518 people each night slept in New York City's main shelter system, the highest number since the city started keeping count forty years ago and double the number from the previous year.[64] While this number includes the migrants, the crisis of unsheltered New Yorkers existed before the migrant crisis as evidenced by the increase in the 4,140 New Yorkers currently living on the streets and subways as reported in the Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) count for January 8, 2024

Street Homeless Outreach

Manhattan Outreach Consortium (MOC) workers are the primary contacts for case management and outreach to those unhoused on the street in the effort to have them accept placements and services. Providing necessary tools for these workers are of primary importance:

- More outreach staff are needed—both to fill vacancies and handle the increase in clients and higher salaries to retain staff. Current caseload sizes are 45 to 50 clients while the ideal caseload would be 25 clients per worker.[65]
- Translation resources are needed. Currently there are a few Spanish speaking staff and no Chinese speaking staff. Outreach to the homeless requires building trust and culturally sensitive communication. Phone translation does not provide this and often translators are not familiar with terms used.
- Outreach workers report an increase in fentanyl overdoses. Goddard staff has created a partnership with local harm reduction providers to include harm reduction outreach. A formalized, funded program is needed to have this coordinated outreach more frequently and throughout the District.
- Mental Health resources are lacking. There is anecdotally an increase in homeless people needing mental health services. Services must be provided with consistent follow up where the people are living—on the street. There are currently not enough outreach psychiatric health care services.[66]

Shelters

CD 3 is home to 13 permanent shelters, among the highest in the city.[55] The perception of many people experiencing homelessness that the shelters are unsafe appears to contribute to the many homeless people refusing services unless there is a Safe Haven bed available in a community they are connected to.

In 2017-2018, the Coalition for the Homeless conducted a survey of individuals sleeping on the streets and subways. The majority of those interviewed on the streets had stayed in the DHS shelter system at some point and were

[64] Coalition for the Homeless. (June 2023). *State of the Homeless 2023*. https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/StateoftheHomeless2023.pdf
[65] Manhattan Outreach Consortium report via e-mail, July 21st, 2023.
[66] Report by Goddard Outreach and Dr. Van Yu at the CB3 May 2023 Health, Seniors, & Human Services / Youth, Education, & Human Rights Committee meeting.

unwilling to return to the shelter system because they feared for their safety and/or experienced difficulty following the rules and procedures. Additionally, two-thirds of those interviewed had mental health needs.[67]

Coalition for the Homeless' State of The Homeless 2023 report cites the following factors that contribute to an increase in shelter population[68]:

- Average length of time that families and single adults must spend in shelters is now longer than it has ever been;
- The number of homeless households provided with City rent vouchers to help them move from shelters into permanent housing reached its lowest level in five years;
- The number of homeless single adults placed into supportive housing was at the second-lowest level since 2004 (with only the previous year being marginally lower).

CB 3 has long advocated for more Safe Havens and supportive housing as well as more affordable housing as part of the solution to end homelessness. As noted in the 2022 State of the Homeless report, while the long-term retention rate for individuals referred to congregate shelters was only about 24 percent in the 19 months leading up to December 2021. The rate for those referred to Safe Havens was far higher, at roughly 63 percent. (Community issues sometimes arise around adult shelters.) Outdoor space and programming that engages the residents is necessary. Better security is also necessary for both the neighboring community members and the shelter residents.

Transportation, Public Safety and Environment

Accessibility and Safety

Accessibility is a CB 3 priority, especially with 3.7 percent of residents in the area reporting ambulatory difficulty.[69] There are several ways to address this issue in the district:

- Improved accessibility of bus stops, which is necessary for seniors and people with disabilities. Buses often do not pull up to the curb for accessibility.
- Observations by the CB office and community residents are that bus stops are being used as short-term parking, which render the stops inaccessible for those in wheelchairs and walkers. NYPD needs to enforce bus stop regulations and visible markings for bus stop/no parking area should be considered.

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety

[67] Coalition for the Homeless. (June 2023). *State of the Homeless 2023*. https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/StateoftheHomeless2023.pdf
[68] Ibid.
[69] U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). *Disability Characteristics, 2022 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*. https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1810?q=United States, New York, NY difficulty&t=Disability&g=795XX00US3604103

There have been 719 total injuries and 6 fatalities resulting from 572 crashes in CD 3 between June 2023 and June 2024, an almost 5% decrease in crashes but 500% increase in fatalities. The density of injuries in CD 3 is high in comparison to other community districts in Manhattan and the rest of the City. The areas with the highest volume of crashes were located at:

- East Houston Street (between Avenue B and Bowery)
- Delancey Street (between Bowery and Clinton)
- Grand Street (between Bowery and Clinton)
- Third Ave (between East Houston and East 10th St)[70]

Pedestrian safety improvements and traffic calming measures are needed on these key corridors and high priority intersections to reduce overall traffic crashes and ensure the safety of pedestrians on our most dangerous streets. Of the 719 injuries resulting from crashes, 162 of those injuries were to cyclists. This exemplifies the need for the continued creation of new protected bike lanes as well as the enhancement of current unprotected bike lanes to ensure safety of cyclists in CD 3. Increasing safer bicycle infrastructure as well as strategies to increase compliance with the rules of this infrastructure and roadways will help to create a safer environment for cyclists as well as pedestrians. Pedestrians sustained 152 injuries of the 719 total.[71] To increase pedestrian safety further, there is a need for more open spaces and safe pedestrian routes that could be created with city programs like pedestrian plazas.

Delivery and Curbside Management

Neighborhood Loading Zones were installed in the East Village, but the Lower East Side below Houston did not receive needed loading zones. We have seen constant problems, especially in the Essex Crossing area, that have not been addressed. Semi-large box stores such as Target and Trader Joes have 18- wheelers with deliveries that cannot fit into the loading areas. They continue to block sidewalks and bike lanes, causing potentially dangerous situations. The areas on Canal Street between Allen and Essex and on Grand Street between Essex and the FDR are the highest priority areas needing a safety/loading plan.

CD 3 has seen an explosion of food delivery workers with vehicles in response to the current trend of residents ordering food. There is not infrastructure to accommodate the vehicles. There are increasing complaints to the CB 3 office by residents regarding bikes blocking sidewalks. NYPD precincts in CB 3 have been working with the board to find solutions so that workers can comply, but sometimes bikes are clipped and removed. These workers are responding to a need created by residents and must be able to comply with regulations. DOT and agencies should systematically survey infrastructure and install bike corrals or other accommodations for bike parking.

Public Transportation

[70] ChekPeds. (2023). *NYC Crash Mapper*. https://crashmapper.org
[71] Ibid.

CD 3 is underserved by public transportation despite the fact that 87 % percent of workers in the district do not use a car to commute to work.[72] Many residents are poorly served by the subway system, with 13 percent living more than ½ mile from the nearest subway stop.[73] Therefore:

- There is a need for more east/west bus service south of 8th Street. The ease of East/West travel has been diminished by the elimination of the Grand Street Bus in the early 1980's and by the limited number of M14A buses. Even though the Grand Street crosstown bus was eliminated over 40 years ago, there's still a dire need for a crosstown bus south of 8th Street.

Rodents

Community Board 3 Manhattan (CB 3) is currently one of four rat reduction zones in NYC. Overall, the District remained the same in 2024 when compared to 2023. From January to June 2023 there were 326 complaints compared to 301 complaints in the same time in 2024. From January to June 2024, there were 301 complaints—this is around a 7% decrease (25 fewer complaints) when compared to 2023.[74]

NYCHA burrow counts in 2024 have decreased across the 24 CB 3 developments to 326 (in June 2024).

In other public and private properties, the failure rate for Active Rat Sign (ARS) has ranged from 10% to 18% but is now trending toward 13%. The average failure rate for active rat signs on compliance inspections from January to June 2024 is 55%. Additionally, park burrow counts in 2024 have increased across the CB 3 parks to 366 (in June 2024). [75]

Even with a decrease in complaints overall in the district and NYCHA developments, there still an increase in parks burrows in CB 3 Parks. There is a huge need for rodent control support with the Department of Parks and Recreation through the repair of infrastructure, new litter baskets, harborage reduction, and increased cleaning shifts.

Sanitation

From June 2023 through June 2024 there were 886 complaints regarding dirty conditions involving trash in CD 3.[76] There is a need to remedy this issue with programs like Clean Curbs which would bring more containerized trash to the district and help to keep garbage organized, off the curb, and out of the street.

At this time there are no plans to implement a trash containerization pilot in CD3, such as the one currently ongoing

[72] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown
[73] Ibid.
[74] Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene, Director of Neighborhood Intervention Pest Control Services.
[75] Ibid.
[76] NYC Open Data. (2024). *311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Social-Services/311-Service-Requests-from-2010-to-Present/erm2-nwe9/data

in Hamilton Heights.[77]. This should be a priority, especially with CD3 designated one of four rat mitigation areas in the city and the current changes in garbage pickup

Environment

Air pollution is a significant environmental threat to the health of CD 3 residents. The New York City Community Air Survey (NYCCAS) measurements of air pollutants in CD 3 were among the highest in NYC in 2018, which was the last reported survey.[78]

- Airborne particulate matter: CD 3 ranks 3rd of the 59 CDs for PM 2.5 (Fine Particulate Matter) and 7th for Nitrogen Dioxide. These pollutants are particularly harmful, worsening respiratory and cardiovascular disease, and causing hospital admissions and deaths. CD 3 has the highest number of Asthma Emergency Department visits for adults of the Lower Manhattan districts with 44.9 visits annually per 10,000 residents.[79] *(See appendix for further discussion of health impacts.)*
- A key finding of their 2018 report is that some air pollutants (PM2.5, NO2, NO, and BC) are highest in areas of higher traffic density. CD3 has transportation infrastructure that the Williamsburg Bridge causes these conditions in CD 3, with vehicles heading to the bridge using residential streets surrounding Grand and Clinton St, and vehicles, especially trucks, crossing to the Holland Tunnel using Canal St. Traffic has high counts on all three bridges that run through the neighborhood (Brooklyn Br., Manhattan Br., & Williamsburg Br.) as well as FDR Drive, with over 250,000 and 135,000, respectively, annual average daily traffic counts.[80]

Climate change is causing more weather events with extreme heat and stormwater. CD 3 is a high priority area for planting trees to reduce air temperature, according to the US Forest Service.[81] We are one of the warmest parts of the city with the most people and have the fourth highest air temperature planting index (heat stress index) among the 59 NYC community districts.[82] 84% of CD 3 is covered by impervious surfaces. A high rate of impervious surfaces impacts the local environment in causing the urban heat island effect, increasing stormwater runoff, flooding, and hindering mitigation of local air, water, noise, and light pollution. Increasing the District's tree canopy will help combat these negative effects by reducing peak temperatures in the summer and improving air quality by directly removing air pollutants, including PM2.5, NOx, sulfur dioxide and ozone from the air. CD 3 currently has 22 percent tree cover, with a further 27.3 percent that is space where trees can be planted.[83] To improve the local

[77] NYC Department of Sanitation (2023). *Hamilton Height Containerization Pilot*. https://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/containerization/hamilton-heights-bins.page
[78] New York City Community Air Survey (NYCCAS). *Neighborhood Air Quality 2008-2018*. https://nyc-ehs.net/nyccas2020/web/report.
[79] Environment & Health Data Portal. (2020). *Asthma and the Environment in Union Square-Lower East Side*. https://a816-dohbesp.nyc.gov/IndicatorPublic/beta/neighborhood-reports/union_square_lower_east_side/asthma_and_the_environment/.
[80] New York State. (2022). *Traffic Data Viewer*. https://gisportalny.dot.ny.gov/portalny/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=28537cbc8b5941e19cf8e959b16797b4
[81] NYC Parks. (2024). *New York City Street Tree Map*. https://tree-map.nycgovparks.org/tree-map/neighborhood/340.
[82] USDA Resource Bulletin. (2018). *The Urban Forest of New York City*. https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/57234 and https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/rb/rbnrs117.pdf
[83] NYC Parks. (2021). *New York City Street Tree Map*. https://tree-map.nycgovparks.org/tree-map/neighborhood/340.

environment in CD 3:

- Prioritize building blue and green roofs and street side green infrastructure to mitigate the negative effects of traffic, particulate material, runoff, flooding, urban heat, and noise and light pollution.
- Prioritize planting a variety of native plant species to enhance local biodiversity and resiliency, survivability and mitigations provided by local natural land cover and increase the tree canopy.

Noise is the number one complaint in CD 3 and is increasing in frequency. From July 2023 to July 2024 there were 62,821 total 311 complaints in CD 3. Of these complaints, 19,550 were noise complaints. Most of these noise complaints are regarding residential noise (7,255 complaints) followed by street/sidewalk noise (4,417 complaints). There was a 6.7% increase (4,436 to 4,735) in complaints of commercial noise from the previous year.[84] There are resident requests for legislation to address residential noise. *(See appendix for further breakdown of 311 complaints and discussion of health impacts.)*

Public Safety

The serious crime rate, those crimes classified as major felony defined by the NYPD, in CD 3 was 19.4 serious crimes per 1,000 residents in 2023, compared to 14.2 serious crimes per 1,000 residents citywide.[85] Major felonies include murder, robbery, felony assault, burglary, grand larceny along with drug dealing.

Major crime (murder, rape, robbery, felony assault, burglary, grand larceny, and grand larceny auto) between June 2023 and June 2024 across precincts 5, 7, and 9 decreased 17.3%. From June 2023 through June 2024, Precinct 5 experienced a total of 585 crimes committed (compared to 635 during the same time period the previous year), Precinct 7 a total of 459 crimes committed (537 the previous year), and Precinct 9 experienced a total of 600 crimes committed (858 the previous year). .[86] *(See appendix for further 2023 YTD crime data.)*

There has been a significant increase in the number of complaints to the Community Board regarding open drug use. One of our parks, SDR, is known as the destination location in NYC to buy K2.[87] There are complaints from residents for some blocks and developments that are home to drug dealers as well residents seeking safe homes. We have seen gang violence result in murder and drug dealers murdered over land jurisdiction.[88] Police have been contacted and have some short-term successes, but there does not appear to strategies and plans to bring safety in all areas of CD 3. This displays a need for more harm reduction resources in addition to resources with a proactive

[84] NYC Open Data. (2024). *311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Social-Services/311-Service-Requests-from-2010-to-Present/erm2-nwe9/data.
[85] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.
[86] City of New York Police Department. (2024). *NYPD CompStat2.0*. https://compstat.nypdonline.org/2e5c3f4b-85c1-4635-83c6-22b27fe7c75c/view/89.
[87] The New York Times. (2022). *This Manhattan Park Was Once a Gem. Now It's a 'No Man's Land.'* https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/15/nyregion/sara-roosevelt-park-nyc.html.
[88] Joy, Stacie. (2022). *After deadly shooting, fearful residents speak out about the drug activity on Avenue D & 3rd Street*. EV Grieve. https://evgrieve.com/2022/05/after-deadly-shooting-fearful-residents.html.

focus on the root causes of these issues.

Nightlife and Licensing

The dining and nightlife environment in CD 3 has changed significantly since the COVID-19 shutdown that began in March 2020 and lasted through 2021. While CD 3 is a primarily residential district, it has one of the highest volumes of licensed eating and drinking businesses of any community district in the City.[89] The shutdown significantly affected many of the community's eating and drinking establishments as well as other business, leaving many vacant storefronts. The Committee is now hearing more applications for previously unlicensed businesses than pre-COVID. The community is also dealing with the continued effects of outdoor dining that revitalized the community after the shutdown but now has had unforeseen negative impacts as demonstrated by the increase in 311 noise complaints, rat indexing findings and complaints regarding garbage on the street. CD 3 has the highest number of commercial noise complaints in Manhattan (4,735 complaints) and the second highest in the City.[90] These issues were evident on a street walkthrough with CB 3, Department of Health, Department of Transportation, and the District 2 council office in 2022 to observe the conditions of the outdoor dining sheds, as well as the rat and garbage issues.CD 3 is one of four rat mitigation zones in the City—the four districts with the most rat complaints

The yearly commercial noise complaints for CD 3 have significantly increased between pre-COVID years (FY 2019) and post-COVID regulation years (FY 2024). There was a 127 percent increase in NYPD commercial noise complaints. See chart below.

Commercial/Business Noise Complaints (311 Calls)[91]						
	FY 2020	**FY 2021**	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**% Change (FY19 – FY24)**
Noise – Commercial (loud music/talking)	2,087	2,756	4,336	4,436	4,735	**+127%**
Noise – Street Sidewalk (loud talking/music/party	3,288	6,165	6,046	4,792	4,416	**+34%**
TOTAL	**5,458**	**8,921**	**10,382**	**9,228**	**9,151**	**+67%**

These conditions have highlighted the ongoing issues associated with allowing numerous licensed businesses within a small residential community. Complaints related to nightlife are difficult to resolve because no single agency has sole jurisdiction over noisy crowds and loud music, traffic congestion and horn honking outside businesses.

[89] New York State. (n.d.). *NYS Liquor Authority Mapping Project (LAMP)*. https://lamp.sla.ny.gov/.
[90] NYC Open Data. (2024). *New York City 311 Service Requests*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Social-Services/311-Service-Requests-from-2010-to-Present/erm2-nwe9
[91] NYC Open Data. (2023). *New York City 311 Service Requests*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Social-Services/311-Service-Reques 2010-to-Present/erm2-nwe9.

Additionally, the City has moved away from enforcement as noted in this correspondence from a CB 3 NYPD precinct "The city has moved away from wanting to cite bars/ establishments for infractions as such….. NYC CURE is a non enforcement unit that wants to help….also recommend NYC Mend which will also arrange a mediation between residents and establishment owners with professional mediators." At the September 16, 2024 NYPD budget consultation meeting, NYPD was asked if the non-enforcement policy had been effective. The agency reported that there had been a 13% increase in bar noise complaints in the last year in Manhattan South precincts. The SLA, which issues licenses and has jurisdiction over license compliance, has limited investigation and enforcement abilities. Conditions resulting from the saturation of nightlife businesses are often not criminal but are quality-of-life violations dependent on City enforcement. The non-enforcement policy dictated to NYPD and DEP should be eliminated to be able to achieve a balance of education for businesses, quality of life for residents, and enforcement as a consequence of continued noncompliance.

Open Restaurant

At the time of this writing, DOT has just started reviewing applications for the permanent outdoor dining program.

CD 3 currently has 1,028 open restaurants, 740 serving alcohol. There are 539 businesses with both sidewalk and roadway seating that will most likely be under the new Open Restaurant program.[92]

Parks/Recreation

Community District 3, like most community districts in New York City, is underserved in terms of open space, with less than the City-recommended 2.5 acres of open space per 1000 residents.[93]

- Citywide the median open space ratio is 1.8 acres per 1,000 residents[94] – CD 3 is below that average at 0.7 acres per 1,000 residents.[95]
- While 88 percent of residential units in CD 3 are located within ¼ mile of a park, not all parks are easily accessible or maintained at an acceptable level.[96]
- Open space is not evenly distributed throughout the district, with the area west of Avenue A and Chinatown lacking adequate open space.
- With the closure of half of East River Park until 2026, other parks in CD 3 risk being inundated and over-

[92] Department of Transportation. (n.d.). *NYC Open Restaurants.*
https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ba953db7d541423a8e67ae1cf52bc698
[93] NYC Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination. (2021). *2021 Technical Manual Chapter 7: Open Space 311. Open Space Rations and Planning Standards.*
https://www.nyc.gov/site/oec/environmental-quality-review/technical-manual.page
[94] NYC Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination. (2014). *CEQR Open Space*.
http://www.nyc.gov/html/oec/downloads/pdf/2014_ceqr_tm/07_Open_Space_2014.pdf
[95] New Yorkers For Parks. (2021). *Manhattan Community District 3 Open Space Profile*.
https://www.ny4p.org/client-uploads/pdf/District-Profiles-2021/NY4P-Profiles_MN3.pdf
[96] Ibid.

used by people looking for alternative spaces.

Parks Buildings

There are numerous Parks Department buildings in the district that are underutilized. These spaces are either completely closed or are used as storehouses for borough wide Parks operations. Our local park houses should not bear this disproportionate burden for other neighborhoods, especially considering that the majority of CD 3 is in an environmental justice area.[97] These buildings should be used as community facilities to meet the needs of the community as neighborhood safe anchors, especially in Sara Delano Roosevelt (SDR) Park.

These buildings should be renovated and reopened for community use. According to a 596 Acres Study, the following properties are underutilized in the district[98]:

- **Sara D. Roosevelt Park**
  The Stanton Street Park House (Manhattan Storehouse) in SDR Park was a community center until the 1970s and should be returned to community use (only the restrooms are open to the public). Out of the four Parks buildings in SDR Park, two are used for borough-wide Parks maintenance (Broome, Stanton) and one other is used for a "Five Borough Communication center. The remaining parkhouse is used as a low-income senior nutrition center.
  Public restrooms are not available in one park house and open only for limited, unsupervised, and sporadic hours in the three others. This inequitable distribution of resources does not allow CD 3 to meet its needs for community space, programming, and park safety, especially for youth (seven public schools surround this park) in this very densely used and troubled park straddling the Lower East Side and Chinatown. Parks has shared that the new building is not expected to be completed and ready for occupancy until 2027 and will not be moving out of the Stanton Street building until then. Once the storage space is emptied and the Stanton Street building is returned for programming, any proposed use of this space will come to CB 3 for stakeholder input. This space will need extensive funding advocacy to become a local park resource.

- **Allen Street Mall Public Restroom**
  This facility has been unused for years; a proposal and ULURP action will come before CB 3 in Fiscal Year 25.

- **Allen Street Malls south of Houston to Rivington St**

- **Seward Park "Park House" Building**
  Bathrooms are open, space currently being used by the Lower East Side Ecology Center at the time of this writing as an East Side Coastal Resiliency project mitigation.

[97] NYC Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice. (2018). *Environmental Justice Areas*. https://nycdohmh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/lookup/index.html?appid=fc9a0dc8b7564148b4079d294498a3cf
[98] Living Lots NYC. (2016). *NYCommons Community District 3*. https://livinglotsnyc.org/media/files/LESmap_7.27.16_FINAL.pdf

- **Little Flower Playground Building**
  Demolished and converted to open turf area. However, this is a temporary conversion, and Parks needs to commit to building a permanent community recreation facility.

- **Baruch Houses Bath House**
  Currently closed and awaiting future discussion.

Recreational Use

The lack of park space is exacerbated by a lack of recreational sports fields for our local youth groups. While CB 3 does not seek to exclude outside groups from our parks, the Board had taken the following position:

- Priority access to recreational sports fields should be given to not-for-profit organizations serving the youth of CD 3 especially considering the *partial* closure of East River Park
- NYC Parks must revisit the policy of grandfathering sports field permits to certain organizations.

Rodents in Parks and Community Gardens

There has been an overall increased amount in rodent burrow count. In June 2024, the overall count of park burrows was 194 across the 32 identified parks. [99]As of June 2024, there is an overall count of 414 burrows across 39 parks, which includes all open spaces and greenspaces that are maintained by the New York City Parks Department. There is an overall 113% increase from June 2023.

Below we have listed, 3 parks as examples of increasing burrow counts between May through July 2024.

• **Sara D. Roosevelt Park**
The burrow count has increased 22% between May to July, from 126 burrows in May to 154 burrows in July. This is due to nearby Bigbelly bins that are not useable, overgrown vegetation in the Forsyth garden areas, and food litter.

• **Tompkins Square Park**
The burrow count has increased 25% between May to July, from 67 burrows in May to 84 burrows in July. There is a high concentration of burrows around the dog park near trees. Additionally, there is scattered food litter, a large homeless population, and bird feeding.

• **Seward Park**
The burrow count has increased 43% between May to July, from 30 burrows in May to 43 burrows in July. There are earthen burrows throughout the landscaping and structural burrows in the pavements.

[99] Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Manhattan CB3 Parks June-July 2024 Update. See Appendix.

Wireless Access

CD 3 residents would benefit greatly from free wireless access in all public parks, such as the networks currently available in Alfred E. Smith Playground, Tompkins Square Park, and Hamilton Fish Park, which allow all in the community to use their laptops and other devices in parks. 25% of CD 3 households do not have internet access and 44% have no home broadband adoption, compared to 14% and 24% respectively in Manhattan.[100] Proliferating wireless internet connection in the parks will help to supplement these households who do not have any or regular access to the internet.

Maintenance

Currently Parks, like other agencies, needs to find ways to meet staffing and adequate maintenance needs. The following are continuing needs in CD 3:

- More frequent cleaning of playgrounds in parks, as well as standalone park playgrounds during the weekends and on summer weekdays, especially in all spray showers and water fountains, to maintain safety and sanitation
- Maintenance of new street trees and bioswales

Community Gardens

CD 3 has one of the highest concentrations of Greenthumb gardens in New York City and the densest distribution of gardens in the city.[101] It is essential that our community gardens are protected. Currently gardens can still be sold as they are not legally Parks property. CB 3 supports:

- The creation of a new Special Purpose "Community Garden District" that would offer a measure of protection, as would a new protected NYC zoning designation of "Community Garden."

Since all community gardens have the same maintenance and resource needs as public parks, CB 3 requests that:

- All gardens under NYC Parks jurisdiction receive funding through Greenthumb and should be provided with adequate infrastructure, such as available water spigots, ongoing topsoil renewal, wrought iron fencing, and electricity/solar lighting where applicable. We encourage funding to be made available to gardening groups to provide workshops and classes in community gardens for seniors and elementary school children. Educational and environmental programs in cooking, nutrition, movement, and the arts encourage public participation and strengthen our community.
- There should be installation of Bruckner Boxes in all parks that require them to ensure watering facilities are

[100] NYC Open Data. (2022). *Internet Master Plan: Broadband Adoption and Infrastructure by Community District*. https://data.cityofnewyork.us/City-Government/Internet-Master-Plan-Broadband-Adoption-and-Infras/rxpf-yca2/data
[101] NYC Parks Green Thumb. (n.d.) *Green Thumb Garden Map*. https://greenthumb.nycgovparks.org/gardensearch.php

adequate to sustain greenery.

Keeping the gardens well-lit is a public safety need. The increase in illicit drug use, as reported by area gardeners, makes garden lighting especially relevant. Garden lighting needs to be sensitive & under the gardeners' control, balancing safety with the ability to achieve darkness during migration seasons.

Bioswales and Indigenous Plantings

Bioswales are vegetated areas that are designed to collect and filter stormwater runoff. They can help to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and create habitat for wildlife and are essential for the health and well-being of our community. This, along with Indigenous plants that are well-adapted to our local climate, can help to improve biodiversity in CD 3. We need more bioswale installations throughout the district help to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and create habitat for wildlife. They are also essential for the health and well-being of our community especially considering the impact of the ESCR project. This, along with indigenous plants that are well-adapted to our local climate, will help to improve biodiversity in CD3.

Waterfront

While Phase 1B of Pier 42 has been officially completed, the comprehensive masterplan approved by CB 3 in 2013 holds the key to essential waterfront access. Encompassing passive recreation areas, storm surge barriers, marine habitats, and educational opportunities, this plan goes beyond temporary amenities. Additional city funding, allocated for the East Side Coastal Resiliency project, addresses immediate needs but falls short of realizing the critical public access link along Lower Manhattan's East River shoreline that the full masterplan would provide.

New York Public Libraries

CD 3 has five branches of the New York Public Library (NYPL) system: Chatham Square, Hamilton Fish, Ottendorfer, Seward Park, and Tompkins Square.

Manhattan Community Board 3, FY24[102]		
Branch	**Visits**	**Program Attendance**
Chatham Square	140,846	23,339

[102] New York Public Library. (2024). *NYPL Statistics for Fiscal Year 2024 in Community Board 3*.

Seward Park	134,184	30,600
Ottendorfer	103,625	20,408
Tompkins Square	94,852	22,720
Hamilton Fish Park	32,517	2,494
Totals	**505,024**	**99,561**

**In FY23 NYPL had 28,333,000 visits to its website.*

*** Program attendance numbers include both in person and virtual program attendance*

Nearly every branch in CD 3 had an increase in visits and program attendance since FY23. There was a 3.5% increase in overall library visits (488,049 in FY23 to 505,024 in FY24) and a 20.3% increase in overall program attendance (82,756 in FY23 to 99,561 in FY24).[103]

Youth in CD 3 were disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, widening gaps between high and low needs communities. NYPL is currently focused on youth and education with an emphasis on teens. In Fiscal Year 2024, NYPL looks to continue to build on youth programs and services, explore new programs that address the needs of older adults, and support ongoing efforts to connect asylum seekers to essential resources.

Arts and Cultural Affairs

Arts and cultural activities are an important means of preserving and exploring our exceptionally diverse community culture in Community District 3. Arts and cultural activities are also an important economic engine for our district that has a large concentration of artists and arts and cultural organizations—large and small, professional and community- based, experimental and culturally specific.

Artists, cultural workers and arts and cultural organizations of all sizes were impacted to a devastating degree by COVID-19 in 2020. The performing arts sector was one of the hardest hit industries in NYC, putting cultural workers, including performing artists and administrators, in vulnerable positions.[1]

[2] Performing arts industries have faced challenges in recovery, with an overall reduction in box office sales, and increased costs associated with living in NYC for artists, and theatrical production materials. These are challenges that pose long term risk to the sustainability of small- and large-scale performing arts organizations alike.[3]

[103] New York Public Library. (2024). *NYPL Statistics for Fiscal Year 2024 in Community Board 3*.

City funding for small, vulnerable arts organizations is uncertain. The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) primarily funds larger, well-known cultural institutions, with less funding typically awarded to small arts nonprofits located in CD 3. There is a need for equitable funding, support and resource opportunities for small local organizations in CD 3 that focus on the population most impacted by COVID-19, which are low-income people of color.[4]

CB 3 has identified the following priority needs for Arts & Culture:

- In May 2021, NYC announced the Artists Corps program, which was created to assist with pandemic recovery and provided a $25 million investment in grant funding for local artists across the City. This should become an ongoing program to meet the long-term needs of artists while advancing community wellbeing. .[5]
- Independent artists and cultural producers, especially those in the performing arts continue to experience disruptions due to Covid and haven't been able to return to the income levels they had prior to March 2020, while now, many have accrued debt due to Covid.[6] There is a need for the City to urgently fund direct subsidies and easily accessible grants for impacted performing artists.
- Artists that attend CB 3 meetings report the need for more affordable and accessible workspaces for artists in the district. Space subsidy grants have been slashed in recent years, making workspace less affordable to performing artists, and insufficient supply for visual artist studios to meet the demand. There is also a need for direct city support for individual artists and/or grants made to neighborhood organizations to specifically for regrant or commission local individual artists.
- There is a continual need for more equitable funding for small and mid-sized cultural organizations, which are limited in their capacity to plan for the future because their funding is not baselined, unlike the Cultural Institutions Group (CIG). Black, Latinx, Asian, and Indigenous segments of the sector have never received appropriate funding; equitable funding is needed for their survival. CB 3's dozens of small cultural organizations, many of which are Black, Latinx, and Chinese-run, are not members of the CIG and do not have the same access to wealthy donors.[7] These organizations also need better access to cross-sectoral and inter-agency partnerships, which was outlined as a priority in the 2017 DCLA Cultural Plan.[8]
- Arts programming in public spaces is particularly needed in CB 3 where 26% of residents live below the poverty line and about 50% of households have incomes under $60,000).[9] Arts and culture associated with the new activation of open streets and public spaces is the only available programming available to large number of members of our community. This programming is provided by local artists and organizations, who need audiences in order to develop their works, practices, generate income, and exposure, particularly after the prolonged social and economic consequences of COVID19. Successful examples of programming that need to be expanded: weekly programming at Avenue B Open Streets and Fourth Streets Art Block and the ROAR festival in SDR park.
- There is a need for CHARAS/El Bohio, a nonprofit community and cultural center that served as a much-needed axis for a local web of community organizations, stakeholders and leaders to be restored. Continued support from the City is needed for future development that will restore CHARAS as a community and cultural hub of the community.

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[1] New York State Department of Labor (2022). *New York City Employment Statistics*. https://dol.ny.gov/labor-statistics-new-york-city-region.

[2] OECD (2020). *Culture shock: COVID-19 and the cultural and creative sectors*.

https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/culture-shock-covid-19-and-the-cultural-and-creative-sectors-08da9e0e/
[3] Paulson, Michael. (2023). *New York's Public Theater Lays Off 19 Percent of Its Staff*. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/14/theater/public-theater-layoffs.html
[4] HueArts NYC. *HueArts NYC Brown Paper Survey Data*. https://www.hueartsnyc.org/brown-paper/key-findings/findings-survey/
[5] Gold, Michael. (2021). *New York City Plans a $25 million program to put artists back to work*. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/06/nyregion/new-york-city-arts-pay.html?smid=url-share
[6] Fonner, Daniel; Johnson, Rebecca; Keeter, Cullen. (2021) *The Impact of COVID-19 on Employment: Arts & Culture Sector*. https://culturaldata.org/pages/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-employment-arts-culture-sector/
[7] HueArts NYC. *HueArts NYC Brown Paper Survey Data*. https://www.hueartsnyc.org/brown-paper/key-findings/findings-survey/
[8] NYC Cultural Affairs. (2017). *Create NYC: A Cultural Plan for All New* Yorkers. https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dcla/createnyc/createnyc-download.page
[9] NYU Furman Center. (2024). *Lower East Side/Chinatown MN03*. https://furmancenter.org/neighborhoods/view/lower-east-side-chinatown.

Landmarks

Community District 3 is rich in buildings of historic, cultural, and architectural significance, yet compared to other areas of Manhattan, CD 3 is significantly under-designated, with only three historic districts and a modest number of individual landmarks. In addition, there is an ongoing need for better regulation of the currently designated Landmarks and Historic Districts through strict application of the law, including that against "demolition by neglect" in order to preserve our landmarks.

The need for preservation and landmarking goes beyond architectural style and significance. Defining a sense of place involves a larger set of layered histories, narratives, cultural traditions and practices, and community anchors — from legacy businesses to public artworks, to the havens of urban gardens. CD 3 has a rich cultural history, defined by the various immigrant, artist, and activist communities who have lived and worked in our neighborhood, which must be preserved. As increased development and rising land prices impact CD 3, there is an on-going need to protect our built environment – which forms the fabric of our neighborhoods—as well as the cultural spaces and practices which are integral to our various communities. There is also an on-going need for increased visibility for historic sites through wayfinding projects that bring awareness to the histories behind our streetscapes and help educate the public on the communities who have defined this area.

Appendix

Noise Complaints

CD 3 Noise Complaints (311 Calls)

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	*% Change (FY20-FY24)*
Noise - Commercial	2,087	2,756	4,336	4,436	4,743	***+127%***
Noise - Helicopter	137	459	111	38	48	***-65%***
Noise - Misc, Including Construction After Hours	1,528	1,522	1,550	1,634	1,755	***+15%***
Noise - Park	128	451	272	288	225	***+75%***
Noise - Residential	7,945	11,293	8,304	7,606	7,255	***-9%***
Noise - Street/Sidewalk	3,288	6,165	6,046	4,792	4,432	***+35%***
Noise - Vehicle	595	1,375	1,815	1,124	1,092	***+84%***
Noncompliance w/ Phased Reopening	83	2,103	n/a	n/a	n/a	***n/a***
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**15,791**	**26,124**	**22,434**	**22,434**	**19,550**	***+24%***

	311 Noise Complaints - Commercial			
Zip Code	**10002**	**10003**	**10009**	**10013**
FY 2019	1,396	429	1,094	83
FY 2020	810	348	886	40
FY 2021	1,215	563	917	58
FY 2022	2,196	618	1,414	104
FY 2023	2,285	666	1,363	112
FY 2024	2,718	794	1,093	128
Pre- to Post-Pandemic Regulation Change	**+1,322**	**+365**	**-1**	**+45**

	311 Noise Complaints – Residential			
Zip Code	**10002**	**10003**	**10009**	**10013**
FY 2019	2,319	878	2,642	52
FY 2020	2,701	1,040	3,928	88
FY 2021	4,028	2,722	4,104	133
FY 2022	3,411	1,798	2,850	57
FY 2023	3,001	1,512	2,810	53
FY 2024	3,028	1,205	2,808	34
Pre- to Post-Pandemic Regulation Change	**+709**	**+327**	**+166**	**-18**

	311 Noise Complaints - Street/Sidewalk			
Zip Code	**10002**	**10003**	**10009**	**10013**
FY 2019	1,026	300	879	30
FY 2020	1,491	301	1,315	47
FY 2021	2,426	645	2,883	79
FY 2022	2,813	613	2,440	79
FY 2023	2,058	437	2,116	106
FY 2024	1,818	332	2,009	105
Pre- to Post-Pandemic Regulation Change	**+792**	**+32**	**+1,130**	**+75**

Health Impacts of Pollution

This appendix explains in more detail the health impacts of various types of pollution mentioned in the body of the District Needs statement:

Airborne particulate matter

PM2.5 (Fine Particulate Matter) is the most harmful urban air pollutant, worsening respiratory and cardiovascular disease, and causing hospital admissions and deaths.[104]

Up to 20 percent of PM2.5 is BC (Black Carbon), which is associated with cancer and birth defects.[105]

Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) - Nitric Oxide, and Nitrogen Dioxide

NOx are linked to increased emergency department visits and hospitalizations for respiratory conditions, particularly asthma.[106]

NOx also reacts with other compounds in the atmosphere to form PM2.5 and ozone.[107]

Noise Pollution

Noise pollution in the community, even at levels that are too low to cause hearing loss, can affect mental and physical health.[108] In young children, exposure to noise can cause problems with reading comprehension, concentration, memory, and attention span.[109] Extended exposure to noise can increase the risk of high blood pressure, and stress related illnesses.[110]

[104] New York City Community Air Survey. (2018). *Neighborhood Air Quality 2008-2018*. https://nyc-ehs.net/nyccas2020/web/report
[105] Ibid.
[106] Ibid.
[107] Ibid.
[108] NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. (n.d.). *Noise*. https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/noise.page
[109] EPA. (n.d.) *Noise and Its Effect on Children*. https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-07/documents/ochp_noise_fs_rev1.pdf
[110] EPA. (2022). *Clean Air Act Overview*. https://www.epa.gov/clean-air-act-overview/clean-air-act-title-iv-noise-pollution

Older Adult Centers (OAC) in Community District 3

Program Name	Sponsor	Site	Zip Code
Meltzer Social Club	University Settlement Society of New York	94 East 1st Street	10009
BRC Senior Center	Bowery Residents Committee Inc	30 Delancey Street	10002
CPC NY Chinatown Neighborhood Senior Center	Chinese-American Planning Council Inc	55 Chrystie Street	10002
Educational Alliance Sirovich OAC	The Educational Alliance Inc	331 East 12th Street	10002
Educational Alliance Weinberg OAC	The Educational Alliance Inc	197 East Broadway	10002
Good Companions	Henry Street Settlement	334 Madison Street	10002
Grand St Settlement Grand Coalition of Older Adults OAC	Grand Street Settlement Inc	80 Pitt Street	10002
NYFSC LaGuardia OAC	New York Foundation For Senior Citizens Inc	280 Cherry Street	10002
Polish Slavic Ctr JP II OAC	Polish & Slavic Center Inc	103 East 7th Street	10009
UJCES Lillian Wald OAC	United Jewish Council of the East Side Inc	12 Avenue D	10009
UJCES Lunch Club OAC	United Jewish Council of the East Side Inc	15 Willett Street	10002
University Settlement OAC	University Settlement Society of New York	189 Allen Street	10002

Naturally Occurring Retired Communities (NORC) in Community District 3

Program Name	Sponsor	Site	Zip Code
Confucious Plaza NORC	Hamilton Madison House Inc	185 Park Row	10002
Educational Alliance Co-op Village NORC	The Educational Alliance Inc	465 Grand Street	10002
Hamilton Madison Alfred Smith Houses NORC	Hamilton Madison House Inc	50 Madison Street	10038
Hamilton Madison Knickerbocker NORC	Hamilton Madison House Inc	36 Monroe Street G1	10002
Henry Street Vladeck Cares NORC	Henry Street Settlement	351 Madison Street	10002
Masaryk Tower NORC	United Jewish Council of the East Side Inc	75 Columbia Street	10002
	University Settlement Society of New York Inc	189 Allen Street	10002
Vision Urbana NORC	Vision Urbana Inc.	75 Delancey Street	10002
Cooper Square Committee* **Designated Neighborhood Norc*	Cooper Square Committee	61 East 4th Street	10003

Crime in Community District 3 (July 2023 – July 2024)[111]

	Precinct 5			Precinct 7			Precinct 9		
CRIME	**YTD 2023**	**YTD 2024**	**% Change**	**YTD 2023**	**YTD 2024**	**% Change**	**YTD 2023**	**YTD 2024**	**% Change**
Murder	2	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	1	1	0%
Rape	2	5	150%	5	6	20%	9	9	0%
Robbery	67	57	-14.9%	61	47	-23%	84	60	-28.6%
Felony Assault	96	99	3.1%	98	115	17.3%	125	85	-32%
Burglary	74	72	-2.7%	70	67	-4.3%	138	83	-39.9%
Grand Larceny	331	336	1.5%	275	194	-29.5%	482	344	-28.6%
Grand Larceny Auto	21	16	-23.8%	27	30	11.1%	19	18	-5.3%
TOTAL	**593**	**585**	**-1.3%**	**537**	**459**	**-14.5%**	**858**	**600**	**-30.1%**

CB 3 Schools Years Built[112]

DBN	School Name	Address	Year Built
02M131	M.S. 131	100 Hester St	1983
02M298	Pace High School	100 Hester St	1983
02M394	Emma Lazarus High School	100 Hester St	1983
01M142	P.S. 142 Amalia Castro	100 Attorney St	1975
01M378	School for Global Leaders	145 Stanton St	1975
01M515	Lower East Side Preparatory High School	145 Stanton St	1975
01M292	Orchard Collegiate Academy	220 Henry St	1966
01M332	University Neighborhood Middle School	220 Henry St	1966
01M184	P.S. 184m Shuang Wen	327 Cherry St	1966
02M126	P.S. 126 Jacob August Riis	80 Catherine St	1965
01M020	P.S. 020 Anna Silver	166 Essex St	1961
01M134	P.S. 134 Henrietta Szold	293 E Broadway	1959
01M539	New Explorations into Science, Technology & Math	111 Columbia St	1958
02M002	P.S. 002 Meyer London	122 Henry St	1957
01M140	P.S. 140 Nathan Straus	123 Ridge St	1957
01M019	P.S. 019 Asher Levy	185 1st Ave	1955
01M034	P.S. 034 Franklin D. Roosevelt	730 E 12th St	1954
01M064	P.S. 064 Robert Simon	600 E 6th St	1953
01M364	Earth School	600 E 6th St	1953
01M839	Tompkins Square Middle School	600 E 6th St	1953
01M315	The East Village Community School	610 E 12th St	1940
01M361	The Children's Workshop School	610 E 12th St	1940
02M294	Essex Street Academy	350 Grand St	1928

[111] City of New York Police Department. (2024). *NYPD CompStat2.0*. https://compstat.nypdonline.org/
[112] NYC Planning. (n.d.) *ZoLa: New York City's Zoning & Land Use Map*. https://zola.planning.nyc.gov/about/#12.83/40.70563/-73.95485.

02M305	Urban Assembly Academy of Government & Law, The	350 Grand St	1928
02M308	Lower Manhattan Arts Academy	350 Grand St	1928
02M543	New Design High School	350 Grand St	1928
02M545	High School for Dual Language and Asian Studies	350 Grand St	1928
01M450	East Side Community School	420 E 12th St	1923
01M063	The STAR Academy - P.S.63	121 E 3rd St	1920
01M363	Neighborhood School	121 E 3rd St	1920
01M458	Forsyth Satellite Academy	198 Forsyth St	1920
01M650	Cascades High School	198 Forsyth St	1920
01M696	Bard High School Early College	525 E Houston St	1915
01M110	P.S. 110 Florence Nightingale	285 Delancey St	1910
01M015	P.S. 015 Roberto Clemente	333 E 4th St	1910
01M448	University Neighborhood High School	200 Monroe St	1904
01M188	P.S. 188 The Island School	442 E Houston St	1904
02M042	P.S. 042 Benjamin Altman	71 Hester St	1900
02M001	P.S. 001 Alfred E. Smith	8 Henry St	1900