

November 10, 2004

Mark Page, Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
75 Park Place  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Expense & Capital Budget Requests, Fiscal Year 2005**

Dear Mr. Page:

At its regularly scheduled monthly meeting held on November 3, 2004, Manhattan Community Board No. 4 approved the following Expense and Capital Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2006.

The priorities outlined below are in addition to those that will be necessary for successful implementation of the major rezoning initiatives currently underway in our district: the West Chelsea Rezoning and Hudson Yards Redevelopment Plan. Capital improvements and expenses related to these plans, such as additional police and fire facilities and staff, will require multi-year funding and should be planned for now.

**CAPITAL PRIORITIES**

1. **Housing Preservation & Development (HPD):** Increase funding to create housing in Community District No. 4 for low, moderate and middle income people using the following programs: Neighborhood Redevelopment Program (NRP); Supportive Housing Programs; New Housing Marketplace Programs; 8A and Participation Loan Program; New HOP; and other new loan initiatives, including potential federal aid programs. Where applicable, new sources of funding should be identified and used for site acquisition toward the creation of affordable housing.

Such actions should include supportive housing for people with AIDS; affordable housing in the Clinton Urban Renewal Area for residents with low, moderate and middle incomes and in accordance with the community plan for the area; and affordable housing in appropriate sites to implement the Chelsea 197-a Plan and to realize the community's goals for the City's Hudson Yards and West Chelsea rezoning proposals.

2. **Hudson River Park Trust:** To the extent that funding has not already been committed, fund the following portions of Hudson River Park: continuous esplanade from 14<sup>th</sup> Street to 59<sup>th</sup> Street; completion of Chelsea Waterside Park (especially the larger portion on the western side of Route 9A); open and recreation use on Piers 62, 63, 64 and 97; rebuilding of Pier 97 for recreational use; the upland area from Pier 84 south to Pier 81 and from 54<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street.

3. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Fund and construct the continuation of Hudson Street bike lane northward across 14<sup>th</sup> Street and up Eighth Avenue, as described in the NYC Bicycle Master Plan.
4. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Construct street crossings to be usable by blind or low vision pedestrians as well as those traveling in wheel chairs or using walking aids. This includes street crossings in front of the Chelsea Recreation Center on 25<sup>th</sup> Street.
5. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Provide traffic calming design elements and pedestrian enhancements at suitable locations, including a speed bump on 25<sup>th</sup> street between Ninth and Tenth avenues, a crosswalk across Ramp C of the Lincoln Tunnel (on the western side of Ninth Avenue between 36<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> streets), making the two-way section of Ninth Avenue between 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets one-way southbound, and reversing the direction of traffic flow on 24<sup>th</sup> Street between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues.
6. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Given the recent development of lots used for bus parking and storage, and the continued displacement of such parking facilities expected under the Hudson Yards and other redevelopment plans, provide new parking facilities for commuter and charter vehicles.
7. **Department of Park & Recreation (DPR):** Continue renovation of DeWitt Clinton Park including provisions for a potential physical connection to a future waterside park and for a tot lot at the park's southeast corner.
8. **Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide funds for site acquisition and development of new parks, specifically for the DEP property on Tenth Avenue between 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> streets, the DOS property on 20<sup>th</sup> Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues, the network of privately and public owned properties along Dyer Avenue between 35<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> streets (block and lot nos.: ).
9. **Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Renovate fountain in Clement Clark Moore Park.
10. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Install accessible pedestrian signals at key intersections.
11. **Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA):** Provide funding and assistance in obtaining funding for Ensemble Studio Theater and INTAR theater to realize development plans for new theater spaces as part of Clinton Urban Renewal Area.
12. **New York Police Department (NYPD):** Complete renovations of the 10<sup>th</sup> Precinct House.

#### **CONTINUING SUPPORT: CAPITAL**

1. **Department of Park & Recreation (DPR):** Continue support for the rehabilitation of Hell's Kitchen Park.
2. **Department of Park & Recreation (DPR):** Continue support of the renovation of the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Recreation Center to carry out the recommendations contained in the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Recreation Center Task Force Report of June 6, 2001.

## EXPENSE PRIORITIES

1. **Department of Environmental Protection (DEP):** Increase the number of DEP inspectors and provide them with proper specialized equipment and training, including sound-level meters and training to detect low frequency noise generated by nightclubs.
2. **Department Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide sufficient DPR personnel for CD4 including park maintenance workers, personnel for street tree maintenance and opening and closing fenced parks, and for adequately trained playground associates for programming.
3. **Department of Education (DOE):** Provide full funding for after school programs at Public Schools 11, 33, 51 and 111, the Upper Lab and Museum Schools.
4. **Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH):** Increase staff at Ninth Avenue Health Center, especially for AIDS assessment and needle exchange.
5. **Economic Development Corporation (EDC):** Provide funding for a study for relocation alternatives or other solutions for moving the City Tow Pound from Pier 76 so that the Pier can be developed as a part of Hudson River Park, as stipulated by the Hudson River Park Act.
6. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Funding for a traffic/transportation study to reduce traffic/pedestrian conflicts on the West 59th Street Corridor, Columbus Circle to the Hudson River, West 57th-61st Street. This study, together with others nearby in CB7, would lay the ground work for a public transportation system, including ferry and bus service, for the new community in this area, and provide much needed data for the consideration of the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and future uses of the West 59<sup>th</sup> Street Marine Transfer Station. ( New, joint with CB7).
7. **Department of Sanitation (DOS):** Restore sanitation services to FY 1991 levels, including street sweeping, Clean Team, and emptying of litter baskets.
8. **Department of Sanitation (DOS):** Provide additional litter baskets of the new design with a larger capacity.
9. **New York Police Department (NYPD) and Department of Transportation (DOT):** Provide funding for additional traffic control officers in CD4, especially for areas impacted by the Lincoln Tunnel, particularly at 37<sup>th</sup> Street and Ninth Avenue during peak hours.
10. **New York Public Library (NYPL):** Maintain sufficient professional and clerical positions at Muhlenberg, Columbus and Central Libraries in order that libraries can remain open six days a week (and Donnell a seventh day) and for full-time security guards at Columbus and Muhlenberg Libraries.
11. **Mayor's Office of Midtown Enforcement:** Restore funding for the Office to FY 1991 levels, specifically to include a building inspector to monitor development in the Clinton Special District.
12. **New York Public Library (NYPL):** Increase funding for books and materials at the Columbus and Muhlenberg Branch Libraries to reflect higher acquisition costs (prices).

13. **Department of Buildings (DOB):** Increase the number of properly trained DOB examiners and inspectors; in particular, we need inspector(s) familiar with and dedicated solely to enforcement of the Special Clinton District and SRO buildings.
14. **Department of Housing Preservation & Development (HPD):** Expand the HPD Community Consultant Program and include CB4 in the Neighborhood Preservation Consultant Program.
15. **Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide additional funding for Greenthumb projects and assistance programs.
16. **Department of Housing Preservation & Development (HPD):** Increase the number of properly trained Code Enforcement inspectors.
17. **Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD):** Restore community share funds at the DYCD for youth services at the Department of Youth Services FY 1994 levels.
18. **New York Police Department (NYPD):** Fund the purchase of sufficient hand-held noise meters for police officers and provide training for their use.
19. **Department for the Aging (DFTA):** As a first priority, provide for reasonable cost of living increases for salaries paid under DFTA programs, which have not been increased in 3 years. In addition, expand funding for senior social programs, including escort and home care services and increase the eligible income for the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption Program (SCRIE).
20. **Landmarks Commission:** Provide sufficient personnel to perform the essential duties of designation and regulation.
21. **Department of Health (DOH):** Increase funding for community-based AIDS programs funded through the DOH.
22. **New York Police Department (NYPD):** Provide additional funding for bicycles at local police precincts.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff  
Chair

The information contained in this document also has been submitted electronically via OMB's Budget Request Submission process.

cc: Mayor Bloomberg  
Hon. C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President  
Local Elected Officials