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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Budget Committee**

*This meeting was conducted via Zoom
Monday, September 12, 2022 - 6:30pm*

Board Members Present: Elizabeth Ashby, Mohit Agrawal, Michele Birnbaum, Anthony Cohn, Rebecca Dangoor, Felice Farber, Billy Freeland, Craig Lader, Judy Schneider, Rita Popper, Russell Squire, and Barbara Rudder.

Community Board Public Members Present: Barry Schneider

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Item 1: Discussion of District Needs Statement

District Manager Will Brightbill provided an overview of the district needs statement (“DNS”), the difference between capital and expense budget requests, and the role of the district needs statement.

Each section of the DNS was reviewed.

Health Care and Human Services

- Reinforce the CB’s support for a safe haven in the district needs statement
- Delete the ask for HVAC in shelters in this community unless we receive confirmation that this is a need.
- Review and clarify the need for inspectors and add specificity to the request. Also note that the number of inspectors should be proportional to the number of entities to be inspected.

Youth, Education and Child Welfare

- Specify the need for high school seats and the impact of students being sent outside of the district to attend high school
- Emphasize the need for 3K and Pre-K seats. Note the increase in the district population between 2010 and 2020 of residents under the age of 18.
- Add statistics and specificity where possible.

Public Safety and Emergency Services

- Air Conditioning for the 19th Precinct should remain a priority and be moved higher on the list. Include a statement that the City’s facility assessment should have been completed by now.
- Request increased foot patrol for police officers in the neighborhood.
- Need additional traffic enforcement agents (TEAs). Keep items 21 and 22 as 2 separate items. Refer back to Transportation Committee minutes and resolutions for specific locations where targeted enforcement is requested. Move the request for increased enforcement higher on the list of priorities.

Core Infrastructure, City Services and Resiliency

- Item 12/18 specify that the request is for new Rat Proof Garbage cans and clarify that this is a capital request
- Clarify the request for composting as it relates to the City’s overall program.
- Make sure funding for existing composting drop off sites continues
- Request Sanitation Committee to review and update the list of priorities

Housing, Economic Development and Land Use

- Item 2/18 – Access to Wi-Fi at public housing has been funded. Find out more info on recent funding allocated to NYCHA repairs.
- Expense request for a consultant to create 2 new special zoning districts – this should also be reinforced in the need for increased funding for all community boards.

Transportation and Mobility

- Add request for resurfacing the Roosevelt Island bridge
- Include request for more protective bike lanes – refer back to Transportation Committee resolution.
- Roadway Maintenance – be specific on streets to be repaved or other roadway maintenance requests
- Request funding for the City to replace the paper placard system with an electronic system

Parks, Cultural and Community Facilities

- Refer back to Parks Committee minutes from July for list of capital priorities. An accessible ramp for the Yorkville Library is funded.
- Francis Urroz from NYPL noted that there are no capital requests for district libraries. Instead focus on need for increased expense funding for programs such as Teen 360 Initiative. The committee suggested making the library expense request a higher priority.

Other requests

- o More support for election/poll workers
- o More inspectors for street vendors

Item 2: Discussion of Arts Committee Budget Request

The Arts Committee requested funding for 3 events. The request included spending \$4,000 per event for paid advertising. The committee suggested that free advertising, including news articles and better use of social media could be successful in getting the word out about the Arts Committee events.

The discussion of the remaining items of the budget request were tabled pending discussion of the Zoning and Budget Committee's request for funding so that both items could be considered together. The Community Board, for the first time in several years, is fully staffed, and therefore has a limited budget for additional activities.

Item 3: Discussion of Zoning and Development Budget Request

The budget committee discussed in detail entering into a new contract with land use consultant Tuck Edelstein to continue the Community Board's zoning application to the City Planning Commission to create two special use districts with a height limit of 210 feet. The discussion focused on funding issues only and not on the policy of continuing with the rezoning effort.

The committee requested that Tuck Edelstein provide a written report to the committee at the next meeting. The report should detail the work completed to date and the anticipated scope of work for the upcoming year necessary to advance the zoning application.

A question was raised as to whether Community Board's Land Use Consultant, George Janes, should review the zoning application and provide insight on the next steps to advance the City Planning application.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM

Felice Farber and Billy Freeland, Co-Chairs