



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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COREY JOHNSON
Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Requests:
November 2011

CAPITAL PRIORITIES

- 1. Housing Preservation and Development (HPD):** Provide funding for major renovations at 330 and 332 W. 51st Street (WRY negotiations).
- 2. New York Public Library:** partial renovation of Muhlenberg Branch. Sidewalk replacement and water proof vault, HVAC replacement and associated roof work. Renovate interior spaces (including ADA compliance), new furniture and equipment and provide funding for borough wide security systems (Muhlenberg is on the list).
- 3. Department of Transportation (DOT):** Install a plaza at W. 36th Street between Dyer and 9th Avenue as part of the Hudson Yards rezoning follow up actions (WRY negotiations). Provide for safe and accessible path to the plaza. Install ADA compliant ramps at all intersections of Dyer Avenue with W. 34th, 35th, 36th, 40th, 41st and 42nd Streets and reduce the radius of 35th Street turn at Dyer Avenue and Ramp C at Ninth Avenue.
- 4. Department of Parks and Recreation:** renovation of Hell's Kitchen Park.
- 5. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene:** the very popular play fountain at Pier 84 was turned off recently due to concerns from the NYS DOH regarding its safety, which will require an expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars to fix - money that the financially strapped Hudson River Park Trust does not have in its budget. Manhattan Community Board No 4 (MCB4) is now appealing to our elected officials to help fund the installation of an ultraviolet system needed to re-open this fountain soon.
- 6. Department of Transportation (DOT):** Extend the sidewalk at corner of ramp C and 9th Avenue (Hell's Kitchen Study) and 41st Street on 9th avenue and on the west side of 8th Avenue between 42nd and 47th Streets as part of the bike lane extensions.
- 7. Housing Preservation and Development (HPD):** Provide funding for the Clinton Urban Renewal Area (CURA) as the agency goes forward with the development projects at 500 W. 52nd Street and 530 W. 53rd Street.
- 8. Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide funds for site acquisition of new parks, specifically for the DEP property on Tenth Avenue between W. 48th and 49th Streets

9. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** reconstruction of 15th Street between Sixth and Ninth Avenue with neck downs on the west side of the intersections and parking swaps in the middle of the blocks.

10. **Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide funds for site acquisition of the network of privately and public owned properties along Dyer Avenue between W. 35th and 41st Streets (WRY negotiations). In addition, provide funds for the expansion and/or creation of green streets.

11. **Economic Development Corporation:** Charter Bus Garage – construction of a Charter Bus Garage to accommodate over 500 tourists buses serving Broadway, Lincoln Center, Time Square, Penn Station and currently parked at curbside throughout the neighborhood. (HY Rezoning FEIS)

12. **Housing Preservation & Development (HPD):** provide funding for the city to use to pick-up abandoned market rate housing sites and create units for middle income families.

13. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Reconstruct Ninth Avenue from 55th to 34th Streets to implement changes resulting from the DOT study now underway. Implement neck downs on each street block directly to the East and West of Ninth Avenue.

14. **Department of Parks (DPR):** Complete the green canopy of Hell's Kitchen south as part of the Hudson Yards rezoning follow up actions. (WRY negotiations)

CONTINUING SUPPORT: CAPITAL

Housing Preservation and Development (HPD): Provide funding for the Clinton Urban Renewal Area (CURA) as the agency continues with the development of Clinton Commons (533-543 W. 52nd Street)

Department of Design and Construction (DDC): encourage DDC to locate catch basins 20 feet away from pedestrian crossing for all intersection in the project. Project ID: MED599.

Housing Preservation & Development (HPD): Increase funding to preserve and create housing in CD4 for low, moderate and middle income people using the following programs: Supportive Housing Programs; New Housing Marketplace Programs; 8A and Participation Loan Program; New HOP; and other new loan initiatives, including potential federal and state 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.

Department of Parks & Recreation: Continue renovation of DeWitt Clinton Park including provisions for a potential physical connection (pedestrian overpass) to Hudson River Park. The two western staircases are in need of repair and have been taken out of service for safety reasons. Funding is also needed to complete the expansion of irrigation to the exterior gardens, repave the pathways, etc.

New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA): Increased capital funding needed to maintain present developments.

New York Police Department (NYPD): Continue renovations of the 10th Precinct House.

Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA): Continue funding and assistance for Ensemble Studio Theater, INTAR theater, The Irish Arts Center and ART/New York to realize development plans for new or refurbished performing and studio spaces in the Clinton Urban Renewal Area.

8. Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) and Hudson Yards Development Corporation (HYDC): Continue the funding of 53rd Street and Ninth Avenue and 48th and Tenth Avenue affordable sites developments (WRY negotiation).

EXPENSE PRIORITIES

1. Department for the Aging (DFTA): provide for reasonable cost of living increases for salaries paid under DFTA programs. In addition, expand funding for senior social programs and case management programs, including escort and home care services.

Department for the Aging (DFTA): Expand funding for senior social programs and case management programs, including escort and home care services and further increase the eligible income for the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption Program (SCRIE).

2. Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD): Restore funding for affordable after-school care for low-income working families.

3. New York Police Department (NYPD): Allocate resources to direct traffic and enforce gridlock laws at peak hours on Weekends (Saturday from 6 p.m. to 8p.m., Sunday 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.) on Ninth Avenue at 37th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th Streets, Dyer Avenue at 34th and 42nd Streets. Eleventh Avenue at 43rd Street. Enforce idling laws for buses and trucks on W. 34th, W. 42nd, and high 50s Streets.

4. Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH): Enhance funding for prevention services related to HIV/AIDS and substance abuse through appropriate local medical and social service institutions, with a special priority on addressing the growing problem of new alternative/boutique drugs, including but not limited to crystal meth. Provide appropriate "way-finding" signage for the Chelsea Health Clinic. Increase funding for community-based AIDS programs funded through the DOHMH.

5. Department of Housing Preservation & Development (HPD): Bring funding back to FY10 levels for anti-displacement and housing improvement programs, such as the Community Consultant Program in the CB4 area. With community consultants playing an increasingly significant role in delivering technical, legal, organizing and management services to low-income tenants, funding for contracts should be increased to allow all viable groups to continue operating.

6. Department of Transportation (DOT): Provide sufficient funds to Install 8 split phase signals on 8th and 9th Avenue bike lane extension (25th to 58th) and on 42nd St. (at 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Avenues).

7. **Department of Education (DOE):** Provide full funding for after school programs at Public Schools 11, 33, 35, 51, 58 and 111, the Upper Lab and Museum Schools.

8. **Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD):** Restore funding for essential community based youth services, especially in response to the needs of low-income and disaffiliated youth who live, work or go to school in CD4.

9. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Provide sufficient funds to implement the recommendations of the Hell's Kitchen Study: Install pedestrian crossing at Ramp C, a contra lane at Dyer Avenue between 41st and 42nd streets, increase the number of southbound lanes on 11th Avenue between 50th and 45th Streets.

10. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Provide sufficient funds to implement the recommendations of the Hell's Kitchen Study: add proper signage for a no left turn at 37th street and for directing the Lincoln tunnel traffic and diverting trucks to 11th Avenue.

11. **New York Public Library (NYPL):** continue the level of sufficient professional and clerical positions at Muhlenberg, and Columbus and Central Libraries in order that libraries can remain open six days a week (and Donnell a Seventh Day on Sundays) and provide funding for fulltime security guards at Columbus and Muhlenberg.

12. **New York Public Library (NYPL):** Continue the level of funding for books and materials at the Columbus and Muhlenberg Branch Libraries to reflect higher acquisition costs (prices).

13. **Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC):** Provide sufficient personnel to perform the essential duties of designation and regulation. Increases in both designated properties and in development pressures have led to excessive demands on a Commission staff that not too long ago numbered not much more than two-thirds of those in place at an earlier peak when demands were lower. Recent temporary staff increases have enabled the Commission for the first time in years to keep up with its workload in timely fashion, to begin to meet the demand for designation of threatened buildings and districts, and to undertake surveys of a few areas threatened by indiscriminate development. At a minimum these increases must be incorporated in the baseline budget of the Commission. Further increases are required to meet the continuing threats to historic resources

14. **Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA):** Allocate more inspectors to curb sidewalk encroachments and quality of life violations, like sidewalk cafes, parking and cabarets disturbances.

15. **New York Police Department (NYPD):** Allocate more personnel to enforce laws related to quality of life and street disturbances on blocks with a large volume of nightlife venues or patrons.

16. **Department Parks & Recreation (DPR):** Provide sufficient DPR personnel including park maintenance workers, personnel for street tree maintenance, rat abatement and opening and closing fenced parks, and for adequately trained playground associates for programming. In addition, an increased presence of PEP officers is needed to reduce the ongoing problem of crime in parks, particularly DeWitt-Clinton. Provide additional funding for Green thumb projects in City parks. City parks need more Green thumb projects.

17. **Department of Transportation (DOT):** Pedestrian safety: increase sidewalk Inspections and sidewalk repairs enforcement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CJ', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Corey Johnson
Chair

cc: NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn
NYC Council Member Gale Brewer
NYS Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal
NYS Assembly Member Richard Gottfried
NYS Senator Thomas Duane
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
Congressman Jerrold Nadler