

EXCERPTS FROM COMMUNITY BOARDS' "STATEMENTS ON THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET" FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Reactions to Agency Responses listed in the FY '16 Register of Community Board Budget Requests are collectively listed under Agency Subheading

Human Resources Administration

BRONX 3

Bronx Community Board Three supports city administration efforts to provide funding in FY' 2016 for the following HRA program services:

Staffing of 515 persons at SNAP centers to allow HRA to maintain services through agency transition phase to a more modernized Benefits Re-Engineering Initiative - \$6.9 million

Funding of \$4.1 million for staff and administrative support to address the increased volume of applicants for IDNYC-NYC municipal ID program

LINC I Program

Bronx Community Board Three supports \$2 million in funding for employment and aftercare services to ensure that working families maintain employment and housing after placement into permanent housing

LINC IV/Rental Assistance for Homeless Seniors

Bronx Community Board Three supports \$8.6 million in funding for rental assistance for 1,100 homeless seniors. Bronx Community Board Three would hope that this funding would address the needs of seniors proportionately by borough based on DHS data.

LINC V/Rental Assistance for Homeless Working Adults

Bronx Community Board Three supports city administration funding commitments in the amount of \$7.1 million to address rental assistance for 1,000 homeless working adults.

LINC III Families – After Care Services

Bronx Community Board Three supports funding (\$495k) for after care services for domestic violence survivors.

Bronx Community Board Three supports the following funding commitments for HRA program services in FY 2016:

Enhanced Moving Allowances for Homeless Families - \$1.4 million (furniture, moving costs from shelter to permanent housing)

Landlord Bonus and Enhanced Security Fund- \$1million for one time incentive payments to landlords participating in the LINC programs

LINC IV Employment and Aftercare Services- \$1.7 million

LINC apt. inspections - \$840k – funding for staff, vehicles and equipment to conduct inspections

Early Warning Homeless Prevention program - \$656k for outreach and preventive services to families and individuals know to HRA who are at-risk of entering shelter

Homeless Program Support - \$2.9 million to provide operational and administrative support for LINC and homeless prevention programs

BRONX 5

Tracking Code

105200601E

Human Resources Administration

Request: Provide Independent Living Skills Programs for Single Mothers.

Explanation: Community Board #5 is in dire need of funding for the Independent Skills Services program in our district. This program will provide a solid support system to single mothers who are working to make the transition from public dependency to self-sufficiency.

Responsible Agency: Human Resources Administration

Agency Response: HRA continues to maintain programs for Domestic Violence in the community.

Board Response: The Community Board is requesting an employment training initiatives funding in our district.

BROOKLYN 12

TRACKING CODE 212201601C

OPEN AN HRA SOCIAL SERVICE OFFICE IN CB 12 DISTRICT.

This District is in dire need of an HRA Social Service Office to aid residents with social issues such as welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, heat and vouchers.

Over the last few years, our District has had an influx of immigrants from China, Korea, Bangladesh and Pakistan. These immigrants are in need of entitlements from HRA but due to language barriers; have difficulty finding an HRA Office. The travelling to an outreach office is overwhelming to those that need some type of help but do not know how to get from Point A to Point B. Many years ago, this District had an HRA Office which proved to be very helpful to

the residents of this community and surrounding areas. This is a request that would be a very beneficial asset to this district and is much needed.

The latest numbers show that for cash assistance, our District is the fourth highest in the borough; for SNAP and Medicaid, we are the top in the Borough, by far.

BROOKLYN 14

The board requests funding for the completion of the client benefits re-engineering program and trusts that this will improve efficiencies to better support clients. We are gratified that funding has been identified for this project and expect a timely roll out.

MANHATTAN 7

Tracking Code: 307201201E

Request: Fund anti-hunger programs - \$20K

Agency Response: More information is needed from the community board before making a funding decision. The community board should contact the agency.

Reply: CB7 is delighted to work with the Agency to formulate the best means of addressing the shortfalls of available food and resources to meet the exploding demands placed on sources of affordable food in our community.

The West Side Campaign Against Hunger is a model of the effective community partnership needed to have a sustainable and systemic response to this crisis.

MANHATTAN 9

CB9's Expense Requests relating to education and job training (Expense Request Nos. 4, 5, 10, and 13, among others) are worthy of more substantive responses from the Human Resources Administration, the Department of Education, the Department of Youth & Community Development, and the New York Public Library.

In the case of Expense Request No. 3 submitted to the Human Resources Administration ("HRA"), which constituted a request for funding for training and job placement for adults in District 9, the HRA expressed the following:

HRA has issued a plan for improving how the agency helps its clients develop job skills, obtain employment, and build sustainable careers that provide a path out of poverty. The improved employment plan included Education, Training, and Increase Program Participation. With this Plan, we can do a better job helping clients develop skills and find work that pays enough to support their families and leave public assistance for good.

Without critiquing the merits of the new and "improved employment plan", the HRA did not sensibly consider the demographics of District 9 and the fact that fiscal inequity and socio-economic adversity have not been programmatically addressed by the HRA, either in the past or presently, at least in terms of the rote response to Expense Request No. 3. Again, District 9's standing as among the City's most socio-economically disadvantaged Community Districts

warrants a comprehensively tailored programmatic response to its particular problems under circumstances where the District median income is proximately two-thirds ($2/3^{\text{rd}}$) that of Manhattan's median and one-third ($1/3^{\text{rd}}$) of its residents receive public or private subsidy and/or public assistance.

While not necessarily dismissive, the HRA's response to the subject Expense Request, which specifically requested training and job placement for adults based upon the exceptional adversity faced by the District's adult population (Expense Request No. 4), requires HRA to craft and implement a plan that is "District 9 specific" in terms of its scope and breadth. Indeed, a City-wide "improved employment plan" is neither reasonable nor practicable upon consideration of the socio-economic disparities in relation to District 9's adult population as compared with the adult population of other Community Districts.