

# FY 2025 Borough Budget Consultations

## Manhattan - Department of Youth and Community Development

### Meeting Date:

The purpose of holding the Borough Budget Consultations is to provide Community Boards with important information to assist in drafting their statement of District Needs and Budget Priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. Community Board Members do not have expertise about funding sources and the process within agencies regarding funding of various programs and initiatives. However, Community Board members are very knowledgeable about local service needs.

This year's Manhattan agendas have three sections:

#### I. General questions about program funding.

1. What programs will see a significant increase or decrease in funding overall? To what extent, if any, is the increase or decrease in funding related to non-recurring federal funding allocations?
2. Which programs will be new or eliminated entirely?
3. What are your benchmarks for new and existing programs and what are your benchmarks/key performance indicators for measuring success?
4. What are your priorities, operational goals, and capital goals for FY25 and projected priorities, operational goals, and capital goals for FY26 ?

II. Considering the current migrant crisis in NYC, what do the impacted agencies expect regarding continued influx in FY 25 and what are plans to accommodate this.

III. What are the plans to accommodate a possible extension of PEGs into FY 25?

IV. Lastly, the agendas may include Boards' requests on district-specific budget questions that will not be included in district level consultations. We request that the agency respond in writing, but have any further discussions on these items with the Community Boards outside of the consultation.

Please provide written responses or even a PowerPoint presentation that we can use to fully and accurately educate our Board Members.

### **AGENDA ITEM [1]:RFPs**

1. DYCD is rolling over existing RFPs instead of issuing new RFPs. This does not allow for requests for additional funding for Cost of Living Adjustments. The number one issue for social service

workers is pay parity, which causes vacancies and loss of staff to City agencies and private organizations. When will DYCD be issuing new RFPs and address COLAs?

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

DYCD has released a concept paper for the next adult literacy RFP. The RFP itself will open this fall. We also plan to release a concept paper for Immigration Services shortly. DYCD's team continues to prepare for the next RFP for the COMPASS afterschool program, which is a very large undertaking.

DYCD contractors do receive increases through the citywide Workforce Enhancement Initiative, which increases payments to contractors in the middle of a contract period. The adopted budget included funding for WEI and agencies are awaiting further details from OMB about the implementation.

### **MEETING NOTES:**

### **NEW INFORMATION:**

### **FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

## **AGENDA ITEM [2]: New Unit of Appropriation**

1. The 2024 Adopted Budget includes a new Unit of Appropriation for DYCD's Office of Neighborhood Security.
  - In connection with this addition, please provide the following information:
  - What amount of funding will be associated with this U/A for FY 2024?
  - Is this funding expected to be repeated / included for FY 2025?
  - To what programs or initiatives will the funding available through this U/A be dedicated?
  - Please explain the distinction between adding a Unit of Appropriation vs. increasing an existing line item.

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

We are very pleased that the Office of Neighborhood Safety, which was previously part of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, has moved to DYCD. This move brings the ONS providers into the DYCD ecosystem, and will offer increased training and support for staff, capacity building for organizations, and wraparound services and connection to community.

ONS oversees a group of violence prevention and intervention programs, including the Crisis Management System (CMS), the Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP), the

Precision Employment Initiative, and Atlas violence prevention program. CMS promotes peace in the community through shooting responses and community events, connects high-risk participants to wrap-around services, and mediates conflicts within the service area.

The ONS programs are included in the attached list. Their total funding level is \$193M in FY23.

In this case, there is a new unit of appropriation because the program was moved from another agency. OMB decides when to add a new u/a. This is expected to be a long-term change so we anticipate that ONS will be funded in the DYCD budget next year as well.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [3]: Staffing Challenges**

1. To what extent were DYCD service providers and partners limited in FY 2023 and FY 2024 in their ability to serve youth due to difficulties in hiring staff, including difficulties in hiring staff for positions for which Staff would not be eligible or able to work remotely?
2. If this is a phenomenon encountered by DYCD and its service providers, is there a budget solution to this issue? How can it be addressed?

**AGENCY RESPONSE:**

DYCD's providers offer in-person services, but DYCD does not dictate office policies for provider organizations.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [4]: Funding for Compass, Beacon, SONYC and Cornerstone - Academic Year and Summer Programming**

Academic Year:

Please provide the net increase/decrease in funding for programming for each of the Compass, Beacon, SONYC and Cornerstone programs for the academic year in FY 2024,

and compare those amounts to the funding levels for the FY 2023 academic year. Please also provide projections for funding for these programs for the academic year in FY 2025.

#### Summer Programming:

Please provide the net increase/decrease in funding for summer programming for each of the Compass, Beacon, SONYC and Cornerstone programs for FY 2022, FY 2023 and projected FY 2024.

For each of the academic year and summer programming, please also separately indicate:

- The number of sites and number at which Compass, Cornerstone, SONYC and Beacon programming will be offered in FY 2024 and projected FY 2025, and the anticipated change from the number of sites envisioned for FY 2024 (reported to be 890 locations for Compass; 99 locations for Cornerstone; 91 locations for Beacon and SONYC)
  - Please provide a breakdown of the number of sites in Manhattan
  
- The number of slots for children and youth projected to be served in each program across FY 2023, FY 2024 and projected FY 2025 at those funding levels.
  - Please include estimates of expected increases or decreases in enrollment, and any understanding of the cause for such changes in enrollment.
  
- Are there children who have applied for a slot but are turned away for FY 2023 or FY 2024? Please estimate:
  - The number of children/youth turned away in FY 2023 and FY 2024; and
  - The number anticipated to be turned away in FY 2025 at the current rate of funding
  
- The extent to which any change in funding across FY 2022, FY 2023 and projected FY 2024 is attributable to changes in enrollment or utilization of these programs.
  
- The extent the changes across FY 2022, FY 2023 and projected FY 2024 vary from previously baselined funding amounts.

#### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

The adopted FY24 budget included \$415M million in funds for COMPASS and SONYC. This level will fund about 98,000 slots.

The adopted budget included \$61M for Beacon programs, which will fund about 110,000 Beacon slots. The budget includes \$59M for Cornerstone programs. DYCD served 214,000 participants in FY23. Community center participant numbers include youth and adult programs, and community events.

#### **MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [5]: Summer Youth Employment Program**

SYEP funding for FY 2023 (Summer 2022) served of 91,000 participants at a funding level of approximately \$117 Million, which represent all-time records for enrollment and funding.

At the time of formulating these questions, the levels of enrollment and funding for SYEP is not known with precision, but is expected to continue the recent trends.

For SYEP:

- Please provide a current estimate of the number of participants and level of funding for FY 2024.
- Please indicate what (if any) amount of SYEP is baselined from year to year.
- Please provide any projection for funding levels and youth to be served in FY 2025.
- Published reports indicate that \$11 Million will be allocated for FY 2024 for Metro Cards for SYEP participants – please confirm this number, and provide any details on eligibility for the Metro Cards. Please also indicate whether a sufficient number of Metro Cards was made available to sustain the program.
- In previous years, even with record enrollment, SYEP was unable to provide a slot for significant numbers of applicants. Please estimate the number of applicants in FY 2024 and projected FY 2025 for whom a slot could not be made available. Please indicate within those numbers how many were left unserved due to budget shortfalls in the program vs other factors.

**AGENCY RESPONSE:**

Last month, the New York City Summer Youth Employment Program concluded its 60th year of operation after placing 100,000 New Yorkers into paid opportunities for six weeks. The \$205 million budget supported participants at more than 17,000 worksites who received life-changing paid career exploration and work experiences, with benefits extending well beyond the summer. See attached list of program providers.

SYEP also guarantees a slot to NYCHA residents, and other slots are dedicated to vulnerable youth with involvement in the juvenile justice or foster care systems. However, not every young person who is selected for the program ultimately enrolls, so the difference between the number of participants (100,000) and the number of applicants (about 176,000) also

includes applicants who were selected but did not enroll. Slots are also limited by the capacity of the provider. We worked closely with them to expand capacity and to use the additional funding.

DYCD staff supervise the program and work with the contracted providers, but the nonprofit organizations are responsible for administering the program, and they have discretion to deploy staff as they choose within their contracted budget. This summer, SYEP participants who commuted to in-person jobs received Metrocards for their transportation needs. The cards were distributed through the provider organizations and were available to all participants who commuted by subway, regardless of their home neighborhood. Additionally, about 1,000 participants received Citi Bike memberships.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [6]: Work-Learn-Grow**

Published summaries indicate that the funding for the Work-Learn-Grow (“WLG”) program expanded in FY 2024 to \$22.5 Million (from \$19.7M in FY 2023 and \$9.7M in FY 2022).

Please provide the following information concerning WLG:

- Please indicate the number of children/youth to be served based on that allocation in FY 2024 and projected FY 2025, and please compare those levels with the numbers of children/youth served in FY 2023.
- Please provide a summary of the use of the increased funding in FY 2024 and projected FY 2025, including the amount of the funding increase allocated to increasing the number of participants each year, and the extent to which the increases in funding are allocated to program development, administration or other costs apart from expanding participation.

**AGENCY RESPONSE:**

We are pleased that \$31 million is included in the FY23 budget for the Work, Learn & Grow Employment Program. It will fund 7000 slots, which is a more than 2000 slot increase over last year.

WLG is designed to build off the experiences gained in SYEP. WLG provides SYEP participants who are between the ages of 16-19 and currently in-school with career readiness training and paid employment opportunities for up to 25 weeks from October to March. Participants work in a variety of entry-level jobs including:

- Government Agencies
- Hospitals
- Non-Profits
- Small Businesses
- Law Firms
- Museums
- Sports Enterprises
- Retail Organizations

WLG career readiness training will focus on such topics as career exploration, financial literacy, conflict resolution, resume/cover letter development and opportunities to continue education and social growth.

Programs are located in community-based organizations in all five boroughs of New York City. Youth can apply for the program online or at a community-based organization during the application period. Participants are selected by lottery for the program.

To be eligible for the Work, Learn and Grow Employment Program, a young person must be:

- an SYEP participant or applicant
- between the ages of 16-19 years old
- currently in school

## **MEETING NOTES:**

### **NEW INFORMATION:**

### **FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

## **AGENDA ITEM [7]: OSOW Year-'Round Youth Workforce Programs**

Published reports indicate that the budget for youth workforce development programming for Out of School - Out of Work programs has been increased to \$6.6 Million with a goal of increasing the number of available slots for youth participants by 400 to 1,739.

With respect to these OSOW programs:

- Please confirm the current levels of funding and numbers of available slots.

- Please indicate to what extent these programs' funding is baselined for future years.

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

DYCD' Advance and Earn program received an increase in the adopted budget and we are still working to implement it. The Train & Earn program is funded through the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Train & Earn (formerly the Out-of-School Youth Program) is a career pathways program that provides comprehensive job training and employment services, along with support services needed by participants to find a permanent job, obtain their high school equivalency if applicable, and access postsecondary education and training. Train & Earn is funded at \$17.7 million to serve youth and young adults aged 16–24, who are not working and not in school, and meet certain eligibility requirements.

Programs have expanded their occupational training in healthcare, tech and green jobs. Placements that have recently concluded and/or are scheduled for this year include hemodialysis technician training, 5G installation technician training, and HVAC training.

### **MEETING NOTES:**

#### **NEW INFORMATION:**

#### **FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

## **AGENDA ITEM [8]: Adult Literacy Programs**

Published reports indicate that the funding allocation for Adult Literacy programming in FY 2024 totals \$23.3 Million, including a pilot project funded at \$2.5 Million. That level of funding appears to reflect of cut of approximately \$5 Million from the previous year.

With respect to Adult Literacy Programs, please:

- Confirm the FY2024 and projected 2025 allocations.
- Explain the nature and target audience of the pilot program.
- Provide details on the number of adults expected to be served in FY 2024 and projected SY 2025 at the current funding levels.

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

The ability to read and write is fundamental to a person's capacity to succeed in life. English proficiency is associated with the ability to find and keep employment that pays a living wage



and provides opportunities for upward advancement, helps parents fully support and participate in their child's education and to actively engage in civic life. DYCD conducted a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Survey, a survey that collected information from residents who were asked, among other questions, to identify the service gaps in their community. In NYC overall, survey respondents ranked "English classes" as the number two service gap from a listing of 28 items. In ten communities, residents ranked "English classes" as their number one service gap. Six communities ranked "Adult Education/Literacy" instruction as among their top five service gaps.

DYCD's FY23 budget includes \$25 million to support Adult Literacy Programs from a mix of Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and City tax levy funding. This work is complimented by other literacy programs supported by the Department of Education, the City University of New York and the public library systems.

We anticipate that we will award new contracts to begin in FY25.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [9]: Youth Literacy Programs**

Please update us on the FY 2024 and projected FY 2025 budget for DYCD-funded literacy programs that target youth (or both youth and adults in a single program, if any), including without limitation the Advance & Earn program.

**AGENCY RESPONSE:**

The Advance and Earn program is funded at \$191.M in FY24.

Advance & Earn is an innovative training and employment program for young adults between the ages of 16-24. It helps participants to develop their career pathways with employer-recognized trainings, earn credentials and certifications, enjoy paid internships and get comprehensive High School Equivalency (HSE) test preparation.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

## **AGENDA ITEM [10]: Runaway and Homeless Youth Programming and Services**

Please summarize the programs that seek to provide services to runaway and homeless youth, including a brief summary of the nature of the services provided, the numbers of children and youth served by these programs, and the funding allocations for these programs in FY 2024 and projected FY 2025.

What plans have been formulated to increase the number of shelter beds for this population?

What is the current waiting time to gain access to a shelter bed under these programs? What funding would be needed to have capacity to meet the anticipated needs of all youth?

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

DYCD's Runaway and Homeless Youth programs are designed to serve youth holistically, enabling them to obtain the services needed to place them on a path to independent living and stability. We are committed to helping young New Yorkers build new skills and flourish. RHY services were funded at \$58M in FY23 and are budgeted at \$50M in FY24.

DYCD funds an integrated portfolio of runaway and homeless youth services that are delivered by community-based providers through contracts. The three types of services include residential services, drop-in centers, and street outreach. Combined, they reach more than 20,000 young people annually.

Residential services include crisis services programs and transitional independent living support programs. The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) regulates all residential services provided by Youth Bureaus across New York State. DYCD is the designated Youth Bureau for New York City.

In recent years, we have tripled the number of beds in residential programs for young people ages 16-20, for a total of 753 beds. We implemented two key program policies: increasing the time young people may stay in residential programs up to 120 days in Crisis Services programs and 24 months in Transitional Independent Living programs. Following these state and city legislative changes, we also created residential services for youth up to age 24, and we now have four programs with a total of 60 beds for homeless young adults.

Crisis Services Programs provide emergency shelter and crisis intervention services. Youth have their basic needs met while developing a service plan with short-term and long-term goals. In cases where family reunification is not possible, provider staff work with youth to identify appropriate transitional and long-term housing placements. Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Support Programs are a longer-term housing option that provide support as youth establish an independent life through educational and career development services, health services and mental health care, counseling, and basic life skills training.

Drop-in centers in each borough serve youth ages 14 through 24. At our eight centers, youth are provided with basic needs such as food and clothing, and supportive services such as

recreational activities, health and educational workshops, counseling, and referrals to additional services, including shelter as needed. At least one center in each borough is open 24 hours a day, every day of the week.

**Street outreach** focuses on locations in the city where runaway and homeless youth tend to congregate, offering on-the-spot information and referrals. The goal is to develop a rapport with the youth and connect them to services, including shelter.

Counselors in RHY programs work with youth to develop Individualized Service Plans to outline short-term and long-term goals. They can receive a range of supportive services both directly and through referrals, which include medical and mental health care services, intensive counseling, family mediation, education, substance abuse prevention, violence intervention and prevention counseling, and housing assistance. When appropriate, staff members assist young people in reuniting with their families or with moving to transitional and longer-term programs. Through a partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Community Mental Health, young people can access high quality mental health services in drop in centers and in residences.

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEM [11]: Contracts Updated**

Please provide an updated list of contracts in Manhattan, broken out by Community District where feasible.

Please see attached list.

**AGENCY RESPONSE:**

**MEETING NOTES:**

**NEW INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**

## **AGENDA ITEM [12]: “Peer Navigators” and “Housing Navigators”**

Published reports raise a question as to whether the recently created positions of “Peer Navigators,” through which formerly homeless teens and young adults provide assistance to homeless youth in accessing a variety of services offered at drop-in centers, continue be funded in the FY 2024 budget. Similar concerns have been raised relating to the “Housing Navigator” positions at drop-in centers and other service provider locations.

With respect to Peer Navigators and Housing Navigators, please provide the following information:

- In the FY 2024 approved budget, are there discrete line items specifically reserved for Peer Navigators? for Housing Navigators?
- Has the funding for Peer Navigators or Housing Navigators been added to a different budget line or funding stream such that the funds can be used in whole or in part for other services or employees?
  - if so, please identify the line item(s) to which that funding has been applied, and provide details on what other positions can be funded through that line item.
- To what use are put the funds supplied by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s grant, initially estimated at \$15 Million, through which the Peer Navigators and/or the Housing Navigators positions were initially funded?

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

Housing navigators are no longer funded in the City’s budget. The federal grant funded the housing navigators in FY22 only. The HUD grant covered a two-year period.

Peer navigators are funded in FY24 with City Tax Levy.

### **MEETING NOTES:**

### **NEW INFORMATION:**

### **FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**



## **AGENDA ITEM [13]: Recommended Priorities for Community Board Budget Priorities and Advocacy**

What expense (or capital) needs would DYCD recommend or encourage Community Boards advocate be funded or expanded in FY 2025?

### **AGENCY RESPONSE:**

We are grateful that our expense budget has almost tripled in recent years, allowing us to greatly increase capacity for afterschool programs, youth employment, runaway and homeless youth programs, and other agency priorities. However, most of our funds are from City Tax Levy, and we ask for your support in requesting state funding for runaway and homeless youth programs, SYEP, and other youth services. We appreciate the continued support of Community Boards that have advocated for increasing youth and community services.

Additionally, Cornerstone Community Centers that are located in NYCHA developments could benefit from funding for repairs.

### **MEETING NOTES:**

### **NEW INFORMATION:**

### **FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:**