



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Damian Vargas
Chairperson

Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

This meeting was streamed live.

Attending:

Assembly Member Francisco Moya
Ari Espinal, Assembly Member Francisco Moya's Office
QiBin Ye, Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office
Louise Emanuel, Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry's Office
Ernestine McKayle, Dem. Club, 97-28 57 Avenue, Corona, NY
Jim Galloway, PO Box 730666, Elmhurst, NY
Mike Liquori, VFW Post #150
Matt Mc. Enroy, 74-02 43 Ave.
William Nagel, BAC Local 7

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: VFW POST #150
51-11 108 STREET
CORONA, NY

Subject: FY 2019 Capital & Expense Priorities for Consideration and Approval for the FY '19 Budget Adoption Process

I. Chairperson Damian Vargas opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Copies of the *FY '19 Capital & Expense* priorities were distributed to the Board. Discussion centered on those priorities.

At this point, Chair Damian Vargas called out if any Board Member had any comments or recommendations.

Mr. James Galloway, Lefrak City Merchants Association, said he would provide the Board with a letter of support for the *NYPD 110 Precinct Upgrade/Renovation #2 on the Capital Budget*.

District Manager Cassagnol replied his letter will be included with other letters of support the Board had received for this Capital priority. Several articles were attached with the press conferences held with Assembly Member Francisco Moya, U. S. Rep. Joseph Crowley, and Senator Jose Peralta.

A member of the public inquired about Capital #7 and #15. Have sites been identified, she asked.

#7 – HHC - Construct Rehabilitation Center for drug & alcohol counseling, mental health, physical therapy services

#15 – HPD – Provide more housing for extremely low and low income households in CB4

District Manager Christian Cassagnol responded #7 does not have a location neither does #15 have a specific area within the district.

Another member of the public inquired about the renovation of the Elmhurst Library.

District Manager Cassagnol responded it is listed under Continuing Support (CS), meaning it had been completed but is still carried.

He explained Continuing Support (page in red) means priorities that were supported by the Community Board in the past and/or recently implemented or in implementation.

At this point, Chair Damian Vargas called for any other questions by Board Members or community members.

Board Member Erica Cruz asked for more explanation on #6 Capital item.

ACS – Early childhood services for children from birth to three

District Manager Christian Cassagnol responded it is a physical facility under consideration to be built. He read the explanation to the Board regarding early childhood services.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol clarified the FY '19 Capital and Expense listing distributed to the Board is an overview of priorities to be submitted into a more complex system, which priorities are described in more detail.

Next, the Expense priorities were discussed.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla asked about Priority #2. Is this for the purpose of establishing affordable housing?

DCP- Study the current zoning regulations within CB4Q.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol read the narrative to the Board.

Next, Board Member Judy D'Andrea asked about #22 on the Capital budget. She asked for a more detailed explanation.

DOT – Reconstruction of the 111 Street Malls

Board Member James Lisa explained Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland had allocated funding to refurbish all the malls. This would take about five years to do. Reconstruction of some malls on 53 Avenue going towards Corona Avenue is needed. He also mentioned the accidents on 111 Street.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea said at some point, it had been mentioned the malls be made smaller to create another lane of traffic. But, the explanation from DOT was that it would be too costly to rip up the cement.

Discussion ensued.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol read the explanation for the 111 Street malls.

Mr. Chen asked about #2 on the Capital listing. He said this was to happen for the past thirty years. The NYPD should have its own budget for this upgrade.

NYPD – 110 Precinct Upgrade/Renovation

District Manager Cassagnol replied for now we will continue to support it. It is moving.

Louise Emanuel, representing Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry's office asked about #19 on the Capital priorities. Will there be a feasibility study on Woodhaven Boulevard.

TA – Comprehensive study of subway stations within confines of CB4Q

(Elmhurst, Grand and Woodhaven Avenue Stations)

Upgrades to elevators, handicap accessibility

District Manager Cassagnol responded the MTA gave the Board a response favoring the study. The MTA agrees with the request and will accommodate in part with existing resources. For information on status, a phone number was provided.

Under Expense Priority #4, James Galloway, the Lefrak City Merchants Association stated they had applied for a grant for 12 trees, but only received two trees. Can he apply for the other ten trees to go on 57th Avenue.

District Manager Cassagnol responded he was unclear how this applied to the Board's priorities as this is a general funding to maintain the trees and sidewalk program.

There being no further comments from the Board or public, Chairperson Vargas closed the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled meeting of Community Board 4 immediately followed.