



**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 14**  
**FLATBUSH–MIDWOOD COMMUNITY DISTRICT**  
810 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11230

**MARTY MARKOWITZ**  
*Borough President*

**ALVIN M. BERK**  
*Chairman*

**DORIS ORTÍZ**  
*District Manager*

April 13, 2009

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg  
The City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

Brooklyn Community Board 14 has just learned from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that an additional \$7,068 will be cut from our budget for Fiscal Year 2010. The effect will be devastating to CB14 and to the communities we serve:


- The FY 2009 allocation, a victim of historic underfunding, ended up at **\$199,895**, after being cut by \$10,000 by OMB and restored by a one-time **\$10,000** discretionary allocation by the City Council. However, the FY 2009 baseline budget was left at **\$189,895**.
- By January 1, 2009, the baseline budget for FY 2010, which starts on July 1, 2009, had been further reduced by Mayoral cuts to **\$167,777**. This began with a revised baseline budget of **\$180,404**, and was then reduced by two successive 5% cuts and an additional 2% reduction.
- Because of mandated contractual salary increases approved by the Mayor, OMB allocated **\$9,000** to each board's FY 2010 budget. However, on April 8, 2009, OMB notified us that our budget will be cut by an additional 4%, or **\$7,068**, essentially negating the mandated increase.
- Result: The actual difference between the FY 2009 budget and the FY 2010 budget will be an astounding **\$30,186**.

Undoubtedly, if the board's budget remains as projected, this will result in personnel reductions in an office comprising just three staff members, including the District Manager. At our board, which holds frequent evening public hearings and committee meetings, this will force us to cut back on the hours we can serve the community. And, because this succession of cuts also will severely restrict our OTPS budget for Internet, postage, phone, and copying, it will otherwise hurt our ability to inform the community and hear the public's views on proposed land use, budget, and service initiatives. The 311 system does not do this.

We urge you to weigh the budget benefits of a \$7,068 cut against the damage it will do to the quality of life for the residents of Flatbush, Midwood, and Kensington.

Sincerely yours,

  
Doris Ortíz  
District Manager

  
Alvin M. Berk  
Chair