

# THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 6, 2010

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## BREWER SECURES MILLIONS FOR WEST SIDE & CLINTON

*After passage of balanced budget for FY 11, Brewer and Council maintains critical City services*

**City Hall** – On Tuesday, June 29, 2010, after tough negotiations with the Administration, the City Council approved the \$63.1 billion budget for fiscal year 2011. Among key actions, the Council restored \$61.5 million to libraries (for five day service...not six, unfortunately) and \$37.4 million to children's services, as well as \$20 million to the Cultural Institutions that are on City land, and \$5 million to the smaller cultural programs; and \$37.4 million to the fire companies, keeping them all open. \$2.75 million was restored to full-day universal pre-Kindergarten programs; \$5.5 million for Meals on Wheels and senior center meals; \$2 million for food pantries (some on the West Side); 202 positions in the Administration for Children's Services were saved; and millions of dollars for important domestic violence programs. This list is a partial redress of a much larger cut.

Unfortunately, as tax revenue as well as federal and state aid decline, and employee salary and benefit obligations rise, the Council made difficult decisions cutting funds for social and other programs. Overall, discretionary funding for community-based organizations declined 20% to \$165 million from \$207 million in FY10.

**Despite constraints, Council Member Brewer (Manhattan-6<sup>th</sup> District), who co-chairs the Manhattan Delegation, allocated millions for capital projects on the upper West Side and Clinton. Some include:**

1. \$1.75 million for the American Museum of Natural History to renovate and expand an existing building to provide for on-site scientific educational programs, replace an obsolete ticketing system, and renovate critical elevators (with an additional \$2 million in FY 12)
2. \$700,000 for Women's Project and Production to improve the existing building systems
3. \$750,000 for the New York Public Library's Library for the Performing Arts for exterior rehabilitation
4. \$750,000 to increase bandwidth for computers in Manhattan Branch Libraries
5. \$300,000 for the restoration of Hamilton Fountain Plaza entry stairs at Riverside Park
6. \$350,000 for the Museum of Art and Design to upgrade the information technology system so that Museum staff may function more efficiently and better serve constituents
7. \$1,300,000 for the reconstruction of the Parks Department's Tecumseh Schoolyard, located next to PS 87

8. \$90,000 for a truck for City Harvest
9. \$48,000 for computer equipment for DOROT
10. \$1,000,000 for renovation of facilities at the Jewish Guild for the Blind
11. \$750,000 for the renovation of the Koch Theater at Lincoln Center
12. \$445,000 to upgrade the stage lighting equipment at the Metropolitan Opera (in FY 2012)
13. \$1,166,000 to purchase space for SAGE (Senior Action in Gay Environment)

**Council Member Brewer secured more millions for capital projects in local New York City public schools and CUNY. Some of these include:**

1. An auditorium renovation at the Brandeis High School Complex.
2. New technological and communications equipment at John Jay College
3. Equipment for CUNY TV
4. A technology upgrade at The Mickey Mantle School
5. Schoolyard reconstruction at PS 191
6. An auditorium renovation at the MS 44 O'Shea Complex
7. Performance Space Lighting for LaGuardia High School
8. Total renovation of the front and back open spaces at the MLK Jr. High School campus complex
9. Seed money for a Greenhouse at PS 333/Manhattan School for Children (The parents have raised the balance of the funds)
10. Technology for PS 9

**Non-profit and community organizations, Council Member Brewer funded hundreds of non-profits and community organizations in the 6<sup>th</sup> Council District, including:**

1. Support to initiate and fund at \$10,000 the New York Academy of Medicine which is creating a model Aging Friendly District on the West Side! Funded other senior services, such as Council Senior Center, JASA, J-PAC, New York Foundation for Senior Citizens, DOROT, Project FIND, Lincoln Housing Outreach, Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, OATS, One Stop Senior Services, Project Open at Lincoln Towers, SPOP, Selfhelp, SAGE, St. Martin's Housing Corp for a NORC program, and the West Side Inter-Agency Council for the Aging
2. Funded the St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, Center for Comprehensive Care's HIV-AIDS Program and Peer-Mentor Program
3. Allocated funds to youth programs, after-school and in-school programs in Council District 6 schools, including the RAPP program, LACASA/Strycker's Bay Neighborhood Center; Landmark West! at PS 199 and PS 87; After-School programs at the Center School, PS 9, and PS 75; Peace First, Police Liaison Group/SUN; Positive Influence for basketball at Amsterdam Houses/Addition; Wellness in the Schools, Border Crossers, Chess-in-the Schools, Cornerstone Learning Center, CSD3 Basketball League (they play other sports too!), DOME Project, Common Cents, Learning Leaders, Reading Reform Foundation, the YMCA's Teens Take the City and the Virtual Y; GrowNYC to work with students at the High School for Environmental Studies; the after-school Beacons, the New York Junior Tennis League, Urban Advantage (an extraordinary, citywide middle school science program), and others
4. Provided monies for local cultural organizations, such as: Citywide Youth Opera, the Lincoln Center Theater, the New York Classical Theater, American Folk Arts Museum at Lincoln Plaza, Arts in Action, Symphony Space, the Children's Museum of Manhattan, the Creative Arts Team at CUNY, the Folksbiene Yiddish Theatre, the Frog & Peach Theatre Co., the American Composer Orchestra at Brandeis High School, the New York Women in Film and Television, the Vital Theatre Company to work at PS 166, the Women's Project and Productions, the Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring to perform at Damrosch Park, the Big Apple Circus so as to provide tickets for youth in NYCHA developments, Caribbean Cultural Center, Cool Culture,

Jewish Children's Learning Lab, Kaufman Center, Kids Creative to work at PS 191, Lincoln Center Institute to work at PS 191, NAACP ACT-SO, Shadow Box Theater, West Side Cultural Center, Wingspan Arts to Work at PS 191, Young People's Chorus to work at PS 75, Vocal Ease to sing at senior centers, Cosmopolitan Symphony Orchestra, Risa Jaroslow and Dancers to work at Project FIND, and the CASA grants to after-school programs for cultural enrichment (much thanks to Council Member Domenic M. Recchia Jr.)

5. Allocated funds for community preservation programs to: Goddard Riverside's SRO Law Project and Urban Justice for free housing clinics for tenants (thanks to Council Member Eric Dilan), and to the Law Project for general support; to the Committee for Environmentally Sound Development, the Friends of Hudson River Park, to the NonProfit HelpDesk for tech support to non-profits; to the Momentum Project, to the West Side Campaign Against Hunger, the Stratford Arms Meals Program, the Bridge, the NYU Mobile Dental Van, the Westside Crime Prevention Program, to the many NYCHA Tenant Associations in Council District 6, to the West Side Community Garden, to ParentJobNet, to the Lincoln Square BID to support youth working at the summer information carts, to both Goddard Riverside Community Center and Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center as well as the YWCA and the JCC of Manhattan for their many programs.

For more information, see Schedule C Expense Budget: <http://council.nyc.gov/html/releases/pdfs/FY2011SkedC.pdf>

And for Capital Budget:

[http://council.nyc.gov/html/budget/PDFs/fy11\\_changes\\_executive\\_capital\\_budget\\_adopted\\_by\\_nycc.pdf](http://council.nyc.gov/html/budget/PDFs/fy11_changes_executive_capital_budget_adopted_by_nycc.pdf)