



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
SHANEL THOMAS-HENRY
21ST COUNCIL DISTRICT



Budget town hall

Our community. Our voice.

Meet the team



CHIEF OF STAFF
DEREK SLAUGHTER



BUDGET AND LEG DIRECTOR
FRANKLIN RICHARDS III



DISTRICT DIRECTOR
ELLYZE FRANCISCO



COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
CIERRA SMITH



CONSTITUENT SERVICES & SCHEDULING
NAOMI MEZA



CONSTITUENT SERVICES MANAGER
KRISS MARCHENA



COMMUNITY LIASON
GEORGE ONURAH

Funding Groups

Discretionary Funding – Funding the Council allocates. Council Members and the Council allocate portions of the budget to specific community organizations, programs, initiatives, and eligible projects.

Who can receive discretionary expense funds?

- Non-profits
 - 501(c)(3)
 - 501(c)(4)- Civic Leagues and Social Welfare Organizations
 - 501(c)(5)- Horticulture Associations
 - 501(c)(19)- War Veterans’ Organizations

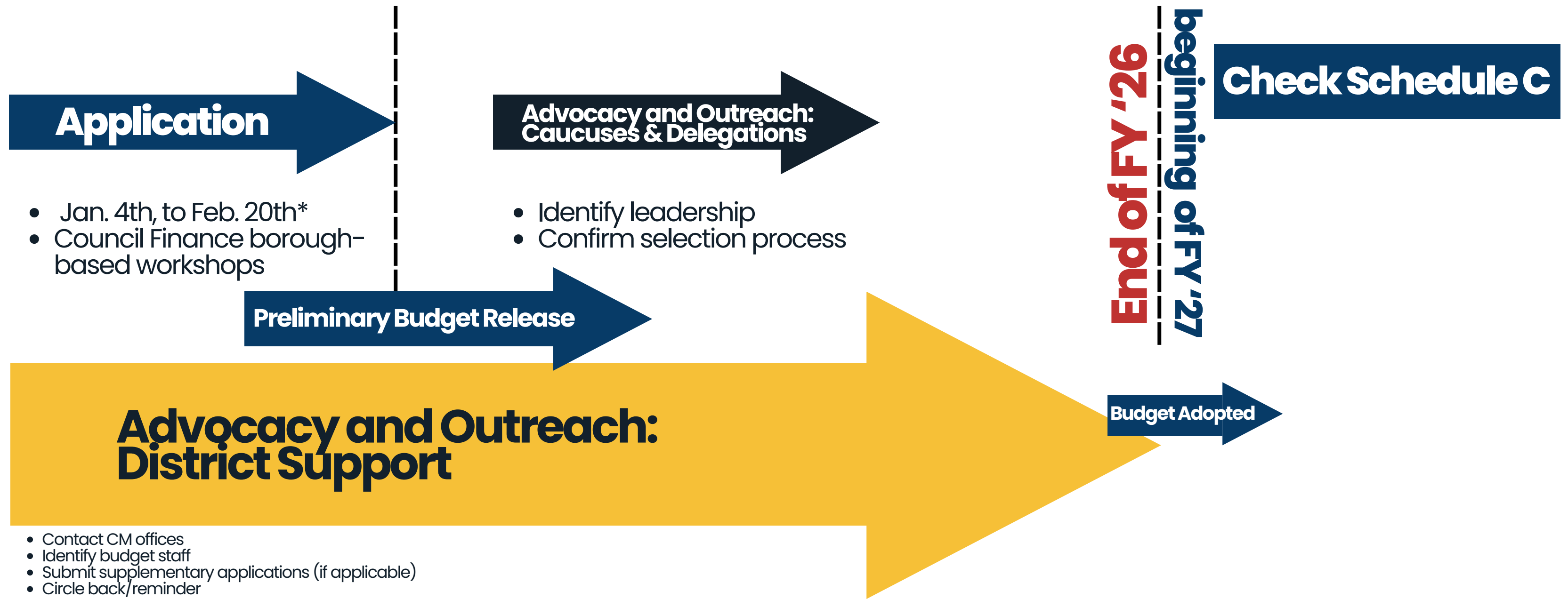
Must be registered with the New York State Attorney General’s Charities Bureau

Expense Funding – Keeping things running. Pays for day-to-day services, programs, staffing, supplies, and operations.

Capital Funding – Building or buying things that last. Pays for long-term physical improvements and infrastructure.

Participatory Budget – A process where a participating Council Member sets aside a portion of funding and lets district residents propose ideas and vote on which projects receive the money. NYC Council's PB program has traditionally focused on capital discretionary funding for physical improvements.

Timeline



Best Practices When Applying

DON'T MISS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE!

MAKE SURE TO CONTACT BUDGET STAFF

COLLECT DATA ON THE LOCAL IMPACT OF YOUR EVENTS/PROGRAMS

BE SPECIFIC AND PROACTIVE WITH YOUR REQUESTS

ONE PAGES!

How we think about the Budget

Our budget priorities are shaped by what we hear, what the data tells us, and what we see across District 21.

What we hear from you helps us identify needs, set priorities, and advocate for investments in the City budget.

Quality of Life	Youth & Schools
Immigration	Housing & Older Adults
Health & Community Services	Parks & Sanitation
Transportation & Public Safety	Small Business & Jobs

Big Wins in City Council



\$1,000 PER PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTENER

Expanding NYC Kids RISE tenfold to give every kindergartner a stronger financial foundation.



LARGEST FAIR FARES EXPANSION IN HISTORY

Expanding eligibility to 200% of the federal poverty level, making 1.3 million New Yorkers eligible.



EXPANDED HOUSING STABILITY

Expanding housing voucher access with \$300 million to keep more New Yorkers housed.



\$30 MILLION FOR CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Protecting museums, theaters, arts organizations, and neighborhood cultural institutions citywide.



\$34.7 MILLION FOR LIBRARIES

Supporting all three public library systems to sustain the services New Yorkers rely on every day.



Council Priority Achieved

\$125.8 Billion

Increasing **Fair Fares to 200%** of the federal poverty level

\$15 million in baseline funding for **city parks**

\$86.4 million immigrant legal services

\$7.65 million for **homeownership supports**

\$12 million in meal deliver or **reimbursement for seniors**

\$34.7 million in **operating support for libraries**

\$300 million across FY27 and FY28 to **expand rental assistance**

WHAT THIS BUDGET MEANS FOR DISTRICT 21

FY27
BUDGET

6 months into office, we're delivering over \$26 million in funding.

I'll continue fighting for the investments, opportunities, and resources our community deserves because good government meets people where they are.



HOUSING
OLDER ADULTS
SMALL BUSINESS
YOUTH ASSISTANCE
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

+\$4M INVESTMENT,
Capital for D21 schools

\$9M INVESTMENT
Flushing Meadows Corona Park

\$2.5M INVESTMENT
FDNY Engine 324

\$5M INVESTMENT
Hall of Science

\$2.5M INVESTMENT
Queens Museum

\$314K INVESTMENT
Meal Delivery & Passenger Vans

\$750K INVESTMENT
Langston Hughes Infrastructure

Participatory Budget

A process where a participating Council Member sets aside a portion of funding and lets district residents propose ideas and vote on which projects receive the money. NYC Council's PB program has traditionally focused on capital discretionary funding for physical improvements.

YOUR IDEAS. YOUR VOTE.

SUBMIT AN IDEA

Think of an improvement your community needs like upgrades to a school, park, library, street, or other public space and submit it through NYC's PB Online Idea Map during the idea-collection period. Anyone can propose an idea for a participating district.

SCAN HERE



HELP SHAPE THE PROJECT

Community volunteers called Budget Delegates work with Council staff and City agencies to review ideas, determine what is feasible and eligible, and develop the projects that ultimately make the ballot.

VOTE

During Vote Week, residents choose which projects they want funded. Winning projects are then included in the upcoming City budget and implemented by the appropriate City agencies.

Community Leg Platform



A legislative idea submission platform where community members can propose issues they would like the City Council to address, along with potential solutions.

No one knows our communities better than us. And my job in the City Council will always be to bring your voices AND solutions to City Hall - we can't wait to hear from you!



The D21 Neighborhood Network Initiative is a new way to bring neighbors together, strengthen connections, and keep our community informed and engaged. Sign up to receive neighborhood-specific updates, share what matters to you, and help shape what comes next for District 21. All groups are separated by neighborhood.

Requirements include:

- Resident of the District
- Participate in Quarterly Meetings
- Commit to volunteering for at least 1 event/month



SCAN TO GET INVOLVED

Q&A



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Stay Connected.

SOCIAL

Follow for D21 updates and on my journey to advocate for economic development, public safety, immigration rights, small business, and so much more.



@CMShanelTH

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NEWSLETTER

Get the latest updates on resources, events, and the work we're doing across District 21, from supporting small businesses and improving neighborhood safety to expanding access and opportunity for working families.

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[COUNCIL.NYC.GOV/DISTRICT-21/](https://council.nyc.gov/district-21/)

