

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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Report on the Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget Board of Correction

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Executive Budget Summary

The Board of Correction (BOC or the Board) is an oversight board for the Department of Correction (DOC).

- **Expense Budget Overview:** The Board's Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget totals approximately \$3 million. The Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget is approximately \$528,000 more than BOC's Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget of \$2.5 million.
 - BOC's total headcount for Fiscal 2017 is 38 positions, for a net increase of eight positions when compared to the Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget.
- **Executive Budget Changes:** The Fiscal 2017 Executive Plan adds approximately \$581,000 in new needs in Fiscal 2017 to expand the Board's administrative staff and support the BOC's public meetings.

BOC Overview

The Board establishes and ensures compliance with minimum standards regulating conditions of confinement and correctional health and mental health care in all City correctional facilities. The Board monitors conditions in the City's jails, investigates serious incidents, evaluates the performance of the Department of Correction, reviews inmate and employee grievances, and makes recommendations in critical areas of correctional planning.

One of the core functions of the Board is to monitor the City jails by having field representatives in the City jails. The field representatives conduct site visits at all facilities operated by the Department of Correction. Field representatives handle prisoner and staff complaints, investigate suicides, homicides and other violent and unusual incidents, and help to smooth the delivery of basic services and to calm tensions in the facilities.

The Board consists of nine Board members, three are appointed by the Mayor, three by the City Council, and three by the Mayor on the nomination jointly by the presiding justices of the appellate division of the Supreme Court for the first and second judicial departments. The Board members serve on a rotating basis of terms of six years. The Mayor designates the Chair of the Board from among the members.

This report presents a review of BOC's Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget. The section below presents an overview of the agency's budget and how it has changed during the course of Fiscal 2016, followed by a review of the significant budget actions introduced in the Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget. Major issues related to the Board's budget are then discussed. Appendix 1 report the changes made to the Fiscal 2016 and Fiscal 2017 Budgets since Adoption of the Fiscal 2016 Budget.

BOC Financial Summary						
<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	2014	2015	2016	Executive Plan		*Difference
	Actual	Actual	Adopted	2016	2017	2016 - 2017
Spending						
Personal Services	\$1,555	\$1,299	\$2,340	\$2,290	\$2,938	\$598
Other Than Personal Services	85	223	197	255	127	(70)
TOTAL	\$1,640	\$1,522	\$2,537	\$2,546	\$3,066	\$528
Funding						
City Funds	\$0	\$0	\$2,537	\$2,519	\$3,066	\$528
Other Categorical	0	0	0	26	0	0
TOTAL	\$1,640	\$1,522	\$2,537	\$2,546	\$3,066	\$528
Budgeted Headcount						
Full-Time Positions - Civilian	16	17	30	30	38	8
TOTAL	16	17	30	30	38	8

*The difference of Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget compared to Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget.

The City's Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget totals \$82.2 billion, \$3.7 billion more than the Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget of \$78.5 billion. City funds (City tax-levy and non-tax revenues) total \$59.4 billion, compared to the Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget amount of \$56.9 billion. For BOC, the Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget totals approximately \$3 million.

The BOC's Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget of approximately \$3 million is approximately \$528,000 more than its Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget of \$2.5 million. The \$528,000 increase is due to growth in the Personal Services (PS) budget of approximately \$598,000 million and is offset by decrease of \$70,000 in the Other Than Personal Services (OTPS). The Department's overall headcount increases by eight positions from the Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget to the Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget.

New in the Executive Budget

The following are major financial plan actions for Fiscal 2017 included in the Executive Plan:

- **Additional Administrative Staff.** The Fiscal 2017 Executive Plan includes baseline funding of \$559,458 in Fiscal 2017 and in the outyears for eight positions, including a deputy counsel, director of administration, two program associates, and two Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) experts. The additional staff will increase the capacity of the Board and will allow the Board to ensure better compliance with its minimum standards, produce more reports, and improve the overall conditions in the City jails.
- **Public Meeting Funding.** The Fiscal 2017 Executive Plan includes baseline funding of \$22,000 in Fiscal 2017 and in the outyears to cover expenses associated with the public meetings held by the Board. The Board expects to hold ten public meetings by the end of Fiscal 2016 and in Fiscal 2017 the Board plans to expand its regulatory agenda and hold nine meetings and three public hearings. The increase in funding will support livestreaming and other components of conducting public meetings.

BOC Budget Issues

In March of 2015, Commissioner Ponte of the Department of Correction and Mayor de Blasio announced a 14-Point Plan Reform Agenda to combat violence and promote a culture of safety on Rikers Island. The DOC is implementing major changes to jail operations, including the

establishment of the enhanced supervision housing units and units for inmates diagnosed with mental illnesses. As a result of the DOC's increased budget, efforts to implement the 14-Point Plan and the Health and Hospitals takeover of correctional health, the Council called upon the Administration to increase the budget of the BOC in the Fiscal 2016 Preliminary Budget Response to ensure sufficient oversight of the DOC's reform agenda.

The Fiscal 2016 Adopted Budget added four administrative staff and five field staff positions to the BOC's authorized headcount. While the Board has begun to fill the additional administration roles, the five field staff positions have been delayed. According to the Board, the BOC could not fill these additional positions until the New York State Civil Service Commission approved additional civil service titles. The Civil Service Commission has approved only ten positions and the Board already has ten field monitors on staff. In an effort to fill the five vacant positions, the Board will begin to use temporary titles. The BOC expects to hire the five additional field monitoring staff by fall of 2016. Meanwhile, the BOC continues to pursue the approval of the additional five positions by the Civil Service Commission.

Appendix 1: BOC Fiscal 2017 Budget Actions since Fiscal 2016 Adoption

<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	FY 2016			FY 2017		
	City	Non-City	Total	City	Non-City	Total
BOC as of the Adopted 2016 Budget	\$2,537	\$0	\$2,537	\$2,503	\$0	\$2,503
New Needs - Prelim. 2017						
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, New Needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Adjustments - Prelim. 2017						
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, Other Adjustments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, All Changes Prelim. 2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Budget as of the Preliminary 2017 Budget	\$2,537	\$0	\$2,537	\$2,503	\$0	\$2,503
New Needs - Exec. 2017						
Additional Staff	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$559	\$0	\$559
Public Meetings	0	0	0	22	0	22
Subtotal, New Needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$581	\$0	\$581
Other Adjustments - Exec. 2017						
Heat, Light and Power	(\$18)			(\$18)		(\$18)
Grant Rollover to FY16		\$26				
Subtotal, Other Adjustments	(\$18)	\$26	\$0	(\$18)	\$0	(\$18)
TOTAL, All Changes - Exec. 2017	(\$18)	\$26	\$0	\$563	\$0	\$563
BOC Budget as of the Fiscal 2017 Executive Plan	\$2,519	\$26	\$2,546	\$3,066	\$0	\$3,066