



May 8, 2017

Testimony of Daniel Nigro, Commissioner, FDNY

Executive Budget Hearing - Fire and Criminal Justice Services

Good morning Chairwoman Ferreras-Copeland, Chairwoman Crowley, and all of the Council Members present. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today about the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 for the Fire Department. I am joined this morning by First Deputy Commissioner Robert Turner, Chief of Department James Leonard, Assistant Chief of EMS Michael Fitton, Deputy Commissioner for Government Affairs and Special Programs Laura Kavanagh, and Assistant Commissioner for Budget and Finance Stephen Rush.

As I noted when I was here several weeks ago to discuss the preliminary budget, in 2016 the city experienced the lowest number of fire deaths in recorded history, with 48. We take pride in making this as safe a city as possible. As we've been reminded in the weeks since, there is always more work to be done. In late April, we responded to an extremely fast-moving fire in Queens Village that represented the City's largest loss of life in a fire in over two years. Five occupants perished, all under the age of 21.

The Department itself has been touched by tragedy in recent weeks. On March 16th, we lost EMT Yadira Arroyo, a 14 year veteran of the Department who was killed during an interaction in the Bronx with an assailant who had stolen the ambulance she was driving. On April 20th, Firefighter William Tolley – also a 14 year veteran of the Department - fell five stories while operating at a fire at a Ridgewood apartment building and died a short while later. These members made the Supreme Sacrifice, placing service to the public above their own safety. Their loss is felt deeply among their friends and family and among their FDNY family. In times like this, the Department pulls together, we lean on each other, and we support our members as well as the communities that are affected by such loss.

As the statistics from last year show, we've had great success in making New York a safer city. In addition to record-low fire deaths, we also experienced a nine percent decline in serious fires, the largest such decrease since 2008. We made these gains despite an increased workload of more than 1.7 million total incidents. This was the largest number of total calls ever received. The busiest year in the Department's history was also our safest.

An important part of our mission is engaging with the community to provide fire safety education. In 2016, we educated nearly 700,000 New Yorkers at more than 8,000 fire safety events. A large majority of our outreach is proactive. We have transformed this aspect of our work to create more robust and effective community engagement. We also respond to tragic fires by sending educators into the affected area to distribute alarms and educate residents on practicing fire safety. For instance, in the Queens Village neighborhood that was the site of the fatal fire last month, we are in the process of installing more 400 smoke alarms in area homes.

This past weekend, we held an Open House at firehouses across the city. This is a program that is very popular in the community, and it gives us a chance to interact with and educate

thousands of our city's residents. At the event this year, we handed out 100,000 electric candles.

We are now able to provide safety materials in more than 90 languages, and we have boosted the number of our dual-language instructors, hiring 50 already with another 50 on the way this summer. We have also increased the size of our Community Affairs Unit, and they work hand in hand with our Fire Safety Education unit, partnering with community boards, organizations, schools, and elected officials to provide instruction and education. We have taken an analytical approach to our outreach, using data analysis to understand trends and develop priorities. We will continue making improvements so that our community engagement is as effective as possible.

Another key factor in the reduction of fire deaths is the proliferation of smoke alarms. This fact was unfortunately highlighted by the recent deaths in Queens Village, where the fire occurred in a home that did not have any working smoke alarms present. A working alarm dramatically increases a person's chance to escape and survive. In 30 of the 48 fire deaths last year, no working smoke alarm was present. Through our Get Alarmed NYC program – which was funded with the help of the de Blasio administration and the City Council through the FDNY Foundation – we have distributed or installed more than 130,000 smoke alarms in homes throughout the city. However, even one home without an alarm is too many. We plan to install another 20,000 alarms this year, and we ask for your help in reminding members of the community that taking this simple step can save lives.

In the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 18, we continue to receive great support from Mayor de Blasio for our pursuit of innovation in the area of Emergency Medical Service. Since the beginning of my administration, we have been laser-focused on bringing down response times and improving our ability to care for patients facing potentially life-threatening emergencies. In addition to adding 50 new tours in Fiscal Year 2017, we've made changes to improve call-processing, dispatching, travel time, and ambulance availability. We've used data to optimally target the start times for each eight-hour tour, and we're piloting twelve-hour tours in a limited number of locations. Since we began this process, we've added 150 dispatchers, and we've also instituted Direct Dispatch, an initiative to eliminate delays during the dispatching process.

ALS Fly Cars in the Bronx have proven to be very successful, lowering response times in the affected areas. Whereas traditionally we would dispatch only an Advanced Life Support (ALS) unit to each potentially life-threatening call, under the Fly Car program, we dispatch an ALS Fly Car and a Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance. Whichever unit arrives first begins immediately providing care. The lieutenant and paramedic in the Fly Car provide an ALS assessment, while the BLS unit transports the patient to the hospital. If the patient needs ALS-level care, the lieutenant and paramedic accompany the patient to the hospital, but this occurs only half the time. When ALS-care is not needed, the ALS crew is freed up faster, enabling them to respond to the next call.

We've also experienced promising results from a program we've implemented called Tactical Response Groups. During the two busiest shifts of the day, we deploy a five- or seven-ambulance roving BLS tactical response group to priority locations which we determine using data that is updated by the hour. Initially rolled out in the Bronx, we now have two similar

tactical response groups in Queens as well. This allows us to strategically and dynamically deploy ambulance resources.

The Department's innovations are having positive effects. Between Calendar Year 2015 and Calendar Year 2016, the citywide response time to life threatening emergencies decreased by 21 seconds. This included improvements in every borough of the city. Fly Cars have an average cycle time of 44 minutes, which is 25 minutes shorter than regular ALS ambulances. This allows the Fly Cars to respond to 33% more assignments. When an ALS Fly Car and a BLS unit are dispatched to a potentially life threatening incident, the response is more than a full minute faster than when simply an ALS ambulance is dispatched. The use of Tactical Response Groups in the Bronx has reduced the number of held calls there by 76%. Since we instituted Direct Dispatch in January of this year, we've seen an 11 second decrease in dispatching time citywide. Since stationing units on Rikers, the average response time to all incidents on the island has decreased by 5 minutes and 29 seconds. There has been a significant resulting effect on northwestern Queens, where response times to life threatening emergencies have decreased by 50 seconds, and response time to all medical incidents is down 1 minute and 33 seconds. This has also had a positive effect on Elmhurst Hospital, where the number of transports from Rikers has decreased by 44 percent.

Before the close of 2016, I announced the completion of a more than 47 million dollar project to install separate women's bathrooms in firehouses across the city. As a department, we are currently at 65 female firefighters and officers. This is an improvement and the highest ever number of female firefighters, but we are not satisfied and we will continue striving to make the Department look like the City that it serves.

The key engine driving our progress towards that goal is our recruitment. We are currently in the midst of the filing period for the firefighter exam, which will be held this fall. At the Preliminary Budget hearing in March, I enumerated the significant investment and resources that we've put into making this recruitment campaign successful. We are proud of the hard work put in by our Recruitment unit and our Community Affairs unit. Working with personnel from many areas of the Department, they held more than 7000 recruitment events in preparation for the exam filing period, and they're currently out in the community every day signing up candidates for the exam.

We are now seeing the fruits of that labor. We've been very encouraged by the diversity of the candidates who have filed to take the exam. We set out to produce the most diverse group ever to take the firefighter exam and I am happy to report that we are on track to do so. Currently, we have had double the percentage of female candidates file as we had during the last campaign, and the overall composition of candidates is more than 50% people of color. We have already exceeded the levels of diversity of any previous campaign.

The firefighter exam is a major focus, but we know that it's equally important that we focus on diversity in EMS. We now have an EMS Recruitment unit, and we have launched the EMT Trainee program, which will provide an entry level opportunity for New York City residents interested in pursuing careers in the Emergency Medical Service. We've found that the group of candidates who filed for this exam were a diverse group, including a third of whom were women.

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Preliminary Budget Hearing - Fire and Criminal Justice Services

It is not only our duty but our passion to serve this great city. We thank the Committee and the entire City Council for its ongoing support of this mission. My colleagues and I would be happy to answer your questions at this time.

Statement before the
New York City Council
Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services

And

Committee on Finance

Elizabeth Crowley, Chairperson

And

Julissa Ferreras, Chairperson

By Joseph Ponte, Commissioner

NYC Department of Correction

May 8, 2017



Good morning, Chair Crowley, Chair Ferreras, and members of the Fire and Criminal Justice Services and Finance committees. I am Joseph Ponte, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction. I am happy to speak to you all today about the department's Fiscal Year 2018 Executive Budget.

Changes to City Corrections

Over the past few years, the department has been implementing significant reforms to fundamentally transform the way we operate. Two significant developments in the last few months promise to make permanent changes to city corrections.

First, the Mayor announced in late March that the city will work to move the jail population off of Rikers Island over the next decade. This plan would move the city's inmate population from Rikers Island (where approximately 80% of the inmates are currently housed) to facilities around the boroughs.

This plan is contingent on reducing the daily jail population by about half, to 5,000. The jail population is already down 18% since the Mayor took office three years ago. New York City's incarceration rate is lower than any other major city in the country. If we are able to further reduce crime and find additional ways to reduce safely the number of people who enter jail, we believe that the city can meet this goal in the next decade. Success in reducing the jail population to 5,000 over the next decade requires engagement by many different decision makers whose actions affect the size of the jail

population, including courts, district attorneys, defenders, pretrial service agencies, state corrections and parole, as well as of New Yorkers themselves. DOC recognizes its role in providing programming and supports for inmates to reduce recidivism as well as continuing our efforts to produce inmates to courts on time. Equally, if not more, important, though, will be the cooperation of the many different parts of the criminal justice system, in speeding up the time it takes for a case to be completed and ensuring that individuals who can be safely supervised in the community do not enter jail. The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice has already been leading and coordinating such efforts.

As the Mayor stated when he announced this commitment, there are currently no assumptions about where the jails will be built or how many there will be. We look forward to working with the Council to select sites for new facilities that will serve our city better.

The second significant change to the future of city corrections and criminal justice came in early April, when the state finally passed Raise the Age legislation. Right now New York and North Carolina are the only two states that automatically treat sixteen year olds as adults in the criminal justice system. The Raise the Age legislation raises this age to eighteen by October 2019. The law also requires that all adolescents be moved off of Rikers Island by October 2018, at which time they will be managed by the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) in conjunction with DOC. We are working together to design that new adolescent management model now. The city has strongly supported the Raise the Age initiative and we are very happy that it has finally passed, bringing state law into alignment with the city's goals for our young people.

Recent Events

Before I continue with an update of the department's 14-Point Plan reform agenda and the budget itself, I want to touch upon some recent events. The Department of Investigation (DOI) released a report last week that stated that I and several members of my senior staff violated the city's policy regarding use of personally assigned city vehicles. We now know that certain long-standing DOC practices did not accurately reflect the city vehicle use policy.

In addition, my personal understanding did not accurately reflect city policy. Given the unique nature of my work as commissioner of correction, pursuant to longstanding policy and practice, I am one of the select city government executives who is entitled to a security detail, which includes staff and vehicle use 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for city business or personal use. It is my understanding that the need for my protection and security is the same whether I perform an official or personal task. I now recognize that this same standard does not apply to use of my personally assigned vehicle and I misunderstood the city's vehicle use policy.

As the DOI inquiry into vehicle use at DOC is ongoing, I cannot speak to that directly, but I can tell you what steps I have taken and am committed to taking to ensure that our vehicle use is in full compliance with city policy.

- We have reached out to the City Conflict of Interest Board (COIB) for formal guidance on certain vehicle use. The city is also updating its written rules for vehicle use, so DOC's policies will be updated to align with the new policy and any COIB interpretive guidance.
- We are strengthening our internal compliance checks on vehicle use, to ensure that in the future, a similar situation does not arise. We are designating an internal Department Vehicle Use Compliance auditor and will conduct our own audit of use, as recommended by DOI.
- Finally, as I have previously stated, I will fully reimburse the city for my personal use of my city vehicle.

I cannot speak to DOI's work, because it is ongoing, so there is nothing more that I can tell you on the subject at this point. I have delegated independent authority to our General Counsel to review this matter and take any necessary action. DOI may choose to update you on their findings as soon as their audit is completed.

Reform Agenda Update

As the Council is aware, the department has been proactive in improving how we operate. When I came to NYC just over three years ago, I promised to reform the way the department operates. To determine the department's greatest needs, I consulted the experts: our staff. We conducted an organizational health survey of all DOC staff – uniformed and civilian. This paper survey got an 80% response rate and 700 pages of suggestions and other comments. This feedback demonstrated to me that DOC staff are dedicated to the department and to doing their jobs well. The survey results, which outlined DOC's strengths, shortcomings, and needs, informed the development of the 14-Point Anti-Violence Reform Agenda, which has been the guidebook for our transformation. The initiatives focus on reducing violence and changing the culture at DOC. The fourteen agenda items have included more than 300 initiatives, including everything from installing new line scanners in facilities, to opening canteens to ensure staff have food options throughout their tours, to developing an incentive-based housing system.

The most important change of the last few years might be our new approach of managing different inmate populations to address their unique needs. We have spoken about this approach before. We began in 2014 by overhauling our adolescent housing and management model to more closely resemble juvenile systems. This was followed by the creation of a young adult housing cohort for eighteen to twenty-one year olds, so that they too could be managed in a way that takes into account their

developmental stage. We have created the Program for Accelerated Clinical Effectiveness (PACE), where seriously mentally ill inmates are managed in clinical settings run by DOC and Health + Hospitals' Correctional Health Services. In the female facility, targeted programming and a modified disciplinary system address the needs of the female population, many of whom are known to mental health and have history of victimization themselves. Even the challenging persistently violent population has been the focus of progressive management models and targeted programming, with the elimination of long-term punitive segregation, the creation of Enhanced Supervision Housing (ESH), and a general effort of housing people based on their propensity for violence.

Managing populations differently does not simply mean different management models and programs. The strategies are most effectively implemented through targeted training of our staff. Staff who work with adolescents and young adult inmates receive training appropriate for working with those age groups. Staff who work with the seriously mentally ill population receive additional mental health training, including the training of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) teams in those jails. Staff in the female jail receive gender-responsive training. Additionally, in my tenure, we have started hand-selecting recruits to work with these populations while they are in the academy, instead of simply assigning new officers where they are needed. This considered selection process allows us to give new officers the tools they will need in their assignments and to take advantage of the staffs' skill sets. For example, a new officer who enjoys working with young people and has experience working with young people in schools or another setting may be better suited to work with adolescents than an officer who is not as comfortable working with kids.

DOC's reforms do not stop with special populations; we are also transforming general population units across the department. In our model facilities, we are shutting down housing areas one-by-one and restarting them as Accelerated Programming Units (APU). In these units, inmates are afforded five hours of daily programming (more than five times more than had been offered in 2015), staff are trained in the new unit management, inmates are classified and balanced with the new Housing Unit Balancer (HUB) system, and an incentive-based behavior management system is implemented, to encourage positive behavior and program participation. The areas are also physically renovated. GRVC became the first model facility in September 2015. AMKC became the second a year ago. OBCC and now MDC have started their model facility transformations this year. GMDC, which houses the bulk of the young adult population, has restarted its housing units, as well.

In addition to the restarted APUs, the model facilities change how they respond to incidents in the jails. Traditionally, any alarm would stop all movement in the facility, for the duration of the incident response. This was regularly disruptive to programs, clinic production, and all other services. DOC is

replacing this old system with the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS is a comprehensive plan and response protocol based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS), which is used by the federal government. It is a tiered response system, which allows facilities to respond to alarm situations in the most appropriate way to prevent escalating an incident and without unnecessarily disrupting other programs and services.

The last major reform I want to touch upon is the department-wide program expansion. Under this administration, we are prioritizing programming in a way that has not been done before. In 2015, an average of forty-five minutes of programming per day was available to each inmate, including mandated services such as barbershop and law library. By the end of the summer, we will offer five hours of programming to each inmate each day, in addition to their mandated services. We are hiring program counselors (eventually eighty positions, up from fewer than twenty), working with several community-based organization partners and universities to offer life skills and vocational skills trainings – everything from art therapy to electrical courses and professional certifications. This therapeutic, educational, and vocational programming helps inmates prepare for release and helps break the cycle of recidivism.

Offering meaningful programs like these not only reduces idleness (and therefore violence), it allows the people in our custody to use their time meaningfully and prepare for their discharges. More than 75% of those in our custody are released directly back to the community – not sent to prison or another jurisdiction – so preparing people for that return is in the city's best interest.

To that end, the Mayor has recently announced the new Jails to Jobs initiative, which promises employment for each released sentenced inmate. This program is critical to ensure the successful reintegration of incarcerated people into our communities. As outlined in the Mayor's announcement in March, the Jails to Jobs involves three main components:

- **Peer Navigators:** Released individuals will be partnered with a Peer Navigator, a formerly incarcerated person who has successfully stabilized his/her life. The Peer Navigator's goal is to help the newly released person find the same success.
- **Transitional Employment:** Released individuals will be offered short-term paid jobs, which can help them find long-term employment. Studies have found that giving jobs to released individuals helps them transition back to the community and can reduce recidivism by 22%.
- **Trained workforce providers:** All City-funded workforce professionals will be trained on the Fair Chance Act and other issues relating to working with people who have criminal records.

These services are good policy because they better serve the population, but they are also sound fiscal policy. Studies have shown that participation in these types of programs could lead to a 40% reduction in recidivism, which could save the city \$4 or \$5 for each \$1 spent.

Violence Reduction

The agency has implemented a comprehensive violence reduction initiative that targets our most violent population. The plan separates our most problematic inmates from the general population, improves coordination and communication of intelligence, intensifies efforts to identify drug networks, takes preemptive measures against backlash from disruption of drug networks, expands and structures institutional searches based on gathered intelligence and breaks up facility searches into small teams, institutes tactical improvements by utilizing specially trained Emergency Services Unit (ESU) staff, improves staff supervision through the use of mentoring Captains, and partnering with the Bronx DA's office to prosecute facility violence.

As I told you in March, our systemic reforms, coupled with the violence reduction initiative, are starting to see real results. The FY17 PMMR, which covered July through August, reported improvements in several critical indicators. The reductions are even more notable over the full calendar year. Several serious violence indicators decreased significantly from 2015 to 2016: uses of force (UOF) with serious injuries were down 35%, UOF with minor injuries were down 18%, assaults on staff (AOS) with serious injury decreased by 31%, and AOS were down 11% overall. These trends are continuing into the new year. While total use of force incidents did rise slightly in January, they declined in February and again in March.

In our restarted accelerated programming units (APU) in the model facilities, where the 14-Point plan reforms have been concentrated, the reduction has been even more significant. From September 2015 through April 2017, the restarted units in GRVC, AMKC, GMDC, and OBCC have had about 70% fewer violent incidents than expected, compared to historical baselines in housing areas of similar classifications.

Violent incidents have reached record lows among our adolescent population in RNDC and our young adult population in GMDC. These are two populations that we have really focused on and the implemented changes are having meaningful impacts. There were fewer UOF in RNDC in every month of 2017 than there had been in any month of 2014, 2015, and 2016. UOF at GMDC began a steep decline in February 2017 and declined further in March.

The first step to reducing UOF incidents is to reduce inmate-on-inmate violence. The ongoing reform agenda focuses on doing just that, including increasing training for staff, reducing inmate idle time, and developing increased programming and treatment services. We still have significant improvements to make, particularly in preventing stabbings and slashings, but these incident reductions show real effects of the changes we are rolling out.

It should be noted that these reductions have been achieved while reducing our reliance on punitive segregation. Since 2016, no inmate under twenty-two is in punitive segregation in New York City. Regular punitive segregation, where someone may be in a cell for up to 23-hours per day, is only used to respond to violent, serious acts and (with very few exceptions) for only thirty days at a time. Today, there are only about 100 inmates in punitive segregation, a 90% reduction from the peak use a few years ago.

As we rely less on traditional punitive segregation as our only response to violent behavior, we must create new housing units that can really help manage inmates' behavior in effective ways. This is why we have opened the Clinical Alternative to Punitive Segregation (CAPS), Enhanced Supervision Housing (ESH), and the array of adolescent and young adult housing options. We are working with the Board of Correction (BOC) now on rulemaking related to restrictive housing, to codify the options that DOC needs to keep people safe.

FY18 Budget Overview

The Mayor's commitment to transforming of our department is demonstrated in the FY18 capital budget. The capital budget includes money for new DOC facilities that is not site specific, allowing the Mayor's office and the City Council to begin the site selection process in earnest.

The budget also includes money for a new correction academy, which will allow us to build on our recent training improvements and give our staff the best tools possible to do their jobs. We have made important improvements already, including developing new recruit and in-service training curricula, building annex academy sites, and providing tablets to all recruits instead of stacks of paper policies, but a new facility will enable us to do even more. In our 120+ year history, we have never had a truly adequate academy and I am glad to be able to say that that will soon change.

Modernizing the Department

As I stated a minute ago, despite the real successes that we have seen so far, we still have important changes to make. One area in which the department (like many government agencies) is sorely behind is technology infrastructure. As the Council is aware, we rely on paper-based systems to track

everything from inmate movement to incident reports to bail payments. We are working with our partner agencies around the city to improve these systems.

Last fall, we began piloting a RFID program to track inmate movement in real time and keep that movement information in a database, instead of just in paper logbooks. This tracking allows us to know where all individual inmates are at all times. The pilot began in early fall 2016 in one jail and one court facility. We anticipate to provide wristbands to all inmates by the summer. Our goal is track all inmate movement through this system by the end of calendar year 2018. I look forward to keeping the Council updated on this important project.

We are creating a collection of applications to track important metrics around the department.

- In calendar year 2015, we implemented a supply distribution solution to manage the distribution of supplies from the storehouses to the facilities.
- To complement our dedication to providing meaningful programming, we have created a program tracking application that allows us to reliably track program participation. This is already being piloted in one of the jails.
- To investigate cases more efficiently, we are developing a Case Management System. The first phase of this project is expected by the end of this calendar year.
- One of the most critical components of our reforms is training for staff. To ensure that training is provided to everyone who needs it, we are selecting a Learning and Performance Management solution. This will enable us to better manage training needs related to job skills, performance, and certifications. We estimate that this will be in place in late 2018.

We have also upgraded the inmate phone system, have integrated tablets for recruits and inmates, and have installed thousands of cameras. The 10,000 mounted cameras allow managers to monitor areas in real time.

One area of important technological improvement requires state legislation: the use of ionizing body scanners. Ionizing body scanners take x-ray images of inmates, to detect contraband that is not detectable by traditional metal detectors, including small blades and non-metal items. They are the best tool available to find the weapons that are used in stabbing and slashing incidents. As many of you know, the department used these body scanners a few years ago before being informed that their use violated a provision of state public health law. We have been working for a few years to get that law changed and hope that it will happen by the end of this session. The bill has been moved out of committee in the

Senate and the Assembly already, and we and City Hall are making every effort to push for its passage this year. I thank the state elected officials from the city and other parts of the state who have support this push, and I thank the City Council for their continuous support of this issue.

Looking Forward

DOC is continuing to roll out reforms and change the way we work, even while the city looks forward to changing our operations over the next decade. Our reform agenda would not be possible without the continuous support of the Mayor and of the Council, so I thank the Council again for your focus.

Frank Doka, the Deputy Commissioner of Financial, Facility, and Fleet Administration, will now speak about the FY18 executive budget details.

FINANCIAL AND FACILITY SECTION

Good Morning, thank you for the opportunity to report on the department's FY18 Executive Budget for both Expense and Capital.

FY18 Executive Budget and Its Impact on DOC (Executive Plan)

The department's Fiscal Year 2018 Expense Budget is \$1.43 billion. The vast majority of this, 88%, is allocated for Personal Services, and 12% for Other than Personal Services. The Fiscal Year 2018 budget is \$23.1 million more than this year's budget of \$1.40 billion. This increase is mainly due to initiatives that were funded beginning in FY18 and incremental increases to collective bargaining funding.

Included in the Executive Budget is an additional \$2.8 million in Fiscal Year 2017, and decreases of \$12.5 million in Fiscal Year 2018, \$2.5 million in Fiscal Year 2019, and \$2.4 million beginning in Fiscal Year 2020.

The following are some highlights of the major programs that were funded:

- "Jails to Jobs" Wage Subsidies - \$1.3 million in FY18 and the out years was provided for wage subsidy slots as part of the "Jails to Jobs" initiative, which will provide jobs to all City-sentenced inmates discharged from our facilities.

The following are some highlights of the major savings initiatives included in the budget:

- Civilian Salary Accruals – \$10 million reduction in FY18 only. Due to the current amount of civilian staff vacancies, a one-time savings of \$10 million will be realized in FY18.
- Skilled Trades Overtime Cap – \$6.5 million reduction in FY18 and the out years as part of the citywide initiative to reduce skilled trades overtime.

Capital Funding

With regard to capital funding, the Fiscal Year 2018 Executive Capital Budget and Commitment Plan totals \$2.4 billion, which covers Fiscal Years 2017 through 2027. In this Plan, the department's budget was reduced by a net total of \$70 million in City funds, which is attributed to the passing of Raise the Age legislation, therefore eliminating the department's responsibility to construct a new, long-term adolescent facility. The major funding changes are as follows:

- \$1.1 billion reallocation of funding to a “New Jail Facilities” project. This funding represents the City’s commitment to decentralizing the department’s facilities.
- \$170 million reduction as a result of the removal of the new adolescent facility from the department’s budget.
- \$100 million addition for a new training academy. The location of the new academy is to be determined, however as the Council is already aware, the department is currently working with the Department of Design and Construction on a feasibility study for the use of Fort Totten in Queens.

Headcount

Under the leadership of Commissioner Ponte, the department has been able to achieve unprecedented levels of Correction Officer recruitment and hiring. Including the Correction Officer class of 929 recruits that is currently undergoing training at the academy, the department has hired over 3,600 new Correction Officers since May 2014. These new Correction Officers have enabled us to enact the reforms necessary to provide a safer and better environment for our inmates and staff.

The following is a summary of the department’s civilian and uniformed authorized staffing levels included in the Executive Plan:

- The civilian authorized full-time headcount is 2,188 in FY17 and 2,172 in FY18 and the out-years.
- The uniformed authorized headcount is 10,336 in FY17, 10,420 in FY18, 10,459 in FY19, and 10,475 in FY20 and the out years. The authorized uniformed headcount increases each fiscal year mainly due to the phased new need for additional Program for Accelerated Clinical Effectiveness housing units, also known as PACE, which were funded for two additional housing units per year through FY20 during the FY17 Executive Budget. The average uniformed headcount is estimated to be 9,918 in FY17, which represents an increase of 701 compared to an average of 9,217 in FY 2016.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today and for your continued support. The Commissioner and I are happy to answer any questions that you may have.



TESTIMONY

Presented by

Donna M. Corrado, PhD
Commissioner

on the

FY 2018 Executive Budget

before the

New York City Council
Committee on Finance, Committee on Aging & Subcommittee on Senior Centers

on

Monday, May 8, 2017
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at

Council Chambers, City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Budget Overview

Good afternoon, Chairpersons Ferreras-Copeland, Chin, Vallone, and members of the Finance and Aging Committees. I am Donna Corrado, Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging, also known as “DFTA.” I am joined by Sasha Fishman, Associate Commissioner for Budget and Fiscal Operations, to discuss DFTA’s Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2018.

The FY 2018 Executive Budget projects \$310 million in funding. The budget includes allocations of \$129 million to support senior centers, \$37 million for home delivered meals, \$34 million for case management services, \$24 million to support home care for homebound seniors who are not Medicaid eligible, \$6.7 million for NORC programs, and \$4 million for caregiver support services.

The current Administration has made a major commitment to aging services. This includes a 39% increase in baseline City Tax Levy funding between the last year of the prior Administration and the FY 2018 budget, an overall increase of \$55 million. This increase has benefited senior centers, case management, home delivered meals, NORCs, elder abuse programs, and transportation services.

DFTA is also appreciative of the major ongoing support of the City Council for aging services programming. This year, the Council has contributed more than \$30 million to DFTA programs, and this level of support makes a very real difference in the quantity and quality of services that we and our community-based partners can provide.

The City Tax Levy increases attributed to the current Administration demonstrate the Mayor’s strong commitment to services and supports for older people. In addition to these funds, the Mayor has committed tens of millions of dollars to other City agencies that will directly benefit older New Yorkers, such as the set-aside of 15,000 affordable housing units targeted to households where older people reside, and the recently announced proposal, which will require both City and State legislative approval, to raise the Senior Citizen Homeowner’s Exemption household income eligibility level from \$37,400 to \$58,400, which would benefit an estimated 32,000 households in New York City.

While at the local level, there has been robust investment in aging services, it is important to note that the federal FY 2018 “skinny” budget submitted by the Trump administration would result in the partial or total elimination of several DFTA programs, including the Health Insurance Information, Counseling and

Assistance Program, the Foster Grandparents Program, and Title V senior employment services. DFTA and the Administration will be following the federal budget process closely to do whatever is in our power to avert such cuts.

Program Overview

The Mayor recognizes that more needs to be done to support the aging services network as the keystone service system for meeting the needs of the burgeoning population of older New Yorkers. He asked that I lead the effort to re-envision two of our most important services for the twenty-first century: home delivered meals and the senior center network. I would like to summarize our efforts to date in this process, but first want to describe some key initiatives recently put into place to strengthen services for older people:

PROTECT. We are pleased that the FY 2018 budget includes \$225,000 for PROTECT (“Providing Options To Elderly Clients Together”), which is a program that helps reverse the damage and mitigate the danger associated with elder abuse and neglect. Not surprisingly, elder abuse victims have among the highest rates of severe depression and anxiety, and these mental health challenges often reduce the ability of victims to take steps necessary to resolve elder abuse and neglect. PROTECT was developed by DFTA and Weill Cornell Medical Center, and it makes use of specially trained staff to help victims address their mental health issues, which in turn makes it more likely that the clients are able to deal successfully with abusive situations. PROTECT is an evidence-based program. With additional funding in the FY 2018 budget, DFTA, in coordination with the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence, will work with its elder abuse and other providers to identify people in need, and services will be available in English and Spanish, which together comprise the languages spoken by the majority of identified victims.

Multi-Disciplinary Teams, known as “MDTs,” comprise groups of professionals from diverse disciplines who together provide comprehensive assessments and consultation on abuse cases. Currently, Weill Cornell, which has been a leader in the development of the MDT model, operates teams in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The teams have shown great success in addressing particularly complex elder abuse cases that involve coordination among multiple organizations, including DA’s, the NYPD, medical centers, DFTA, the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence, HRA Adult

Protective Services, financial institutions, and a myriad of CBOs that include legal providers and elder abuse programs. The teams meet regularly and problem solve around individual cases using a coordinated community-based approach to handling elder abuse. DFTA has received \$1.5 million annually to expand the teams from the current two boroughs to all five boroughs throughout the course of FY 2018 and early FY 2019. This expansion will vastly strengthen the City's ability to address complex cases in a coordinated fashion, which is so essential to resolving inter-related social, financial, criminal and legal challenges found in these most complicated of elder abuse cases.

Caregiver Survey. Local Law 97 of 2016 required DFTA to conduct a survey of unpaid caregivers of older people and persons with dementia, people with disabilities, and people providing kinship care. DFTA is working with the Mayor's Office of Operations, the Administration for Children's Services, the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, the State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, AARP, our in-house Caregiver and Grandparent Resource Centers, the Grandparent Support Groups and contracted caregiver programs, various umbrella organizations and other non-profits assisting caregivers, and the research firm Westat to complete the survey by August 2017. We believe the research will yield important information and insights into the needs of the caregivers that will inform recommendations, as required by Local Law 97, for supports beyond those available in the existing network to help caregivers carry out this critical work.

Mental Health First Aid is an evidence-based training program designed to equip non-mental health professionals with the knowledge needed to identify potential mental health issues among clients so that they can be linked with services. Through DOHMH, three DFTA staff have been trained in this technique. They, in turn, are providing Mental Health First Aid training to case managers, senior center staff, and volunteers. Participants have attested to the value of the training in improving their ability to spot potentially crippling mental health issues. DFTA will be requiring Mental Health First Aid training for network providers.

Healthcare Connections. DFTA has completed its blueprint for a program to begin attracting health care dollars to expand aging services. Its

Management Services Organization, or “MSO,” was put into place late last Calendar Year and is beginning to market falls prevention programming to health care providers. There are 10 MSO members, all of whom are DFTA-funded aging services providers. The plan is for them to provide evidence-based falls prevention classes to health care consumers and receive a fee from the health care organizations or health plans for this work, which the aging services organizations can then reinvest in expanded and enriched services. DFTA hopes to see the first inflow of dollars to the 10 MSO members by the end of this Calendar Year and is also determining additional products to market. If successful, the plan is to expand MSO membership in Calendar Year 2018 and beyond.

DFTA is also involved in a second healthcare connections project, where it serves as a contracted partner to Health + Hospitals for “**DSRIP,**” the **Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program**, which is part of the New York State Medicaid Reform effort. The key DSRIP goal is to reduce avoidable hospital readmissions by 25% over the course of five years. DFTA’s role is to provide support and monitoring of two downstream providers for the care transitions program, New York Foundation for Senior Citizens, paired with Elmhurst Hospital, and Selfhelp Community Services, paired with Queens Hospital Center. The two providers will follow and support patients at high-risk for readmission for 30 days post-discharge. Within the next few weeks, both teams are expected to start working at their assigned hospitals and visiting patients in the community.

Age-friendly NYC brings together the public and private sectors to develop initiatives to ensure New York City is a city for all ages. DFTA, with the New York Academy of Medicine, has coordinated work of Age-friendly NYC over the past decade to ensure synergies in implementing multi-agency and multi-sectorial projects that benefit older people, ranging from Vision Zero to prevent traffic fatalities, which affects older people at a higher rate than other groups, to cultural programming, such as placement of artists to work with interested senior center participants. The Administration plans to launch the next phase of Age-friendly NYC this summer.

Improvement in contract/procurement processes. In collaboration with MOCS, OMB, our advocacy agencies, and as an active partner in the Administration’s Non-Profit Resiliency Committee, DFTA has worked to

improve the contracting and procurement processes experienced by our human service contractors. This has entailed small but meaningful changes, like reducing the number of signed contracts DFTA requires providers to execute. It has also included larger initiatives such as participating as one of the pilot agencies in the Department of Records and Information Systems' citywide effort to reform records management. Measured in terms of the sheer number of procurement actions, DFTA is one of the larger human services agencies in City government. We understand the impact that registration and other delays can have on providers. We will also be adding four additional staff lines to deal with the volume of procurement and two staff lines to deal with budget actions that we encounter each year. New staff should be fully on board by late summer/early fall.

Title XX of the Social Security Act funding was proposed to be eliminated in the Governor's Executive Budget. This would have been a \$17 million cut in funding to DFTA's senior centers. I, together with the Mayor's Office, personally lobbied in Albany to guarantee that the proposed cut would not be enacted in the New York State budget, and fortunately, we were successful.

In my previous testimony on the FY 2018 Preliminary Budget, I summarized a variety of efforts underway to infuse additional resources into aging services while improving service quality as defined both by specific project implementation and by systemic change. Some of the initiatives I referenced in that testimony included DFTA's two ThriveNYC mental health projects, including mental health clinicians outstationed in 25 senior centers and friendly visitors for 1,200 isolated, largely homebound seniors who are case management clients; the New York Connects program, where specialists help people who need long-term services and supports to overcome bureaucratic and other hurdles to receiving the services they need; the Social Adult Day Care Ombuds Program; and expanded transportation services.

These projects and the initiatives that I've described to you today attest to DFTA's momentum towards strengthening the very underpinnings of the aging services system. Along these lines, I would like to summarize two initiatives that promise to have a fundamental impact on the ability of the aging services system to deliver the highest quality services effectively and cost-efficiently.

The Mayor has asked that I lead the charge in transforming and modernizing our food service delivery in order to improve quality, provide more accountability and

efficiency, and build capacity to serve the burgeoning population. The Mayor also asked that we do a deep analysis of what constitutes a model senior center. We have made substantial progress on both efforts, and I would like to briefly summarize the genesis and status of each of the initiatives:

Senior centers developed over the decades in an unsystematic fashion, without clear planning for shaping a system that allocates resources equitably in order to meet the diverse needs of communities across the City. We recognize the strain this has placed on our network of senior centers and have begun the complicated work of evaluating what our senior centers need to adequately address the needs of participants. As one key dimension of this analysis, DFTA engaged the Fordham University School of Social Service to conduct an Impact Analysis, which for the first time followed participants longitudinally to determine the outcomes associated with participation in different types of activities. This research framework will help to inform our work as we continue this ongoing process.

In a second transformational effort, DFTA has engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers to speak with **home delivered meal** stakeholders in New York City and around the country to pinpoint what works well and what needs improvement in the way that food is procured, prepared and delivered to homebound seniors. After extensive interviews, analysis, and fieldwork, PwC presented findings to DFTA senior staff focused on how to improve meal quality, expand choice, and develop greater efficiencies where possible. We are analyzing these results as they help to inform our re-tooling of the overall system in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on DFTA's Executive Budget for FY 2018. I look forward to the continued collaboration with the City Council in these efforts. I am pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony of Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Acting Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection
before the
New York City Council Committees on Environmental Protection & Finance
concerning the
FY 2018 Executive Budget

Monday, May 8, 2017
City Hall, Council Chambers, 2 pm

Good afternoon Chairpersons Ferreras-Copeland and Constantinides and Members. I am Vincent Sapienza, Acting Commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). I am joined today by Chief Financial Officer Joseph Murin, as well as other senior managers. I appreciate the opportunity to testify on the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Executive Budget.

DEP has overall responsibility for the City's water supply and sewer system, including providing drinking water to all New Yorkers, maintaining pressure to fire hydrants, managing storm water, and treating wastewater. In addition, DEP also regulates air quality, hazardous waste, and critical quality of life issues, including noise.

Before I review our Expense and Capital budgets, I would like to review the status of the water rate. The Water Board is meeting on May 18 to evaluate rates for the coming fiscal year.

The Water Board is an independent body whose fiduciary mandate is to set rates that will satisfy System revenue requirements for operations & maintenance (O&M) expenses, servicing debt obligations, and achieving fiscally prudent year-end cash reserves.

The Board and DEP work with an independent rate consultant that assists in analyzing alternative water rate scenarios. The consultant collects information from DEP, the City's Office of Management and Budget, and the Municipal Water Finance Authority, and prepares several cash flow and rate scenarios. DEP typically makes a rate proposal to the Board in a public meeting, which the Board then considers against alternative courses of action before adopting a rate to take effect on July 1. I should also note that an independent third-party accountant annually audits our financial statements and internal controls to ensure compliance with national accounting principles.

Typically, we have the Water Board's rate proposal prior to the Council's budget hearing. This year's rate setting is a bit more complicated due to the Rent Stabilization Association's lawsuit. Last year, Mayor de Blasio took the historic step to eliminate the water system's annual Rental Payment to the City, which some of you in the Council had long considered hidden tax. The Mayor's bold action retained \$122 million within the water system's FY17 budget and is expected to have \$1.1 billion returned to the System over the next four years.

The Water Board and the Mayor proposed that the rental return for FY17 be returned to Class 1 taxpayers. The Board proposed that \$183 be returned to each of 620,000 small homeowners.

The RSA challenged that proposal, arguing that landlords of large buildings should also get a share of the refund. Last year a State Supreme Court judge ruled in RSA's favor, and this past February 16th, the State's Appellate Division issued a split decision that affirmed the lower court's ruling. Given the dissenting opinion, on April 25th the Appellate Division determined that the matter could be elevated to the New York State Court of Appeals. The Water Board and the City look forward to presenting the case to the full Court of Appeals, and we are confident of prevailing.

While the Water Board has yet to determine rates for the coming fiscal year, I can tell the Council that revenues in recent years have been in line with expectations and expenditures have been reasonably steady. More than 98% of properties now have automated water meters, so there are far fewer estimated and disputed bills. DEP's continuous improvement initiative has also helped to make our agency one of the most efficient water utilities in the nation. Water and sewer fees in NYC are actually less than the national average. There is very little else in the City that costs less than the national average.

After the Water Board meets and determines the FY18 needs, DEP would be happy to brief the Council on the Board's rate proposal.

Before I move on, I would like to update the Council on the implications of the recent State and federal budgets on DEP.

This year's New York State budget includes \$200 million specifically for projects in NYC's watershed. We are developing a list of projects that would meet this criterion and look forward to working with the State to implement projects that will benefit both the City and the watershed towns.

With regard to the new federal Administration, while the president's proposed budget included a significant cut to EPA's funding (31%), DEP's operating and capital budget is predominately funded by the NYC water rate and we receive essentially no federal funding for the operation of the water and wastewater systems. Rest assured that regardless of what transpires at the federal level, I am fully confident that DEP will continue to deliver on our critical mission.

FY18 Expense Budget

The projected Expense Budget for the current fiscal year, FY17, is \$1.52 billion. This includes approximately \$256 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for which DEP serves as the contracting entity for the City. For FY18, we expect DEP's expense budget to be \$1.41 billion, including \$157 million in CDBG funding for the Build It Back program.

Highlights of the net changes from the Preliminary Budget include the following:

New Needs:

- An increase of \$8.5 million to fund the on-site dewatering of sludge and the removal of biosolids as the Owls Head dock is reconstructed;

- An increase of \$5.7 million for the continuation of Superfund investigation work for the Gowanus Canal and Newtown Creek;
- An increase of \$3.9 million for the continuation of the consulting contract that provides support for the current water and sewer billing system;
- An increase of \$3.4 million to fund 43 new positions for a new sewer management program to comply with an EPA administrative order to reduce backups in select community boards;
- An increase of \$1.9 million for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program that will fund nine new positions for inspections, assessments, enforcement actions and for the creation of a new tracking system to assist in the monitoring and reporting to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC);
- An increase of \$0.7 million to fund eight new positions for the auditing of self-certified asbestos assessments;
- An increase of \$0.7 million to fund seven positions as liaisons with NYCDOT's Highway Inspections and Quality Assurance program to provide inspections to active construction, emergency street openings/excavations and utility access cover openings.

Savings:

- A decrease of \$1.4 million as a result of planned revenues to be received from the sale of nitrogen credits to upstate communities that cannot meet their required nitrogen levels as their plants are being rebuilt;
- A decrease of \$1.4 million as a result of lower bid pricing for fluoride purchase;
- A decrease of \$1.0 million in fuel oil purchases as DEP continues to reuse digester gas and utilize cleaner burning natural gas in the wastewater treatment process

The Expense Budget breaks down into the following large categories:

Personal Services

The FY18 budget projects \$534 million, 38% of our total Expense Budget, in personal services to pay the salaries for our more than 6,000 funded positions. As with other agencies, changes in employee benefits are not shown in the agency's budget.

Taxes on Upstate Watershed Lands

The FY18 budget projects \$166 million or nearly 12% of the Expense Budget. The ownership of watershed lands represents a critical investment in maintaining the high quality of New York City's drinking water by protecting it at the source and ensuring that it does not require more expensive treatment, such as filtration. I am pleased to report that we have successfully negotiated agreements with upstate jurisdictions to make our tax obligations more stable and predictable and, in some cases, to reduce them.

Heat, Light and Power

DEP's energy costs account for \$93 million or 7% of the FY18 Expense Budget. DEP is the third-largest municipal consumer of electric power in New York City after the Department of Education and Health+Hospitals, and our consumption will grow as we bring new treatment facilities on line for both drinking water and wastewater. To control energy costs and reduce our

greenhouse gas emissions, DEP is investing in projects to reduce energy needs, such as a cogeneration system at the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Chemicals & Biosolids

Chemicals, such as chlorine and fluoride, that are used in the treatment of drinking water, and other chemicals used during the wastewater treatment process, account for \$56 million, which is 4% of our total Expense Budget. Finally, management of 1,200 tons per day of biosolids is projected to cost about \$51 million in FY18, or about 4% of our projected FY18 expenses.

FY2018-FY2027 Ten-Year Capital Plan

DEP's FY18 Executive Capital Budget is \$18.1 billion for FY18-27, as presented by Mayor de Blasio on April 26, 2017. Highlights of the Executive Ten-Plan are as follows:

City Water Tunnel No. 3

In 1970, the City began construction of City Water Tunnel No. 3, and it is one of the largest and longest-running public works projects in the City's history. In 2013, we activated the final leg of the Manhattan portion of the tunnel and laid the groundwork to get water flowing into the Brooklyn-Queens leg of the tunnel. The tunnel and most of the infrastructure shafts that support it are complete – just two shafts remain to be designed and constructed.

As part of this year's Preliminary Capital Budget submission, the Mayor allocated an additional \$300 million needed for the installation of mechanical and electrical equipment for the two shafts. This funding keeps us on schedule to begin construction of the shafts in 2020. These efforts are essential to our City, and they come on top of multiple layers of redundancy already built into our world-class water-supply infrastructure.

Catskill Aqueduct Reconstruction – Kensico to Hillview

This summer will mark the 100-year anniversary of the opening of the Catskill Aqueduct. Many of the components of the aqueduct are nearing the end of their useful life and require repair, reconstruction, or replacement. The capital plan includes \$126 million (all added prior to this Executive Budget) to fund the structural reconstruction, replacement of mechanical equipment and building reconstruction of the Lower Catskill Aqueduct.

Security Measures throughout the Water System

This project is funded an incremental \$120 million for a total of \$140 million for the design and installation of a unified agency-wide security system to include access control, intrusion detection, cameras and other security items needed to protect the water supply system, wastewater plants, support facilities, and DEP employees.

Southeast Queens

Alleviating flooding in Southeast Queens is a major priority for Mayor de Blasio and DEP. In 2015, the Mayor announced a \$1.5 billion program to substantially accelerate relief in Southeast Queens by pairing traditional sewer construction with green infrastructure throughout the region. To date, DEP has committed \$229 million to this work. So, this Ten-Year Plan has \$1.6 billion funded, bringing the total expected commitments for Southeast Queens to \$1.8 billion.

Wastewater Treatment

DEP plans to invest \$6.7 billion in wastewater treatment projects, \$3.9 billion of which is for the reconstruction or replacement of components of the wastewater treatment plants and pumping stations.

This Plan includes \$33 million for the construction of a new cogeneration system at the North River plant that will use renewable digester gas produced by the wastewater treatment process to power equipment and heat the facility. This project will help us reduce our energy use and meet the Mayor's major commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050. This amount is in addition to the \$232 million in planned commitments through FY17.

The remaining \$2.8 billion investment will be used to mitigate combined sewer overflows, with \$946 million for green infrastructure, such as rain gardens, infiltration beds, and bioswales, and the remainder for gray infrastructure, such as tanks and tunnels to store wastewater.

A significant part of our wastewater treatment budget is \$1.8 billion in funding to cover planned consent-order work related to the Long-Term Control Plans (LTCs) for combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and stormwater control. The most significant element of this commitment is \$735 million for improvements to reduce CSO discharges into the Gowanus Canal. DEP will also undertake projects in the Bronx River, Alley Creek, Hutchinson River, and Flushing Creek, as well as measures in other waterbodies where plans have yet to be completed.

Reservoirs, Dams, Treatment Facilities and Water Mains

Over the next 10 years, DEP proposes to invest \$4.1 billion to protect the quality of our reservoirs and the integrity of our dams, provide for treatment where necessary, and maintain and repair the water main system conveying potable water to all New Yorkers. We have budgeted \$1 billion for the reconstruction of dams in our three watersheds – Catskill, Delaware, and Croton.

In 2007, DEP received a 10-year Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD), waiving the requirement to filter drinking water from the Catskill and Delaware watersheds. For the continuation of our current FAD programs, the Executive FY18-27 Capital Plan includes \$172 million, including \$97 million for land acquisition. The key to maintaining the city's FAD has been the program's grounding in strong monitoring and scientific study, both of which support the three pillars of watershed protection—land acquisition, regulations governing certain activities in the watershed, and programs with our watershed partners—upstate communities and organizations. The FAD is a vital element to our effective operations. Without it, we believe we would be mandated to build another very costly drinking water filtration plant. DEP is still negotiating the FAD renewal with EPA and the New York State Department of Health and we expect more funding need in the next Plan submission.

The Rondout-West Branch Tunnel Repair

The Delaware Aqueduct conveys more than half of New York City's high-quality drinking water every day from reservoirs in the Catskill Mountains and repairing it is the central component of the \$1.5 billion program, \$1.0 billion of which is for construction, which aims to ensure clean, safe and reliable drinking water. Although this project extends even beyond the current Plan, the

Executive Budget provides \$201 million for projects associated with its repair related to conservation and providing supplemental sources of water during the Delaware Aqueduct shutdown. Increasing the capacity of the Catskill Aqueduct—a project distinct from pressurization—accounts for \$155 million of the above total.

Sewers

The Executive FY18-27 Capital Plan projects \$4.3 billion of spending on sewers including:

- \$1.9 billion for replacement of sewers (storm, sanitary or combined);
- \$2.1 billion for new sewers (of all types) of which;
 - Storm sewers as a category by itself (either new or reconstructed) accounts for \$1.7 billion of projected spending, of which \$114 million is for high-level storm sewers; and
 - \$394 million of the total is for both the conventional sewers and the lands necessary to create Bluebelt systems, which are being extended beyond Staten Island to Springfield Lake, Van Cortlandt Park, the New York Botanical Gardens, and other locations.

* * *

On behalf of the almost 6,000 employees of DEP who make a difference each and every day for our environment, I want to thank the Chairs and committee members for their support of our agency and express our continued commitment to work with the Council and your committees going forward.

That completes my prepared statement. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony. I look forward to answering any questions that you have.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joseph Murin

Address: Chief Financial Officer

I represent: NYC DEP (At Table not

Address: Registering)

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Name: Cecil McMaster

Address: _____

I represent: DEP

Address: _____

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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Louise Conyers

Address: _____

I represent: NYC DEP

Address: 59-17 Junction Blvd

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Name: Angela Licata-Misiakiewicz

Address: _____

I represent: NYC DEP

Address: _____

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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Vincent Sapienza

Address: Acting Commissioner

I represent: NYC DEP

Address: _____

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Date: 5.8.17

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Name: Donna Corrado

Address: Commissioner

I represent: DTA

Address: _____

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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sasha Fishman

Address: Associate Commissioner Budget + Fiscal Operations

I represent: SFA

Address: _____

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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Campy Resnick

Address: Deputy Commissioner, External Affairs

I represent: SFA

Address: _____

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Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Frank Doka, Deputy Commissioner

Address: NYC DOC

I represent: _____

Address: _____

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Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Heidi Grossman General Counsel

Address: NYC DCC

I represent: _____

Address: _____

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Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jeff Thankittikasen, Chief of Staff

Address: NYC DCC

I represent: _____

Address: _____

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Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Martin Murphy, Chief of Dept.

Address: NYC DCC

I represent: _____

Address: _____

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Date: 5/8/17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joseph Pante, Commissioner

Address: NYC DOC

I represent: _____

Address: _____

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☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Stephen K. Davis, Assistant Supervisor for District 11

Address: 99 Metropolitan Ct

I represent: FDNY

Address: 9 Metropolitan Ct

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Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Robert Turner, First Deputy Commissioner

Address: 9 Metropolitan Ct

I represent: FDNY

Address: 9 Metropolitan Ct

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☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lawrence K. Lawrence, Deputy Commissioner for Government Affairs & Programs

Address: 9 Metrotech Ctr

I represent: FDNY / 9 Metrotech Ctr

Address: 9 Metrotech Ctr

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Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Thomas K. Lawrence, Deputy Commissioner for Government Affairs & Programs

Address: 9 Metrotech Ctr

I represent: FDNY / 9 Metrotech Ctr

Address: 9 Metrotech Ctr

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