New York City Budget 101

New York City’s over $65 billion budget reflects the policies and priorities of our city. The budget includes how much money the city spends on services (expense budget) and how the city raises the money to pay for these things (revenue such as taxes and fees).

Citizens’ Committee for Children regularly analyzes city budget materials to determine their impact on children, youth and families. Our budget documents are available online.

The New York City Fiscal Year begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th. The city is required to have a balanced budget for the upcoming fiscal year by June 30th.

While the budget is a living document modified throughout the year, there are key dates you should know:
- **July 1st**: New Fiscal Year begins
- **September**: Community Boards release their Budget priorities to the Mayor and Borough Presidents.
- **By January 16th**: Mayor releases Preliminary Budget for upcoming Fiscal Year
- **By March 25th**: City Council Preliminary Budget Hearings and response to Preliminary Budget
- **By April 26th**: Mayor releases Executive Budget.
- **May 6-25th**: City Council Hearings on the Executive Budget
- **June 5th**: City Council negotiates changes to the Executive Budget and then votes to approve an Adopted Budget for the upcoming fiscal year. This date can be extended, but not past June 30th.

The Process:
Pursuant to the City Charter, the Mayor submits the Preliminary Budget to the City Council by January 16th. The City Council holds public hearings and issues a response to the Preliminary Budget, aimed at influencing the Executive Budget. Pursuant to the City Charter, the Mayor submits the Executive Budget to the City Council by April 26th and the Council once again holds hearings. The Mayor and the City Council then negotiate a balance budget that once voted on and approved by the Council (and not vetoed by the Mayor) becomes the Adopted Budget. Throughout the fiscal year, which runs from July 1-June 30th, there are budget modifications in response to changing conditions.

Role of the Mayor: The Mayor is responsible for developing annual budget proposals to allocate resources and to implement the Adopted Budget. The Mayor issues the Preliminary and Executive Budgets and negotiates the Adopted Budget with the City Council. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is the Mayoral agency responsible for developing and implementing the City’s budget.

Role of the City Council: There are 51 City Council members, each of whom represents a City Council District. The City Council is responsible for reviewing and responding to the Mayor’s budget proposals, holding public hearings on the budget, negotiating the budget and adopting the budget.

Your role: Every citizen has an important role to play in the budget process. You can make your voice heard in the city’s budget by meeting, calling or writing to your City Council member representative, testifying at public hearings, and participating in rallies and press conferences. Help yourself to CCC tools, which you can find on our web site through Get Involved and Budget Documents.

If you have any questions about the City Budget or its impact on children and families, contact Stephanie Gendell, Associate Executive Director, at sgendell@cccnewyork.org.