



A Memorandum for District 4
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Lack of Planning for an Aging Population

New York City's senior population is growing. By 2020, Manhattan alone is projected to become home to more than 250,000 senior citizens.¹ This is an increase of almost 15 percent from 2010.² As our senior population increases, we must make sure that older New Yorkers remain active, healthy, and housed in the communities where they live.

First and foremost it is vital that we involve older adults in the policy planning process, as no one knows better the challenges seniors face. In addition, older adults have extensive professional and personal experience to draw upon for crafting solutions. We must also invest in job training, technology training, and job placement for seniors through age smart employment practices to value and retain older workers. We must also promote programs that allow older New Yorkers to age in place. As your City Council Member I will actively support social programs and technology investments that allow seniors to remain in the homes that connect them to family, friends, and their communities. Specifically, I will work to increase access to mental health services for isolated seniors through tele-health video-counseling, as well as the City's parks and recreation resources. Finally, as discussed in the transportation section of this policy memo, I will work to make the subway system more accessible to older New Yorkers.

¹ *Civitas-Zoning for Quality and Affordability: Recommendations for Manhattan Community District 8 and 11*. Rep. BFJ Planning, 11 Sept. 2015. Web. (p.5) <http://civitasnyc.org/live/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/CIVITAS-ZQA-RECOMMENDATIONS.pdf>

² *Profile Of Older New Yorkers*. Rep. NYC Department of Aging, n.d. 14 Nov. 2013. Web. (p.47) http://www.nyc.gov/html/dfta/downloads/pdf/demographic/profile_olderNYRS_0911_newsummaries_update.pdf