Comments on Mission:

- Overall – 30 votes for mission version 1 and 11 votes for version 2. Then 26 voted for a hybrid version of the mission – in theory (that selects the most important phrases).
  - Version 1 – like it because it:
    - Says WHY and WHAT. The second sentence in version 2 makes it sound like NYC comes before students. NYC sounds like a priority over students. And we come from many places around the world, not just NYC.
    - Has language like “lifelong learning,” “personal growth” and “vibrant.” We feel closer to that language.
    - Doesn’t sound business-y. Version 2 does. Mission shouldn’t sound like a business. [said by several participants]
    - NOTE: might be able to do a hybrid. Put the second sentence of version 1 into version 2.
    - Sounds like a place to get to know yourself. To study in a vibrant place. In lower Manhattan.
    - Has more life than version 2.
    - Doesn’t constrain me. Version 2 – I don’t want to be constrained by NYC – want to go “anywhere” – Europe, etc. We may want to go elsewhere. And most of us come from different countries.
  
  - Version 2 – like it because it:
    - Isn’t trying to sell something with fancy words – like version 1.
    - Includes NYC. NYC means something, represents something about our aspirations.
    - Tells me what I’m going to get. Version 2 tells me how it works for students. Although I agree NYC puts borders on us.
    -Appeals to me – particularly the first sentence.
    - Appears more genuine - version 1 sounds good but appears less genuine.
    - Uses language like “Is committed to student,” “civic responsibility,” and language that explains HOW – “we work in partnership...” To me, “personal growth” is secondary.

- General note – write out BMCC.

Feedback on Strategic Framework

Table 1

- The 5 goals resonate.
- We want to talk about the athletics department – having dedicated athletics advisors. Someone to help us work on our scheduling. We’re missing classes. The advisement center doesn’t really care.
- I came from a Division 2 school. I can’t register on time – I’m not getting good advisement. I need to make sure my credits transfer.
Table 2
• Advisement is a nightmare.
• Advisors share misinformation.
• Some courses don’t transfer.
• Career development – want to hear more about that. Does BMCC have a relationship with the DMV? To get licenses? Those are beneficial for students to have.
• Can immersion be a class? To participate in athletics I need 24 credits...[referred this student to assistance.]

Table 3
• I took 2 years of remedial – I didn’t take it seriously. It needs to be taken seriously. Homework should count. But we need more motivation.
• Students need to know what’s available. We need awareness of what’s available.
• Co-curriculars – don’t have a lot of support for teams. People don’t know teams exist and are doing well.
• There’s no home field for baseball.

Table 4
• All workshops and career development happen on Wednesdays. That’s not a good day. Saturday or Friday is better.
• Internships – we don’t know where, when, how to go.
• The career expo is only 1x/semester.
• We need more help to new students – welcome ambassadors can help.
• I’m a liberal arts major – I was advised to change my major. I don’t know my next steps in liberal arts [what opportunities that leads to].
• People who work and athletes – need to be more lenient with them. We need to deal with their realities. Need to focus on quality not quantity of work.
• STEM – there are few places for students to do research. I had to wait 1 year to do research. Many have to wait till the end of their time at BMCC. Research opportunities are very competitive, there aren’t enough positions.

Table 5
• Advisement is not working. Don’t assign new advisors every semester. We need a connection. We don’t need courses we’re not interested in.
• For extra-curriculars – promote them, give more time to them.
• We’re lacking in community. Students don’t feel involved in community.
• Club hours are limited. That’s hard, especially for STEM majors.
• Need special help with STEM advisement. We need to take common core and major requirements at the same time.
• Degreeworks sucks.
• CUNYFirst doesn’t work. Needs faster updating.

Table 6
• The front desk – is un-directional.
• Advisement would be better by major.
• Need better access to information. For example, I didn’t know BMCC had childcare support. We don’t get information, including directions.
• Advisors – they are incompetent. They should know the majors and the requirements to fulfill them.
• Need transfer help. Advisement by major could help students transfer faster and more efficiently.
• Advisors don’t respond.
• Need advisement by majors and by credits.
• Competency of professors is a problem. They need to get evaluated. Some are incompetent. Students in one of my classes cheated and the professor didn’t care.
• When BMCC sends out emails on advisement, they need to do it by major.
• Advisement – affects us financially if it’s done badly.
• Professors don’t know Blackboard.
• CUNYFirst is not user friendly.
• The availability of online courses is a problem for each major. I’m a mom and I work and I’m a full-time student.
• I took e-permits and almost missed out on financial aid.

Final Comments
• New elevators aren’t working
• Don’t make us buy books – when half the time we don’t use them.
• Help students find themselves.
• Incoming freshmen really need orientation and advisement up front, specific to their individual needs. That first week is hard. They need help from the start. Peer advisement would be great.