



# Fort George Ave/Amsterdam Ave, W 188 Street to St Nicholas Ave

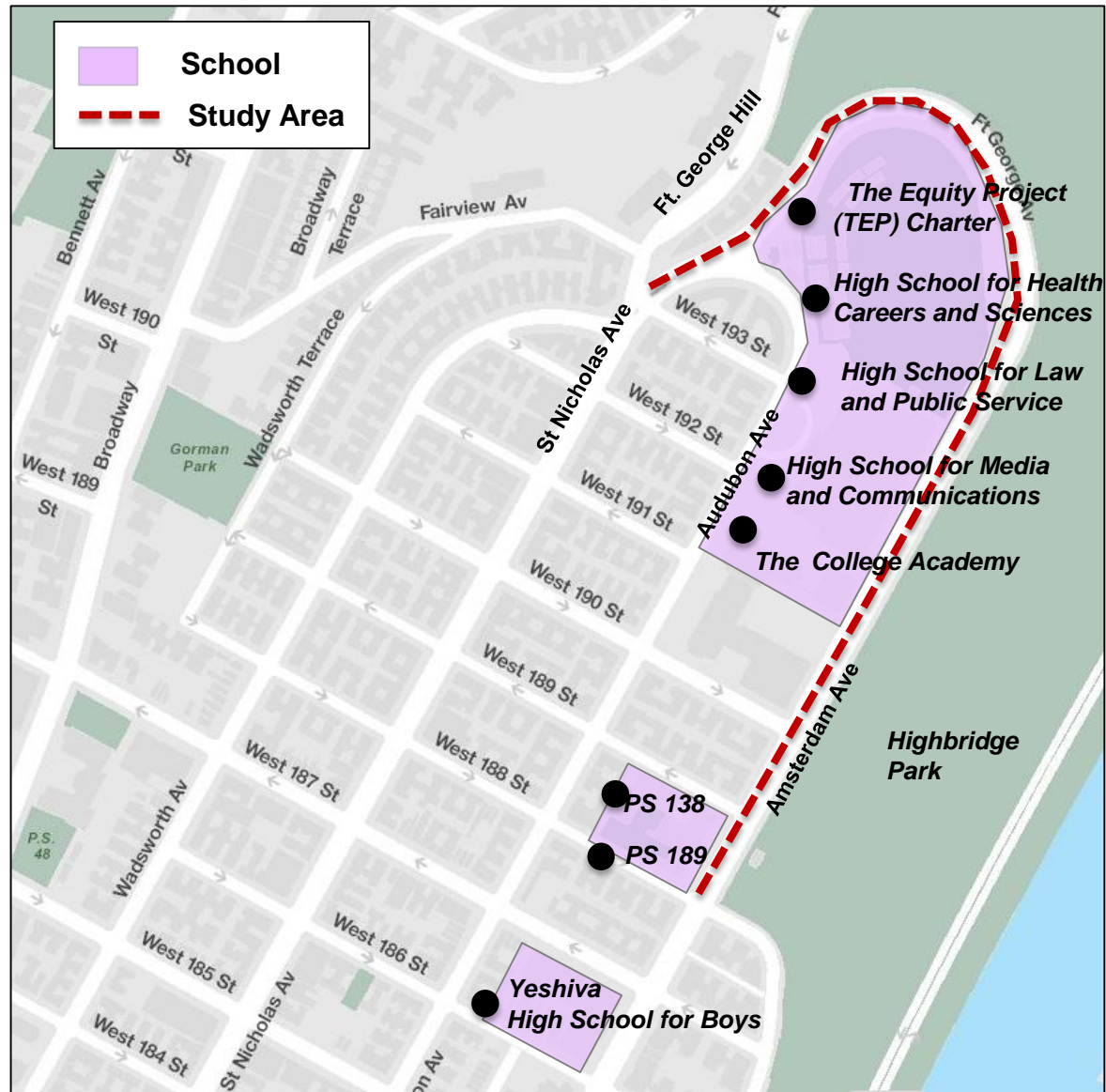
## School Safety Improvements

Presentation for Transportation Committee of Community Board 12 | December 6, 2021

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Why Are We Here?

- Community concerns about speeding and reckless driving on Amsterdam Ave/ Fort George Hill
- Elected official requests for traffic calming and safety improvements on Amsterdam Ave, W 181 St to W 190 St
- Eight local schools near the study corridor
- Amsterdam Ave/ Ft. George Ave connects local schools to Highbridge Park
- M3 and M101 bus route
- Wide steep hills on Fort George Ave and on W 190 St encourage speeding



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Safety Data

- 45 total injuries; 2 fatalities
- 41% of motor-vehicle injuries are rear-end injuries, indicative of speeding
- 17% of pedestrian/bicycle injuries are children, higher than the 6% average in Manhattan

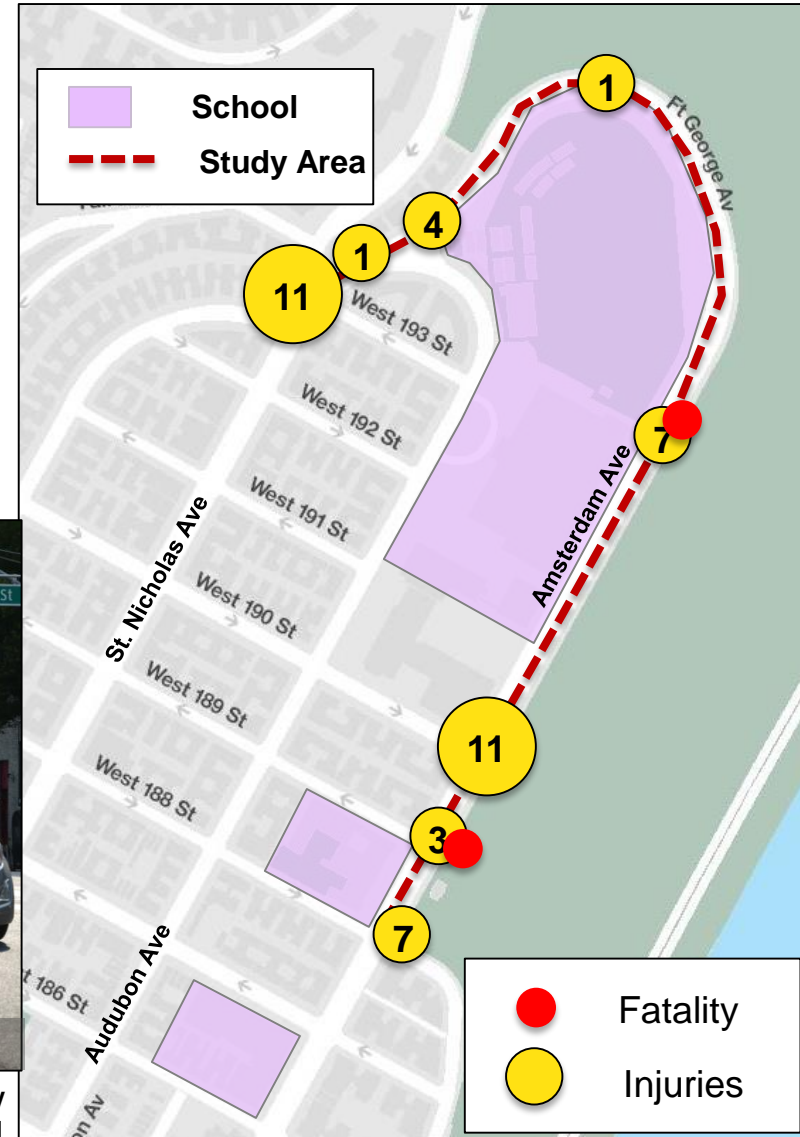
### Amsterdam Ave Injury Summary, 2014 – 2018 (5 years)

	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	5	0	0	0
Bicyclist	2	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Occupant	38	4	2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

Fatalities, 01/01/2014 – 11/29/2021: 2



Amsterdam Ave at 190 St, facing south



● Fatality  
● Injuries

Source: Fatalities: NYC DOT  
Injuries: NYS DOT

Note: Data is based off of NYSDOT/NYS DMV crash and injury data available as of November 2021

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## DOT Coordination with I Challenge Myself

- I Challenge Myself (ICM) is an afterschool program for high school students based at George Washington Educational Campus
- ICM reached out to DOT asking for safety improvements on Amsterdam Ave
- DOT School Safety & ICM have been working closely together to develop a safety proposal for the street and have met for a series of field meetings and design workshops to study the area and develop improvements



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft. George Ave, W 188 St to St. Nicholas Ave

## Safety Concerns: Speeding on Wide Roadway



**63%**  
of drivers above 25 mph speed limit on Amsterdam Ave at 190 St

Max Speed Recorded:  
**49 mph**

High School for Media and Communications student measuring speeds on Amsterdam Ave at W 190 St

Amsterdam Ave at 190 St, facing north

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Safety Concerns: Speeding on Wide Roadway



Amsterdam Ave at W 190 St, facing north

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Safety Concerns: Reckless Driver Behavior



Amsterdam Ave at 190 St



Amsterdam Ave north of W 190 St

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Concerns: Inefficient Use of Existing Parking

Unmarked parking spots are used inefficiently, leaving space between vehicles which could accommodate additional parking



Amsterdam Ave north of W 190 St facing west



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Safety Concerns: Wide Street with Long Crossing Distances

Long Pedestrian  
Crossing Distances

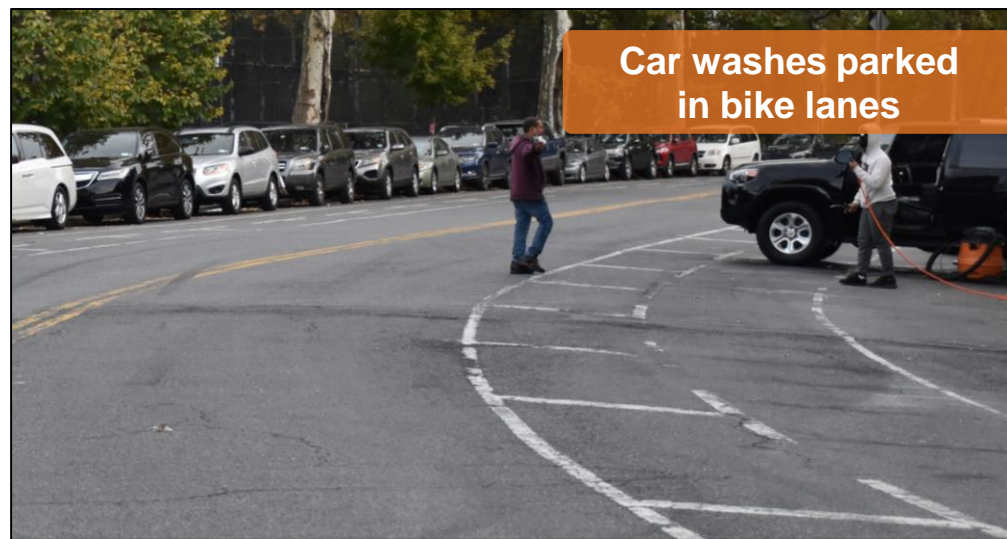
62'

Amsterdam Ave at 189 St, facing north

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

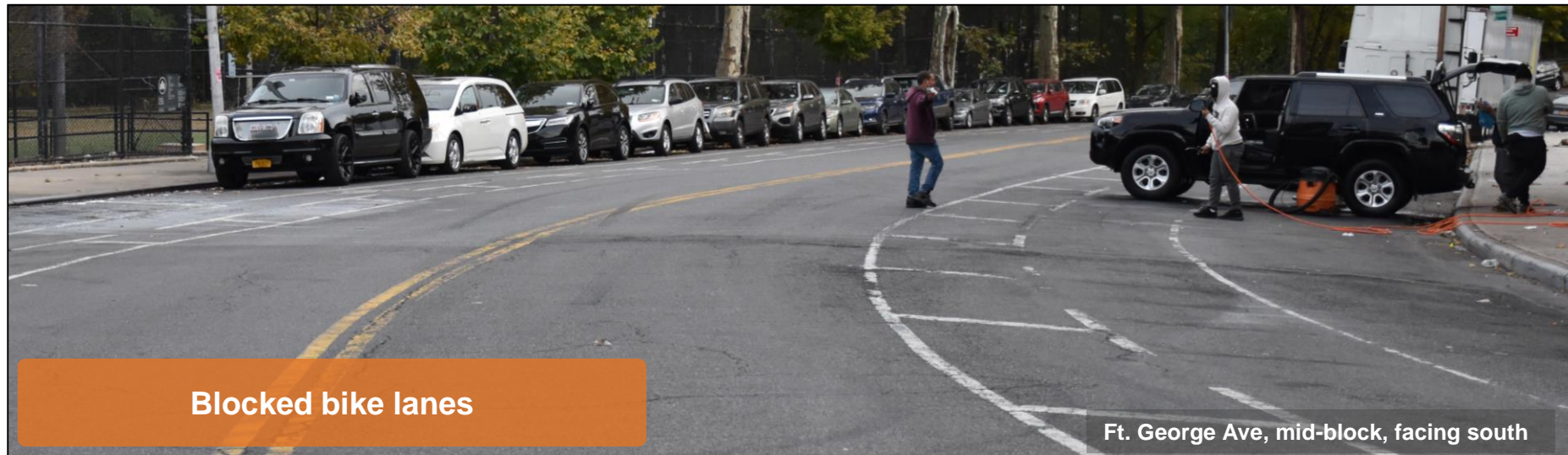
## Concerns: Unwanted Uses & Poor Compliance

Speeding and reckless driver behavior leads to community avoiding the park and attract more unwanted uses and lack of accountability



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

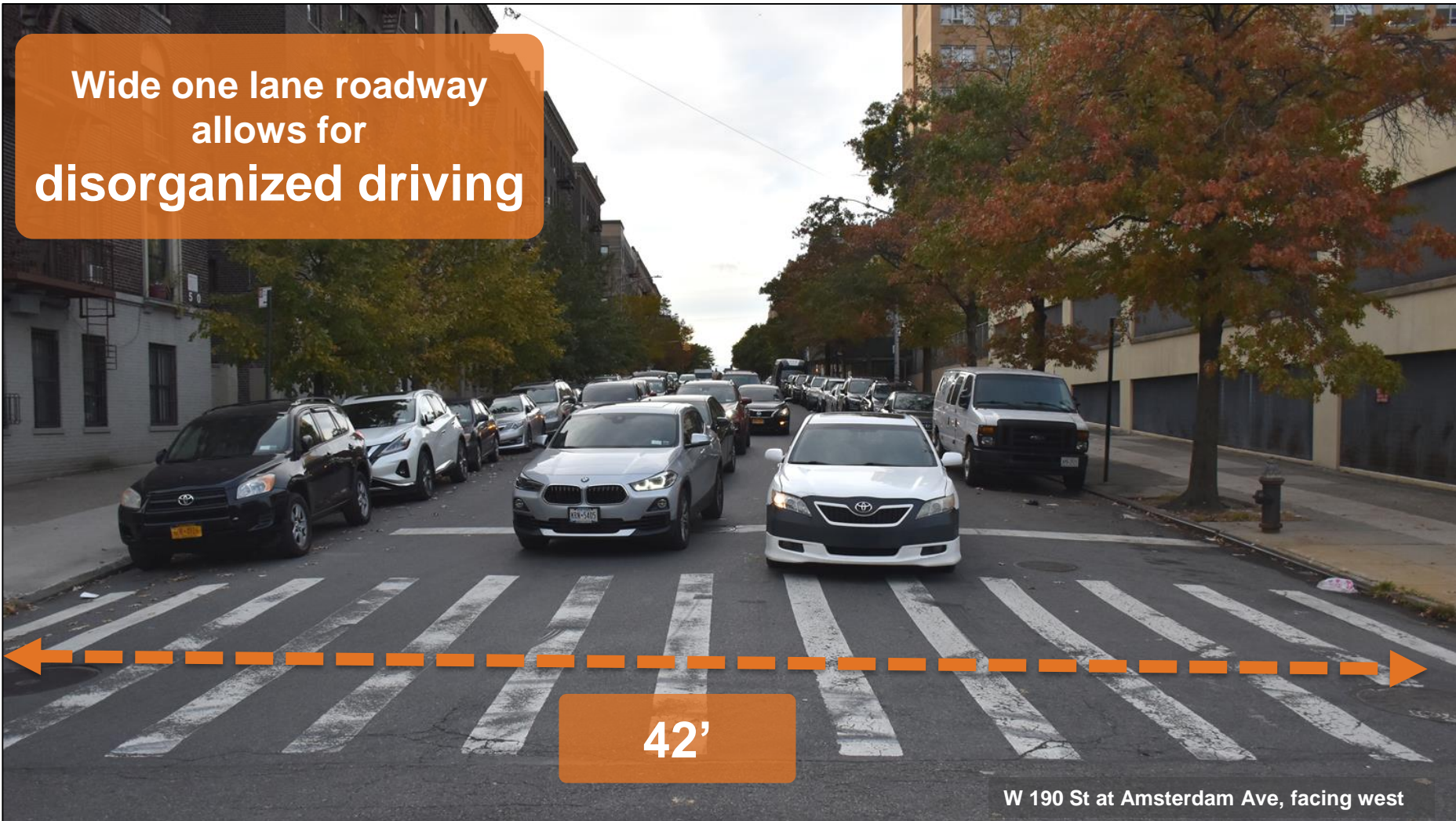
## Safety Concerns: Lack of Separated Space for Cyclists



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Safety Concerns: Disorganized Traffic Flow on W 190 St

Wide one lane roadway  
allows for  
disorganized driving



W 190 St at Amsterdam Ave, facing west

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Outreach

### Schools

- The College Academy (G. Washington Educational Campus)
- High School for Health Careers and Sciences (G. Washington Educational Campus)
- High School for Law and Public Service (G. Washington Educational Campus)
- High School for Media and Communications (G. Washington Educational Campus)
- PS 138
- PS 189
- The Equity Project (TEP) Charter School
- WHEELS
- Yeshiva University High School for Boys

### Other Stakeholders

- Community Board 12
- Connectemonos
- Isabella Geriatric Center
- MTA New York City Transit
- NYC Department of Parks and Recreation
- NYC Mountain Bike Association



Meeting on site with CB 12, Isabella, GW Campus on 11/15/21

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal: Updated Street Design

Traffic calming and speed reduction

Shorter pedestrian crossings next to schools and senior center

Pedestrian islands provide protection and visibility for pedestrians

Protected bike lane

Willis Ave, Bronx

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

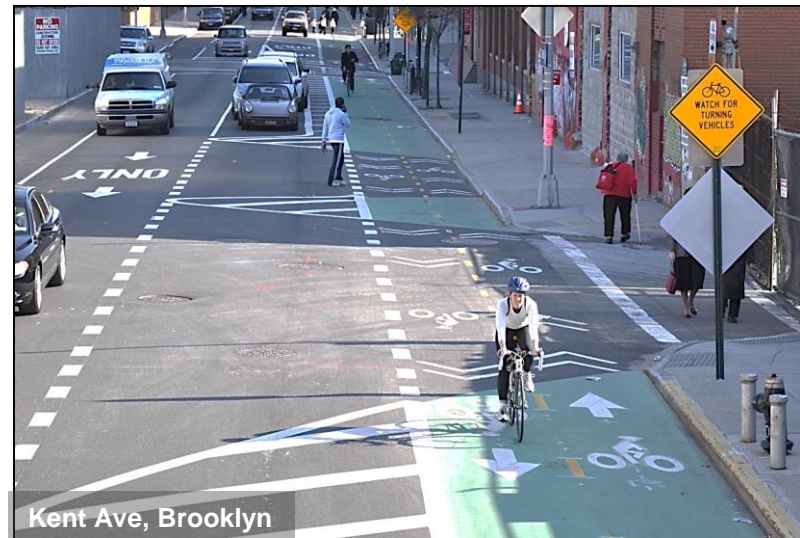
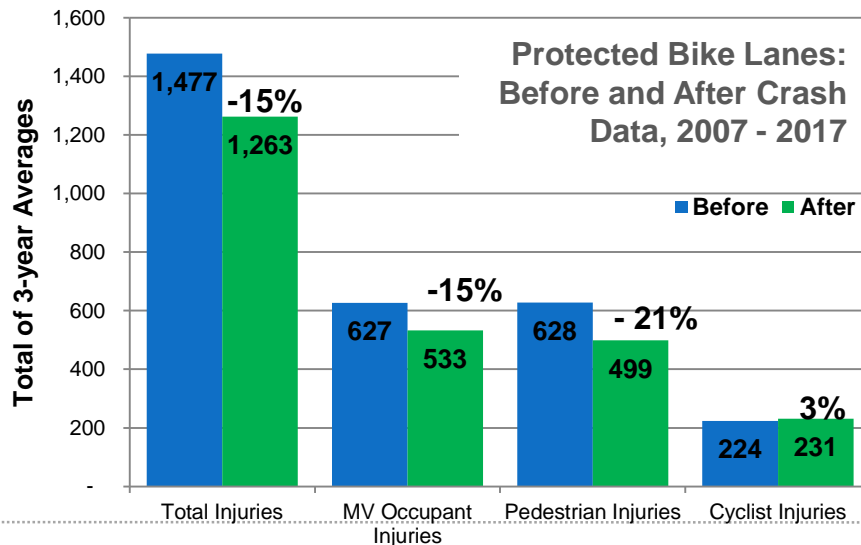
## Protected Bike Lanes: Safety Data

On NYC streets where protected bike lanes were installed in 2007 – 2017:

- **15% drop** in all crashes with injuries
- **21% drop** in pedestrian injuries
- Injuries to cyclists increase only 3%, despite a 61% bike volume increase\*



Street designs that include protected bike lanes increase safety for all users



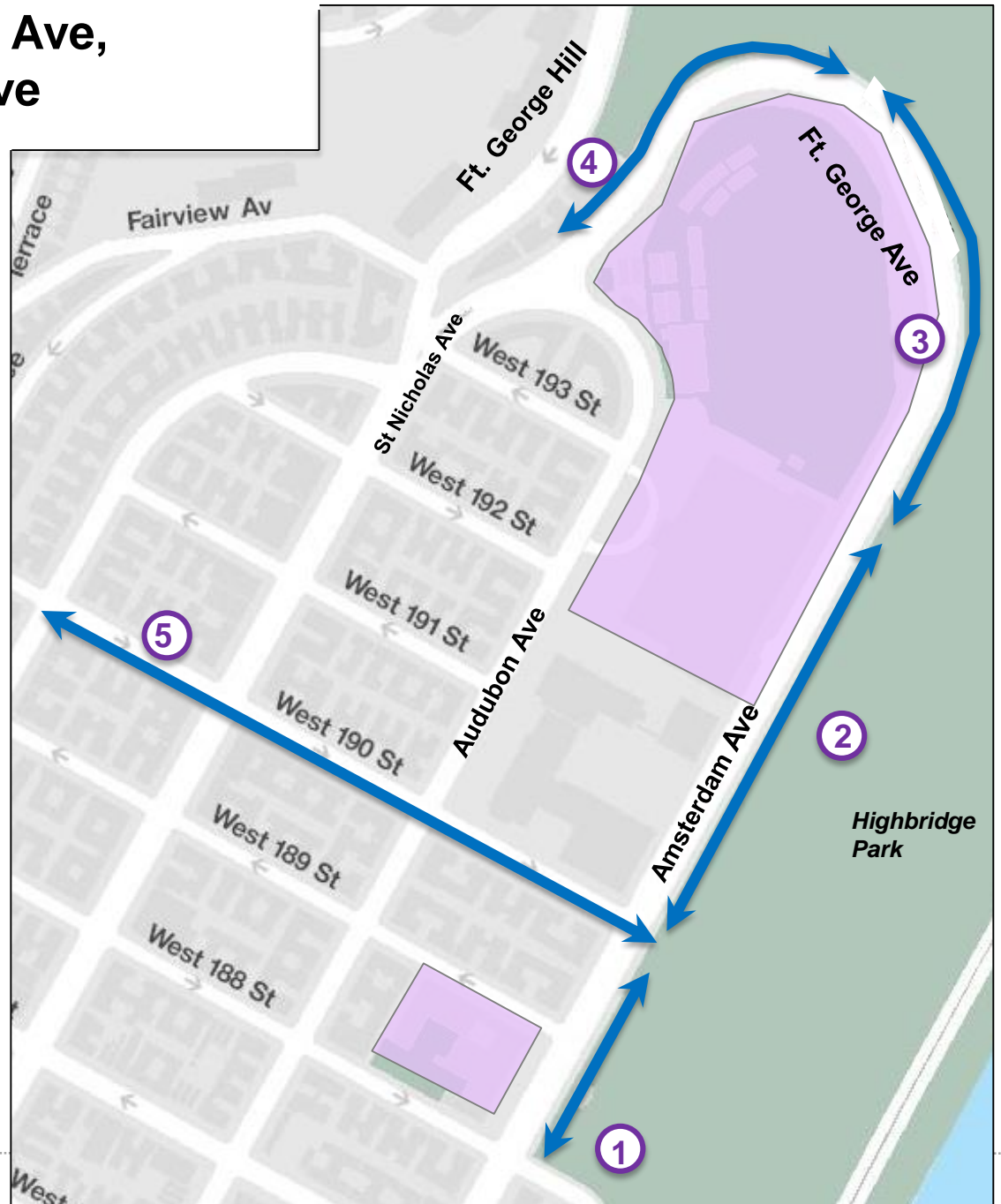
Data from 25 separate protected bicycle lane projects installed from 2007-2014 with 3 years of after data. Includes portions of 1 Ave, 2 Ave, 8 Ave, 9 Ave, Broadway, Columbus Ave, Hudson St, Lafayette St / 4 Ave, Sands St, Allen/Pike St, Kent Ave, Prospect Park West, Flushing Ave, Bruckner Blvd & Longfellow Ave, Imlay St / Conover St, Paerdegat Ave. Only sections of projects that included protected bike lanes were analyzed.  
Source: NYPD AIS/TAMS Crash Database

\*Based on total volume change for 12 hour weekday (in season) before/after counts on protected bike lanes in this study".

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal

- ① **Amsterdam Ave**  
(W 188 St – W 190 St)
- ② **Amsterdam Ave/  
Ft George Ave**  
(North of W 190 St – top  
of the hill – angled parking  
section)
- ③ **Amsterdam Ave/  
Ft George Ave**  
(North of W 190 St – top  
of the hill -- parallel  
parking section)
- ④ **Ft George Ave**  
(Top of the hill – St.  
Nicholas Ave)
- ⑤ **W 190 St**  
(Amsterdam Ave –  
Wadsworth Ave)



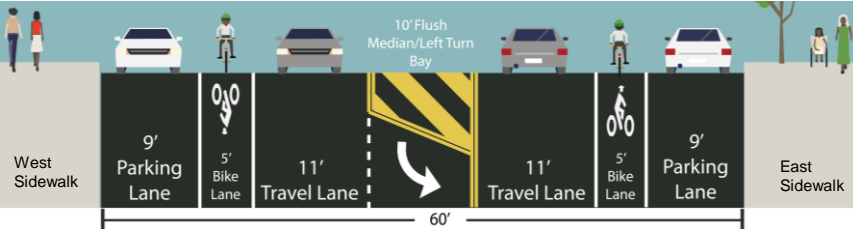


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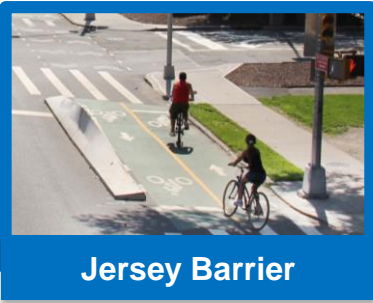
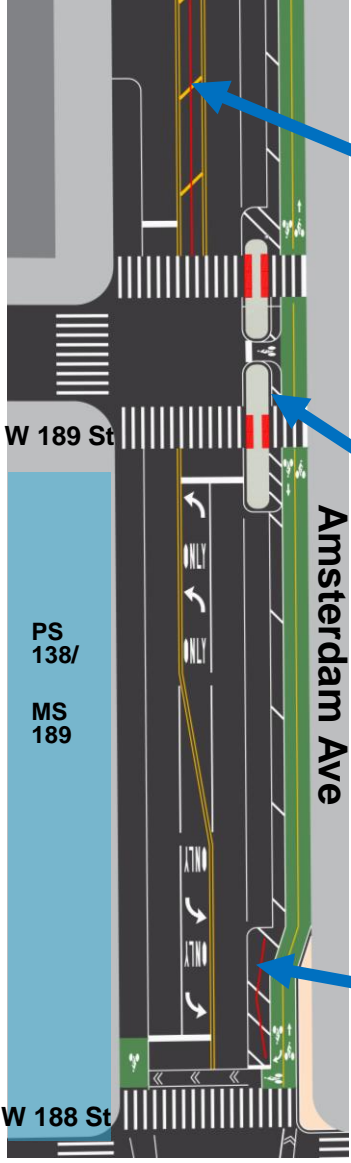
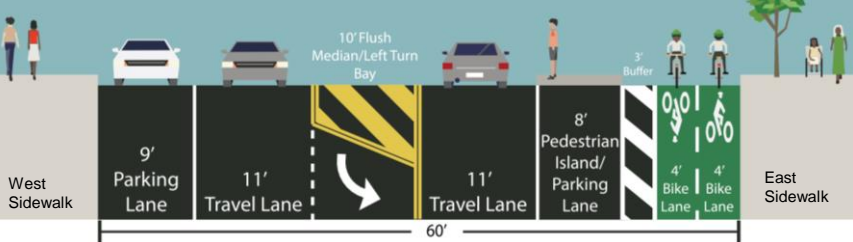
## Proposal Section 1: Amsterdam Ave (W 188 St - W 190 St)



Existing

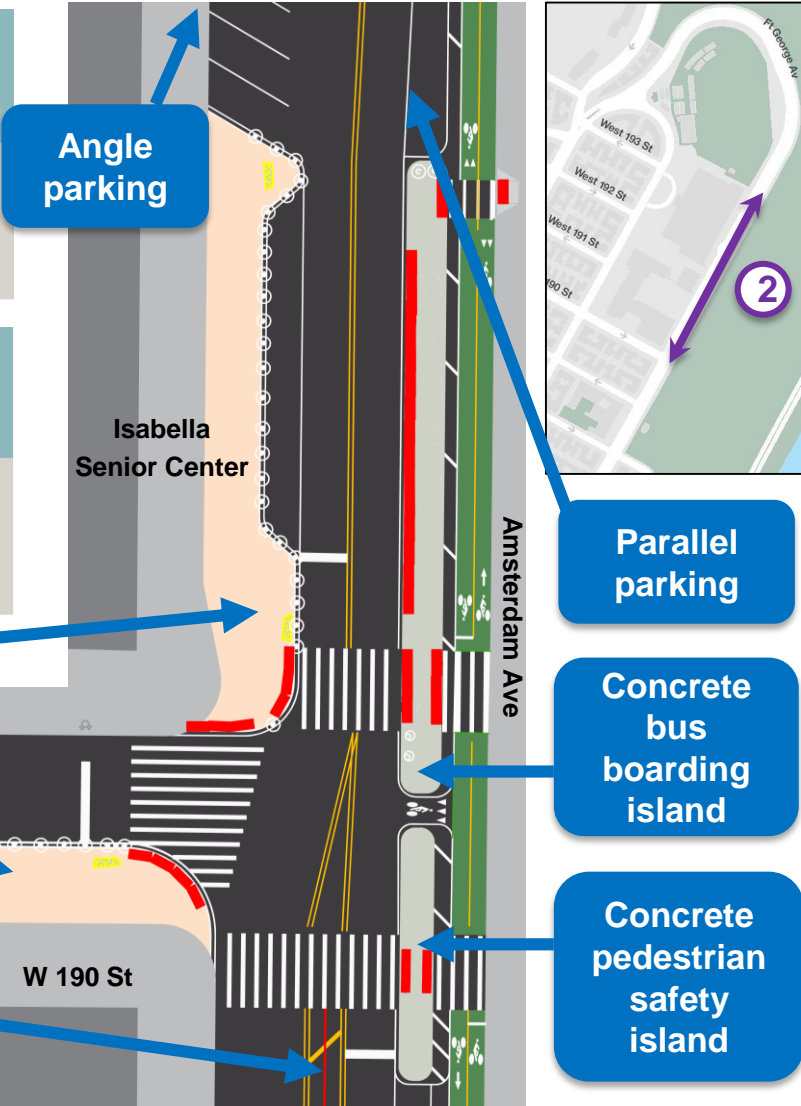
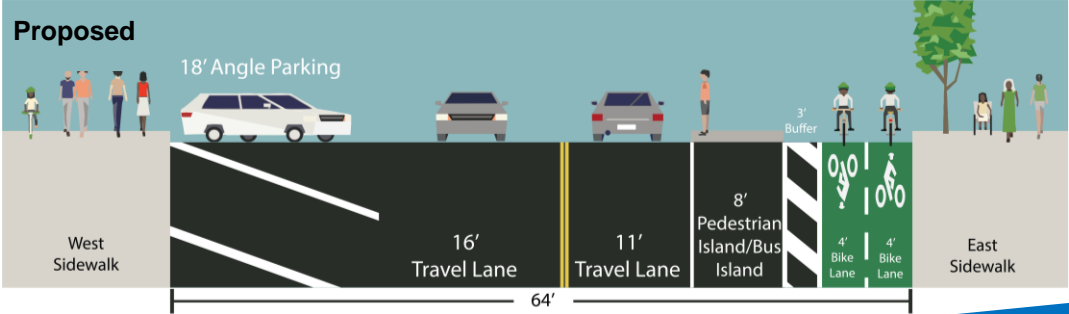
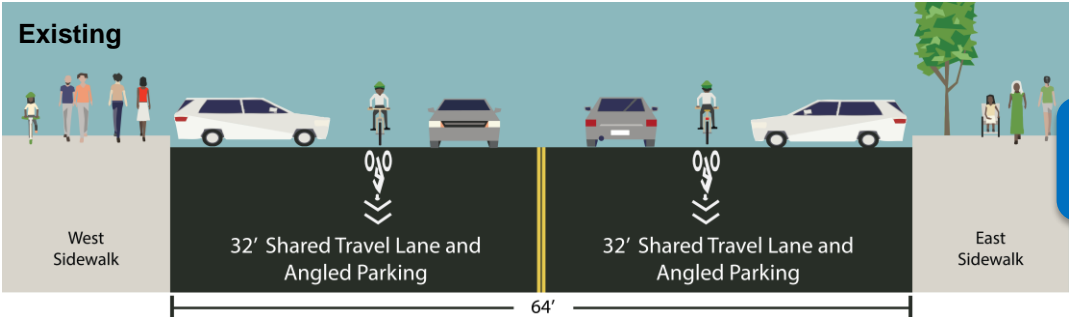


Proposed



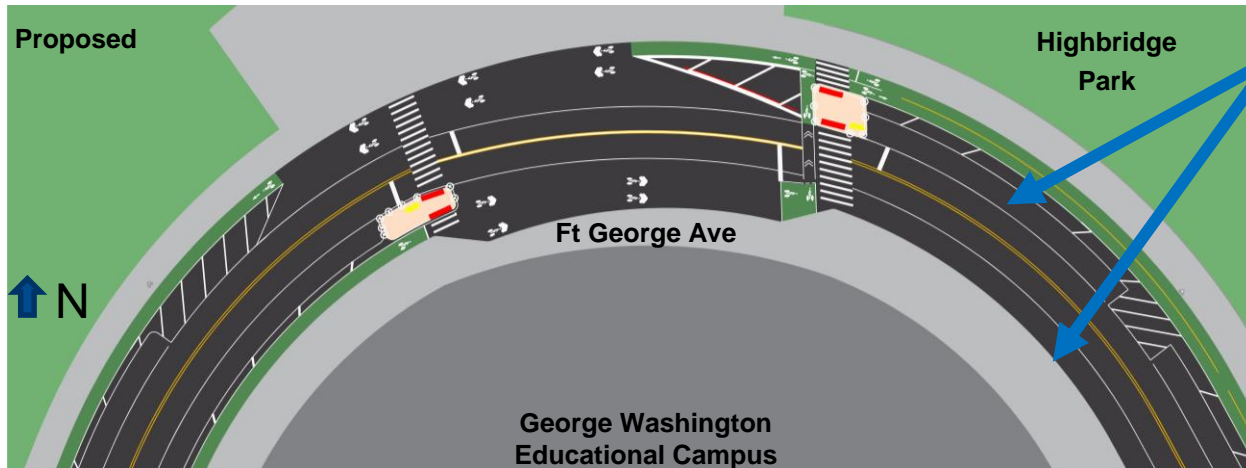
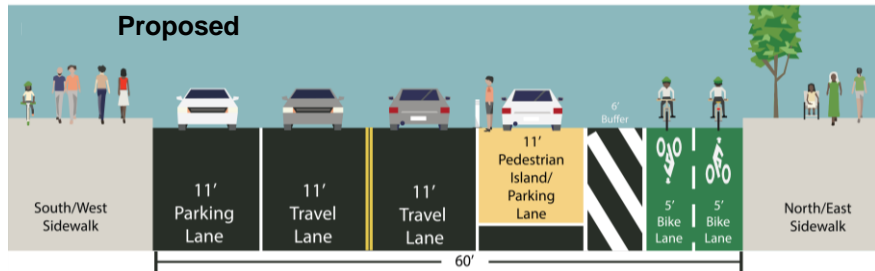
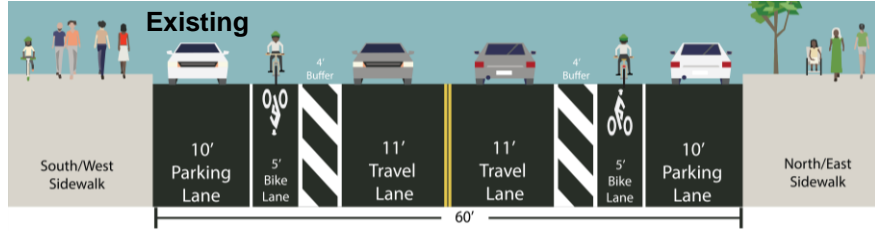
# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal Section 2: Amsterdam Ave (W 190 St – GW Campus Sports Field)



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal Section 3: Amsterdam Ave/Ft. George Ave (GW Campus Sports Field – Top of the Hill)

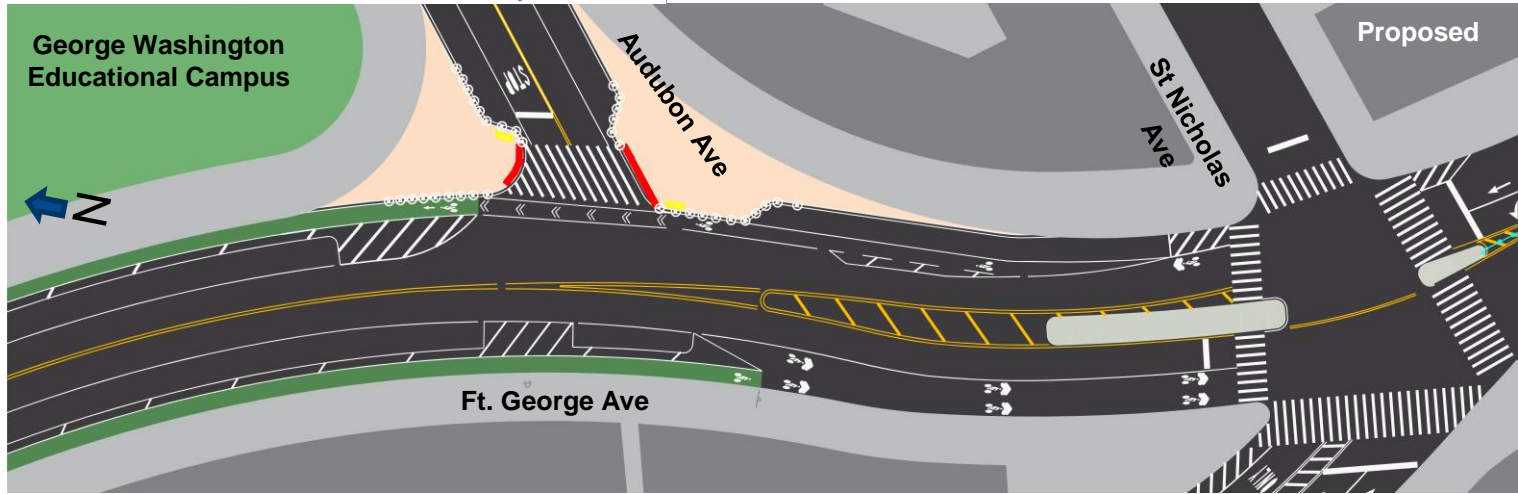
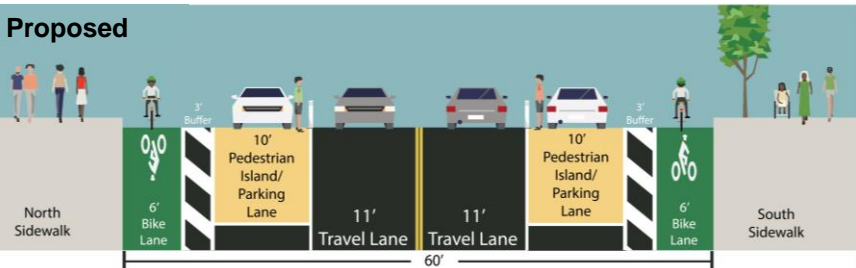
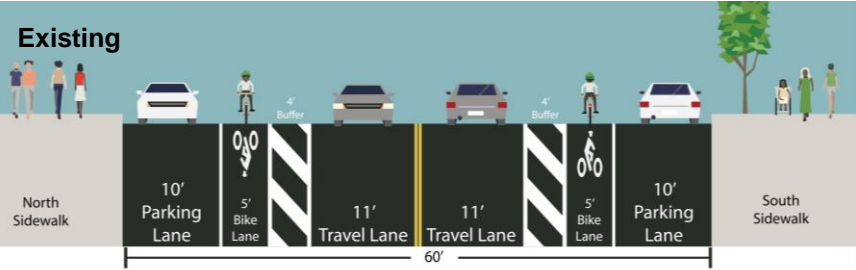
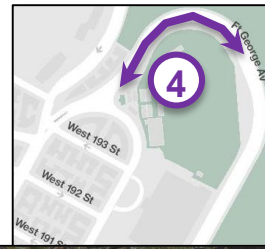


**New Alternate Side Parking**

Two-way protected bike connects to a pair of one-way protected bike lanes at the top of the hill -- an interim solution; to be addressed in an upcoming capital project

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

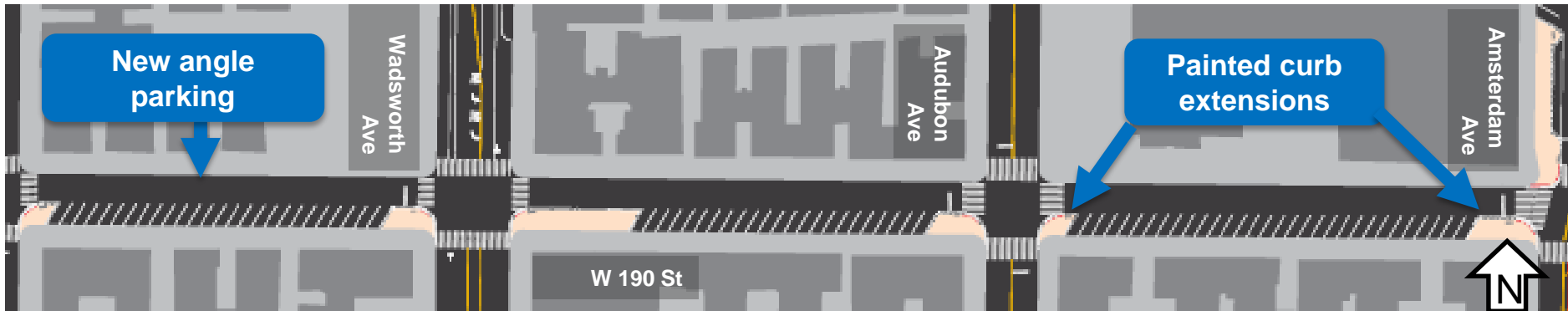
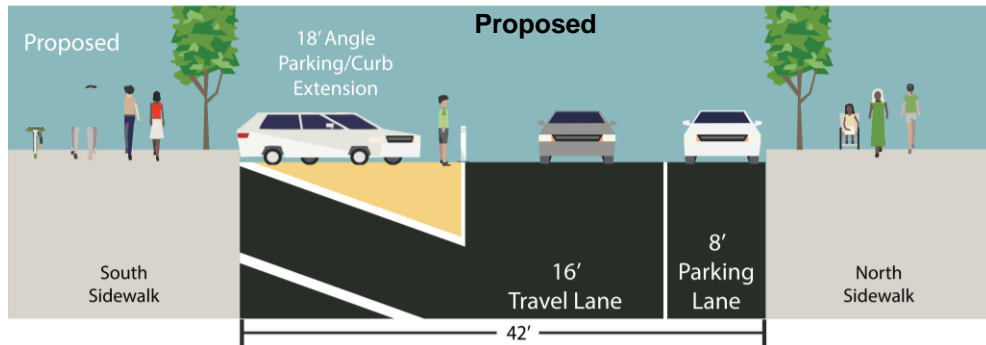
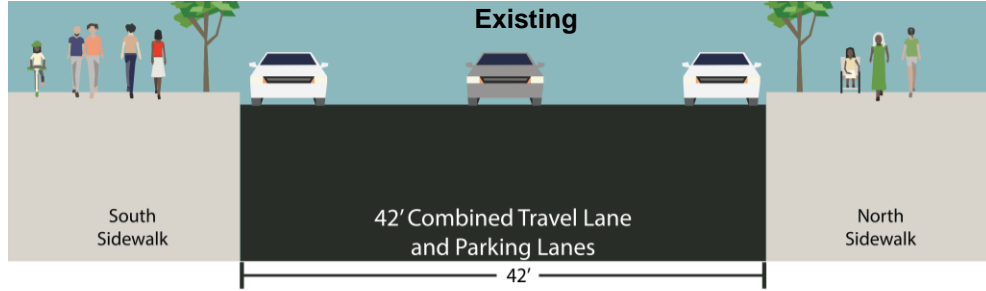
## Proposal Section 4: Amsterdam Ave/Ft. George Ave (Top of the Hill – St. Nicholas Ave)



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal Section 5:

### W 190 St (Amsterdam Ave – Wadsworth Ave)



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal Summary: Benefits of a Protected Bike Lane with Islands

Traffic calming and speed reduction

Shorter pedestrian crossings next to schools and senior center

Pedestrian-cyclist conflicts on sidewalk minimized

Dedicated protected space for cyclists

Pedestrian islands provide protection and visibility

Example: parking-protected bicycle lane on Willis Avenue in the Bronx

# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

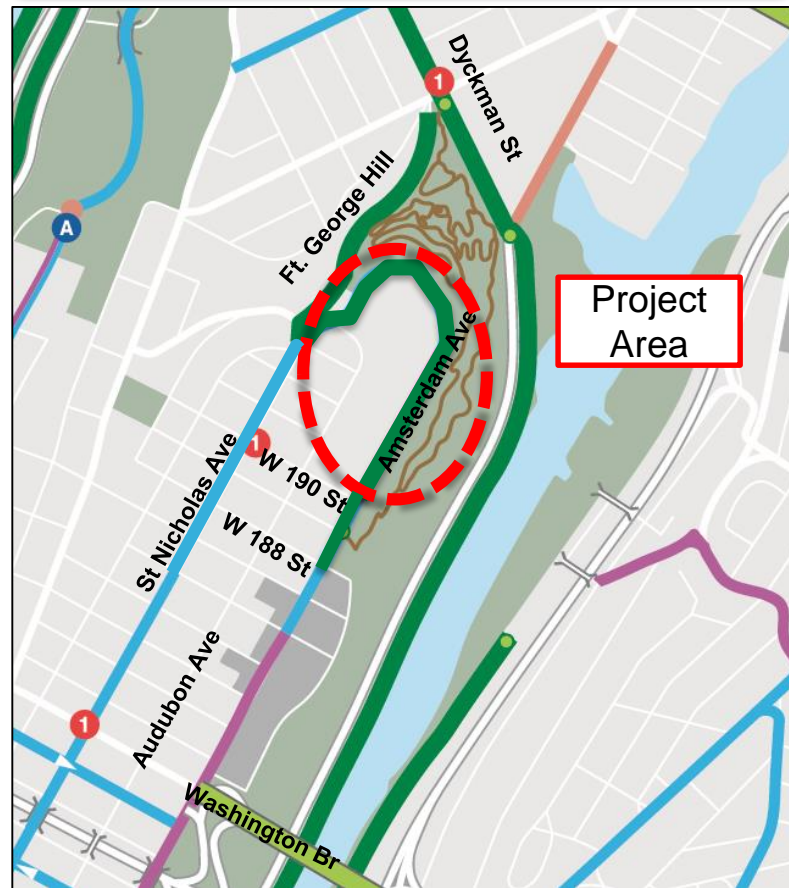
## Proposal – Bike Connections

Upgrade existing bike lanes and sharrows to protected lanes

Existing bike connections



Proposed bike connections



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Next Steps: Speed Cushion Feasibility Studies

Example: Vanderbilt Ave, Staten Island



- New speed reduction treatment designed for bus routes since standard speed humps cannot be installed on bus routes
- Limitations on placement

Example of a speed cushion





# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

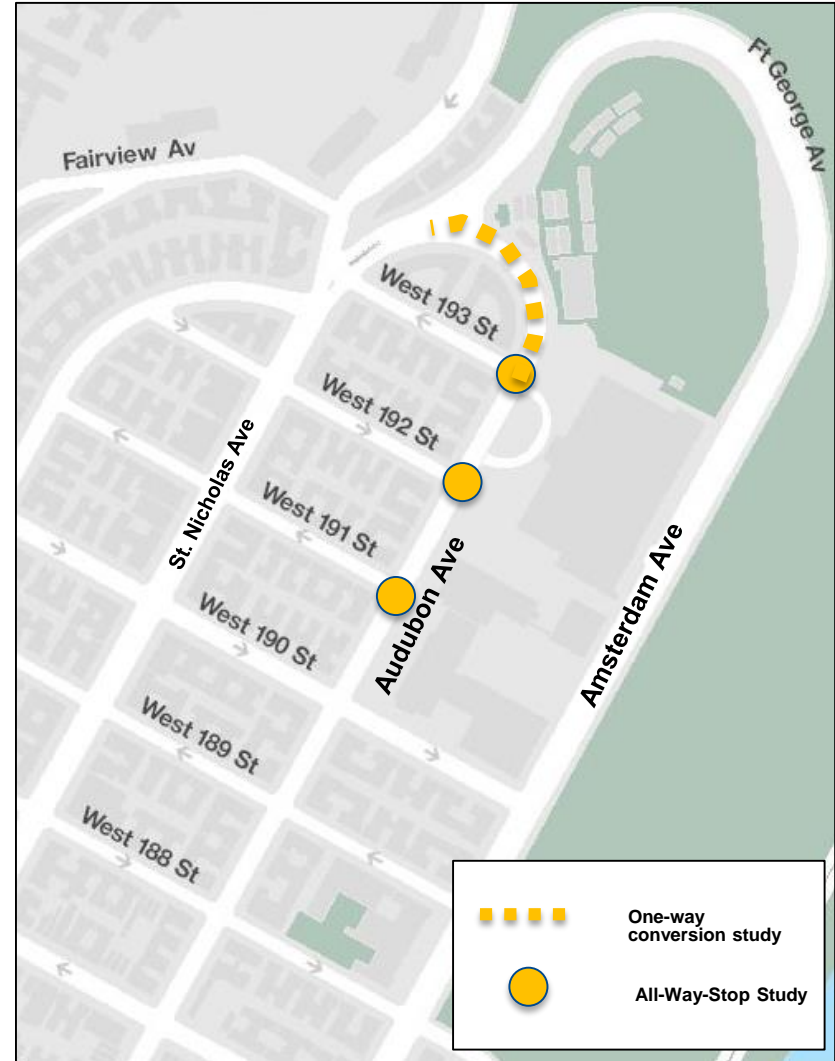
## Community Requests: Audubon Ave (W 190 St – W 193 St)

### Concerns:

- Congestion
- Double parking
- Active driveways and high volumes of students
- Absence of traffic controls

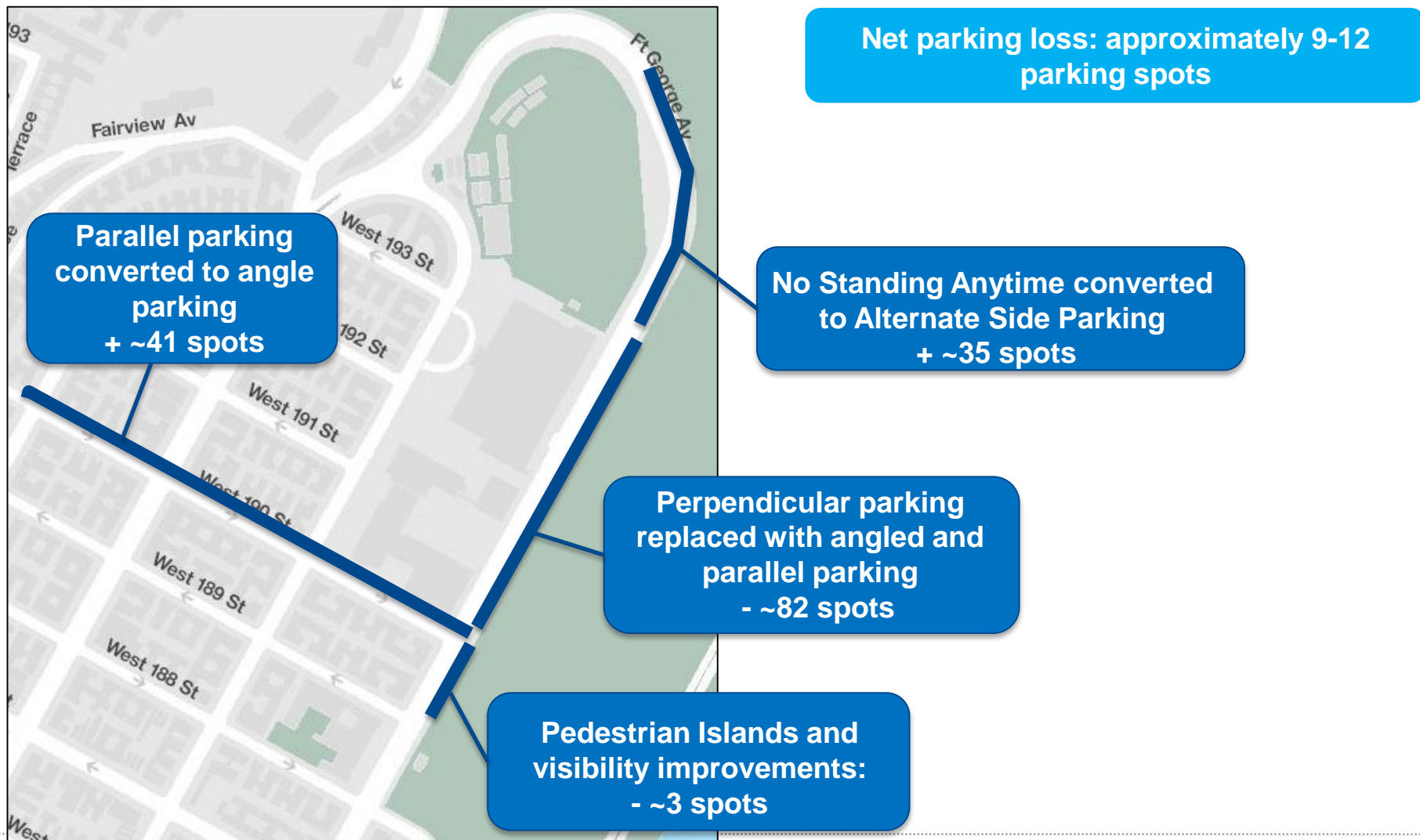
### Studies in progress:

- Studies for traffic controls on Audubon Ave at W 191, W 192 St and W 193 St
- Feasibility study for a one-way conversion of Audubon Ave (W 193 St – St Nicholas Ave)
- Changes to school loading



# Amsterdam Ave/Ft George Ave, W 188 St to St Nicholas Ave

## Proposal – Parking Considerations





Thank You!

Questions?

Contact: NYCDOT Manhattan Borough Commissioner's Office – (212) 839-6210



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