



Audubon Avenue Plaza Proposal

6/3/24 CB 12 Transportation Committee

Agenda

- DOT Public Realm Intro
- Project Background
- Project Proposal
- Community Outreach Strategy
- Timeline and Next Steps



Public Realm Feedback Loop



Community Partnership + Engagement



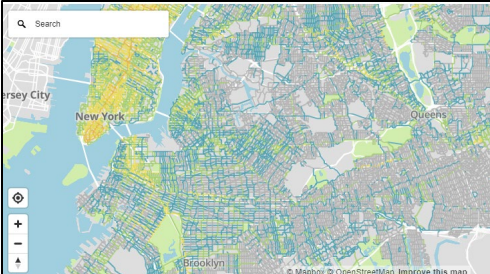
Open Streets



Crossings + Intersections



Dynamic Curb + Corridor Strategies



Comprehensive Planning + Policy



Equity Focused Maintenance

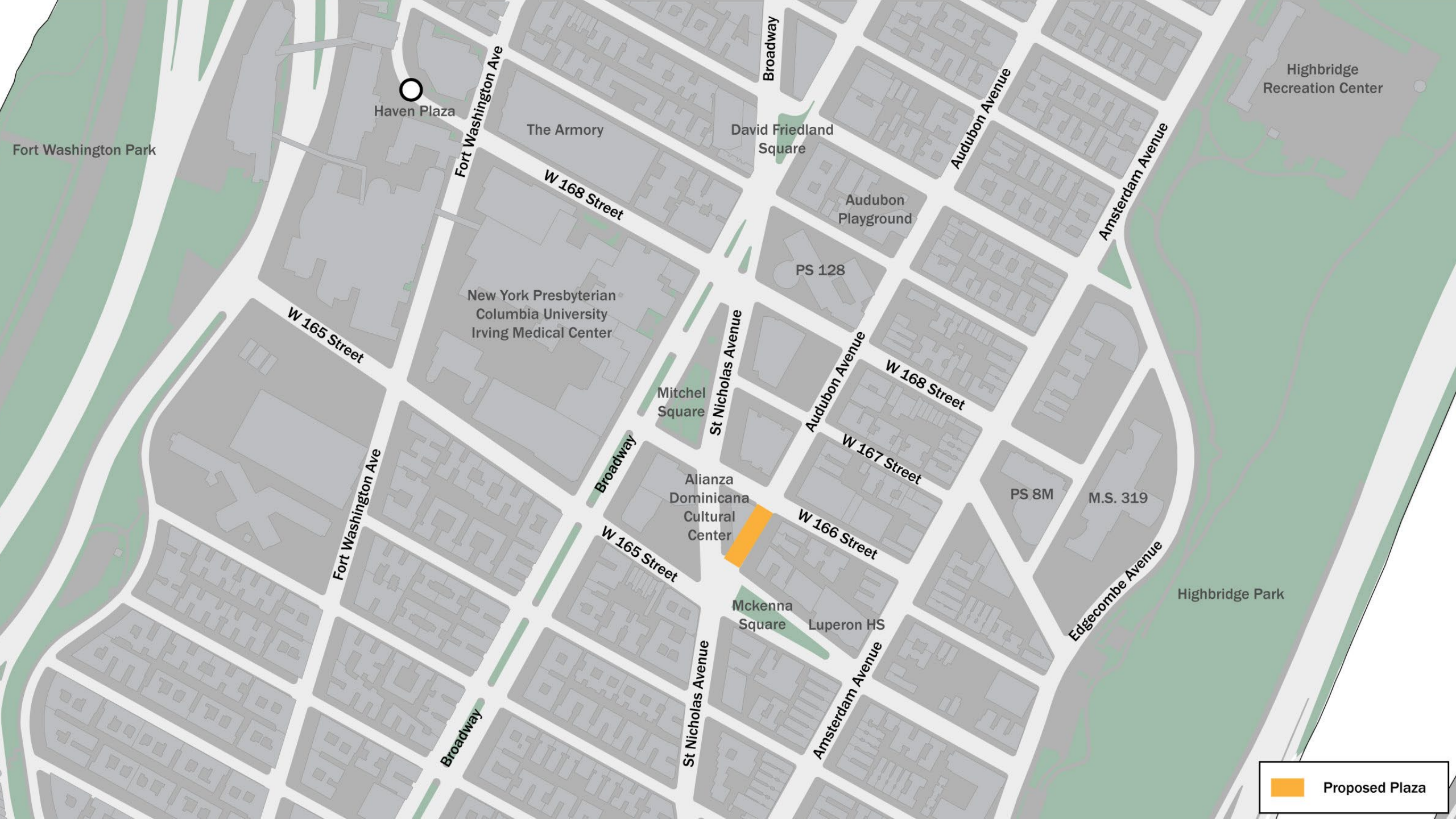


Programming + Concessions



Premier Public Spaces





Haven Plaza

Fort Washington Ave

The Armory

David Friedland Square

Broadway

Audubon Avenue

Amsterdam Avenue

Highbridge Recreation Center

Fort Washington Park

W 168 Street

Audubon Playground

PS 128

New York Presbyterian Columbia University Irving Medical Center

W 165 Street

Mitchel Square

St Nicholas Avenue

Audubon Avenue

W 168 Street

Fort Washington Ave

Broadway

Alianza Dominicana Cultural Center

W 167 Street

PS 8M

M.S. 319

W 166 Street

W 165 Street

Highbridge Park

Mckenna Square


Luperon HS

Edgcombe Avenue

St Nicholas Avenue

Amsterdam Avenue

Broadway

 Proposed Plaza

Project Background

- Audubon Avenue is a NYC DOT Streets Plan Priority Investment Area and a Public Space Priority Area
- CB 12 FY 25 District Needs Assessment includes calls for more access to open space to meet growing community demand
- Car-free Earth Day event on 4/20/24





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Project Proposal

- Working with Iconos Kids and local stakeholders, DOT is proposing to transform Audubon Avenue between W 165 St and W 166 St into a pedestrian plaza
- As a pilot, DOT will launch an Open Street on the block in summer 2024
- Following further outreach and development during the Open Street, DOT would then implement a pedestrian plaza in 2025
- Plazas are high quality public spaces in underutilized roadway, particularly in low to moderate income neighborhoods that lack open space. Plazas aim to enhance:
 - Local Economic Vitality
 - Pedestrian Mobility and Access to Public Transit
 - Safety For All Street Users

Open Streets Toolkit

Pedestrian and cyclist use



Programming and Activities

Business engagement

Plaza Toolkit

UMBRELLAS

MOVABLE
FURNITURE

PLANTERS

GRANITE
BLOCKS

FLEXIBLE
DELINEATORS





Prospect
Expwy
Only
↑

Beverly St

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A FAR ROCK







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Public Space Equity Program

- Provides operational and maintenance support including:
 - Set Up and breakdown
 - Sweeping and cleaning
 - Horticultural care
 - Workforce development
 - Community engagement
 - Programming
 - Grant writing and technical assistance



Public Space Programming

- Showcases a variety of enriching activities available to help activate public spaces across the city
- Connects public spaces, such as plazas and Open Streets, with local organizations to positively engage communities
- Activities are free and open to New Yorkers of all ages and abilities
- Promote the positive use of public space and alternative ways to use a street
- Visit nyc.gov/publicspaceprogramming for more information and Partner List





- Iconos Kids Inc. is a nonprofit organization founded in 2019. Our mission is to have a positive impact on the youth of our community through arts education. In the past five years, we have served over 1,500 children.
- Offers educational arts programs that are designed to help children find which facet of the arts they're talented in, especially children from lower-income families
- Iconos Kids has applied to the NYC DOT Plaza program and is looking forward to working with local stakeholders to create a new public space for the community



Community Outreach Strategies

- **Community Feedback**

- DOT hosted a project kick off meeting for local stakeholders on May 20th
- DOT will release a bilingual community feedback survey in June 2024
 - Questions related to open space, programming, and other community needs
 - Promoted via signage, social media, and in-person engagement sessions

- **Merchant Survey**

- Door to door merchant survey understanding business needs on Audubon Ave
- Questions about loading, deliveries, carting, customer trends, etc.

- **Other Targeted Stakeholders**

- DOT will meet with all local stakeholders to address and community concerns and to incorporate feedback/ideas during project development

Audubon Plaza Phasing & Development

OPEN STREET



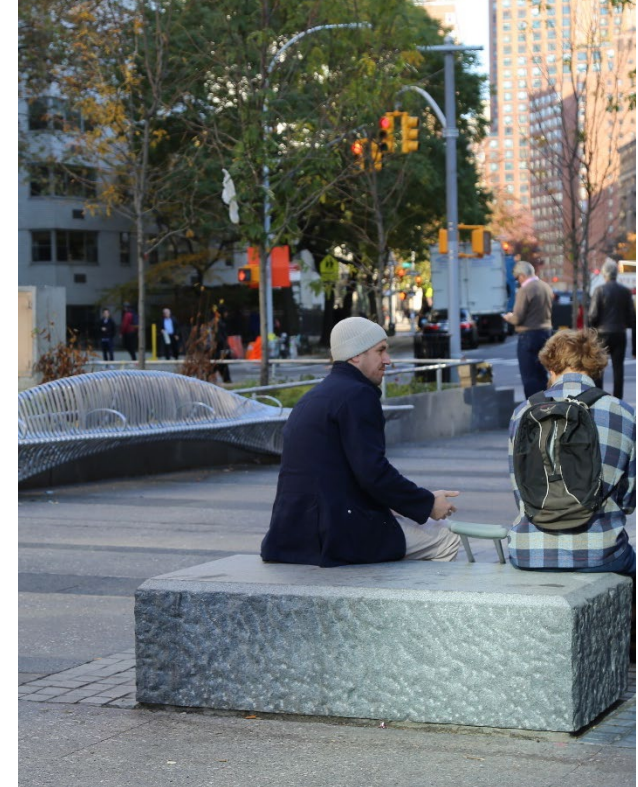
- Pilot a new public space
- Community outreach and plaza development
- Seasonal programming

INTERIM PLAZA



- New pedestrian plaza
- Pre-implementation traffic analysis and ongoing evaluation
- Year-round operations

PERMANENT PLAZA



- Ultimate capital phase could be realized w/ capital funding
- Permanent materials and upgrades to streetscape

Proposed MTA M2 Bus Re-Route



Deliveries, loading, and drop offs/pick ups



Timeline and Next Steps

- **June 2024**
 - Release community feedback survey
 - Door to door merchant survey
 - Implementation planning
- **July to Fall 2024**
 - Week of 7/8 – launch Open Street
 - Ongoing weekly programming and events
 - Open Street evaluation and outreach
 - Collect traffic count data
- **Winter 2024 – 2025**
 - Continued community outreach
 - 2024 report on outreach and Open Street
 - Plaza proposal development
 - Traffic count analysis
 - Present plaza proposal to CB 12
- **Summer 2025**
 - Potential plaza implementation
 - Ongoing evaluation and outreach



Thank You!

Questions? Email openstreets@dot.nyc.gov



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