Bay Parkway and Cropsey Avenue
Bus Priority and Safety Improvements

Brooklyn Community Board 12 Transportation Committee January 13th, 2025

BETTERBUSES

Table of Contents

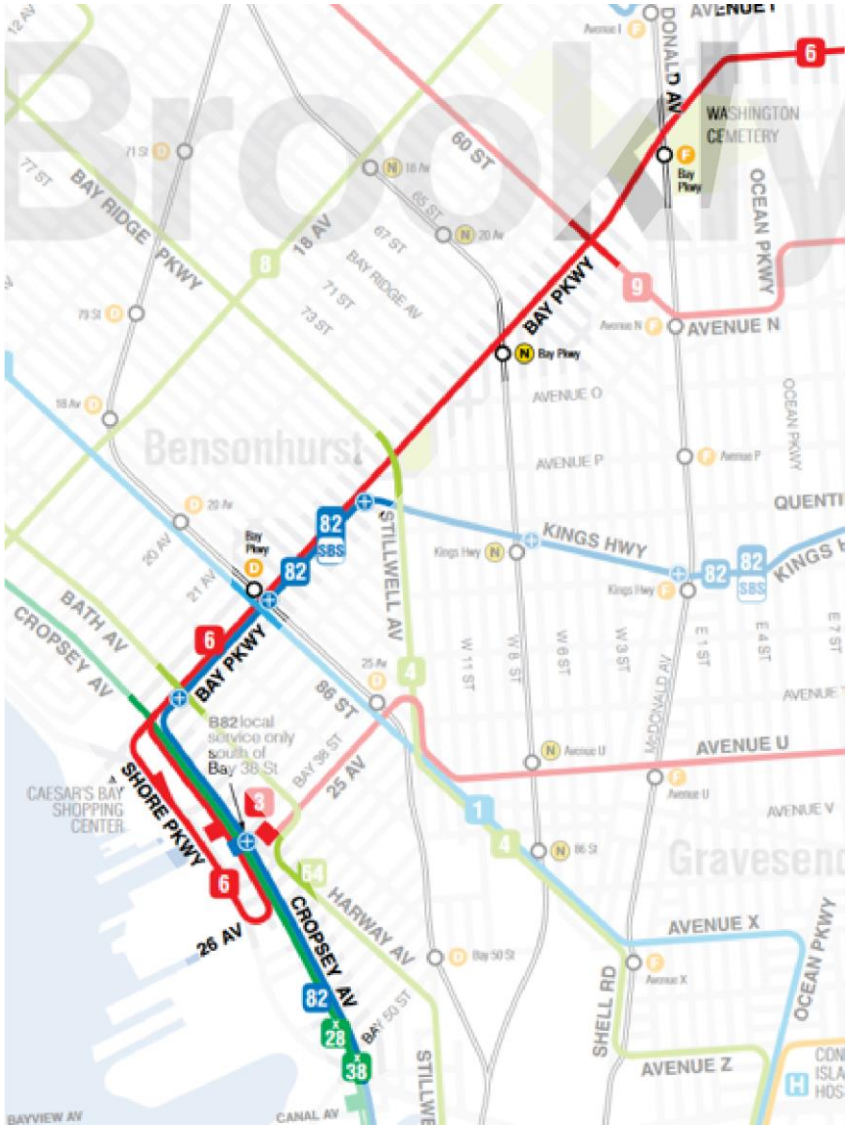
Background

1

Why Bay Parkway and Cropsey Avenue?

- Study areas:
  - Bay Parkway from Avenue J to Shore Parkway (2.4 miles)
  - Cropsey Avenue from Bay Parkway to 26th Avenue (0.6 miles)
- **35,000 daily bus riders**
  - B6 Local and Limited
  - B82 Local and Select Bus Service
  - X28/X38 Express bus
- Connections to F, N, and D trains
- Bus speeds as low as **3 miles per hour** on Bay Parkway
- Vision Zero Priority Corridor: **25 people** killed or seriously injured (2019-2023)

Brooklyn Bus Map around Study Area



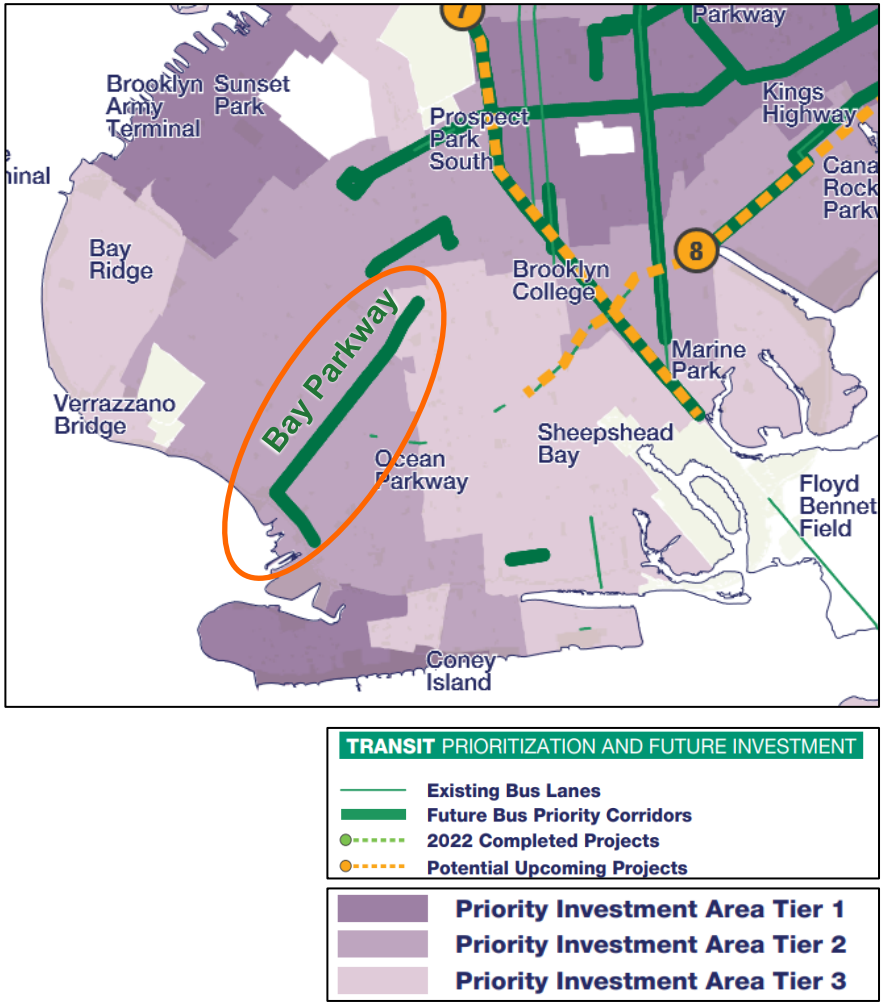
BETTERBUSES

NYC Streets Plan Update (2023)

Transit goals of the Streets Plan:

1. **Increase sustainable travel modes** by reconfiguring streets
2. **Expand access to job opportunities** through faster and more reliable transportation options
3. Allow all New Yorkers to get around in multiple ways **without encountering barriers to travel**

Bay Parkway was identified as a Bus Priority Corridor in the 2023 Streets Plan Update and is within Tier 2 Priority Investment Areas



Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign

MTA and NYC DOT coordinating to improve Brooklyn bus network, giving special consideration to improve bus service along bus priority corridors

Borough-wide outreach for the **Draft Plan** included 50 public events in early 2023:

- 18 virtual workshops
- 13 pop-ups
- 13 stakeholder briefings
- 5 outdoor open houses
- Bus Fest

Release of the **Proposed Final Plan** expected in 2025

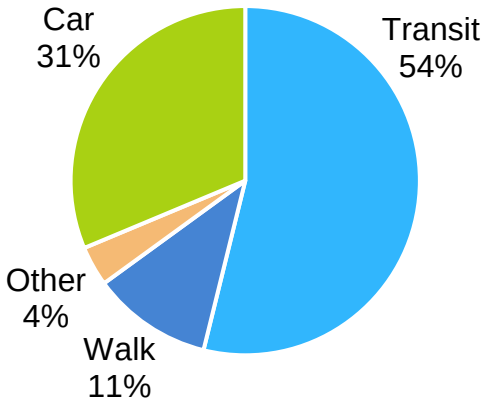
- Addresses concerns of riders and other stakeholders received in feedback

NYC DOT Brooklyn Bus Priority Corridors

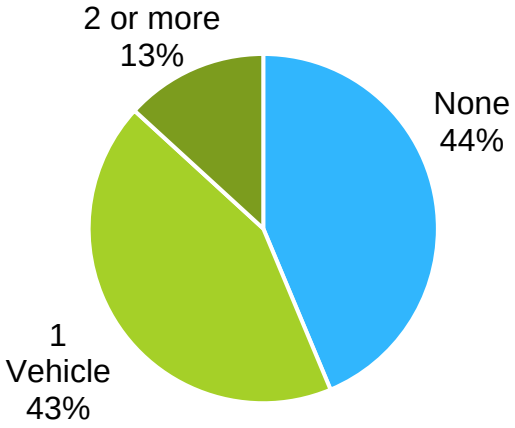
Demographics

- 111,000 residents in the census tracts around the corridor
- Over one-half of workers use public transportation to get to work
- Nearly half of households do not have a private vehicle
- 45-minute average travel time to work, above NYC average

Commute to Work



Vehicles in Household

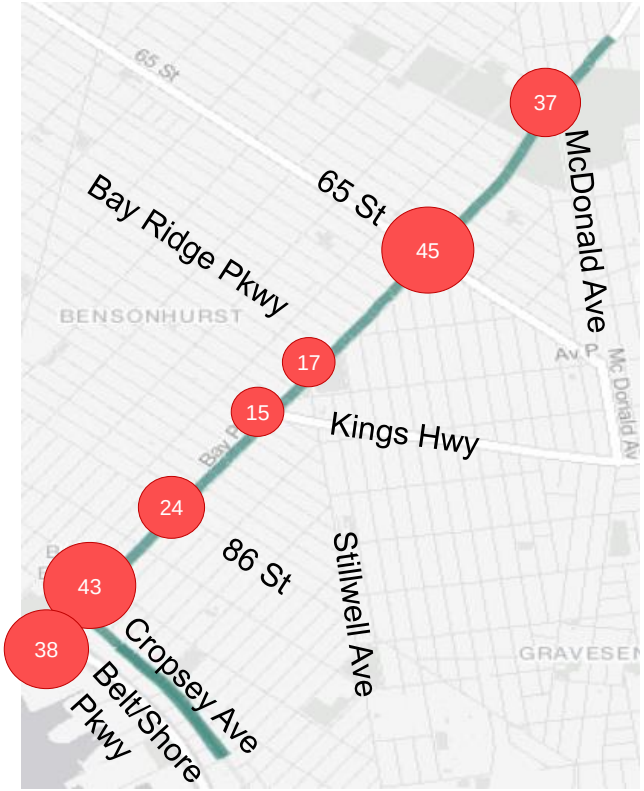


Data Source: US Census 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Safety on Bay Parkway

- Between 2019-2023, **509 people were injured** in crashes on Bay Parkway
- **21 people were severely injured, 4 were killed**
- Vision Zero priority corridor
- Two Vision Zero priority intersections
  - 86th Street
  - Belt Parkway on/off ramps (Shore Parkway)

Bay Parkway Injuries at Major Intersections

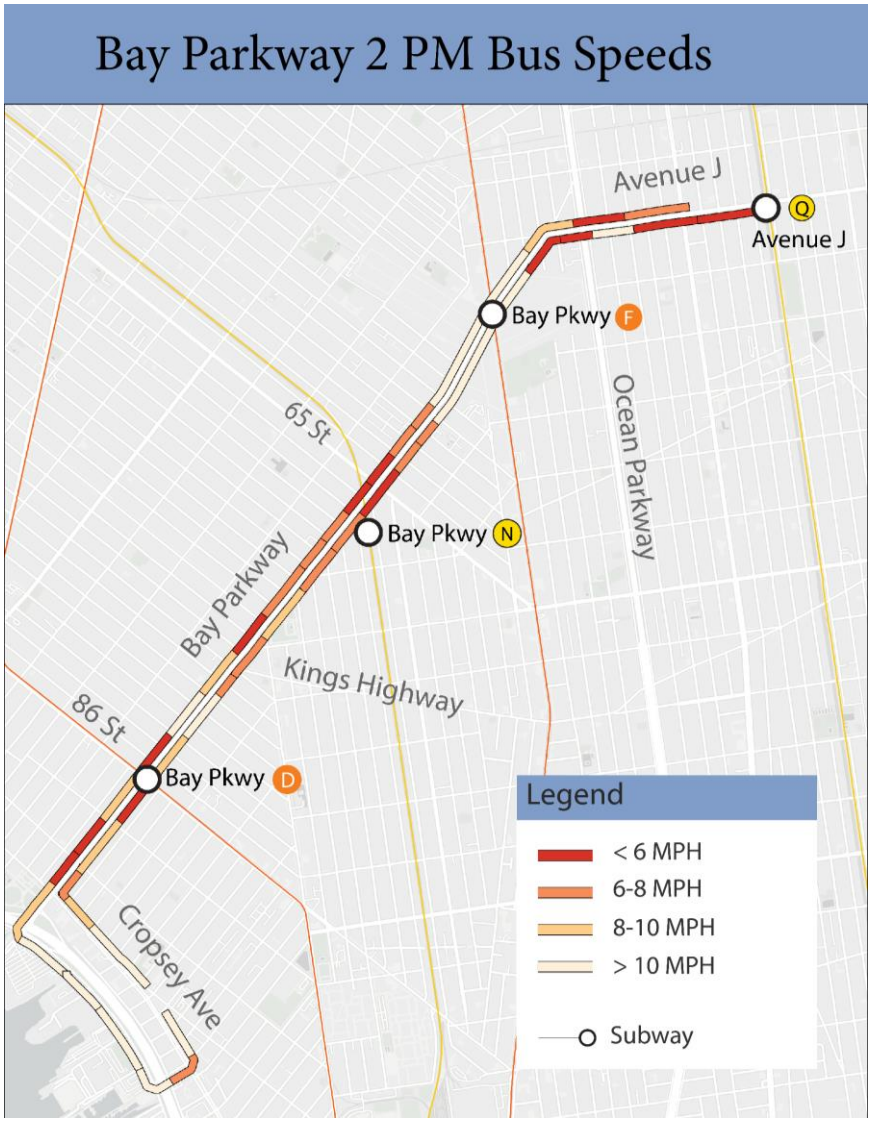


	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	116	7	4	11
Bicyclists	61	6	0	6
Motor Vehicle Occupant	319	7	0	7
Total	509	21	4	25

Note: KSI stands for Killed or Severely Injured.
Data Source: NYPD Crash Data.

Bay Parkway Bus Speeds

- Buses are **as slow as 5 mph** throughout the day, and **3 mph** during the busiest hours
- Bus speeds are slowest:
  - Approaching major intersections, such as Kings Highway and Ocean Parkway
  - Near subway stations at 86th Street and 65th Street
  - In the middle of the day
- Double parking is significant contributor to low speeds along the corridor.

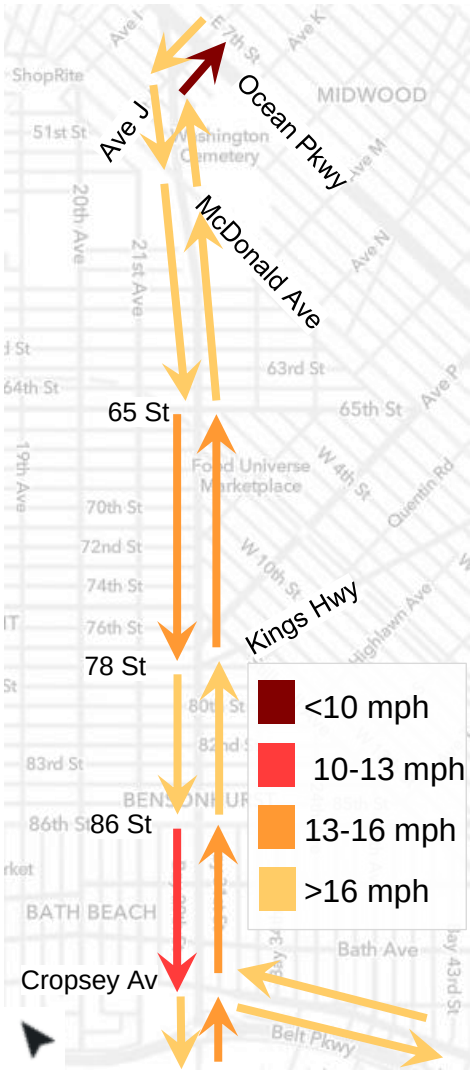


Vehicle Speeds and Volumes

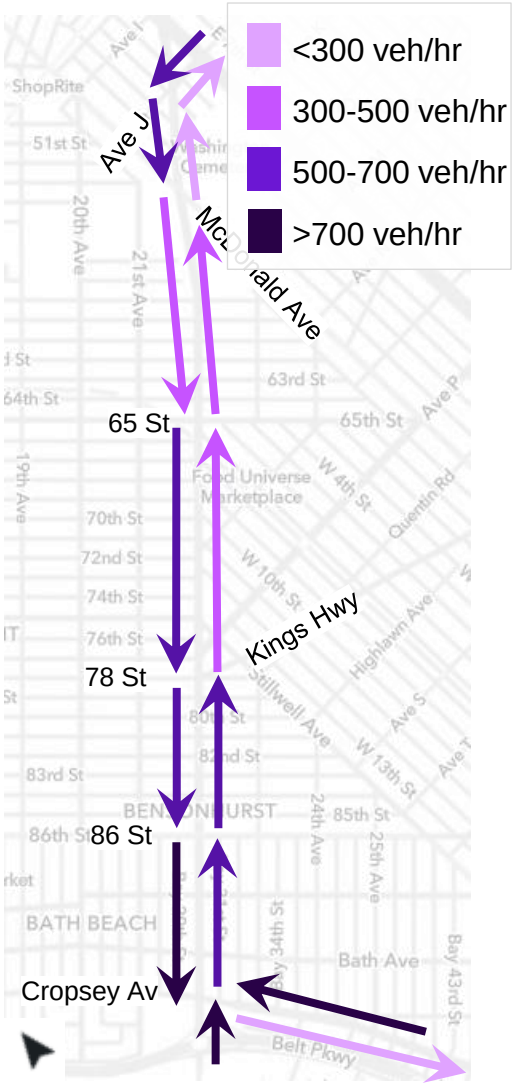
- Average traffic speed slows down to single digits approaching major intersections
- Faster speeds between major intersections
- Vehicle volumes suggest one lane may be sufficient along some of corridor

Data Sources: Speeds from StreetLight anonymized GPS data from January to May 2023. Volumes from traffic counts conducted December 2023 and January 2024.

Average Vehicle Speeds, Weekdays 2pm to 3pm



Average Vehicle Volumes, Weekdays 2pm to 3pm



Existing Conditions

2

Existing Conditions

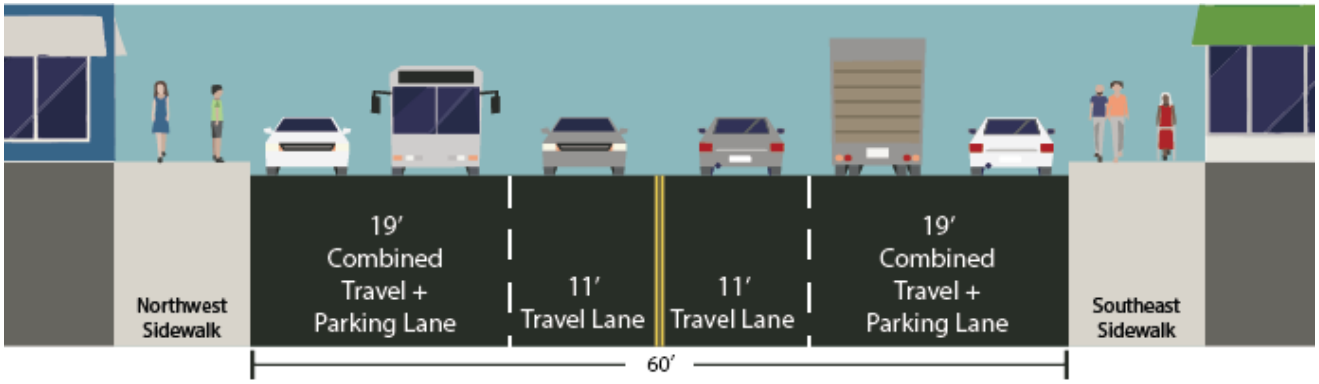
- Bay Parkway: Two travel lanes and curbside parking lane in each direction
  - 60 feet wide through most of corridor
  - No median or left-turn bays
- Cropsey Avenue: Two travel lanes and wide curbside parking lane in either direction, plus wide median
  - Most blocks are 86 feet wide, including 14 feet median
  - Concrete median island on some blocks
  - Median becomes left turn bay approaching intersection with Bay Parkway

Bay Parkway at 84th Street:
Two B6 buses bunched in front of one another

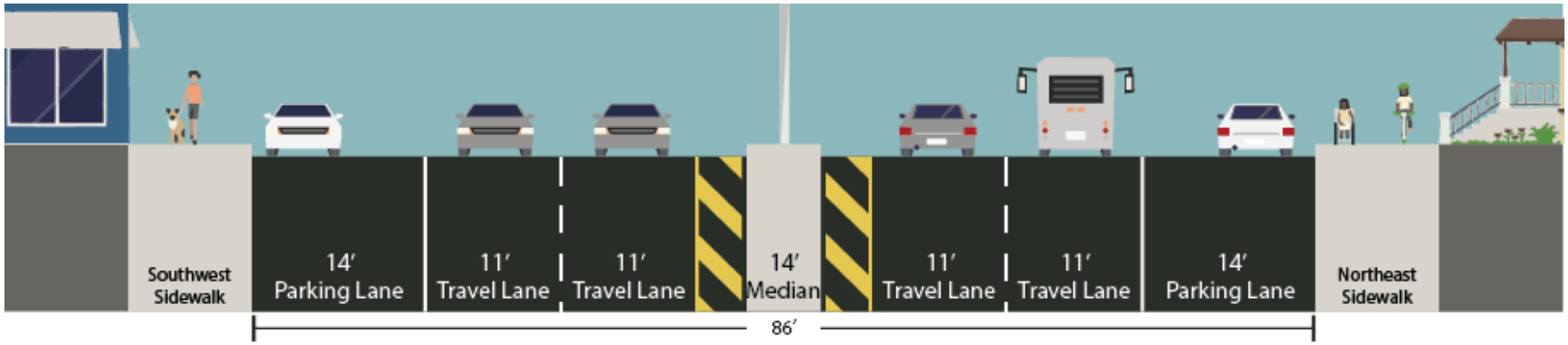
Cropsey Avenue at 26th Avenue:
School bus in front of truck and X28 express bus

Existing Street Design

Bay Parkway Typical Design



Cropsey Avenue Typical Design



Current Street Environment

- Double-parking and loading in bus stops or in travel lane
- Traffic congestion causes buses to bunch together
- Traffic build-ups at major intersections
- Busy pedestrian activity at major destinations and subway transfers

Heavy AM peak traffic on Avenue J
between Bay Parkway and Ocean Parkway

Bay Parkway and 86th Street in the midday:
buses driving around double-parked car amid congestion

Prior and Upcoming DOT Improvements on Bay Parkway and Cropsey Avenue

- 2018 Cropsey Avenue project from Bay Parkway to 26th Avenue
  - Widened median double-yellow lines, and new parking and travel lane lines
  - Painted and concrete pedestrian islands on median with flexible delineators
  - Bus boarding island for B6 and B82-SBS layover in front of I.S. 281
  - Curb regulation and signage changes
- Upcoming capital project at Bay Parkway & Cropsey Avenue intersection
  - Water main project led by Department of Environmental Protection
  - Incorporating bus stop and pedestrian improvements

Cropsey Avenue and 24th Street:
2018 Bus Island and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Bus Priority and Safety Toolkit

3

Bus Priority Toolkit

Woodhaven Boulevard, Queens

161st Street, The Bronx

Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island

Broadway, Queens

Bus Stops Toolkit

Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn

86th Street, Manhattan

Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island

Utica Avenue, Brooklyn

Pedestrian Safety Toolkit

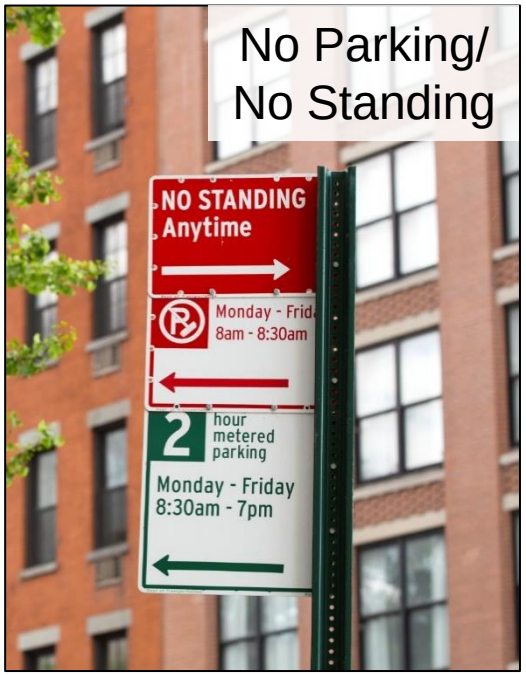
Fordham Road, The Bronx

Kings Highway, Brooklyn

149th Street, The Bronx

Southern Boulevard, The Bronx

Parking Toolkit



Next Steps

4

Next Steps

- **Fall 2024 & Winter 2025:**
  - Conduct initial outreach
  - Continue field observations
  - Conduct and refine traffic analysis
  - Draft initial proposal

- **Spring 2025:**
  - Finish traffic analysis
  - Continue outreach and site visits
  - Create final proposal

Bay Parkway and 86th Street

Open Discussion

How do Bay Parkway and Cropsey Avenue operate right now? What works & doesn't work?

Which DOT and MTA tools sound most useful? Less useful?

Who else should we reach out to? Any groups or specific individuals?

What would a successful project look like?

What tradeoffs are acceptable?

What role can DOT and MTA take to make these corridors work better?

Bay Parkway and McDonald Avenue

Thank You!

Questions?

NYCDOT

nyc_dot

nyc_dot

NYCDOT