B46 Select Bus Service
Community Board 4 Transportation Committee Meeting | March 11, 2015
1. Provide an update about the project to date

2. Present draft service plan for B46 SBS and B46 local

3. Discuss plans and identify key comments and issues
Select Bus Service in New York City

Select Bus Service (SBS) is New York City’s brand name for Bus Rapid Transit: an improved bus service that offers fast, frequent, and reliable service on high-ridership bus routes.

SBS has brought:

- 15-23% faster bus speeds
- About 10% increase in ridership
- More reliable service
- Customer satisfaction of 95%
- Safer streets / reduction in crashes

There are 7 Select Bus Service routes serving all 5 boroughs.
Select Bus Service Features

- Improved fare collection
- Bus lanes
- Transit signal priority
- Passenger information
- Improved station amenities
- Pedestrian safety improvements
Project Background

The Utica Avenue B46 corridor was identified as a potential candidate for Select Bus Service in the 2009 Bus Rapid Transit Phase II Study.

• Ranked by community as one of two corridors most in need of improvements

• Characterized by slow and crowded trips

• Second-busiest bus route in NYC, carrying nearly 50,000 passengers per day

• Crucial connection to \(3\ 4\ A\ C\) trains and 30 bus routes

• Bus lanes implemented in 2014 in portion of corridor, improving bus and vehicle travel times

Residents Mode to Work

- Transit: 61%
- Driving: 24%
- Walk / Bicycle: 10%
- Other: 5%

Source: 2008-2012 ACS 5-Year Estimates

¼ mile from Utica corridor
Safety Concerns

Corridor has among the highest rates of injury from motor vehicle crashes in Brooklyn.

- 18 fatalities and 250 severe injuries between 2009 and 2013
- 60% of vehicles travel above the speed limit (30 mph at time of observation)

High Crash Intersections (2009-2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Severe Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Pkwy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avenue U</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Av</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flushing St</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avenue H</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winthrop St</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Persons Killed or Severely Injured:
- 0 - 1
- 2 - 3
- 4 - 5
- 6 - 7
- 8 - 10
- 11 - 13
Utica Avenue Select Bus Service

B46 Limited to be upgraded to B46 SBS, which will include:

• Off-board fare collection
• Dedicated bus lanes (possible extension south of Church Avenue)
• Transit signal priority
• Service changes to improve reliability
• Capital improvements at SBS stations
  ▪ Real-time passenger information
  ▪ Bus bulbs (sidewalk extensions at bus stops)
  ▪ Pedestrian safety enhancements at complex intersections
  ▪ New shelters, plantings, benches, etc.
Utica Avenue Outreach

Outreach for the 2014 Bus Improvement Project (2013-2014)
• Meetings with Community Boards, local businesses, and elected officials

Outreach for Select Bus Service
• Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1 (September 2014)
• Public Workshop #1 (November 2014)
• Presentation to CB8 - Transportation Committee (November 2014)
• Community Advisory Committee Meeting #2 (February 2015)
• Presentation to CB3 – Transportation Committee (March 2015)
What We’ve Heard

Transit Concerns
• Crowding (especially during rush hour)
• Bus bunching / reliability
• Amount of service to Williamsburg
• Lack of real-time information

Traffic Concerns
• Double parking
• Congestion / slow bus trips
• Bus lane being blocked / lack of enforcement

Safety Concerns
• Pedestrian safety at complex intersections
• Dangerous driver behavior / speeding
• Lighting at night
Data Collection

Collected and analyzed a large amount of data in order to:

• Understand how the corridor works as a whole
• Guide discussion about specific areas
• Inform street design and service pattern decisions

Types of data collected:

• Bus speeds
• Bus delay
• Bus ridership per stop
• Traffic volumes
• Parking activity
• Crash data
Ridership

- High ridership at many existing B46 Limited stops, particularly those with subway/bus transfers
- Largest percentage of riders are traveling north to or south from 3 4 at Eastern Pkwy or A C at Fulton St
- Only 9% of riders travel between Broadway and the rest of the route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 5 Busiest Stops</th>
<th>Top 5 Least Busy Stops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Pkwy</td>
<td>Broadway &amp; Arion Pl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulton St</td>
<td>Broadway &amp; Boerum St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Ave</td>
<td>Broadway &amp; Willoughby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empire Blvd</td>
<td>Broadway &amp; Malcolm X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave H</td>
<td>Broadway &amp; Hooper St</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bus Speeds

On average, the B46 LTD runs at 7.5 mph during the AM peak and 6.5 mph during the PM peak

Causes of slow speeds are:

- Busy stops
- Delay due to double-parking, turning vehicles, etc.
- Congestion
- Red lights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Speeds (mph)</th>
<th>&lt;3</th>
<th>3-6</th>
<th>6-9</th>
<th>9-12</th>
<th>12-15</th>
<th>&gt;15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

B46 LTD average weekday 6-10 AM

B46 LTD average weekday 4-7 PM
Bus Delay
B46 LTD, 4-7 PM

- **In Motion**: 48%
- **Red Lights**: 24%
- **Bus Stops**: 20%
- **“Crawl” Speed (<2.5 mph)**: 8%

Source: IVN data, 10/28/14 – 11/20/14 T/W/Th
Current B46 Local and LTD Service Pattern

- B46 LTD generally travels between Kings Plaza and Williamsburg Bridge Plaza
- B46 LTD makes all local stops north of DeKalb Ave and south of Ave H
- B46 Local generally travels between Kings Plaza and DeKalb Ave
Proposed B46 Stations and Service Pattern

- Maintain high-ridership Limited stops and key transfers
- SBS will make Limited stops south of Avenue H, as it will elsewhere
- Extend local service to full corridor, 24 hours per day
- Northern terminal of SBS will be DeKalb Ave to increase reliability and better serve busiest portion of route
  - Only 9% of riders travel between Broadway and the rest of the route, yet Broadway section is 24% of route miles and has the slowest speeds
Proposed B46 SBS Stations

- DeKalb Av
- Gates Av
- Halsey St
- Fulton St
- Eastern Pkwy
- Empire Blvd
- Winthrop St
- Church Av
- Ave D
- Ave H
- Flatlands Av
- Ave N
- Ave U (Kings Plaza)
Next Steps

Spring 2015

- Finalize service plan for B46 SBS and B46 local
- Develop conceptual street design changes south of Church Avenue and north of St John’s Place (if any)
- Present to other Community Boards along corridor
- Public Open House

  Thursday, March 19\textsuperscript{th} at 6:00pm
  Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center Ballroom
  585 Schenectady Ave (b/w Rutland Rd & Winthrop St)
  Brooklyn, NY

Summer 2015

- Develop corridor plan
- Develop implementation plan
Questions?