PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1. Project Background
2. Public Outreach
3. Parking & Loading Analysis
4. Proposal & Next Steps
Project Background
BUS SPEEDS

• Mayor’s 2019 State of the City
  • Improve bus speeds 25% by 2020

• Better Buses Action Plan released April 2019
  • 24 priority projects announced for 2019 to increase bus speeds across all 5 boroughs
Fresh Pond Rd (Metropolitan Ave to Putnam Ave) identified as 2019 priority project due to:

- Slow bus speeds: **3.0 mph** during PM peak, compared to 6.4 mph peak Queens average
- High route ridership (30,000 daily) & high volume of buses
IMPACTED ROUTES

Q58: Ridgewood, Maspeth, Elmhurst, Corona & Flushing Queens’ Busiest Bus Route

QM24/25/34: Middle Village, Ridgewood & Glendale Express to Midtown/Downtown via LIE

Fresh Pond Rd: Q58, QM24/25/34 + other routes returning to depot
CORRIDOR OVERVIEW

• Metropolitan Ave to Putnam Ave (½ mi.)
• Continuous southbound traffic backup in afternoon & evening
BUS SPEEDS

Metropolitan Ave to Putnam Ave (southbound)

Buses are slowest 1-7 pm
BUS RIDERSHIP

Metropolitan Ave to Putnam Ave (southbound)

PM ridership is highest 2-8 pm
Public Outreach
MERCHAND SURVEY

- DOT visited every business between Metropolitan Ave and Putnam Ave, gave 65 surveys
- 61% of businesses say their average delivery takes under 15 minutes
- 66% want more delivery zones
- 35% see some of their delivery vehicles park on side streets
In April 2019, DOT conducted a survey of double-parked and illegally parked vehicles:

- **74%** personal vehicles
- **67%** planned to stay for 5 minutes or less
- **78%** support shorter-term parking zones
“Which modes of transportation do you use to get to Fresh Pond Rd?” (select all that apply)

45 responses across 3 survey days in April 2019 (Wed, Fri, Sun)

- **Personal Car**: 22%
- **Dropped Off**: 2%
- **Walk**: 71%
- **Bike**: 16%
- **Bus**: 40%
- **Subway**: 42%
- **Access-a-Ride**: 2%
- **Taxi/FHV**: 7%
- **Other**: 0%
Parking & Loading Analysis
WOODBINE ST TO MADISON ST

- 2-hour metered parking Mon-Sat 8a-7p; no loading zones
- Median stay 18 minutes
- 6 vehicles double parked; median stay 3 minutes
MENAHAN ST TO GROVE ST

- Southbound curb (right side): Alternate Side Parking
  - Average stay 3 hours, 41 minutes
  - Used for long-term storage; only 2 spaces turn over per hour between 7am-8pm
Proposal & Next Steps
PROPOSAL: SOUTHBOUND

• Curbside bus lane, Bleecker St to Putnam Ave *(southbound only)*
  • Active during PM peak hours only; parking/loading other times
  • Allows buses to bypass traffic congestion
  • Provides dedicated SB vehicular lane for local residents to access commercial core & residential neighborhood
  • Improves traffic flow for all vehicles

Example of curbside bus lane

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Sidewalk</td>
<td>12’ Bus Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22’ Combined Travel / Parking Lane</td>
<td>11’ Travel Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22’ Combined Travel / Parking Lane</td>
<td>44”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROPOSAL: SOUTHBOUND

- Existing, single-direction curbside bus lanes:
  - Fulton St, Lafayette Ave to Grand Ave (14 blocks):
    - Buses 22-31% faster during peak
  - Utica Ave, Bergen St to Atlantic Ave (3 blocks):
    - Buses 17-26% faster during peak
PROPOSAL: BOTH DIRECTIONS & SPURS

• Curb regulations to increase available parking and reduce congestion

• Block-by-block plans currently being developed, incorporating preliminary feedback from elected officials and stakeholders

• Considerations include:
  1. New part-time loading zones on some blocks
  2. Additional metered spaces on spurs
  3. Convert 2-hour meters to 1 hour on Fresh Pond Rd
  4. Studying signal timing on Fresh Pond Rd
  5. Bus stop consolidation
PROPOSAL: PARKING CHANGES

• Bus lane would repurpose 70 spaces during PM peak
  • 55 metered, 15 ASP
• Mitigated by 66 new metered spaces on spurs
  • 2-hour metered Mon-Sat 9a-7p
  • ASP other times
• Also considering new loading zones at key locations
PROPOSAL: PARKING CHANGES

• Bus lane would repurpose 70 spaces during PM peak
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  • ASP other times
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Conceptual Draft Plan – Still Under Development
NEXT STEPS

• May/June – Continue developing proposal
  • Incorporating community feedback to determine hours for bus lane & curb regulation changes

• May/June – Continue outreach to community stakeholders
  • June 6th – Ridgewood Property Owners & Civic Assn.
  • June 30th – Farmers Oval Civic Assn.

• June 12th – CB 5 Full Board

• Summer – Implementation
THANK YOU!

Questions?
Appendix
COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARKING/LOADING DEMAND BY HOUR

Number of Commercial Vehicles Parking/Loading by Hour
Fresh Pond Rd Southbound, Sample Blocks Only
(Woodbine St to Grove St, Menahan St to Grove St)
EXISTING STOP SPACING
STOP SPACING: POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVES
BUS RIDERSHIP BY ROUTE
Metropolitan Ave to Putnam Ave (southbound)

PM ridership is highest 2-8 pm