

New York City Department of Transportation

Broadway: Union Square

Proposed Safety Improvements



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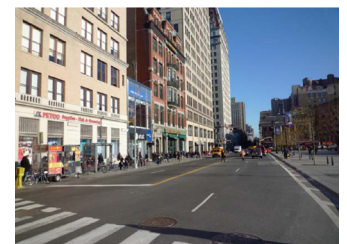
Union Square, one of New York City's most important and historic intersections and public places, is in need of safety and quality-of-life improvements. DOT has proposed to extend improvements made in 2008 and 2009 to Broadway between Columbus Circle and Madison Square Park, bringing safety changes, traffic simplification, plazas, green spaces and bike lanes south to Union Square. The area is ripe for improvements: Between 2004 and 2008, there were 95 pedestrian injuries along the entire corridor (Broadway, Union Square West and Union Square East) between 23rd Street and 14th Street.

Safety and mobility are the main goals in the proposed new design. The design increases safety by shortening crossing distances and providing protected bike lanes. Additionally, the needs of local businesses and the Union Square Greenmarket—the four-day-a-week farmers market—were incorporated in the new design. The project will knit the park into the community to better support a vibrant neighborhood and major NYC destination. Specific changes include:

- East 17th Street between Union Square West and Union Square East will be made one-way westbound.
- Cross-town travel and pedestrian safety will be improved through simplified signal timing on East 17th Street and Broadway.
- Union Square West between East 17th and East 16th Streets and between East 15th and East 14th Streets may be pedestrianized.
- New plaza spaces will be created in the reclaimed roadbed on Broadway and on East 17th Street.
- Local vehicle access will be retained along Broadway and all major streets to allow deliveries.

IMPROVEMENTS

- Enhances safety by improving intersections and shortening crossing distances.
- Provides new green public spaces in high activity area.
- Improves cross-town travel and pedestrian safety by simplifying signal timing.
- Expands Broadway's bicycle route.

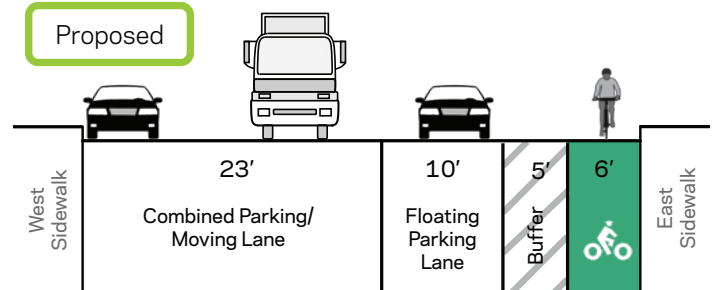
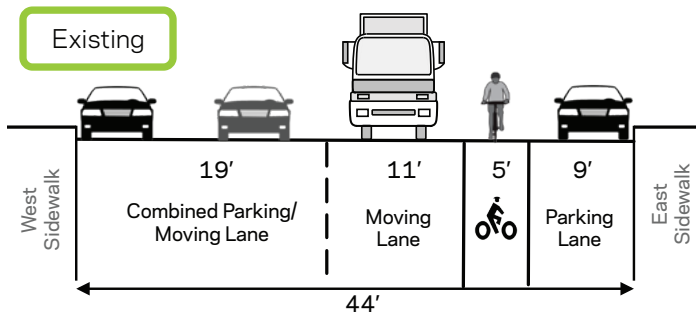


East 17th Street:
Existing Conditions



Temporary plaza example

Broadway: Madison Square to Union Square



Example of pedestrian refuge island to be installed as safety improvement

A need for Safety Improvements

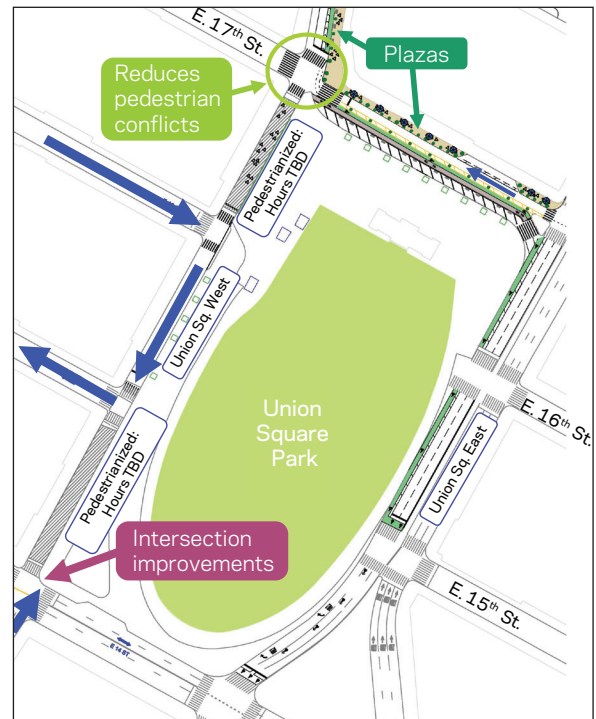
Total Injuries 2004-2008

	Total Injuries	Avg. Injuries per Year	Avg. Injuries per Mile per Year
Pedestrian	95	19	33.1
Bicyclist	47	9.4	16.4
Motor Vehicle Occupant	190	38	66.2
Total	332	66.4	115.6

Project implementation planned for Summer 2010



Improvements and traffic flow



Union Square Plans