Newtown Avenue

Safety options to enhance the intersection of Newtown Ave/30th Ave

Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan  New York City Department of Transportation
Presented September 11, 2012
The question for tonight:

How can we improve safety at Newtown Ave/30th Ave?

1) Close part of the street to make a pedestrian plaza
2) Keep the street open to cars but make a safer crossing
30th Ave

Well-served transportation corridor with 13,774 subway riders on an avg. weekday
Active & Busy Retail Corridor
30th Ave shopping & food
Active & Busy Retail Corridor
30th Ave shopping & food
Active & Busy Retail Corridor
30th Ave shopping & food
Heavy Foot Traffic
Very busy pedestrian corridor both day and night
LACK OF OPEN SPACE

Astoria
SAFETY:
What's the problem with this intersection?

No Signal
90' Long Crosswalk

89% percentile of Intersections crashes in Queens for 2006-2010
Newtown Ave: School Safety Proposal
Concrete Curb Extensions, an approximate cost of $400,000
Traffic Calming & Safety
Curb extensions designed for normal vehicle turns, including typical trucks
No Loss of Parking
Curb extensions would retain existing parking
Pedestrian Circulation
Curb extensions facilitate pedestrian movements
Newtown Ave
Public Plaza Proposal, an approximate cost of $75,000
Newtown Ave
Public Plaza Proposal, approximate area of plaza space
Newtown Ave
Two-way conversion to maintain driveway access
Emergency Access
Maintain emergency access to hydrants through the plaza
Parking Impacts
Net loss of 7 parking spaces, but we can add 3 other parking spaces nearby
Parking Impacts
Total net loss of 4 parking spaces
Pedestrian and Vehicle Conflicts

At peak hour there are 3 times as many pedestrians on Newtown Ave.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STREET CLOSURE</th>
<th>PEAK # OF VEHICLES / HOUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willoughby St, BK</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78th Street, QN</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putnam Ave, BK</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pershing Sq, MN</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newtown Ave, QN</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson St, MN</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Elliott Pl, BK</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Traffic Network Impacts
Low volumes compared to other plaza project street closures
Newtown Ave: What happens if we close the street?
Newtown Ave: Where do drivers currently go?
1) Continue on Newtown Avenue, 2) Turn at 31\textsuperscript{st} Street
Alternate Routes Vary
31st Street, 32nd Street, 33rd Street – It depends on where you’re going
Newtown GPS Car Runs

Collected: Saturday, June 2, 2012

Saturday, August 25, 2012 (One-Day Plaza)
Best Alternate Route Heading Toward Star
33rd Street is faster than Newtown Ave
Best Alternate Route Heading Toward Star
Newtown Ave is fastest.
One-Day Plaza
Saturday, August 25, 2012: 7AM-MIDNIGHT
One-Day Plaza
Saturday, August 25, 2012: 7AM-MIDNIGHT
One-Day Plaza
Saturday, August 25, 2012: 7AM-MIDNIGHT
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One-Day Plaza
Saturday, August 25, 2012: 7AM-MIDNIGHT
One-Day Plaza
Saturday, August 25, 2012: MIDNIGHT
Newtown Avenue Plaza Survey – Here for a day, have your say

What is your Zip code? 1102

How did you get here?
✓ Walk
☐ Bike
☐ Bus
☐ Train
☐ Car

What do you like most about this plaza?
☐ Location
✓ Amenities – seating, planters, umbrellas
☐ Open space/Ambiance
☐ Sociability/ People watching
☐ Other: __________________________

What could be improved at this space?
✓ Seating
☐ Umbrellas/shade
☐ Games
☐ Trees/plants
☐ Lighting
☐ Cleanliness
☐ Other: __________________________

Would you like to see a permanent plaza here?
✓ Yes  ☐ No  Please explain:

How would a permanent plaza here affect your shopping habits?

Yes - Family can wait in Plaza while mom shops
Do shopping more around plaza

How would a permanent plaza here affect your shopping habits?

Other comments:

Rank your neighborhood priorities
(1 = Most important, 8 = Least important)

Public Seating - 1
Cleanliness - 4
Safety - 2
Noise - 3
Parking - 5
Neighborhood public space - 6
Outdoor events - 7
Other: ________________________________

Gender  Male  Female  

Age  Under 18  19 to 40  41 to 60  Over 61

Thank you for participating!
Fowler Square
Fort Greene, Brooklyn
Flatiron Plaza
Madison Square, Manhattan
Corona Plaza
Corona, Queens
Putnam Triangle Plaza
Clinton Hill, Brooklyn
The Central Astoria Local Development Coalition founded in 1979 is a nonprofit community organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the neighborhood of Astoria as a vibrant, affordable, harmonious and desirable community in which to live, work, and do business.

A Plaza Partner based in the Community
Central Astoria Local Development Coalition
Plaza Maintenance
Central Astoria would be responsible for plaza maintenance.
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