

# Third Avenue Bus Lane Improvements



May 5, 2014  
Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner

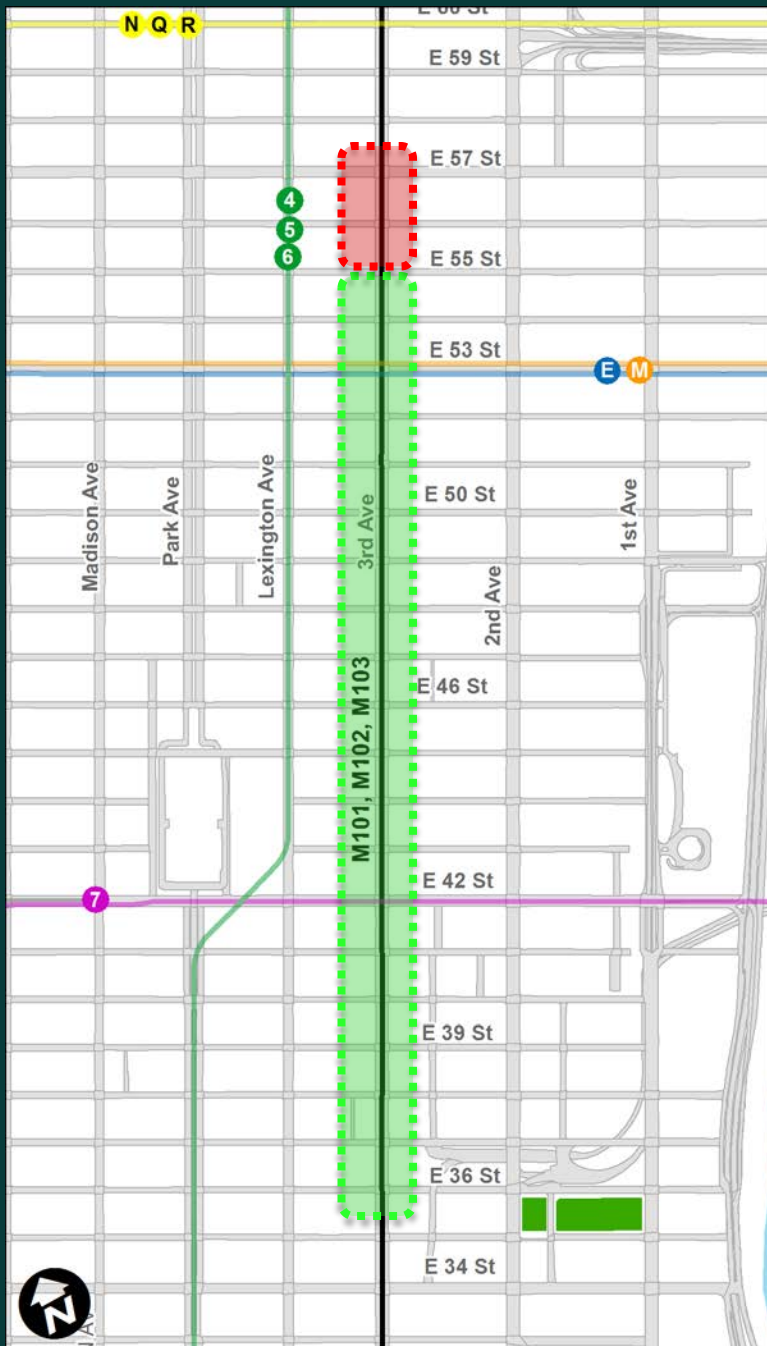
Presentation to Manhattan Community Board 6  
Transportation Committee



# Background

- Curbside bus lane implemented in 1982 from 36<sup>th</sup> St to 56<sup>th</sup> St
- In effect 7am-7pm
- 59,000 daily riders on M101, M102, M103
- 12 express routes





**Section 1:**  
**36<sup>th</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Section 2:**  
**55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street**

# Section 1

## 36<sup>th</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street

### Issues

- No loading space on east side of Third Avenue
- Trucks frequently block bus lane
- Buses cannot effectively use bus lane
- Street much wider than needed for traffic volume



*Third Avenue at East 37<sup>th</sup> Street*



# 36<sup>th</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street

## Proposal

- Move bus lane to “offset” design
- Add parking and loading space to curb

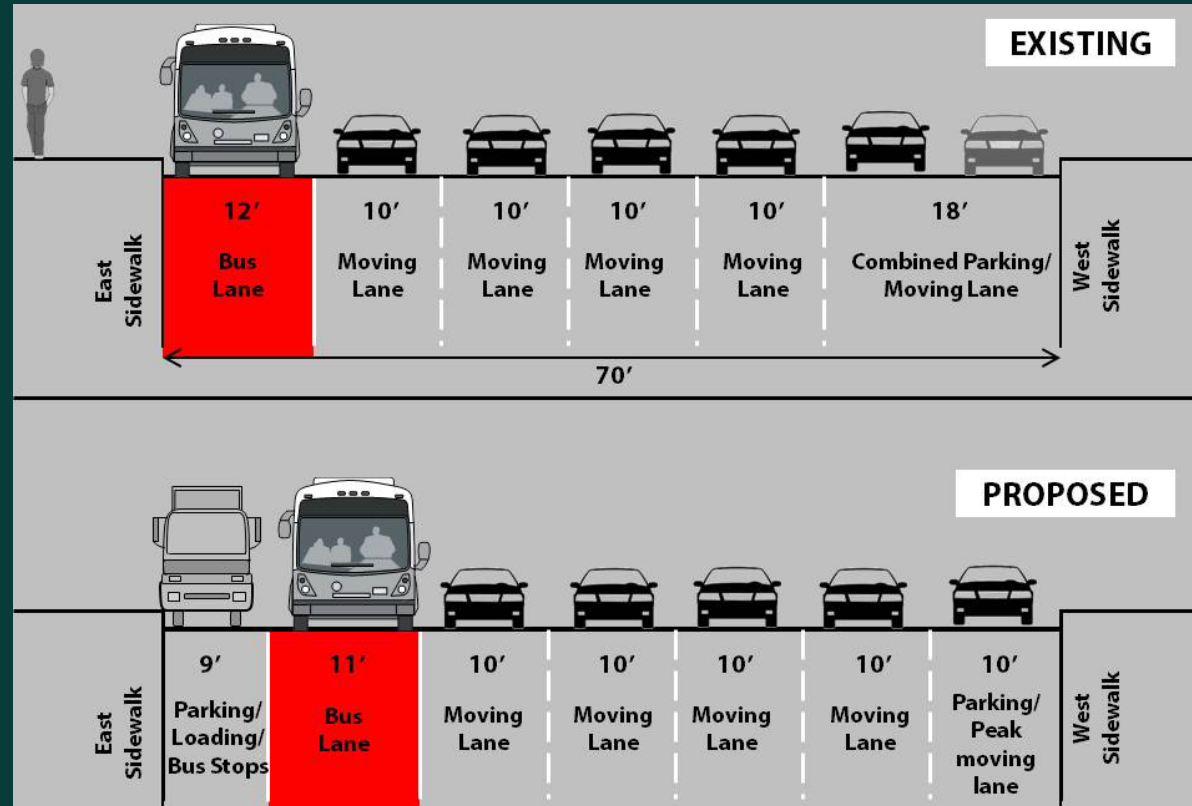


*Offset bus lane example: First Avenue, Manhattan*

# 36<sup>th</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street

## Benefits

- Improved bus operations
- Added commercial vehicle loading/parking
- Updated curb regulations



# Vision Zero



- New York City's commitment to improve street safety in every neighborhood and in every borough
- NYCDOT Action: develop street designs and configurations that improve safety

# ***Section 2***

## **55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street**

### **Issues**

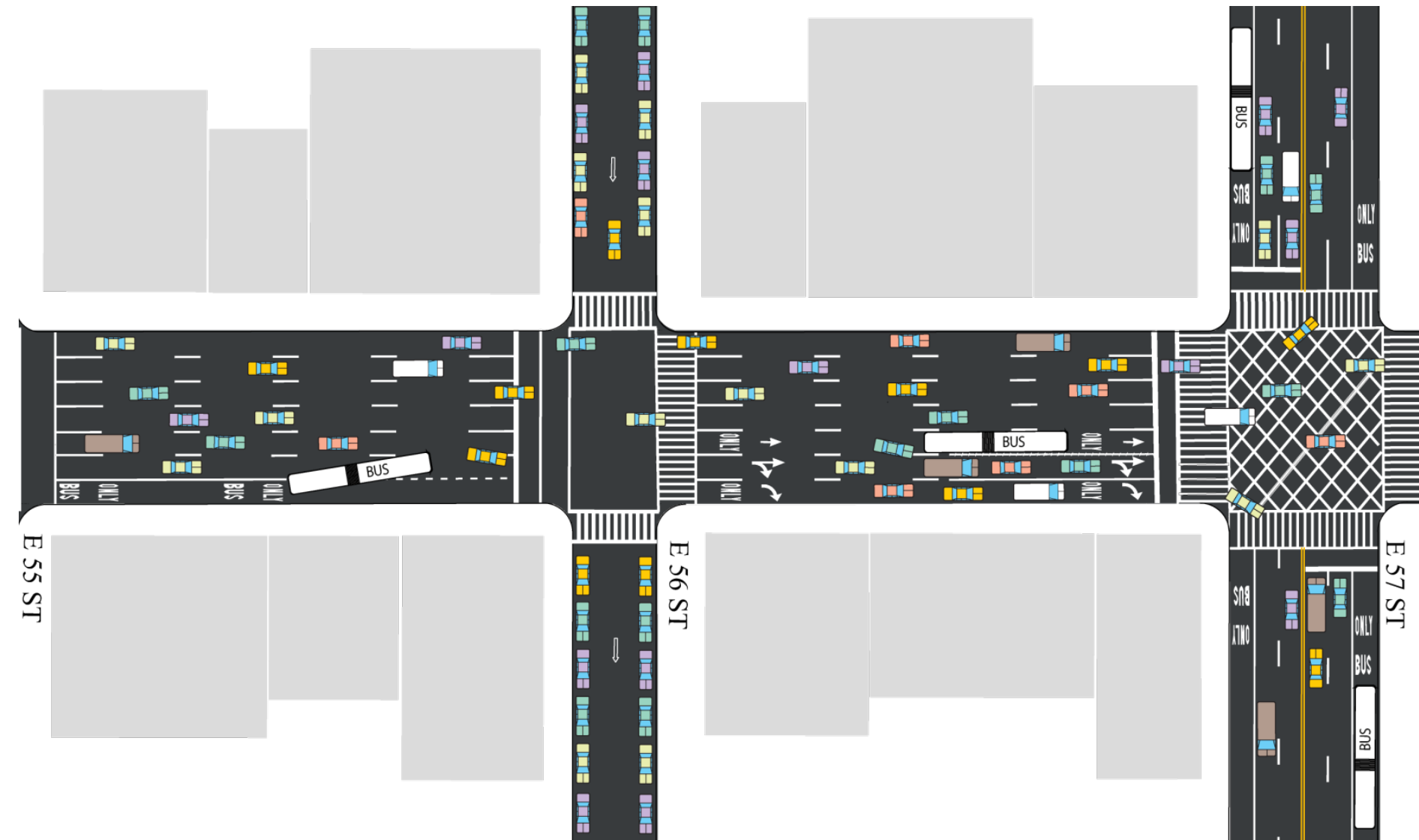
- No bus stops between 55<sup>th</sup> Street and 61<sup>st</sup> Street
- 57<sup>th</sup> Street is a major destination
- High-crash intersection
  - 39 non-fatal pedestrian injuries (2008-2012)
  - 1 pedestrian fatality (2008-2012)





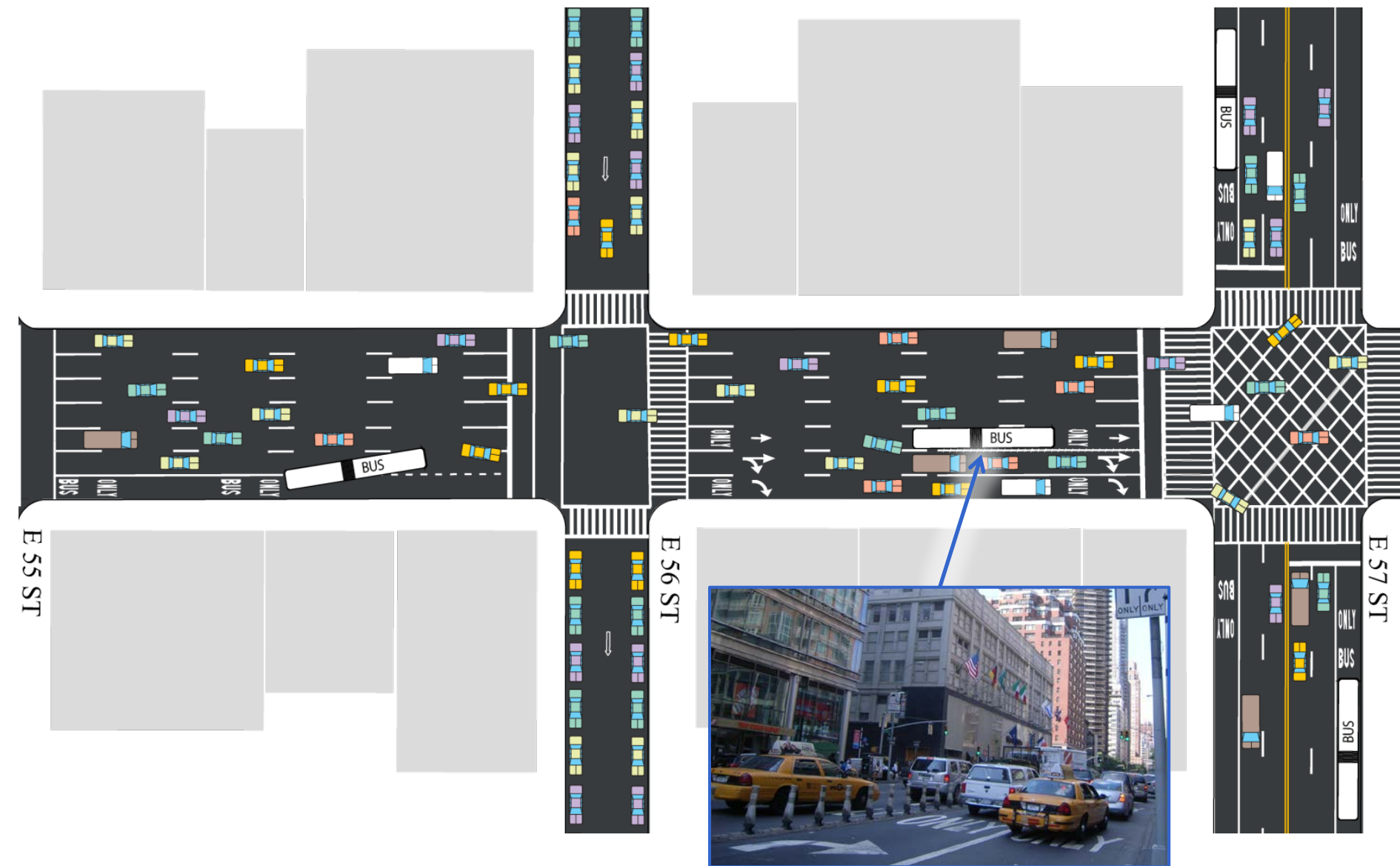
# Third Avenue: 55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street

## Existing Design

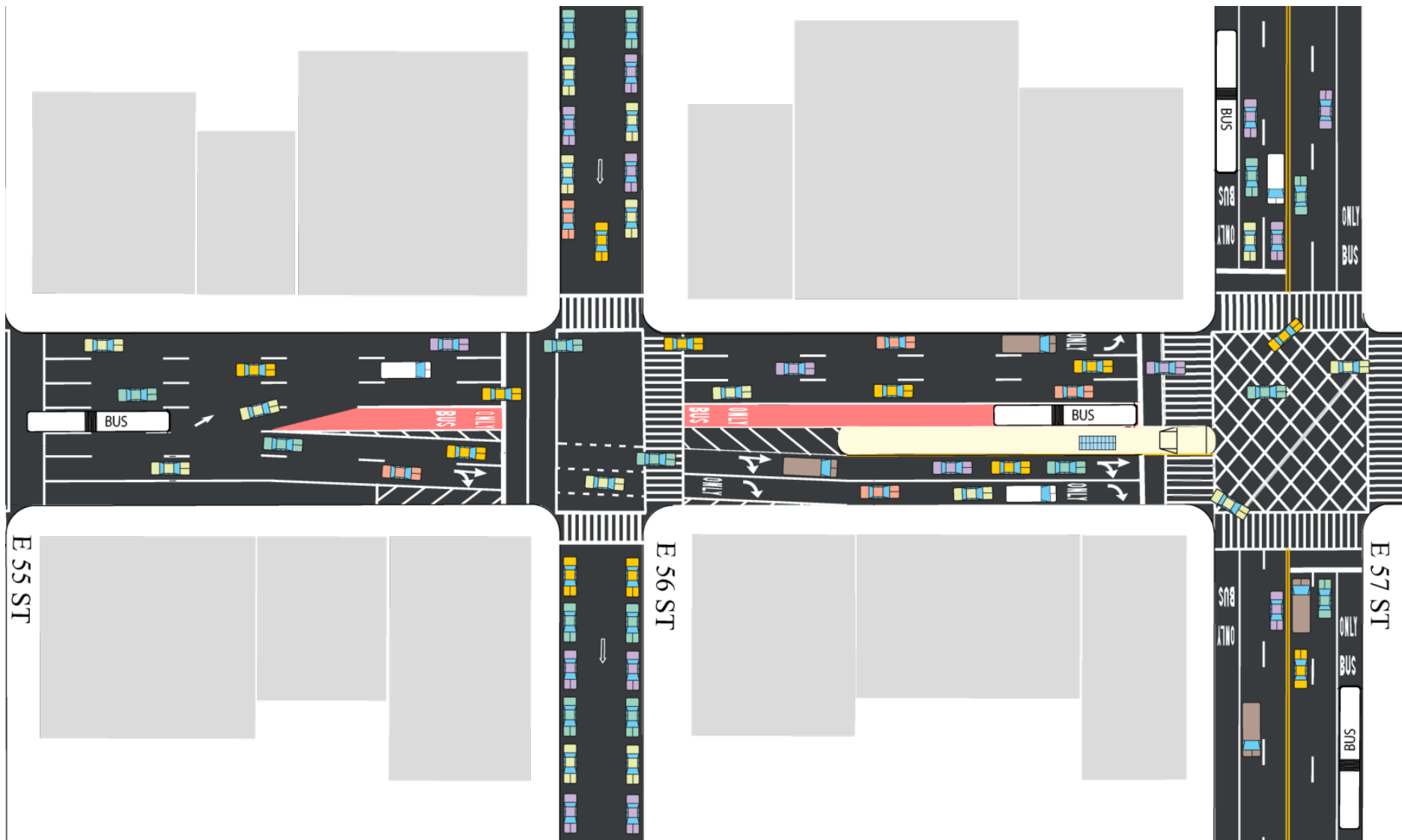


# Third Avenue: 55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street

## Existing Design



# Third Avenue: 55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street Proposed Design



# Boarding Island Example: Gun Hill Road, Bronx





# Boarding Island Example: Gun Hill Road, Bronx





# Boarding Island Example: San Francisco, CA



# 55<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street

## Benefits

- New bus stop at major destination (57th Street)
- Pedestrian refuge for 57th Street southern crosswalk
- Better traffic organization

# Next Steps

- Offset bus lane implementation: September 2014
- Traffic Analysis for 57th Street intersection



*Offset bus lane: First Avenue, Manhattan*



**Questions?**