

West End Avenue


Corridor Traffic Calming

2014



Commissioner Polly Trottenberg New York City Department of Transportation
Presented by Research Implementation and Safety on July 31, 2014

West End Ave Corridor Safety

 Fatality Location



- 2 recent pedestrian fatalities on West End Ave
- In Manhattan Valley Senior Focus Area
- Near PS75 Priority School
- 95th & 97th Streets and West End Ave handle traffic entering and leaving Henry Hudson Parkway

West End Ave - W 75th St to W 106th St, MN

Injury Summary, 2008-2012 (5 Years)

	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	96	7	0	7
Bicyclist	41	4	0	4
Motor Vehicle Occupant	160	8	0	8
Total	297	19	0	19

Source: Fatalities: NYCDOT
Injuries: NYSDOT
KSI: Persons Killed or Severely Injured

Recent Safety Enhancements

Modified signal timing

- W 95th St: Installed 8-second leading pedestrian interval across West End Ave
7/22/14
- W 96th St: Installed 9-second leading pedestrian interval across West End Ave
5/5/08
- W 97th St: Added 7s to leading pedestrian interval across West End Ave (5s to 12s)
1/29/14

Turns banned near PS75 Emily Dickinson

- W 95th St: 7-9AM No westbound left turn
Installed 7/15/14
- W 96th St: 7-9AM No westbound left turn
Installed 12/20/12



Typical Cross Section

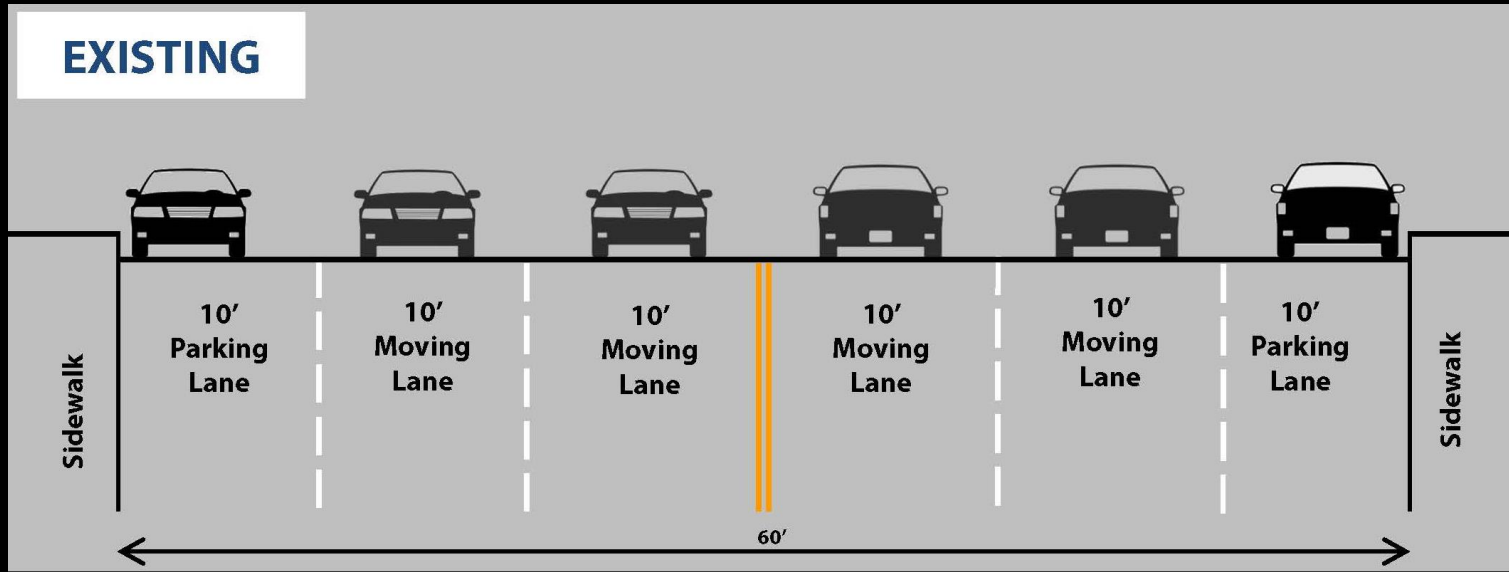
West End Ave from W 72nd St to W 106th St



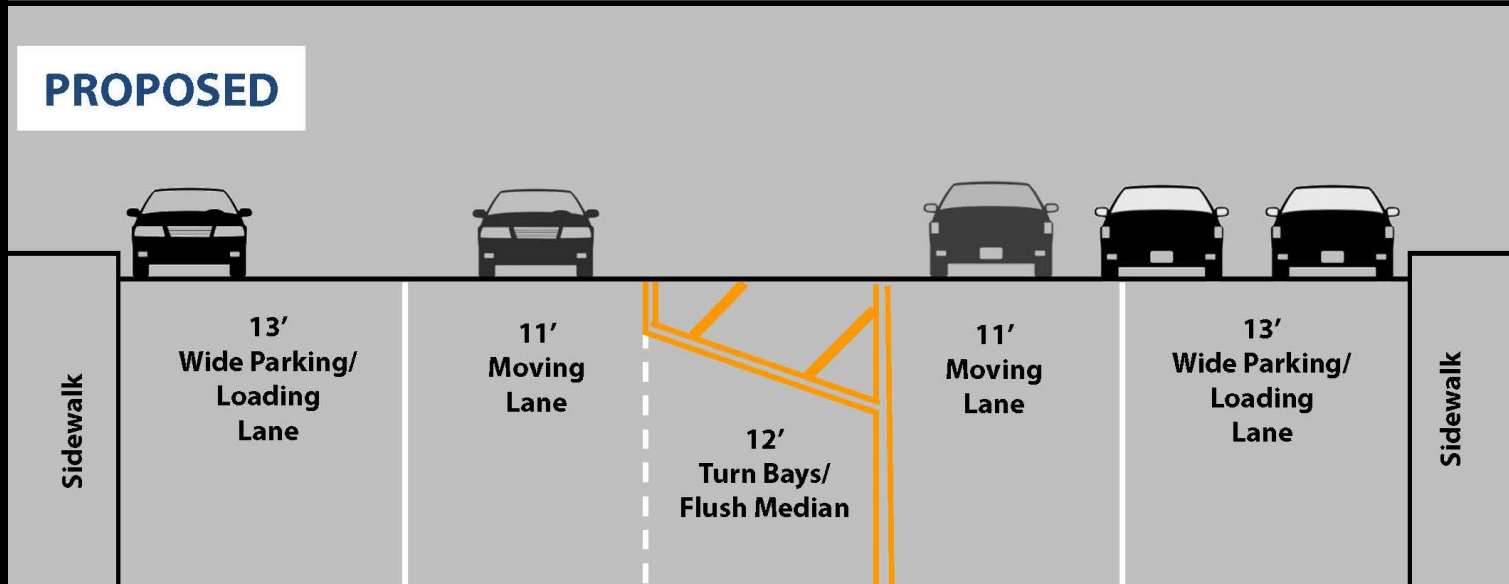
Project Proposal

West End Ave from W 72nd St to W 106th St

EXISTING

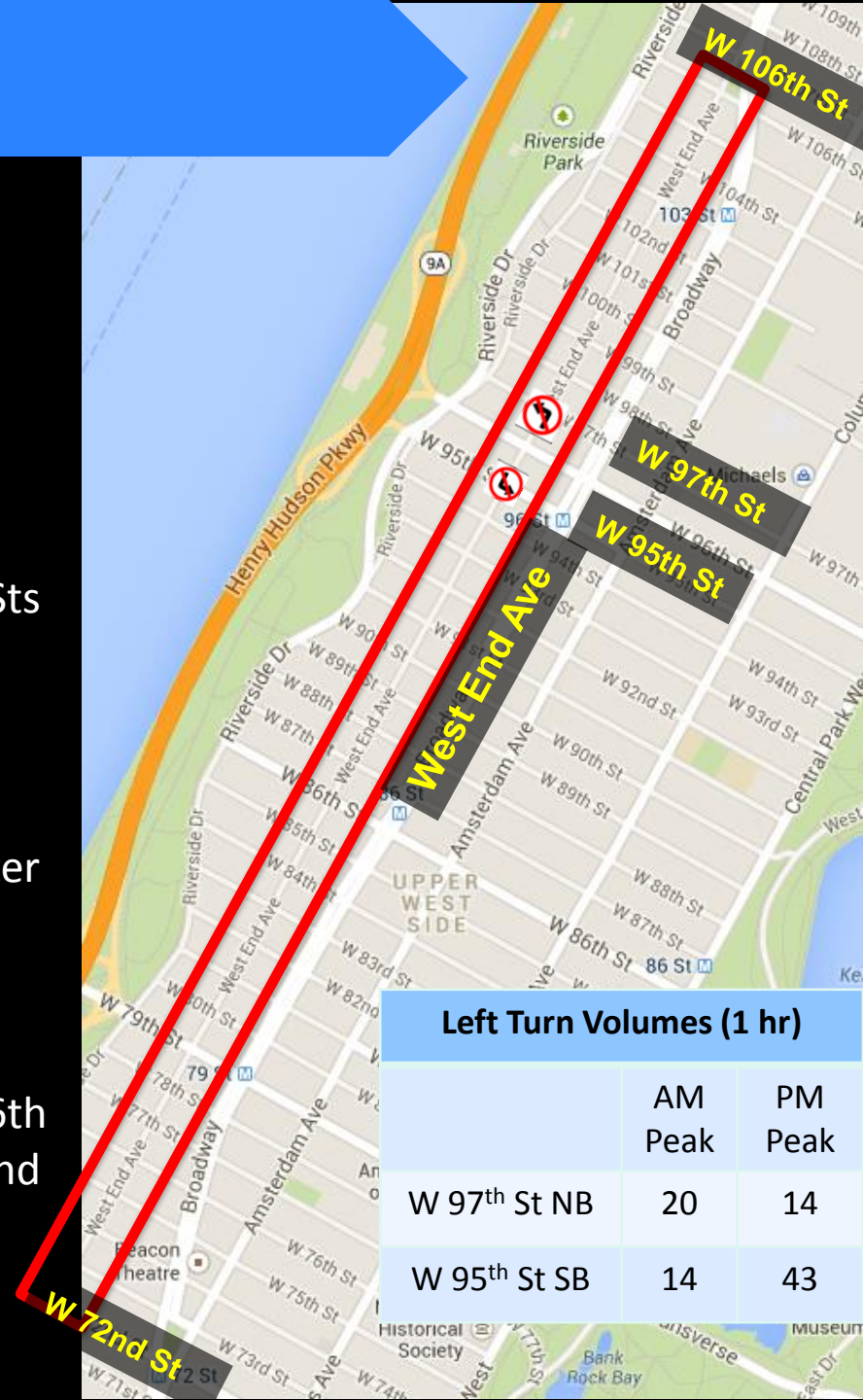


PROPOSED



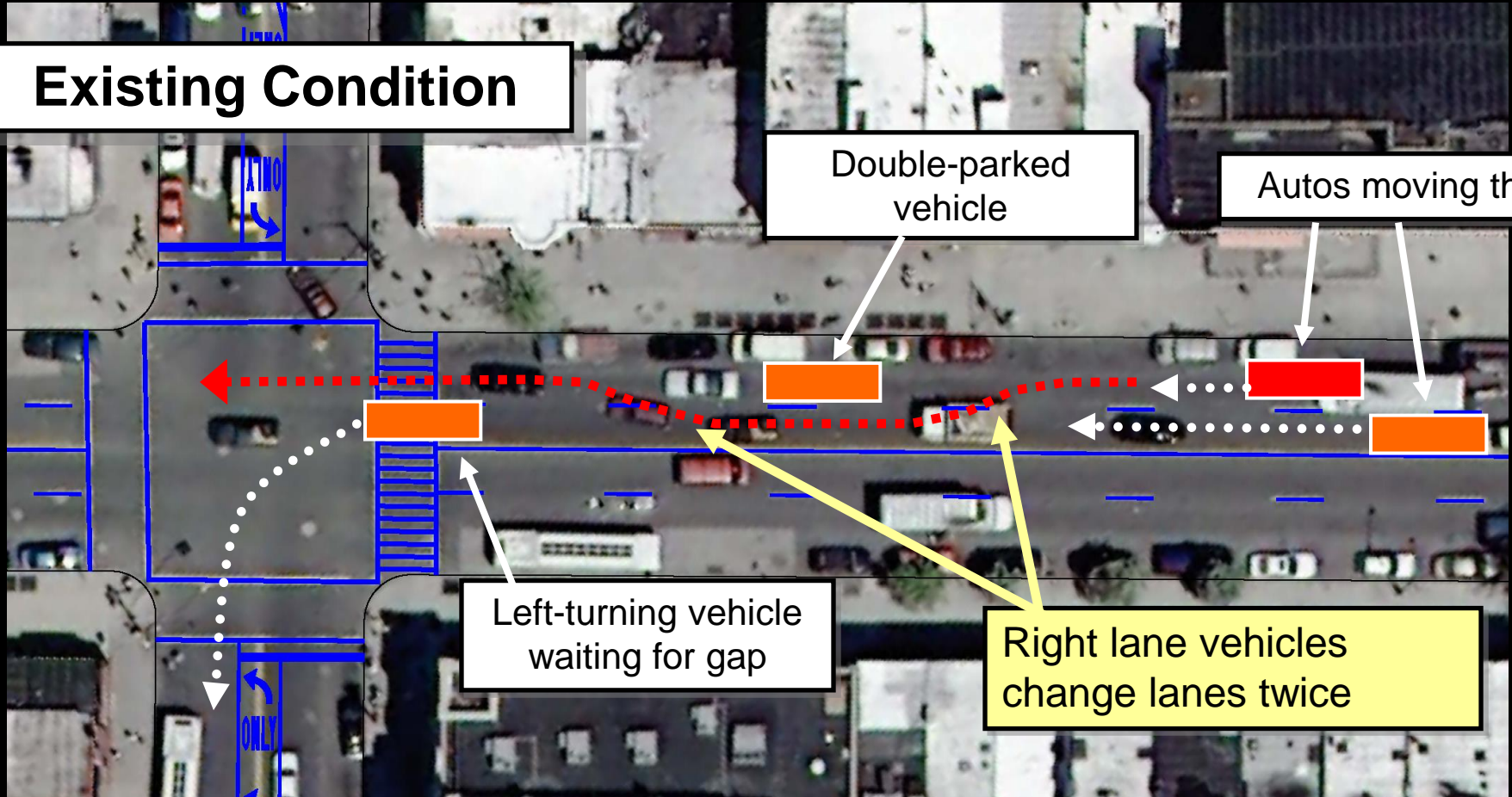
Project Proposal

- Ban two left turns off West End Ave
 - Northbound left at W 97th St
 - Southbound left at W 95th St
- Construct four islands
 - North & south crosswalks at W 95th, W 97th Sts
- “4 to 3 Conversion”
 - Remove one lane in each direction
 - Mark wide parking lane stripe and flush center median with left turn bays (lengthen northbound left turn bay at W 96th St)
- Add curbside southbound right turn lane at W 96th St and remove parking from west curb of West End Ave between W 97th and W 96th St



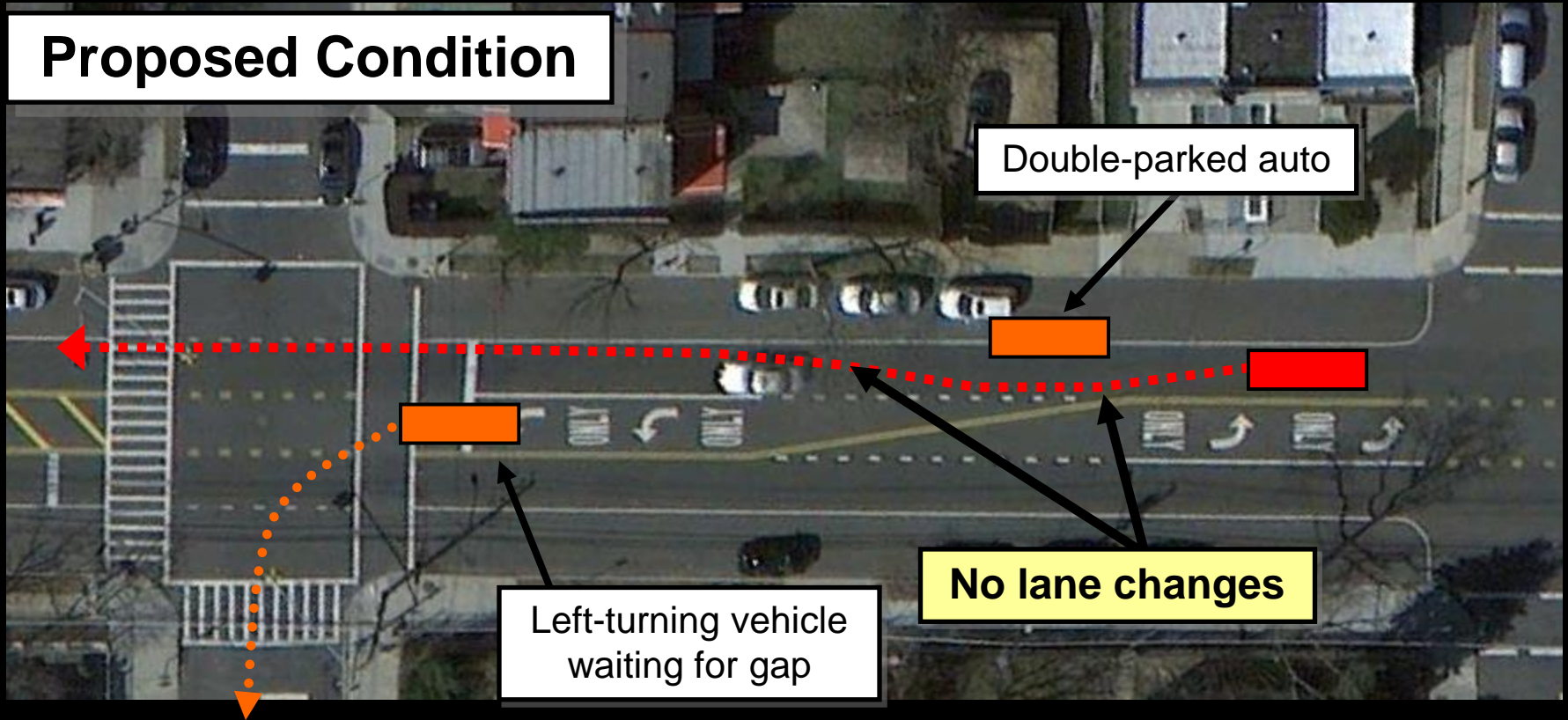
Issue: Interrupted Through Movements

Existing Condition



- Frequent lane changing
- No “good” through travel lane

Traffic Movement in Proposed Design



- Normal activity doesn't force lane changes
- One "good" through travel lane
- More orderly and predictable movements

Issue: Challenging Left Turns

Existing Condition

Left Turning Motorist Have
4 Concerns

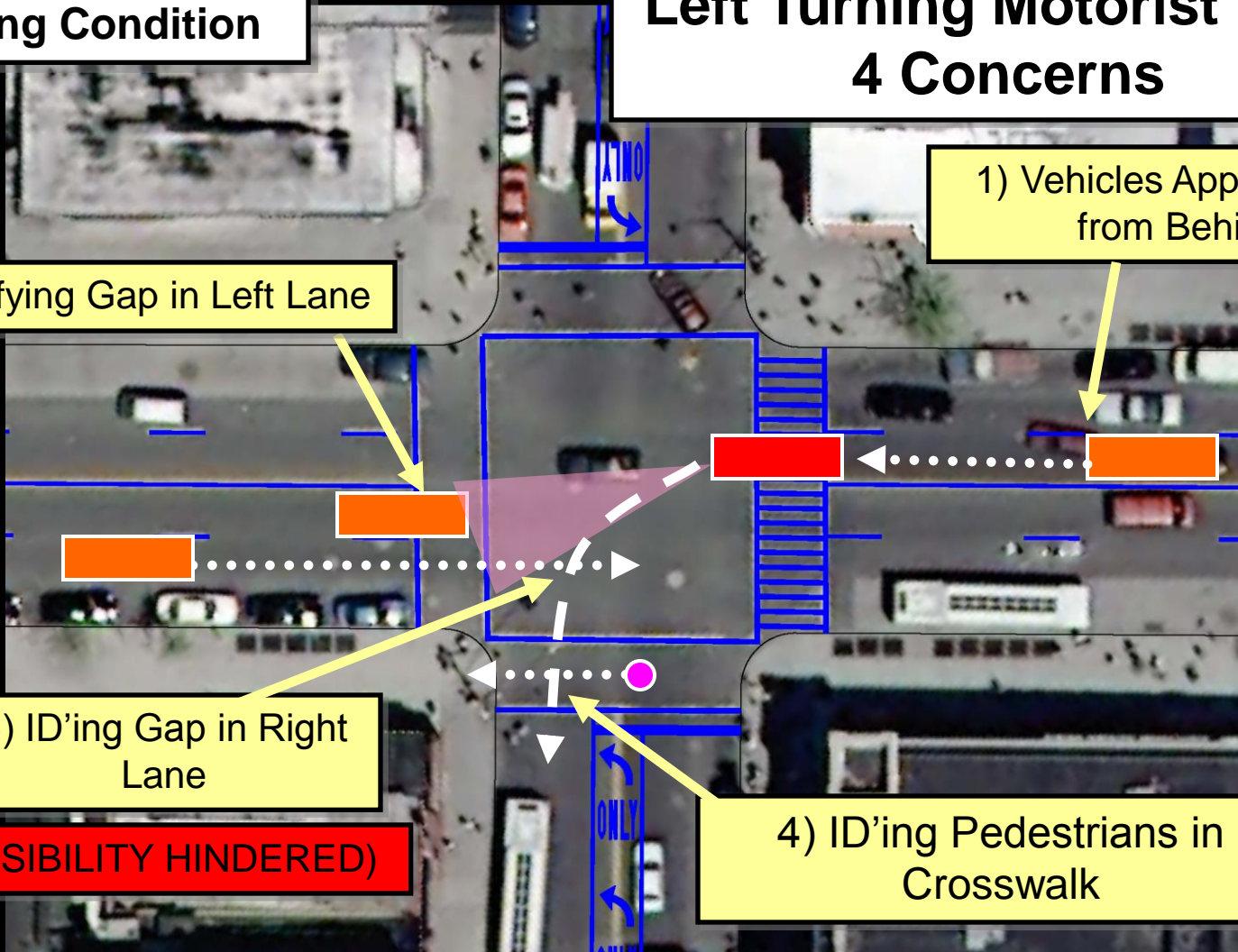
1) Vehicles Approaching from Behind

2) Identifying Gap in Left Lane

3) ID'ing Gap in Right Lane

(VISIBILITY HINDERED)

4) ID'ing Pedestrians in Crosswalk



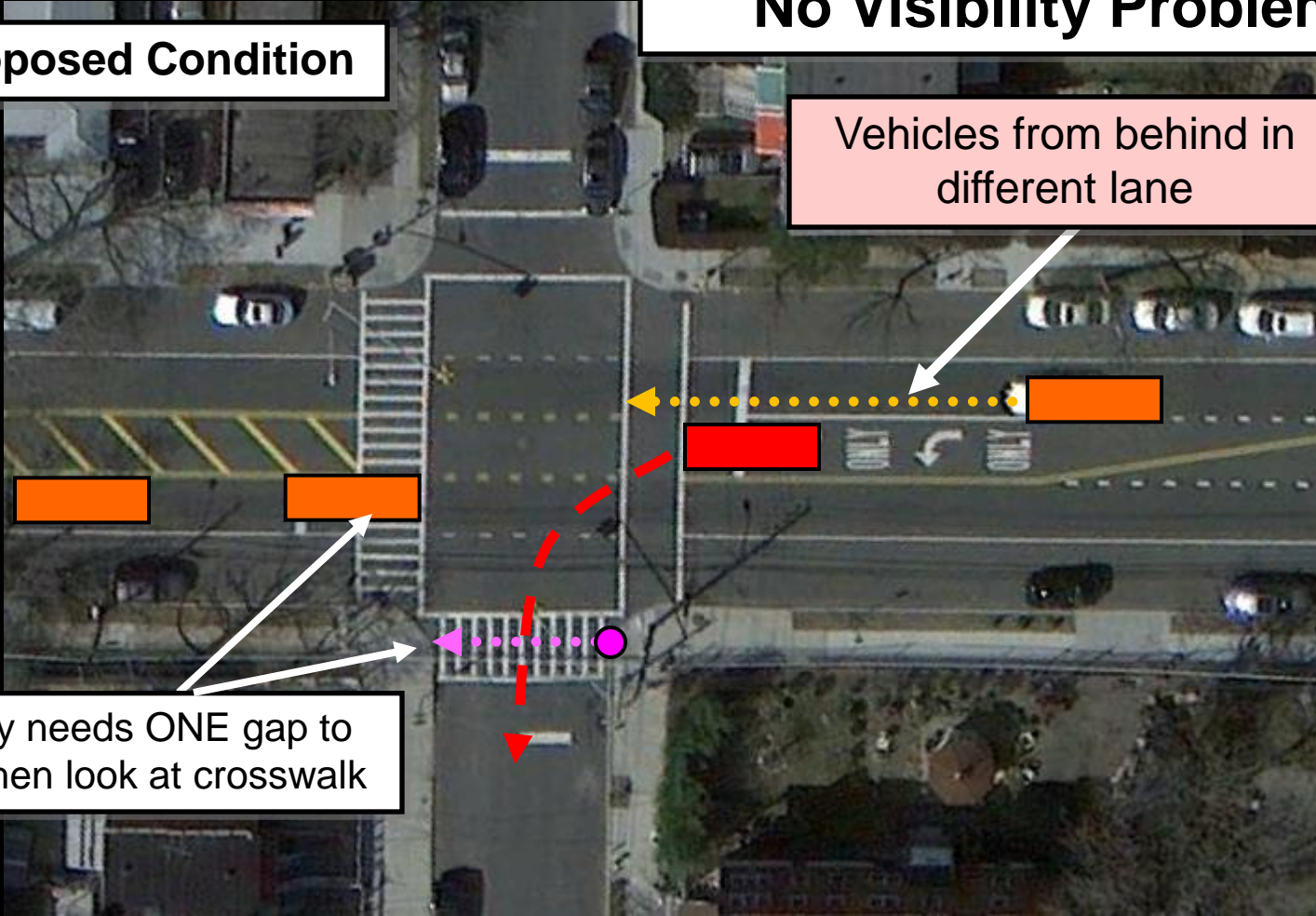
Left Turns in Proposed Design

**Only 2 Points of Focus and
No Visibility Problem**

Proposed Condition

Vehicles from behind in
different lane

Driver only needs ONE gap to
turn; can then look at crosswalk



W 95th – W 97th Sts



West End Ave W 95th St – W 97th St

- Handles regional HHP traffic
- Heavy turning volume onto WEA from W 95th & W 97th Streets
- Left turn bays at W 95th and W 97th Sts are underutilized

W 95th, W 97th Sts: Wide turns

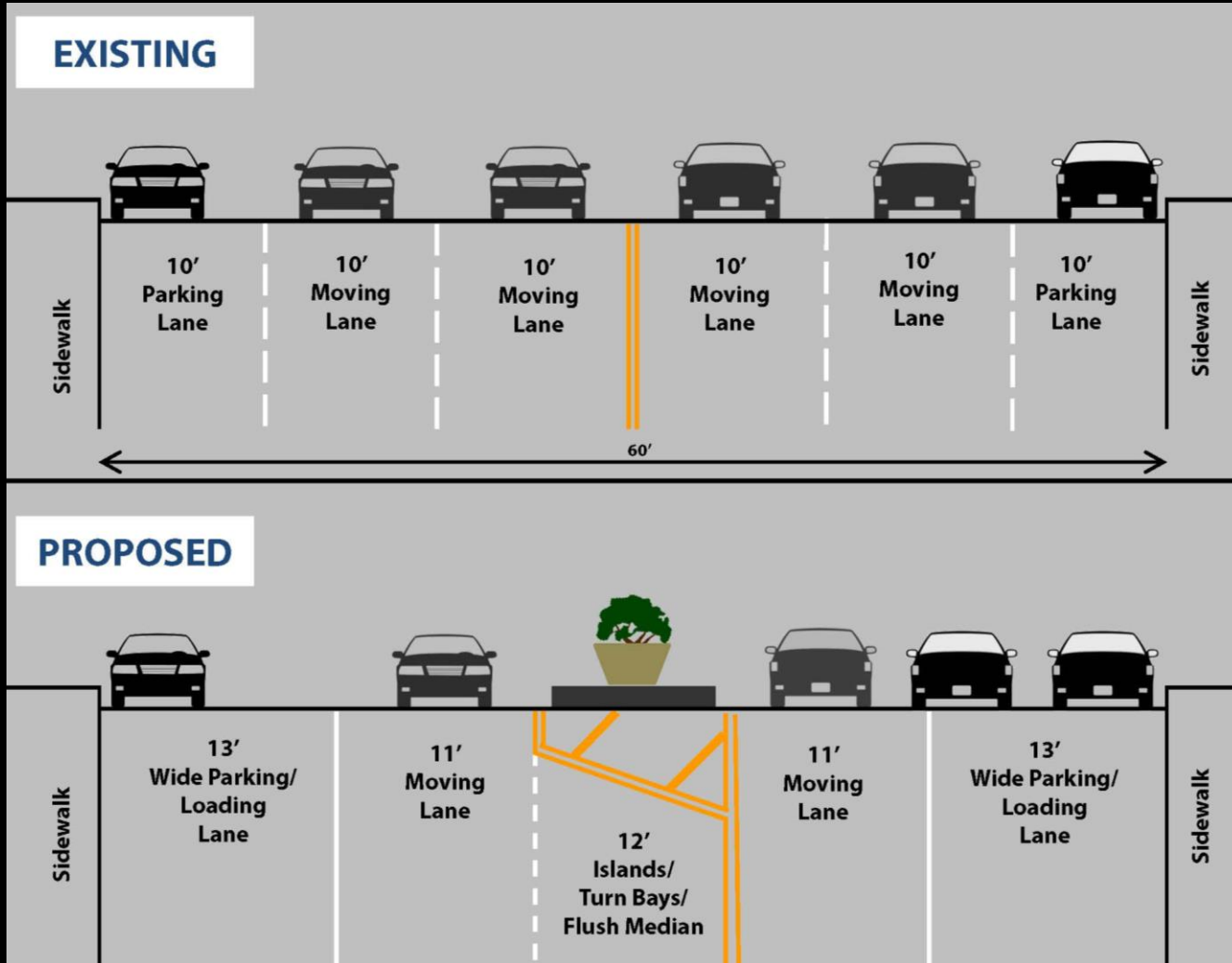


- Zigzag left turns from/to highway
- Underutilized left turn bays encourage fast wide turns on to West End Ave

Project Proposal: W 95th, W 97th Sts

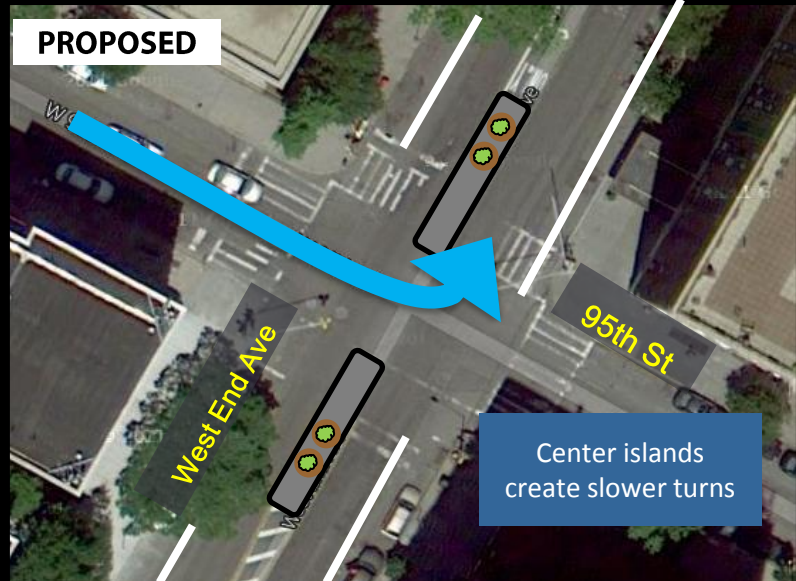
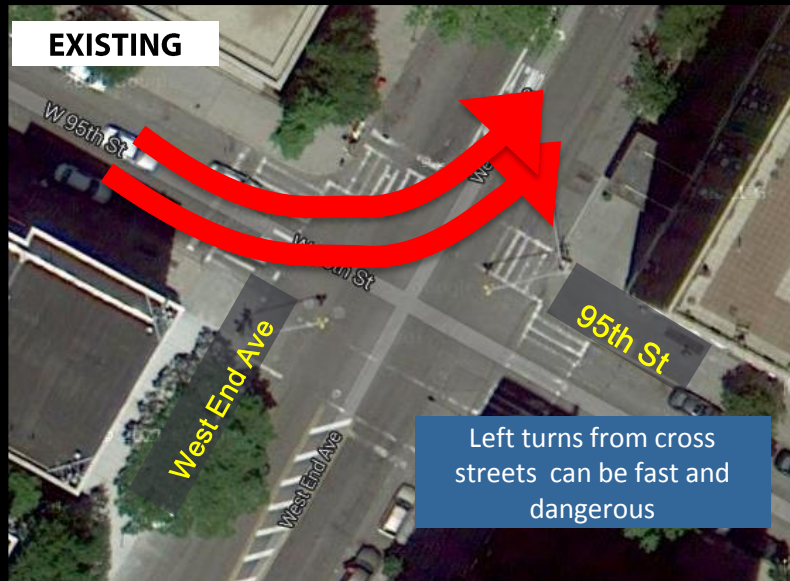
West End Ave at W 95th and W 97th Sts

- Ban northbound left at W 97th St, Ban southbound left at W 95th St



Left Turn Volumes (1 hr)		
	AM Peak	PM Peak
W 97 th St NB	20	14
W 95 th St SB	14	43

Benefits of Proposal: W 95th, W 97th Sts



- Slower turns on to West End Ave
- Discourages double left turns

Existing: W 97th St



Proposed: W 97th St

Install Pedestrian Islands

Remove Parking W/S W 97th – 96th Sts



Existing: W 95th St



Proposed: W 95th St

Install Pedestrian Islands



W 95th St (Riverside to West End)



- Existing: No Parking 8am-6pm M-F on south curb; Speed hump mid-block
- Proposed: Restore parking on south curb
- Preliminary feasibility study completed for second speed hump

Benefits of Proposal

- Proposed safety improvements in fatality locations
- Safer, shorter crossings
- Reduces speeding and calms traffic
- Simpler, safer left turns
- Wide curb lane organizes street, reduces unnecessary lane changes



Existing Conditions: West End Ave at W 98th St



Example of Proposed Configuration: W 6th St, Brooklyn

Ped Islands: Beautification Options



- West End Ave sewers may be too close to install trees on islands
- Planters are possible if a maintenance partner can be found
- Urban Art installation is another possibility

Timeline, Next Steps

Next Steps

- Collect community feedback
- Finalize paving schedule
- Establish project implementation schedule

nyc.gov/dot

**Thank
You**