Safe Streets for Seniors
East Harlem, Manhattan

New York City Department of Transportation
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Safe Streets for Seniors is a pedestrian safety initiative for older New Yorkers. The Safe Streets for Seniors program studies crash data, and then develops and implements mitigation measures to improve the safety of seniors and other pedestrians, as well as all road users in New York City.

Since launching the program in 2008, DOT has addressed senior pedestrian safety issues in 25 Senior Pedestrian Focus Areas (SPFAs) in the five boroughs. The SPFAs were selected based on the density of senior pedestrian (age 65+) crashes resulting in fatalities or severe injuries in a five-year period. Since the program began, annual senior pedestrian fatalities have decreased 9 percent citywide, from 58 senior fatalities in 2008 to 53 in 2014. Since 2009, 59 Street Improvement Projects (SIPs) have been implemented within the Senior Areas citywide. Analyzed together, these projects have produced an 11% decrease in total injuries, a 9% decrease in pedestrian crashes, and a 7% reduction in injury crashes.

In 2012-2013, DOT expanded the program to include 12 new areas. They were identified using a similar methodology as the original areas, but also involved new variables such as senior trip generators, concentrations of senior centers, and senior housing locations. DOT is evaluating pedestrian conditions in these neighborhoods from a senior's perspective and plans to make changes, such as extending pedestrian crossing times at crosswalks to accommodate slower walking speeds, constructing pedestrian safety islands, widening curbs and medians, narrowing roadways, and installing new stop controls and signals.
DOT Toolbox

**Daylighting:**
Better driver-pedestrian visibility

**Countdown Signals:**
Tell pedestrians how much more time they have to cross

**Signal Timing:**
Can add more time to cross where possible

**Pedestrian Refuge Islands:**
Shortens crossings on wide streets, provides safer crossing

**Road Diet:**
Organizes traffic, less speeding

**Sidewalk Extension:**
Shortens crossing distance, slows turning cars
NYC Senior Areas

Manhattan
1. China Town
2. Lower East Side
3. East Village
4. Midtown West
5. Lenox Hill / Turtle Bay
6. Yorkville
7. East Harlem
8. Upper West Side
9. Manhattan Valley
10. Hamilton Heights
11. Washington Heights

Brooklyn
25. Greenpoint
26. East Flatbush
27. Flatbush
28. Borough Park
29. Bay Ridge
30. Bath Beach
31. Midwood
32. Sheepshead Bay
33. Kings Bay / Gerritsen
34. Brighton Beach

Staten Island
35. South Beach
36. New Dorp / Hylan Boulevard

The Bronx
12. Kingsbridge
13. Fordham / University Heights
14. Pelham Gardens
15. East Concourse
16. Mott Haven

Queens
17. Astoria
18. Sunnyside
19. Jackson Heights
20. Flushing
21. Jamaica Hill
22. Forest Hill
23. Rego Park
24. Middle Village / Glendale

Legend:
- Red: Round 2: Senior Areas 2012
- Light Red: Round 1: Senior Areas 2008-2012
- Green: Parks and Open Spaces
Senior Area Background

East Harlem, Manhattan

**Land Uses:**
Mixed Use, Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Public Institutions, Open Space and Recreation

**Senior Centers:**
Stanley Isaacs Senior Center
Washington Lexington Senior Center
Carver Senior Center
Gaylord White Senior Center

Good Neighbors Senior Center
Leonard Covello Senior Center
Theater Arts Senior Center

**Schools:**
PS 38 Roberto Clemente
PS 77 Lower Lab School
PS 83 Luis Munoz Rivera
PS 108 Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro
PS 146 Ann M Short
PS 171 Patrick Henry

PS 198 Ida Straus
JHS 13 Jackie Robinson
Central Park East High School
Emily N Carey Harbor High School
Park East High School
Cristo Rey High School

**Subways:**
4, 5, and 6

**Bus Routes:**
M1, M2, M3, M4, M15, M96, M98, M101, M102, M103, M106

**Bike Lanes:**
1 Ave, 2 Ave, E 91 St

**Truck Routes:**
1 Ave (local), 2 Ave (local), 3 Ave (local), E 96/97 St (local)
Senior Outreach and Concerns

East Harlem, Manhattan

**Senior Outreach:**

DOT receives ideas and feedback in these study areas via presentations and workshops at senior centers and community boards. We have also partnered with NYC Department for the Aging, NYCDOT's Safety Education Team as well as other advocacy groups for seniors to coordinate outreach and share resources.

**Senior Concerns:**

- Not enough time given to pedestrians to safely cross the street, especially at the avenues
- Want more countdown signals
- Want more pedestrian islands
- Poor visibility for turning drivers to see pedestrians, especially with subway construction on 2 Ave
- Need more places to sit when walking or waiting for the bus

Senior Center Outreach – July 13, 2012
Key Findings and Area-Wide Improvements

East Harlem, Manhattan

Key Findings:

1st Avenue
• 13 senior injuries along 1 Ave between E 91 St and E 110 St from 2008-2012

2nd Avenue
• 13 senior injuries along 2 Ave between E 91 St and E 110 St from 2008-2012

E 106th Street
• 10 senior injuries along 106 Street between 5 Ave and 1 Ave from 2008-2012

Area-Wide Improvements:

• Modified 129 signals in the area to accommodate slower walking speeds

• Installed countdown signals at 95 intersections in the area along 5 Ave, Madison Ave, Park Ave, Lexington Ave, 3 Ave, 2 Ave and 1 Ave

• Installed 26 pedestrian islands on 2 Ave and 33 pedestrian islands on 1 Ave

• Installed 8 City Benches in the area with several additional bench requests under investigation
Senior Area Projects

1st Avenue, E 72nd Street to E 125th Street

Location:
- Roadway width is typically 70 feet on 1st Ave with moderate to heavy traffic
- Existing buffered bicycle lane between E 72nd St and E 125th St
- One-way northbound typically with three moving lanes and parking lanes on both sides
- Land uses are primarily high-density residential and high-density commercial

Improvements:
- Installed green pedestrian safety islands at key intersections

Benefits:
- Improved safety for all roadway users
- Mitigated conflict between left turning vehicles and other road users
- Safer pedestrian crossings
Senior Area Projects

1st Avenue, E 72nd Street to E 125th Street

Before: 1st Ave at E 110th St

After: 1st Ave at E 110th St
Senior Area Projects

2nd Avenue, E 100th Street to E 125th Street

Location:
- Roadway width is typically 60 feet with moderate to heavy traffic
- Land uses are primarily high-density residential and high density commercial
- One-way southbound with four moving lanes, curbside Select Service Bus lane, and parking on the east side and loading and parking on the west side

Improvements:
- Installed green pedestrian safety islands at key intersections
- Upgraded parking regulations to reflect land uses and installed Muni-meters

Benefits:
- Improves safety for all roadway users
- Mitigates left turn conflict
- Safer pedestrian crossings

2nd Avenue, Cross Section
Senior Area Projects

2nd Avenue, E 100th Street to E 125th Street

Before: 2nd Ave at E 109th St

After: 2nd Ave at E 109th St
Senior Area Projects

E 106th Street

Location:
• Roadway width is 60 feet
• Dense residential corridor with schools, hospitals and some ground floor commercial uses

Improvements:
• Removed one travel lane in each direction
• Installed flush center median with left turn bays
• Installed green pedestrian safety islands at key intersections

Benefits:
• Reduces speeding / calms traffic
• Simpler, safer left turns
• Safer pedestrian crossings
Senior Area Projects

E 106th Street

Before: E 106 St at 3rd Ave

After: E 106th St at 3rd Ave