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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- Chinatown
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:
- Round 2: Senior Areas 2012
- Round 1: Senior Areas 2008-2012
- Parks and Open Spaces
Senior Area Background

Forest Hills, Queens

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

**Senior Centers:**
Forest Hills Community House Senior Center
Selfhelp Austin St Senior Center

**Schools:**
PS 220 Edward Mandel
JHS 190 Russell Sage
Forest Hills High School

Midrash L’man Achai
The Academy for Excellence through the Arts

**Subways:**
E, F, M, and R

**Bus Routes:**
Q23, Q38, Q60, Q64, Q88, QM4, QM12, QM18

**Bike Lanes:**
63 Rd, 62 Dr

**Truck Routes:**
Queens Blvd (through), 108 St (local)
Forest Hills Senior Pedestrian Focus Area

Senior Pedestrian Crashes 2008-2012
- Senior Centers
- Senior Ped Fatalities 2008-12
- Senior Severe Injuries 2008-12
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
- Senior Minor Injuries 2008-12
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
- Seniors (65+) per square mile
  - 0-6400
  - 6401 - 16810
  - 16820 - 73620

Forest Hills Community House Senior CTR
Selfhelp Austin St Senior Center
Young Israel Forest Hills Senior League
Senior Outreach and Concerns

Forest Hills, Queens

**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 to safely cross Queens Blvd
- Queens Blvd medians are not wide enough to stop safely when traffic is approaching
- 72 Rd is plagued by double-parking that creates unpredictable traffic patterns and impedes traffic flow
- Drivers making illegal turns at intersections of Queens Blvd and Yellowstone Blvd/Jewel Ave as well as Queens Blvd and 108 St
- Cyclists riding on the sidewalk on 108 St

Senior Center Outreach – Sept 19, 2012
Key Findings and Area-Wide Improvements

Forest Hills, Queens

Key Findings:

Queens Boulevard
• 16 senior pedestrian injuries and 4 senior pedestrian fatalities along Queens Blvd between 67th Rd and Ascan Ave/72nd Dr from 2008-2012

Yellowstone Boulevard
• 7 senior pedestrian injuries along Yellowstone Boulevard between 62nd Ave and Jewel Ave from 2008-2012

108th Street
• 20 senior pedestrian injuries and 2 senior pedestrian fatalities along 108th Street between 62nd Ave and 71st Ave from 2008-2012

Area-Wide Improvements:

• Modified 60 signals in the area to accommodate slower walking speeds

• Installed countdown signals at 22 intersections in the area along Queens Blvd and 108th St

• Installed new stop sign at Yellowstone Blvd and 62nd Ave

• Installed new signal at 108th St and 63rd Ave

• Installed 10 City Benches in the area
Senior Area Projects

Queens Boulevard & Yellowstone Boulevard

Location:
• Retail corridor with residential uses on side streets
• Skewed 290-ft crossing across Queens Blvd
• Many unsafe u-turns on SB Yellowstone Blvd to Jewel Ave

Improvements:
• Constructed 3 concrete median widenings
• Reconstructed and upgraded existing pedestrian safety island on Yellowstone Blvd
• Installed quick kurb on Yellowstone Blvd to prevent illegal, unsafe U-turns
• Prohibited unsafe northbound left turn from Yellowstone Blvd to Queens Blvd
• Installed 10’-13’ bike-friendly parking lane stripes on Queens Blvd service roads and 8’ parking lane stripes on Yellowstone Blvd and Jewel Ave

Benefits:
• Reduces speeding / calms traffic
• Safer pedestrian crossing
• Reduces crossing distances
• Wide curb lane allows for safe bicycle travel

Queens Blvd and Yellowstone Blvd
Senior Area Projects

Queens Boulevard and Yellowstone Boulevard

Before: Queens Blvd and Yellowstone Blvd

After: Queens Blvd and Yellowstone Blvd
Senior Area Projects

108th Street Parking Lane Stripe

**Location:**
- Project limits: 62nd Rd to Queens Blvd
- Residential corridor with retail uses between 63rd Rd and 65th Ave
- Q23 bus route
- Local truck route
- High incidence of speeding vehicles

**Improvements:**
- Install wide parking lane stripe to calm traffic
- Implementation planned for Spring/Summer 2015

**Benefits:**
- Reduces speeding / calms traffic

Proposed Configuration: Parking lane stripe on Queens Blvd and 108th Street, Queens
Senior Area Projects

108th Street Parking Lane Stripe

Existing Conditions: 108 St at 70th Rd

Proposed Configuration: Parking lane stripe on 99th Street, Queens