BRONX RIVER AVE

Community Board 9 – Public Safety and Transportation Committee

May 3, 2018
PROJECT LOCATION

- ½ mile long corridor on Bronx River Ave from E 174th St to Westchester Ave

- Residential corridor adjacent to the Bronx River

- Near James Monroe High School Campus, with seven small high schools

- History of requests to address speeding on the corridor, including a 2017 request from Assembly Member Marcos Crespo’s office
SAFETY DATA

- 12 people severely injured along this corridor
- Speeding – 81% of recorded vehicles were traveling above the speed limit with a maximum recorded speed of 58 MPH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Injury Summary, 2012-2016 (5 Years)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bicyclist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Occupant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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Source: Fatalities: NYC DOT
Injuries: NYC DOT
KSI: Persons Killed or Severely Injured

Fatalities, 01/01/2012-1/29/2018: None
CURRENT CONDITIONS – BRONX RIVER AVE

- Two lanes in each direction
- Wide street (60 ft)
- Parking on both curbs

Bronx River Ave at Colgate Ave, looking north
CURRENT CONDITIONS - INTERSECTIONS

• Intersections of Colgate Ave, Evergreen Ave, Wheeler Ave, and Elder Ave meet Bronx River Ave at gentle angles leading to fast, aggressive turns

• Very long crossing distances, missing crosswalks at Wheeler Ave, Evergreen Ave, and Colgate Ave

The angle of intersections allow cars to make fast, aggressive turns through wide intersections like Colgate Ave and expose pedestrians over long crossing distances
Current conditions – Westchester Ave and E 174th St

**Westchester Ave**
- 3 northbound lanes approach the intersection with only 2 receiving lanes
- Conflicting turns from Bronx River Ave and Close Ave

**E 174th St**
- Extra wide crossing on north side of intersection (70’)
- Large percentage of vehicles turning at this intersection causes conflicts

Bronx River Ave, Close Ave, and Westchester Ave

A car turns onto NB Bronx River Ave from E 174th St
PROPOSED CONDITIONS - CORRIDOR

Existing

- 19’ Combined Travel/Parking Lane
- 11’ Travel Lane
- 11’ Travel Lane
- 19’ Combined Travel/Parking Lane

Proposed

- 9’ Parking Lane
- 5’ Bike Lane
- 11’ Travel Lane
- 10’ Turn bay/Center median
- 11’ Travel Lane
- 5’ Bike Lane
- 9’ Parking Lane

60’
PROPOSED CONDITIONS - CORRIDOR

- Defined parking lane delineates parked vehicles
- Standard width travel lanes define narrower moving lanes
- Center median & turn bay separate oncoming traffic and turning vehicles
- 5' bike lane puts cyclists in predictable location
- Similar projects in the Bronx have reduced injuries and speeding 24 – 54%

Example of a similar treatment: Amsterdam Ave, Manhattan
BIKE CONNECTION

Bike lanes on Bronx River Ave will:

- Provide a safe, convenient, connection between Soundview neighborhood and existing bike routes on E 174th St and Westchester Ave
- Improve access to Starlight Park and Concrete Plant Park and connect to planned pedestrian bridge at E 172nd St
PROPOSED CONDITIONS - INTERSECTIONS

- Paint curb extensions to normalize intersections and encourage slower, safer turns
- Stripe missing crosswalks
- Reduce crossing distances for pedestrians
- Signal under study at Elder Ave

Similar painted curb extension at Ave St John and Prospect Ave, BX

Proposed curb extensions at Colgate Ave (above) and Wheeler Ave (below) will encourage slower, safer turns and reduce pedestrian crossing distances
PROPOSED CONDITIONS – WESTCHESTER AVE

Update lane markings on Bronx River Ave to reduce confusion approaching Westchester Ave

Road diet begins

Create right turn only from Close Ave to Westchester Ave to reduce vehicle conflicts

Current:

nyc.gov/visionzero
PROPOSED CONDITIONS – E 174TH ST

Current:

- Extend median tip on E 174th St bridge with paint
- Slower, safer left turns onto and off of Bronx River Ave improve safety
- Update lane markings on Bronx River Ave approaching E 174th St to reduce confusion
- Paint median tip on extra wide, north side of Bronx River Ave
PROJECT BENEFITS

• Reduces speeding and calms traffic on Bronx River Ave
• Enhances safety by organizing the roadway and providing defined spaces for vehicles and bicycles
• Improves pedestrian safety by marking crosswalks and reducing crossing distances
• Improves safety for all roadway users by encouraging slower, safer turns onto and off of Bronx River Ave
• Creates an important, safe connection in the Bronx bike network
THANK YOU!

Questions?
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Previous Projects

• Similar projects installed in The Bronx have resulted in decreases in injuries and crashes as well as reductions in speeding

• White Plains Rd, BX (2014)
  • 36% reduction in total injuries

• Allerton Ave, BX (2009)
  • 42% decrease in speeding

• Burke Ave, BX (2014)
  • 54% reduction in total injuries

Similar projects in the Bronx on White Plains Rd (above) and on Allerton Ave (below) improved safety along the corridors
EVALUATION OF LANE REMOVAL

**Congested Lane**
- 700 vehicles per hour or above

**Existing (2 lanes)**
- Maximum* 296 vehicles per lane

**Proposal (1 lane + left turn bays)**
- Maximum 592 vehicles per lane
  *Maximum Recorded Peak Volume at Bronx River Ave & E 172nd St

- Analysis conducted with rush hour traffic volumes shows minimal impact on Bronx River Ave

- **700 Vehicles per Hour**
- **592 Proposal Max Lane Volume**
- **296 Existing Max Lane Volume**