Downtown Brooklyn
Surface Transit Circulation Study (DBSTCS)

Second Stakeholder Committee Meeting
Wednesday June 17, 2009
Presentation Outline

- Introductions
- Project Goal and Objectives
- Current Status
- Existing Conditions Maps
- Results of Surveys and Focus Group Meetings
- Next Steps
- Questions and Discussion
- Interactive Mapping Exercise
Project Context

- Current and Future Development: Downtown Brooklyn’s Roadways are Congested and Will Get More Congested

- Getting Around Downtown Brooklyn by Transit is Increasingly Difficult
Study Purpose

- Review Existing Transit Travel Patterns in the Study Area
- Identify Who is and Who is Not Using Transit and Why
- Forecast Future Trip Demand
- Develop Short and Long Term Implementable Solutions
Goal #1

- Enhance Effectiveness of the Study Area’s Surface Transit Network to Provide Improved Access and Mobility

Objective

- Increase Quality of Transit Service Options
Project Goals and Objectives

Goal #2

- Provide Transit Connectivity Throughout the Study Area

Objective

- Increase Transit Connectivity to All Significant Trip Generators Throughout the Study Area
Project Goals and Objectives

Goal #3

- Support the Economic Health of The Study Area

Objective

- Increase Economic Attractiveness of Commercial- and Tourism-Based Land Uses
Key Tasks

- Review Previous Studies - √
- Develop Maps for Analysis - √
- Conduct Focus Group and Traveler Surveys - √
- Document Existing Conditions – (expected to complete mid-summer 2009)
- Project Future Land Use and Travel Demands - (expected to complete mid-summer 2009)
- Develop and Evaluate Alternatives - (expected to complete end of summer 2009)
- Recommend Short and Long Term Solutions (expected to complete early fall 2009)

√ = completed
Key Points of Previous Studies

- Continuous Development
- Enhance Existing Transit Service
- Manage Congestion
- Promote Multi-Modal Travel
Downtown Brooklyn Surface Transit Circulation Study

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

- Project Kickoff
- Review Previous Studies
- Draft Goals and Objectives

- Stakeholder Meeting

- Conduct Travel Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Existing Conditions Report

- Stakeholder Meeting

- Develop & Evaluate Alternatives

- Stakeholder Meeting
- Public Meeting

- Stakeholder Meeting
- Public Meeting

- Public Meeting

- Select Preferred Alternatives
- Short/Long Term Recommendations

- Stakeholder Meeting

- Begin Implementation Short Term Solutions

Schedule

FALL 2008
WINTER 2009

SPRING 2009

SUMMER 2009

FALL 2009
WINTER 2010
Study Area

OVERALL STUDY AREA

DOWNTOWN CORE AREA

Navy Street
Atlantic Avenue
Clinton Street
Vanderbilt Avenue
Union Street

Downtown Brooklyn Surface Transit Circulation Study
Study Corridors – Core Area

- Adams/Cour/Jay, Cadman Plaza
- Atlantic Avenue
- Flatbush Avenue
- Fulton/Livingston
Population Density and Bus Routes

Legend

Study Area
- Core Study Area
- Overall Study Area

Residents Per Square Mile
- 0 - 25,000
- 25,000 - 50,000
- 50,000 - 75,000
- 75,000 - 100,000
- 100,000 - 125,000

Bus Routes

Credits: Data provided by NYCT, NYMTC, DCP, DOT and DoITT.
Traveler Intercept and Bus Rider Surveys

- Survey Purpose: To better understand travel patterns, transit needs, and transportation issues in Downtown Brooklyn
Results of Traveler Intercept and Bus Rider Surveys

• Survey Dates:
  ▪ Weekday: April 30th, May 28th
  ▪ Weekend: April 18th, May 31st

• Survey Times:
  ▪ AM Peak: 6:30 am – 9:30 am
  ▪ Mid-Day: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
  ▪ PM Peak: 4:00pm – 7:00 pm

• Total Surveys: 825
  ▪ Bus Rider: 260
  ▪ Sidewalk Intercept: 565
Survey Locations
Survey Results
Origins/Destinations

From

To

- Sightseeing/Tourism
- Restaurant
- Recreation/Health Club
- College/University/School
- Court/Legal
- Other
- Social/Church/Personal
- Medical Appointment
Primary Mode

- Walk: 31%
- Subway: 31%
- Bus: 23%
- Car: 8%
- Other: 5%
- Bike: 1%
- Taxi: 1%

Most Common Bus Routes:

- B61
- B41
- B63
- B45
- B67
- B38
- B25
- B75
Reason for Mode Choice

- More Convenient
- Faster
- Other
- Cheaper
- Healthier
- More Sustainable
- Safer
Reason Why People Don’t Ride The Bus

- Service too slow/infrequent: 33%
- Does not go where I want: 20%
- Prefer walking: 15%
- Prefer car: 9%
- Too expensive: 1%
- Other: 1%
Survey Findings:
Requested Operational Improvements

• To increase bus ridership, service must be:
  • more reliable in terms of meeting scheduled times
  • more frequent, especially on the weekend.
  • The B41, B61 and B63 routes are priority candidates for reliability improvements.
In terms of bus stops, waiting area comfort was the top request by passengers:

- The need for seating while waiting for a bus was stated as the highest priority.
- Providing shelters at all bus stops was also highly rated.
- Placement of shelters farther back from the curb was also a preference.
Focus Group Results
Focus Group Meetings

• **Purpose:** To Identify and Profile:
  - Travel Experiences
  - Perceptions
  - Expectations
  - Preferences

• **Meeting Date:** May 21st
  - Employer / Employee: 9:00 am
  - Resident / Community Groups: 6:00 pm
Focus Group Findings

- **Bus Disadvantage:** Lack of Reliability / Speed, Especially East/West and Along Flatbush Avenue
- **Additional Connections:**
  - DUMBO
  - Brooklyn Bridge Park (when open)
  - MetroTech and Smith Street
- **Pedestrian Improvements:**
  - Flatbush/Atlantic/Fourth Avenues
  - Flatbush Avenue / Livingston Street
  - Jay / Tillary Streets
  - Adams / Tillary Streets
- **Information / Technology Improvements:**
  - Next Bus (real time information)
  - Keep Route / Schedule Info Up to Date (hard copy)
  - MetroCard Purchase Locations
Survey and Focus Group Findings:
Areas Requested For New/Additional Bus Service
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

**Schedule – Next Steps**

- **FALL 2008 WINTER 2009**
  - Project Kickoff
  - Review Previous Studies
  - Draft Goals and Objectives
  - Stakeholder Meetings

- **SPRING 2009**
  - Conduct Travel Surveys
  - Focus Groups
  - Existing Conditions Report
  - Stakeholder Meetings

- **SUMMER 2009**
  - Develop & Evaluate Alternatives
  - Stakeholder Meeting
  - Public Meeting

- **FALL 2009**
  - Select Preferred Alternatives
  - Short/Long Term Recommendations
  - Stakeholder Meetings
  - Public Meeting

- **WINTER 2010**
  - Begin Implementation Short Term Solutions
  - Stakeholder Meetings
Questions and Discussion
Downtown Brooklyn
Surface Transit Circulation Study
(DBSTCS)

Second Stakeholder Committee Meeting
Wednesday June 17, 2009

NEW YORK CITY DOT  URS