ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

Eastern Rockaways Transportation Study

Workshop 2 - June 28, 2016
TONIGHT’S AGENDA

Access to Opportunity - Public Workshop 2

1. Presentation
   - Study background
   - Existing conditions overview
   - Focus area selection process
   (20 minutes)

2. Participation
   4 focus corridor discussions
   - Short-term improvement concepts
   - Prioritization
   (20 minutes each)
Study Background
BACKGROUND

Study Area: Eastern Rockaways
NYCDOT received a USDOT TIGER grant with a local match for Access to Opportunity: A Transportation & Housing Study in the Eastern Rockaways

This study aims to:
1. Increase Eastern Rockaways residents’ ability to reach:
   • Goods
   • Services
   • Activities
   • Destinations (collectively known as opportunities)

2. Align transportation improvements with NYC’s housing investments
BACKGROUND

Interagency coordination
BACKGROUND

Study deliverables

• Short-term improvement plans for implementation in summer 2017

• Long-term transportation improvement plan to be released fall 2017
BACKGROUND

Project Timeline

- **Workshop 1**: Identify problems & data collection
- **Workshop 2**: Existing conditions report & short-term solution development
- **Workshop 3**: Long-term vision development
- **Implementation**: Short-term improvement implementation & long-term vision refinement
- **Final Plan & next steps**
Outreach Overview
OUTREACH OVERVIEW

300+ residents reached & 275+ comments

NYC DOT Ambassador visits to:
- Rockaway YMCA at Arverne by the Sea
- Peninsula Queens Library
- Local churches
- Local grocery stores
- Queens Library for Teens

Agency-organized public meetings:
- HPD Edgemere outreach meetings
- DOT Access to Opportunity workshop
- DOT Downtown Far Rock Streetscape project meeting
- EDC open houses

Briefings with:
- Elected officials
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Community Advisory Committee meetings
- CB14 Transportation Committee
OUTREACH OVERVIEW

Highlighted comments: Access

- Hard to get to jobs in Jamaica from Seagirt Blvd
- Need bike lanes on Seagirt Blvd
- Bring ferry service back
- ADA access for all A stations

- Subway service is unreliable
- Need train service to Northern Queens
- Need a safe & low-stress east-west bike route for school kids
OUTREACH OVERVIEW

Highlighted comments: Quality of life

- Add street benches
- Build recreational and shopping opportunities
- Beautify streetscapes
- Lots of potholes - roads need repairs

- Bus shelters needed
- Crumbling curbs and medians on Rockaway Freeway
- Roads flood when it rains and snows
OUTREACH OVERVIEW

Highlighted comments: Safety

• Under the El: bad lighting, poor visibility and no crosswalks….it needs a safer sidewalks since cars speed
• Crossing the street…is hard because drivers don't yield
• Cars weave and speed on Rockaway Beach Blvd.
• Need a crossing for bikes and peds to get to Cross Bay Bridge
• B36th St at Beach Channel Dr. is dangerous
Data Collection Overview
DATA COLLECTION

Overview

The following types of data collection were performed during the months of April - May:

• Traffic data collection
• Transit data review and study
• GIS data requests and research
• Field observations
TRAFFIC DATA COLLECTION

Traffic and turning movement count locations

Turning Movement Counts
- Access to Opportunity Study
- Downtown Far Rockaway Study

Automatic Traffic Recorders
- Access to Opportunity Study
- Downtown Far Rockaway Study

Access to Opportunity Transportation Study Area
Downtown Far Rockaway Traffic Study Area
EAST-WEST TRAFFIC VOLUMES

The number of cars isn’t the problem
CRASH DENSITY MAP

Crash Density, 2010-2014 (all modes)
FATAL CRASH MAP

Crashes with fatal injuries 2010-2014 (all modes)
OVERVIEW: PEDESTRIANS

Highest volumes at transit hubs and schools
OVERVIEW PEDESTRIANS

Long stretches without crosswalks
OVERVIEW BIKES

Steady east-west volumes with & without lanes

Map showing bicycle counts and study areas.
OVERVIEW BIKES

Bike lane gaps along desired routes
OVERVIEW TRANSIT

Collaboration with MTA Bus
OVERVIEW TRANSIT

Q22 EB evening ridership
OVERVIEW TRANSIT

Q22 WB morning ridership
Focus Area Selection
FOCUS AREA SELECTION

Starting Point: public input & data collection
FOCUS AREA SELECTION

Account for recently implemented project areas
FOCUS AREA SELECTION

Build on projects planned for 2016-2017
FOCUS AREA SELECTION

Access to Opportunity focus areas for study
Workshop Participation
WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Workshop stations: 4 Focus Corridor Stations

Station 1: Rockaway Freeway
Station 2: Beach Channel Drive
Station 3: Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Station 4: Seagirt Boulevard
WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Station Activities (20 minutes per station)

1) Choose short-term improvement concepts by focus corridor or area
2) Prioritization: What are the 2 most important projects to implement?
WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Short term improvement concepts

- Sidewalk Improvements
- Bus Improvements
- Pedestrian Plaza
- New Bench
- New Cross-Walk
- Bike Connections
- Wayfinding
- New Bike Rack
- Shorter, Safer Crossing
- New Tree
- Traffic Calming
- Clarify Travel Movements
- SLOW
- New Traffic Control
- Signal Timing Improvements
WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Select short-term concepts & prioritize projects

Seagirt Blvd example:
THANK YOU!

Questions?