



# Goethals Bridge Connections

Presentation to Staten Island Community Board 1

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# New Goethals Bridge

- Upgraded the connection between Staten Island and Elizabeth, NJ
- Created a 10' wide bicycle and pedestrian path with sweeping views of the region
- Provided new opportunities for cycling in the region
- Staten Island cycling community requests connections to the bridge



# Potential Connections To Surrounding Community And Bicycle Networks

## Bicycles Provide An Ideal Solution For Accessing The Bridge

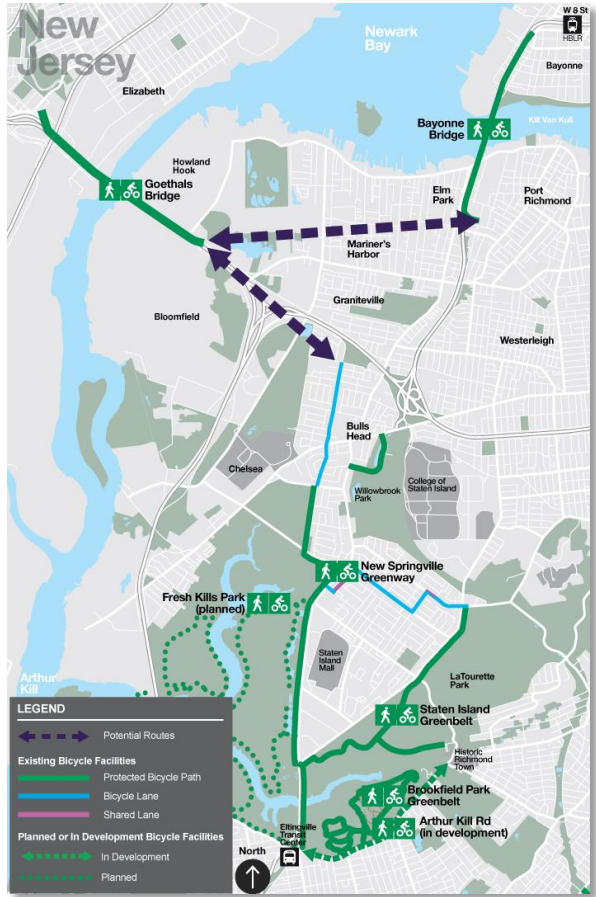
- The bridge is within a 15 minute ride from communities in the northwest corner of Staten Island
- Faster than walking but, unlike motor vehicle traffic, can stop to take in the views
- Offers opportunities for exercise, touring, and commuting

## Potential To Link Bayonne Bridge Bicycle And Pedestrian Path

The Bayonne Bridge is a 15 min. ride from the Goethals Bridge and links to the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail on the other side of the bridge

## Potential To Link To Large And Growing Mid-Island Bicycle Network

Also a 15 min. ride from the Goethals Bridge, the mid island bicycle network connects to a variety of parks, cultural centers, and natural areas



Bayonne Bridge



New Springville Greenway



Staten Island Greenbelt

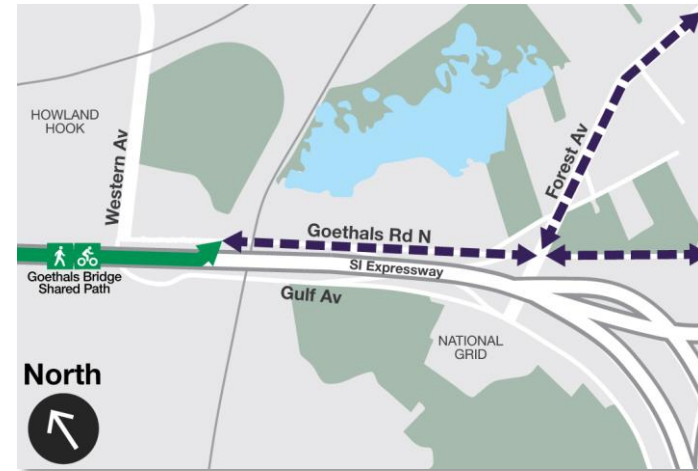
# First Steps For Making The Connections: Picking The Best Route

## Get Cyclists To Goethals Rd N And Forest Av

- Connect them to the local road network
- Create a starting point for future projects



Goethals Bridge Bike/Ped begins on the south side of Goethals Road N



## Goethals Rd N Is Not The Best Route

- Heavy truck traffic requires entire roadway because of queues for Howland Hook Terminal and wide turns
- Using the north sidewalk for bikes not possible
- An alternative route is needed



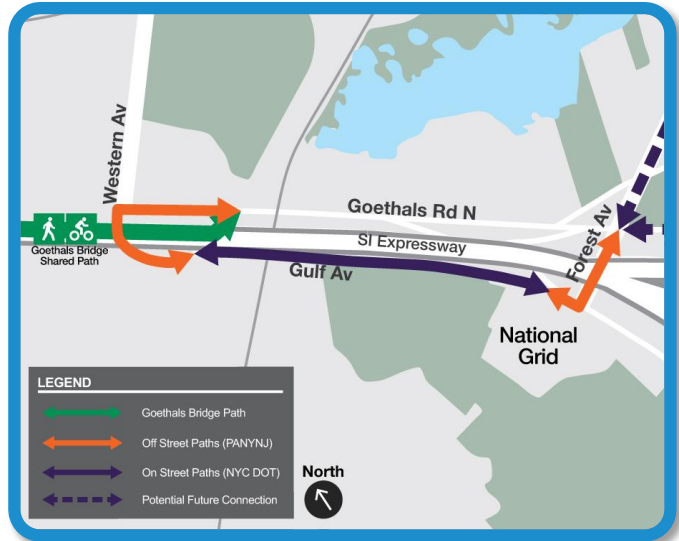
Goethals Rd N at PANYNJ building



Turning truck on Goethals Rd N



North sidewalk on Goethals Rd N



## Use Gulf Av To Create A Safe And Comfortable Connection

Gulf Av will make for a slightly longer trip to the bridge for cyclists but will be safer and more comfortable as it:

- Avoids conflicts with heavy truck activity
- Allow for off-street bicycle paths



## Use Off-Street Paths

Sidewalks will be improved to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic with:

- Guide Signage
- Shared Use Markings
- Bike-friendly ramps at intersections

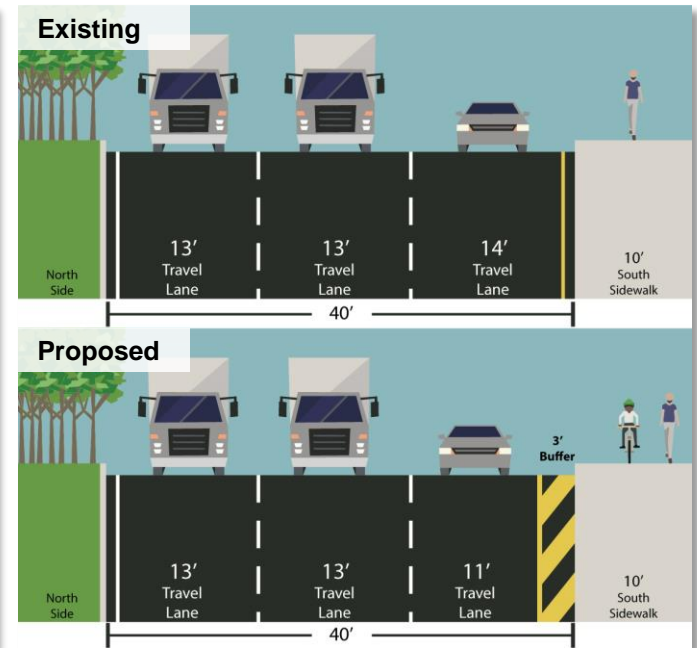


## On-Street Path

Where sidewalks cannot accommodate bicycle traffic, improvements will be made to the road to accommodate cyclists, such as:

- New Markings and Green Bike Paint
- Protection from Vehicle Traffic

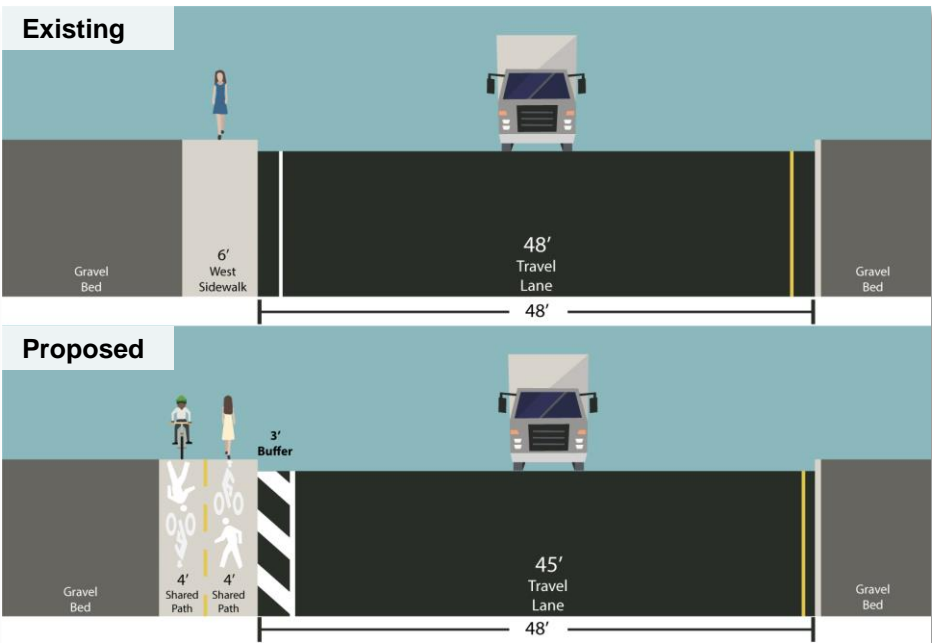
# Proposed Changes – Goethals Rd N, Bridge Entrance To Western Av



## Existing Sidewalk Will Give Cyclists Access To The Bridge

- Sidewalk is already wide enough to accommodate both cyclists and pedestrians (same width as bridge path)
- Avoids conflicts caused by trucks queues and high speed vehicles during off-hours

# Proposed Changes – Western Av From Goethals Rd N To Gulf Av

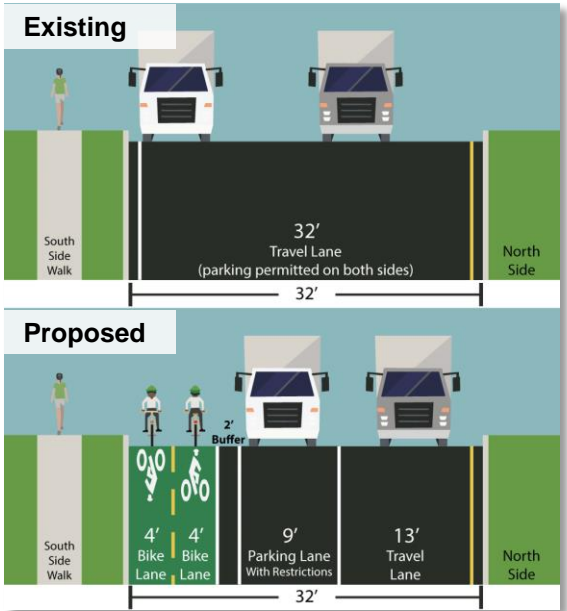


## Existing Sidewalk Will Be Widened For Cyclists

- Western sidewalk will be widened to accommodate both bicycle and pedestrian traffic
- Channelization will be added along sidewalk and travel lanes will wide enough to accommodate turning trucks through corners and bends



# Proposed Changes – Gulf Av From 1<sup>st</sup> Bend To National Grid West Driveway

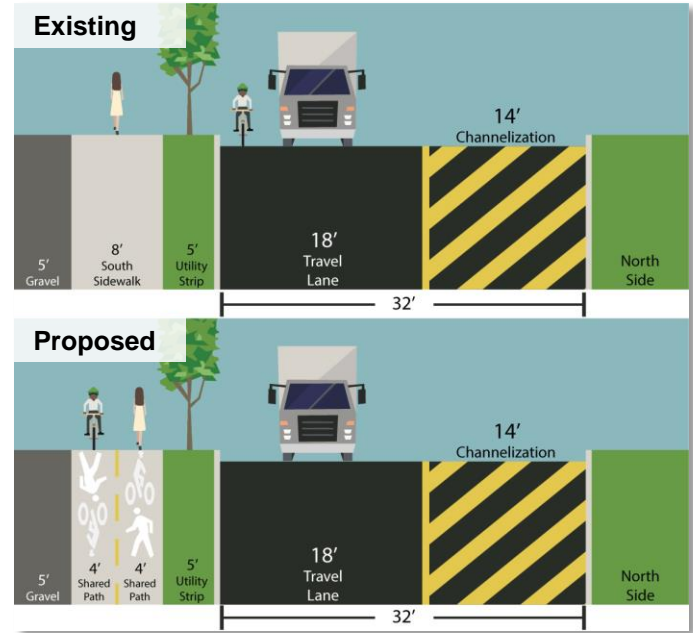


## Cyclists Moved To Roadbed Where Sidewalk Cannot Be Widened

- Parked vehicles will protect cyclists from motor vehicle traffic
- Parking for local business needs will be kept for daytime operations
- Overnight parking restrictions will allow oversized vehicles to access the bridge from port facility



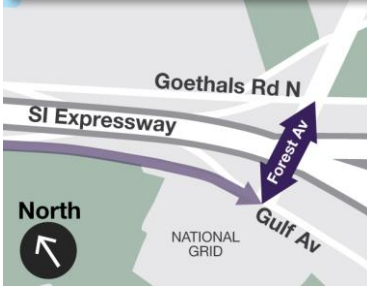
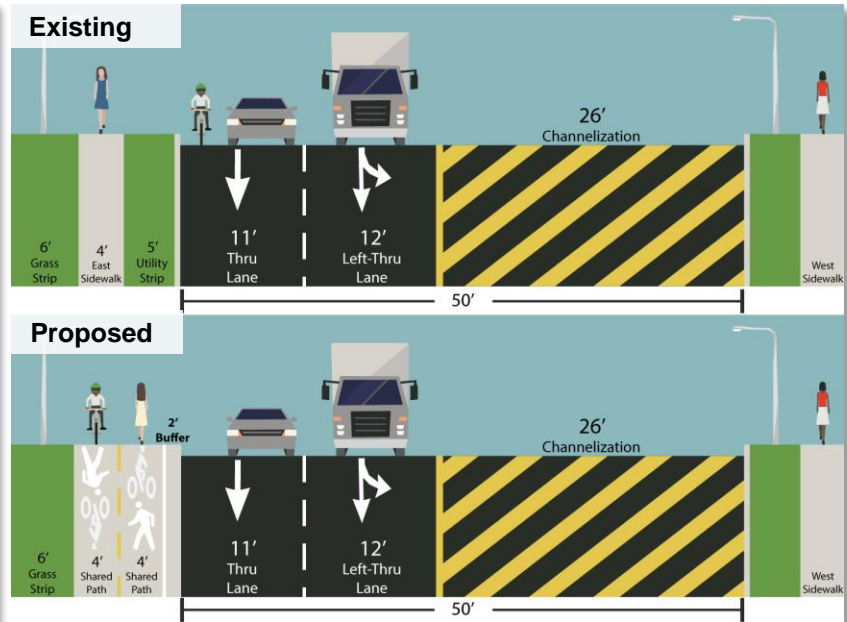
# Proposed Changes – Gulf Av From SI Expressway Exit Ramp



## Cyclists Move Back To The Sidewalk Before A Busy Intersection

- Sidewalk is already wide enough to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic
- Avoids conflicts with trucks coming off the SIE Exit Ramp at Forest Av

# Proposed Changes – Forest Av From Gulf Av To Goethals Rd N



## Cyclists Routed Onto The Eastern Sidewalk, Away From Trucks

- Sidewalk is widened into the grass to provide enough room for bicycle and pedestrian traffic
- Keeps road width for wide turning trucks and keeps cyclists out of their path

# Goethals Bridge Bicycle Connection

## Safer, Comfortable Route To Bridge

- Project will use off-street and protected on-street paths to get cyclists to and from the bridge
- Encourages use of the bridge's bicycle and pedestrian path for tourism, exercise, and commuting

## Makes Possible Future Bicycle Connections

Ends where connections can be made to neighboring communities and existing bicycle networks

## No Disruption To Existing Vehicle Traffic

No changes to number of travel lanes or turn lanes along the route

## Includes Enough Parking For Existing Needs

Repurposes on-street parking along Gulf Av to protect cyclists



# THANK YOU!

Questions?



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