Safe Streets for Seniors
Addressing Senior Pedestrian Focus Areas in New York City

Queens Community Board 8
January 2010
Fatality History

- Since 1990, pedestrian fatalities in NYC have decreased by 60%.

- Prior to 1950, pedestrians accounted for ¾ of all traffic fatalities. Since then, the percentage has decreased to only ½.
12% of the population in New York City

39% of pedestrian fatalities
Response

- Developed a senior pedestrian safety program based on crash history
- Designated “Senior Pedestrian Focus Areas” based on statistical analysis and mapping
- Initiated a pilot program in each borough
- Created timeline for remaining focus areas
- Identified staffing and funding sources
New York City's Safe Streets for Seniors

2008 Pilot Areas

Phase I Areas

Phase II Areas
Senior Areas: Queens

- Flushing*
- Jackson Heights
- Jamaica Hills
- Rego Park
- Sunnyside

*Pilot Area
Jamaica Hills, Queens
Senior Pedestrian Crashes 2001-2006

Study Area Boundaries
# Fatalities
Severe Injuries
Senior Pedestrian Issues

- Not enough time to cross the street
- Broken or missing pedestrian ramps
- Faded and hard to see markings
- Turning vehicles failing to yield
- Poor draining or ponding in crosswalks
Proposed Improvements

- Time signals for 3ft/sec. walking speed
- Refurbish markings
- Install high visibility crosswalks and advanced stop bars
- Repair broken curbs and pedestrian ramps
- Replace missing and upgrade existing signs
- Install pedestrian refuge islands at 5 locations
Proposed Plan

- **Pedestrian Islands on Hillside Avenue**
  - 172nd Street (east crosswalk)
  - 173rd Street (west crosswalk)
  - Wexford Terrace (east and west crosswalks)
  - 175th Street (west crosswalk)
Proposed Islands

- Hillside Avenue
- 172nd Street
- 173rd Street
- 175th Street
- Warwick Crescent
Proposed Plan

- Pedestrian Islands on Hillside Avenue
  - 179th Street (west crosswalk)
  - 179th Place (east and west crosswalks)
Proposed Plan

- Pedestrian Island on Hillside Avenue
  - 188th Street (east crosswalk)
Existing Islands – School Safety Project 2009

Midland Pkwy
181st Street
182nd Street
183rd Street
184th Street
185th Street

Hillside Avenue
Next Steps

- Signal timing for seniors – complete
- Pedestrian island installation – Spring/Summer 2010
- Marking and Signage upgrades – Spring/Summer 2010
Comments and Questions:

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