School Safety Project
at The Learning Tree School

Landscaped Refuge Islands on Northern Boulevard @
103rd and 104th Streets

Presentation to Transportation Committee
Queens Community Board 3
May 29th, 2008
Project Location
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- The Corona/East Elmhurst neighborhoods make up this vibrant commercial and residential corridor that generate lots of pedestrian crossings.
- Northern Boulevard is a high volume roadway and a truck route.
- The Langston Hughes Library and Cultural Center are located directly across the street from the Learning Tree School.
The Learning Tree is one of DOT’s 135 “priority schools”
Refuge islands on Northern Boulevard were a key recommended safety measure at this school
School officials indicated concern for students crossing Northern Blvd.
Landscaping and Street Trees are part of PlaNYC goal to plant a million new trees.
Landscaped Refuge Islands - Benefits

- Refuge islands provide a protected space for those who can’t make it across in one signal phase
- Refuge islands help enforce turning vehicles to yield to pedestrians who are crossing
- Pedestrian safety at heavily utilized school intersections on Northern Blvd
- Street trees help calm traffic on this heavily traveled roadway and increase the visibility of the island to motorists
Landscaped Refuge Islands

- Islands will be constructed in the existing painted center median
- Parks Department will maintain landscaping and street trees.
- Construction of median islands is expected to take approx 4 weeks to complete
Examples of newly Completed Refuge Islands

Grand Street, Manhattan