OCEAN PKWY & CHURCH AVE

Intersection Safety Improvements

Community Board 12  March 26, 2019
LOCATION

- Entrance to Prospect Expressway on north side of intersection
- Prospect Expressway and Church Ave are both through truck routes
- Ocean Parkway bicycle greenway on west median
- Substantial bus traffic
  - BM3, BM4 & B103 turn northbound onto Expressway
  - B35 bus travels along Church Ave in both directions
BACKGROUND

- Pedestrian fatally struck, February 2018, in north crosswalk
- Pedestrian fatalities in 2013 and 2008 at similar location
- Severe/moderate injury crashes resulting from pedestrian-vehicle conflicts in north crosswalk
- Town Hall meetings in April and November 2018 demonstrated strong community support for pedestrian improvements
2010 PROJECT

- Added pedestrian safety island in the south crosswalk
- Upgraded pedestrian and bicycle markings at intersection
- Added pedestrian countdown signals

Before: Ocean Pkwy south crosswalk, looking East

After: Ocean Pkwy south crosswalk, looking East
2013/2014 PROJECT

- Constructed pedestrian safety median in north crosswalk
- Added 10 second LPI for pedestrians crossing Ocean Pkwy/Prospect Expwy
- Added flashing yellow arrow for right turns from westbound Church Ave to northbound Prospect Expwy
- 35% reduction in injuries since project was completed in 2014
EXISTING CONDITIONS & ISSUES

Pedestrian–Vehicle Conflicts
EXISTING CONDITIONS & ISSUES

Turning Vehicle Conflicts
EXISTING CONDITIONS & ISSUES

Long Crossing Distances / Not Enough Time to Cross
EXISTING CONDITIONS & ISSUES

Through Truck Route
15-20% heavy vehicles in intersection

Heavy Vehicles
SAFETY PROJECT GOALS

1. Simplify intersection, reduce conflicts for vehicles and pedestrians
2. Calm turns to northbound Prospect Expressway
3. Reduce the impacts of heavy vehicles
4. Shorten crossing distances / allow pedestrians more time to cross
5. Maximize safety benefits / minimize negative impacts on surrounding streets, community
6. Preserve and enhance sense of place, minimize highway-like design features
PROPOSAL

Markings Improvements
Expand Concrete Medians
Painted Curb Extensions
Signal Timing Changes
PROPOSAL – MARKINGS IMPROVEMENTS

Restrict westbound left from Church Ave to SB Ocean Pkwy
(Peak hour 32 vehicles)

Add qwick kurb to prevent double rights to NB Prospect Expressway

Allow buses to use right turn lane to continue straight on Church Ave

Realign westbound moving lanes on Church Ave

Existing
PROPOSAL – CONCRETE MEDIAN EXTENSIONS

- Expand Prospect Expwy Service Rd Medians
- Improve bicycle ramps
- Safety bollards protect pedestrians and cyclists
NW median expands from 10’ to 17’

NE median expands from 30’ to 37’
PROPOSAL – PAINTED CURB EXTENSION

Add painted curb extension to slow turns off of SB Ocean Pkwy Service Rd
PROPOSAL – E 7TH ST / CHURCH AVE

Replace existing sub-standard island with painted curb extension to improve lane alignment, reduce conflicts for buses.

Remove 2 parking spaces and allow buses to merge into right turn lane.

*DOT studying partner project for additional bus improvements along Church Ave, to be presented in late Spring 2019.
PROPOSAL – SIGNAL TIMING

Extend existing exclusive pedestrian phase across Ocean Pkwy by 5 seconds

Add flashing yellow arrow for eastbound left turns from Church Ave
BENEFITS OF SAFETY PROPOSAL

Markings Improvements & Lane Realignment

• Simplifies intersection by eliminating turning conflicts
• Prevents double turns from Church Ave to northbound Prospect Expwy
• Allows for expansion of concrete medians
• Clarifies moving lanes and provides more space for buses

Expanding Concrete Medians

• Shortens crossing distances for pedestrians, cyclists
• Provides more space to wait
• Encourages slower turns onto Prospect Expwy
• Improves bicycle facilities and reduces conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists
BENEFITS OF SAFETY PROPOSAL

Painted Curb Extensions

- Shortens crossing distances
- Encourages slower, safer turns, yielding to pedestrians
- Minimal parking loss, ~6 spaces

Signal Timing & Signage

- Increases protected crossing time for pedestrians and cyclists
- Maximizes benefits for pedestrians while preserving safety on local streets
- Clarifies vehicle movements
- Discourages speeding
THANK YOU!

Questions?