RIVERSIDE DRIVE
AND HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY RAMPS
To Community Board 12 Traffic & Transportation Committee
April 6, 2020
Background
BACKGROUND

• Request by Department of Parks and Recreation to improve neighborhood access to Fort Washington Park

• Near New York-Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia University

• Henry Hudson Parkway has an on-ramp and several off-ramps at this section of Riverside Drive

• There are very few entrances to Fort Washington Park from Riverside Drive
BACKGROUND

5 Locations along Riverside Drive. At the equivalent of W172nd St:

Location A

Location B

Location C
5 Locations along Riverside Drive.
At the equivalent of W169th St:

Location D

Location E
Existing Conditions
Motorists heading southbound on Henry Hudson Parkway routing to the George Washington Bridge are required to drive on Riverside Drive, a neighborhood street.

As a result, there are highway-like traffic conditions and behaviors on Riverside Drive.
The path to/from Fort Washington Park at Riverside Dr is interrupted by crossings without crosswalks, paths without sidewalk, and sidewalks without pedestrian ramps.
LOCATIONS A, B, AND C

1. No sidewalk on traffic splitter island that would lead pedestrians towards Park

2. No crosswalks or pedestrian ramps at all locations

3. No pedestrian facility from Park entrance/exit
LOCATIONS D AND E

1. No crosswalks or pedestrian ramps at both locations
2. Long crossing distances
3. Soft turns result in higher speed and more aggressive driver behavior
TOOLKIT

Crosswalks

Sidewalks and Pedestrian Ramps

Concrete Curb Extensions

Painted Pedestrian Space with Flexible Delineators
Proposed Conditions
LOCATIONS A, B, AND C

1. Install crosswalks and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps at Locations A, B, and C

2. Construct sidewalk between Locations A and B.

3. Install concrete sidewalk extension with pedestrian ramps between Locations B and C.

Example of concrete sidewalk extension at 4th Ave, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn (2014)
RENDERING: EXISTING OF LOCATIONS C AND B
LOCATIONS D AND E

1. Install concrete sidewalk extension at Location D

2. Install crosswalks and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps

3. Remove left turn lane and add painted curb extension at Location E

Example of painted curb extension at Cathedral Parkway, Morningside Heights, Manhattan (2015)
Southbound motorists on Henry Hudson Parkway will have a sharper turn onto Riverside Drive.

Drivers turning from Riverside Drive to the I-95 and George Washington Bridge will have a sharper turn.

This will calm traffic and increase safety for pedestrians crossing.
Please note that the timeline for this project is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Spring 2020: Present to CB 12
- 2020: Grant Paperwork
- 2021 or 2022: Tentative Construction
SUMMARY

1) Add crosswalks and pedestrian ramps at all locations
2) Build new sidewalk on traffic splitter island between Locations A and B
3) Install concrete sidewalk extension between Locations B and C
4) Install concrete sidewalk extension at Location D
5) Add painted curb extension at Location E
BENEFITS

• New / improved pedestrian facilities
• Provides neighborhood access to Ft. Washington Park
• Traffic calming
• Safer, shorter pedestrian crossings
THANK YOU!

Questions?