

# NYC Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs

*If you can do it here,  
can you do it anywhere?*



WALK21  
APBP Professional  
Development  
Seminar

2009

Janette Sadik-Khan  
Commissioner



# Outline

- Approach & Keys to Success - *Ryan Russo*
- The Details
  - On-Street Bicycle Routes - *Hayes Lord*
  - Protected On-Street Bicycle Paths - *Joshua Benson*
  - Pedestrian Projects - *Randy Wade*



12<sup>th</sup> Ave – 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pedestrian & Circulation Enhancement

Manhattan, 2009

# Vision, Leadership & Policy



**Sustainable Streets**  
Strategic Plan  
for the New York City  
Department of  
Transportation  
2008 and Beyond

- Safety
- Mobility
- World Class Streets
- Infrastructure
- Greening
- Global Leadership
- Customer Service



# Do-It-Yourself, Part I

## DOT Ped-Bike Project Managers

- Mid-2006: 6
- Mid-2009: 21

## Close Relationships

- Planning-Operations
- Planners-Engineers

Grand Army Plaza  
Southeastern Improvements

Brooklyn, 2007



# Do-It-Yourself, Part II

## DOT Operational Project

- DOT
- Parks / Greenstreets



## DOT Capital Project

- DOT
- Dept. of Design & Construction
- Parks
- Public Design Commission
- Office of Management & Budget
- Contractors

9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Complete Street

Manhattan, 2007

# Implemented Projects Build Momentum

## PlaNYC Targets

- 200 Miles of Bicycle Routes in 3 Years
- 4 Public Space Projects / Year
- **Projects Designed for All Users**

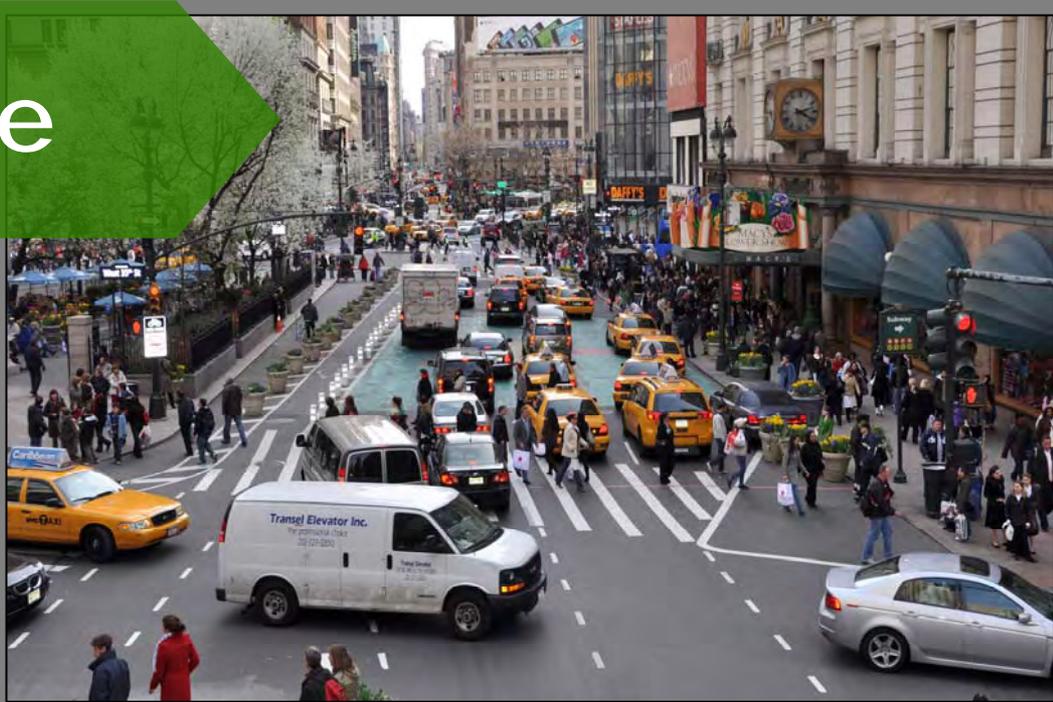


Ninth Avenue at 14th Street  
Safety Improvement & Plazas



# Manage Change

- Put vision/project forward, listen carefully
- Outreach capacity is limiting factor
- Safety is primary message



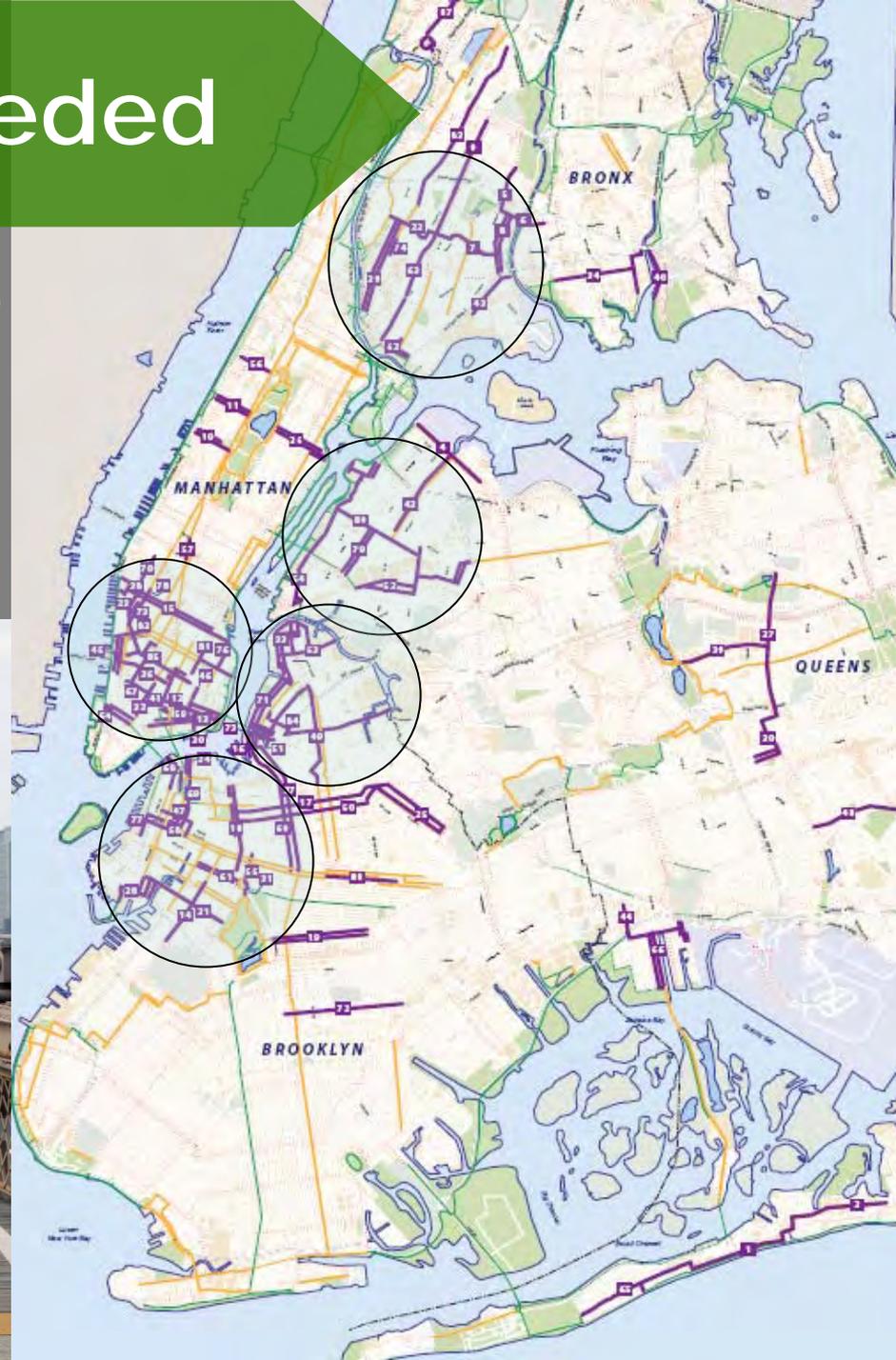
Broadway at 34th Street  
Herald Square

Manhattan, 2009

# Network Where Needed

## Bicycle Project Development Criteria

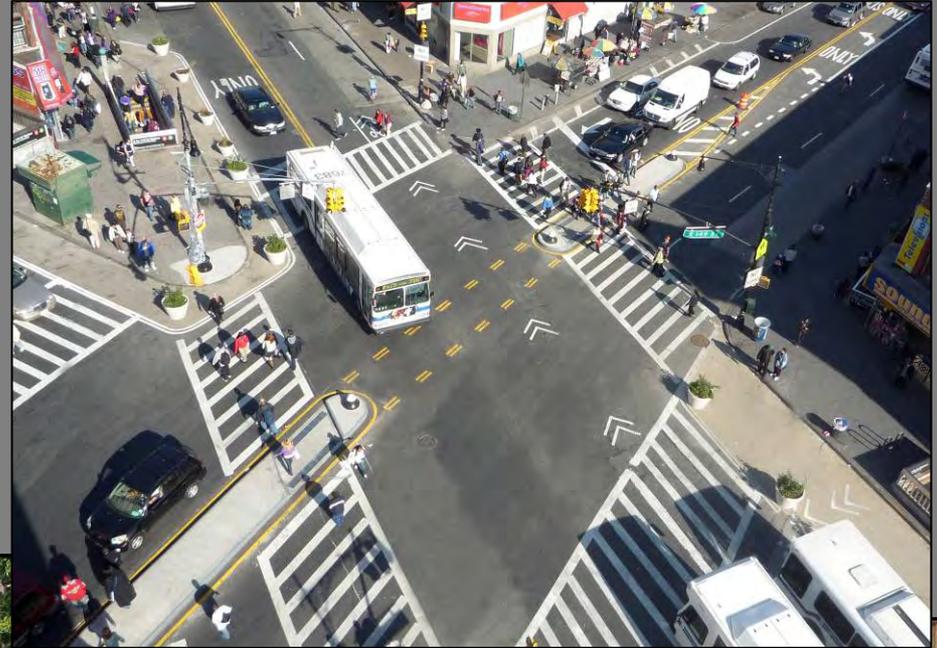
- Ridership
- Connectivity
- Economic Development
- Backbone System
- Safety



# Intersections, Not Cross-Sections

Our successful designs:

- Vary mid-block vs at the intersection
- Have innovative signalization and signage, along with geometry

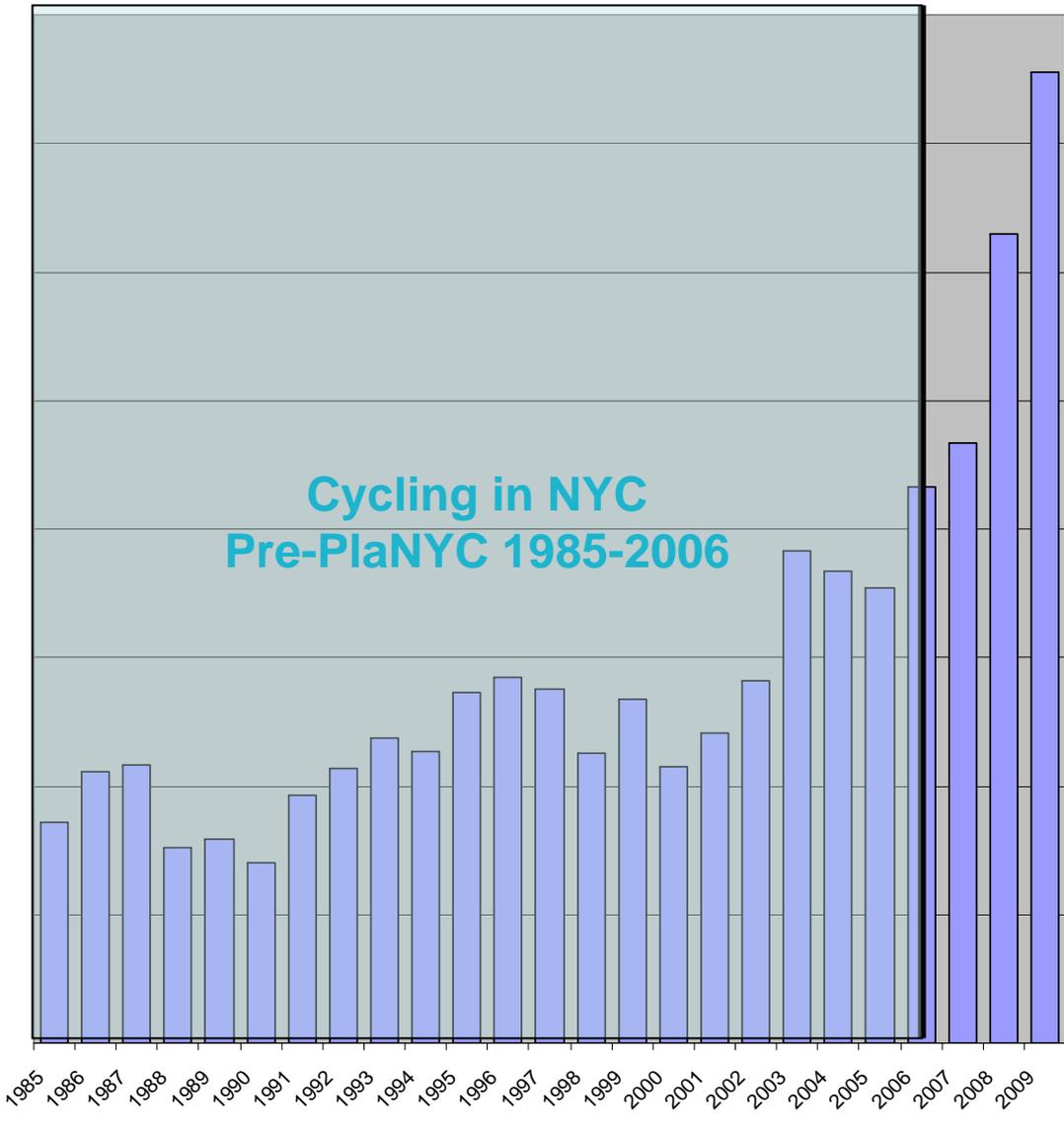


# It's New York, not Copenhagen



# Moving in the Right Direction

Cycling in NYC  
Pre-PlaNYC 1985-2006



## Pedestrian Fatality Rates

- USA:
  - 14 per million residents
- NACTO Cities:
  - 22 per million residents
- NYC:
  - 1991: 41 per million
  - 2008: 18 per million



# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Bicycle Lanes

### Wide Parking Lane

- Reduces the chance of bicyclists getting “doored”

### Travel Lane Widths

- Vehicular speed reduction

### Green Bicycle Lane

- Increases motorist awareness



# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Buffered Bicycle Lanes



De Kalb Av, Brooklyn



Warren Street, Manhattan

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Shared Lanes

- Used when no excess road space exists
- Adjacent to parking or curbside
- Clear, easy to follow bicycle route
- Heightens driver awareness of cyclists

Shared Lane Next to Parking



Shared Lane Next to Curb



## On-Street Bicycle Routes

# Intersection Treatments – Peg-a-Tracking

### Signal / Stop Control / Dropped Buffer

- Reduces turning collisions at intersections

#### Signal Controlled Intersection



#### Stop Controlled Intersection



# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Intersection Treatments

Dropped Buffer



Smith Street, Brooklyn

Stop Bar Placement



W. 10th Street, Manhattan

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Intersection Treatments – Bicycle Box

- Places a cyclist in front of the vehicle to make the turn

### Bicycle Lane Bike Box



Smith St, Brooklyn

### Shared Lane Bike Box



5th Ave, Brooklyn

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Intersection Treatments

### – Markings

- Cyclists are guided through an intersection
- Alerts turning motorists to cyclists
- Channelizes traffic through intersection

Bicycle Lane Markings



Vanderbilt Avenue, Brooklyn

Shared Lane Markings



Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn

Bicycle Lane to Shared  
Transition Markings



Ave A, Manhattan

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Intersection Treatments

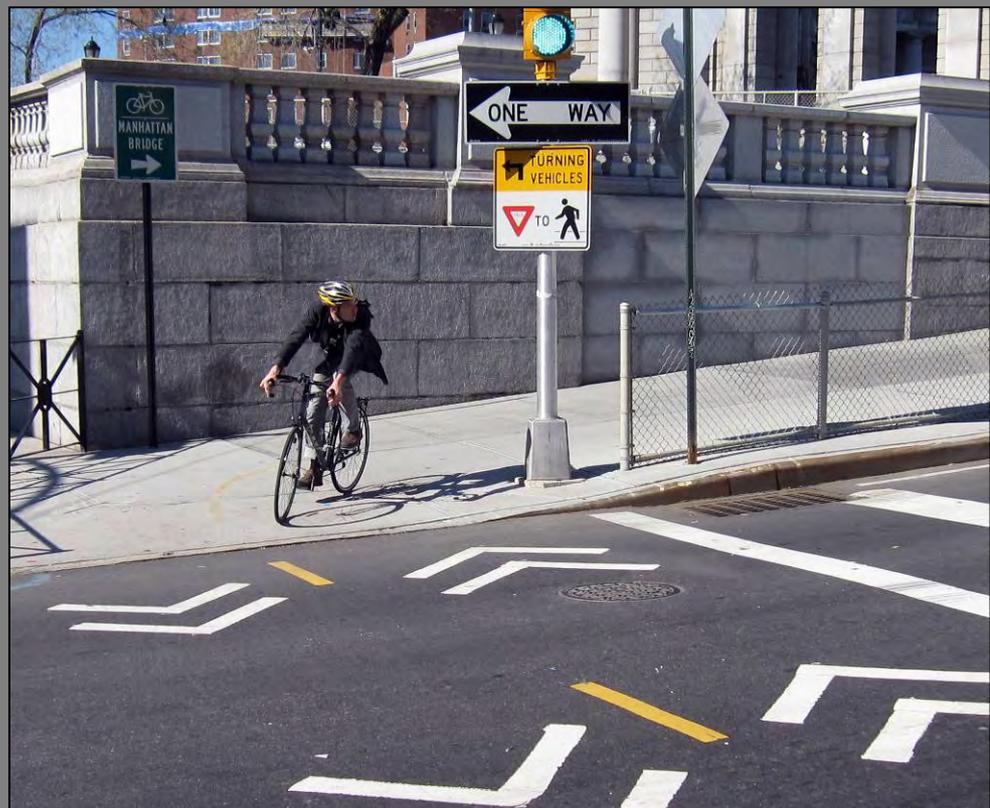
### – Markings

Non-Turning Conflict Markings



Jay Street, Manhattan

Two-Way Bicycle Path Markings



Canal Street, Manhattan

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Bicycle Lanes – Driveway Treatments

- Raises awareness to motorists entering and exiting a driveway

Bike Lane Treatment



Jay Street, Brooklyn

Green Bike Lane Treatment



9<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn

# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Other Treatments

### Queue Jump

- Provides space along narrow roadways for cyclists to move to the front of the queue

### Bicycle Stamp

- Provides guidance to cyclists along park paths and sidewalks

### Queue Jump



### Bicycle Stamp



# On-Street Bicycle Routes

## Signs

### Guide Signs

- Guides cyclists along the network



Clinton Street, Manhattan



Broadway, Manhattan

### Warning Signs

- Warns cyclists of potential conflicts with pedestrians



Broadway, Manhattan



Brooklyn Bridge

# On-Street Protected Bicycle Paths



9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Manhattan

Unique Designs for Safe, Comfortable, Complete Streets

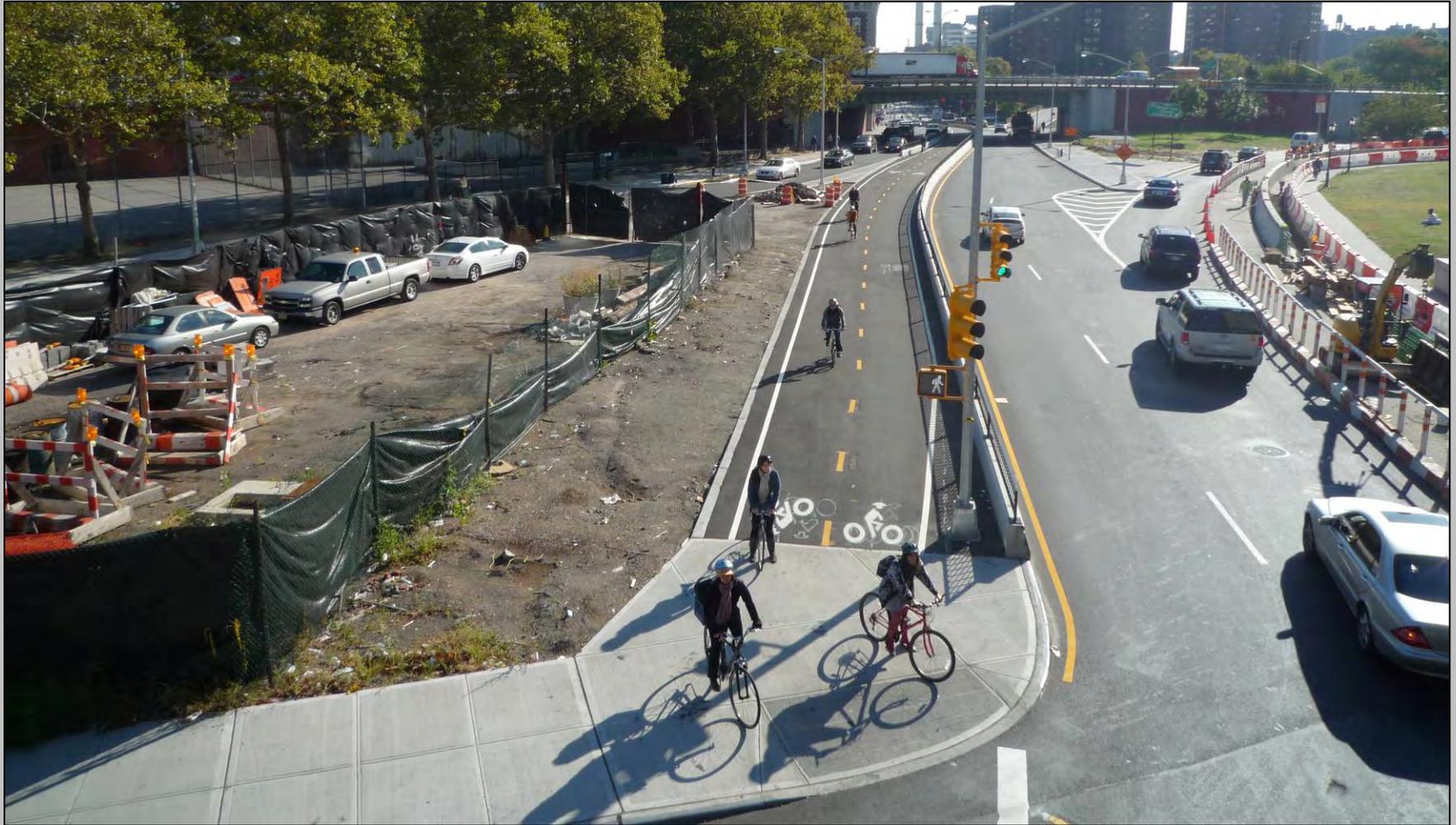
# On-Street Protected Bicycle Paths



Canal Street, Manhattan

Not from AASHTO or MUTCD, but not Anti-AASHTO or Anti-MUTCD

# On-Street Protected Bicycle Paths



Sands Street, Brooklyn

Toolbox of Design Treatments for Overcoming Potential Obstacles

# On-Street Protected Bicycle Path: What Does AASHTO Say?

- AASHTO: “Bike lanes between the curb and parking lane can create obstacles for bicyclists from **opening car doors** and **poor visibility at intersections** and driveways and they **prohibit bicyclists from making left turns**” (p 23).



Grand Street, Manhattan

# On-Street Protected Bicycle Path: NYCDOT Design Toolbox

## Design Treatments Address Issues Raised by AASHTO:

- Floating Parking & Buffer Zone
- Concrete Islands
- Turn Lanes & Split Signal Phases
- Mixing Zones
- Bike Boxes & Turn Areas
- Turn Restrictions & Mall Connections

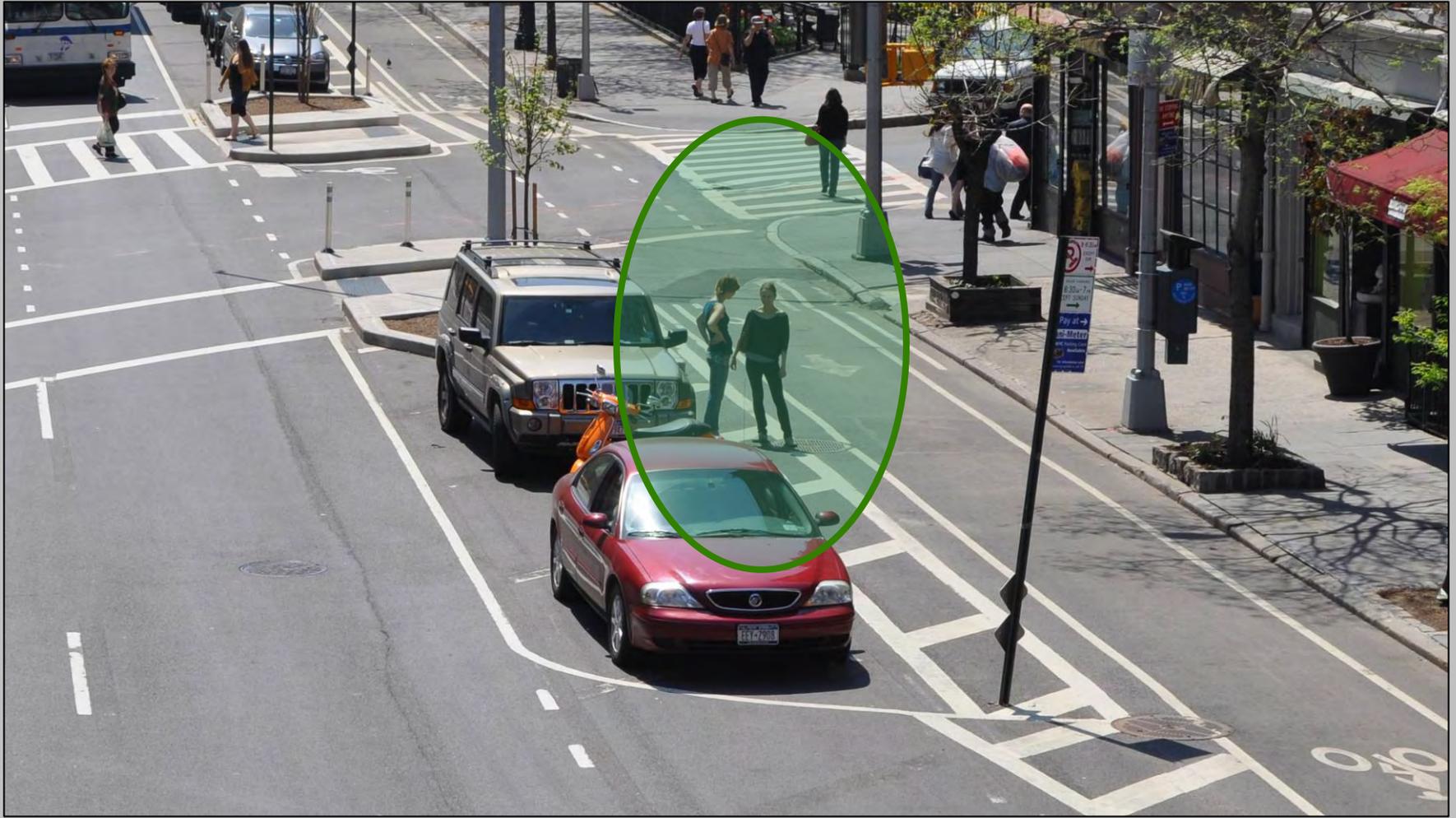
## When All Else Fails:

- Creativity & Determination



Broadway, Manhattan

# Floating Parking & Buffer Zone



8th Avenue, Manhattan

- Floating Parking Protects Bike Path from Intrusion
- Buffer Provides Space for Door Swing & Vehicle Occupants

# Concrete Islands

- Safe & Robust Pedestrian Refuge
- Shortened Pedestrian Crossing
- Greening Opportunity
- Strong & Clear Definition for New Roadway Geometry



8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Manhattan

# Turn Lanes & Split Signal Phases



9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Manhattan

- Separate Signal Phases for Turns Across Bike Path
- Protected Phase for Cyclists & Pedestrians
- Eliminates Turning Conflicts on Roadways with Higher Traffic Speeds

# Mixing Zones



Grand Street, Manhattan

- Shared Space for Cyclists & Motorists to Negotiate Turning Conflicts
- Maximizes Visibility to Prevent “Hook” Type Crashes

# Bike Boxes & Turn Areas



9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Manhattan

- Bike Turn Area Provides for Safe Turns from Bike Path on the Cross Street Phase
- Bike Box Allows Cyclist to Position for a Turn During the Red Phase

# Motor Vehicle Turn Restrictions & Mall Connections



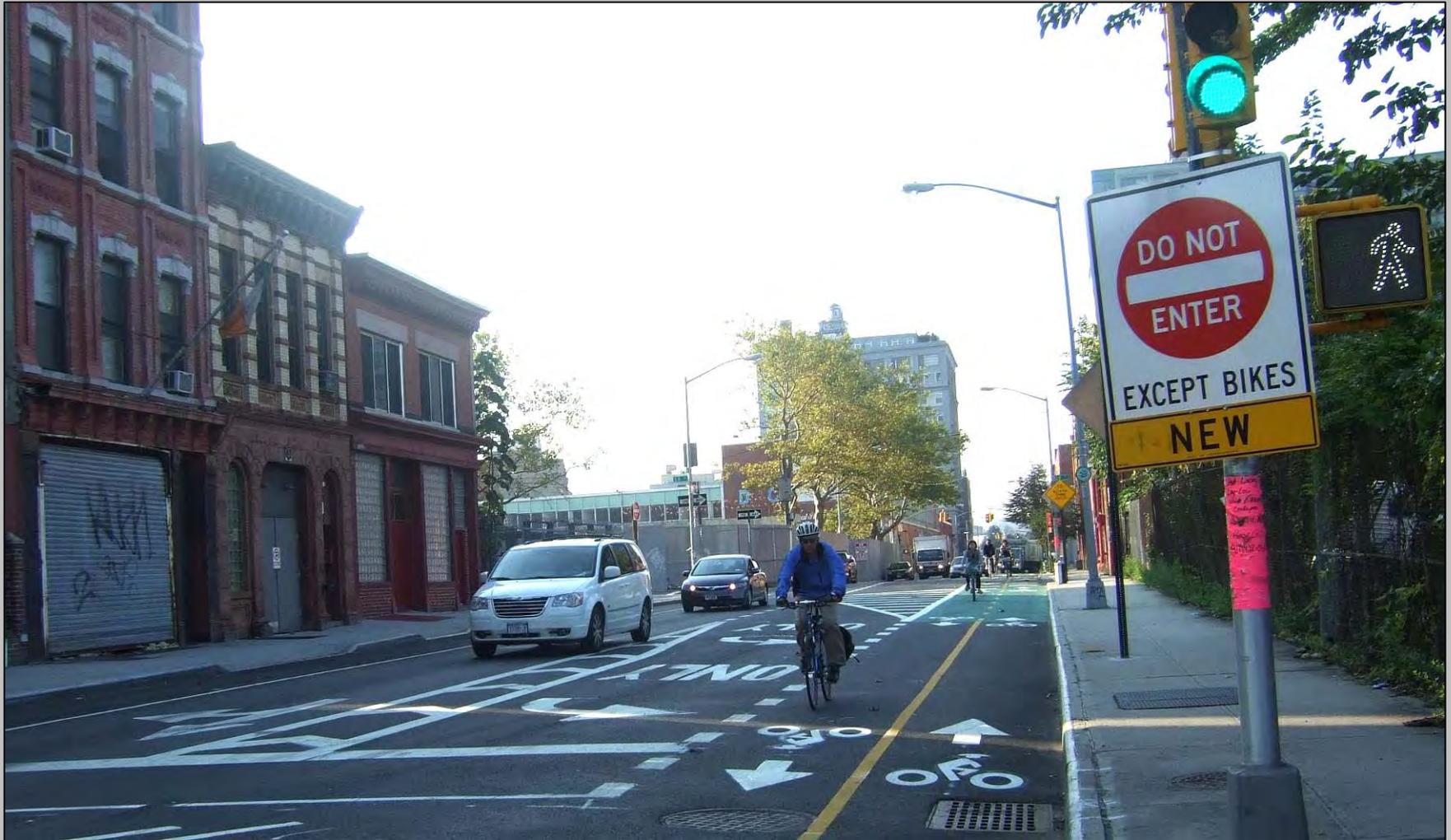
Broadway, Manhattan



Pike Street, Manhattan

- Banning Turns Eliminates Hook Crash Potential
- Connecting Center Malls Reinforces Turn Restriction & Creates Greening Opportunity

# Creativity & Determination



Kent Avenue, Brooklyn

One-Way Street Conversion to Make Space for Two-Way Bike Path

# Creativity & Determination



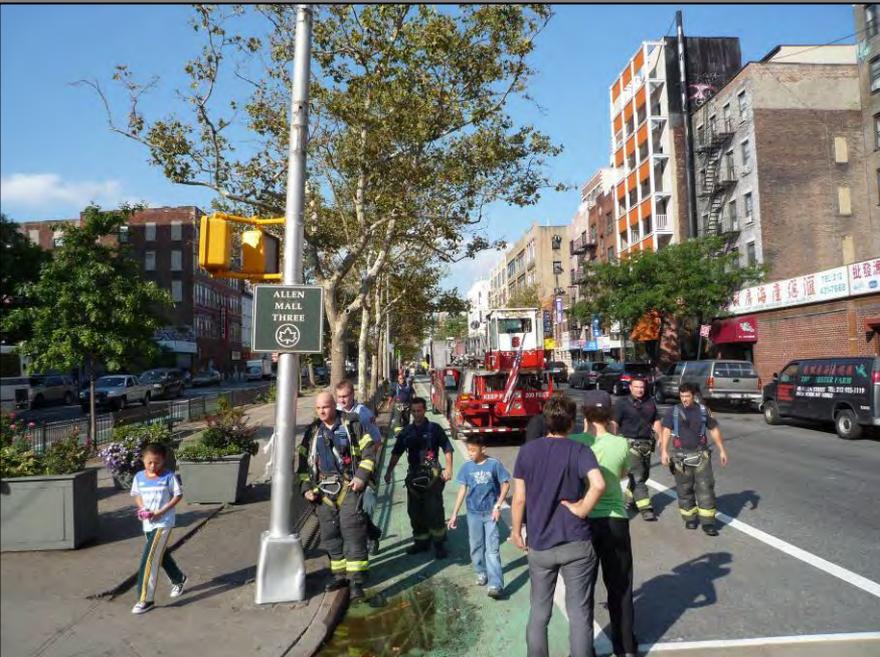
Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn

Protected Cycling Space in a High Traffic Intersection to  
Connect Prospect Park to the Bicycle Network

# NYC's Reclaimed Pedestrian Spaces



# Collaborate with experts...



Fight fire with fire...know geometry



# Doodle with digital trucks...adjust



Line had to be moved back slightly based upon field tests

Then overnight...



Change happens



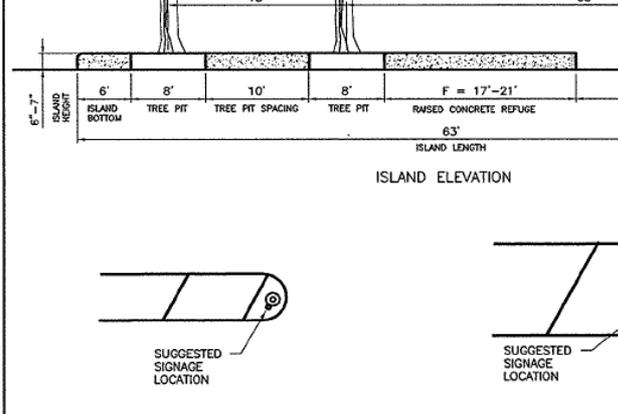
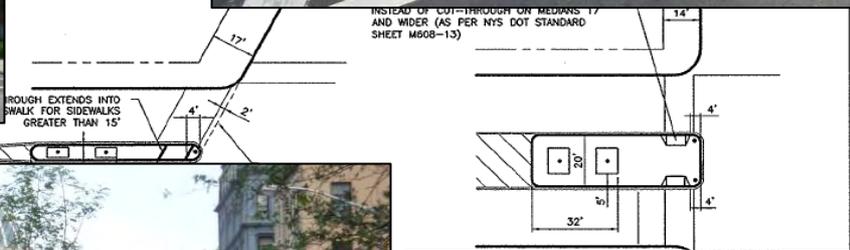
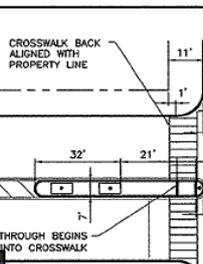
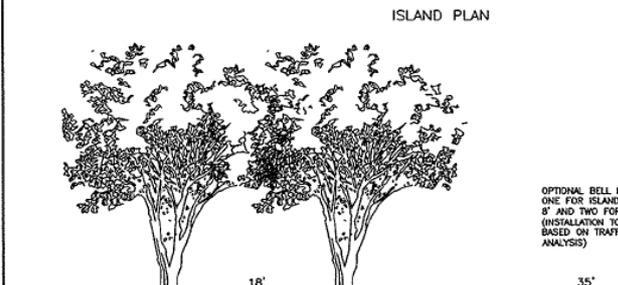
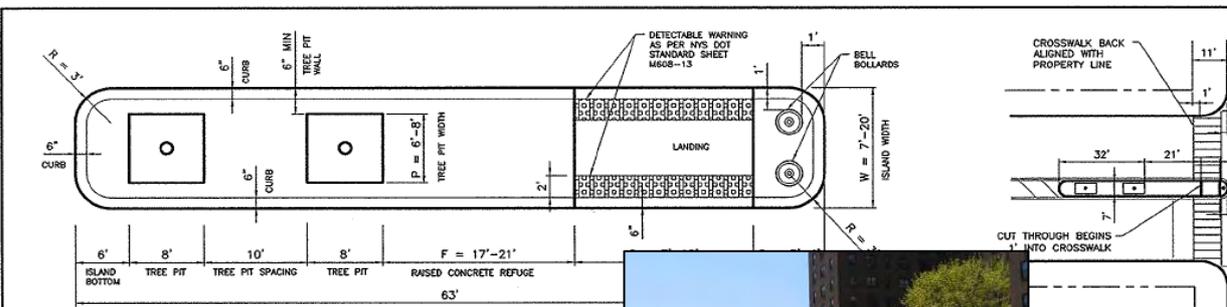
# Protective Planters



# Bollards



# Green Refuge Island Typical



Green Refuge Island And Crosswalk Dimensions For Various Sidewalk Widths

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
A Sidewalk Width	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
B Crosswalk Width	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
C Island Top	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
D Cut Through	7	7	8	8	9	10	10
F Raised Refuge	21	21	20	19	18	17	17

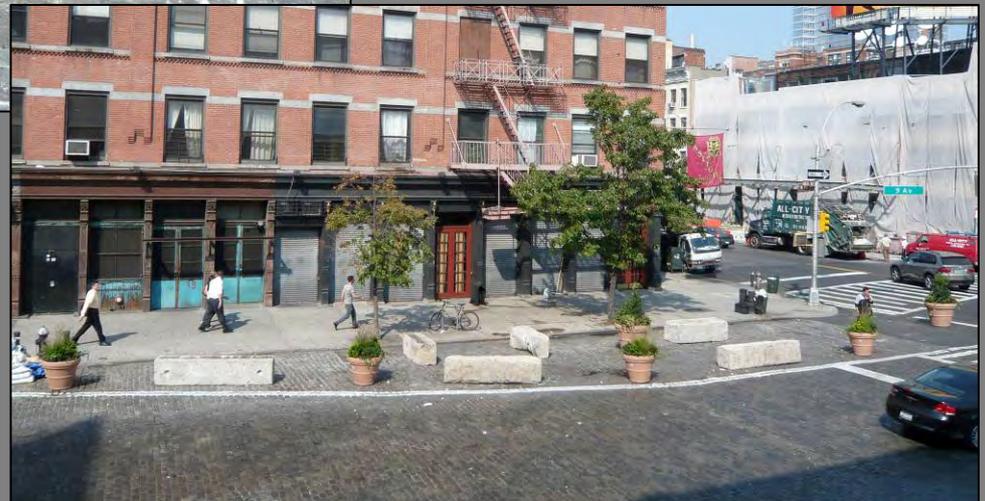
GREEN REFUGE ISLAND TYPICAL GEOMETRY

APPROVED:

Drawn by M. FRIDMAN  
Checked by T. ISHEE  
Borough ALL  
Scale N.T.S.  
Date 10/9/2009

DRAWING NO. TRF-2

# Salvaged bridge granite



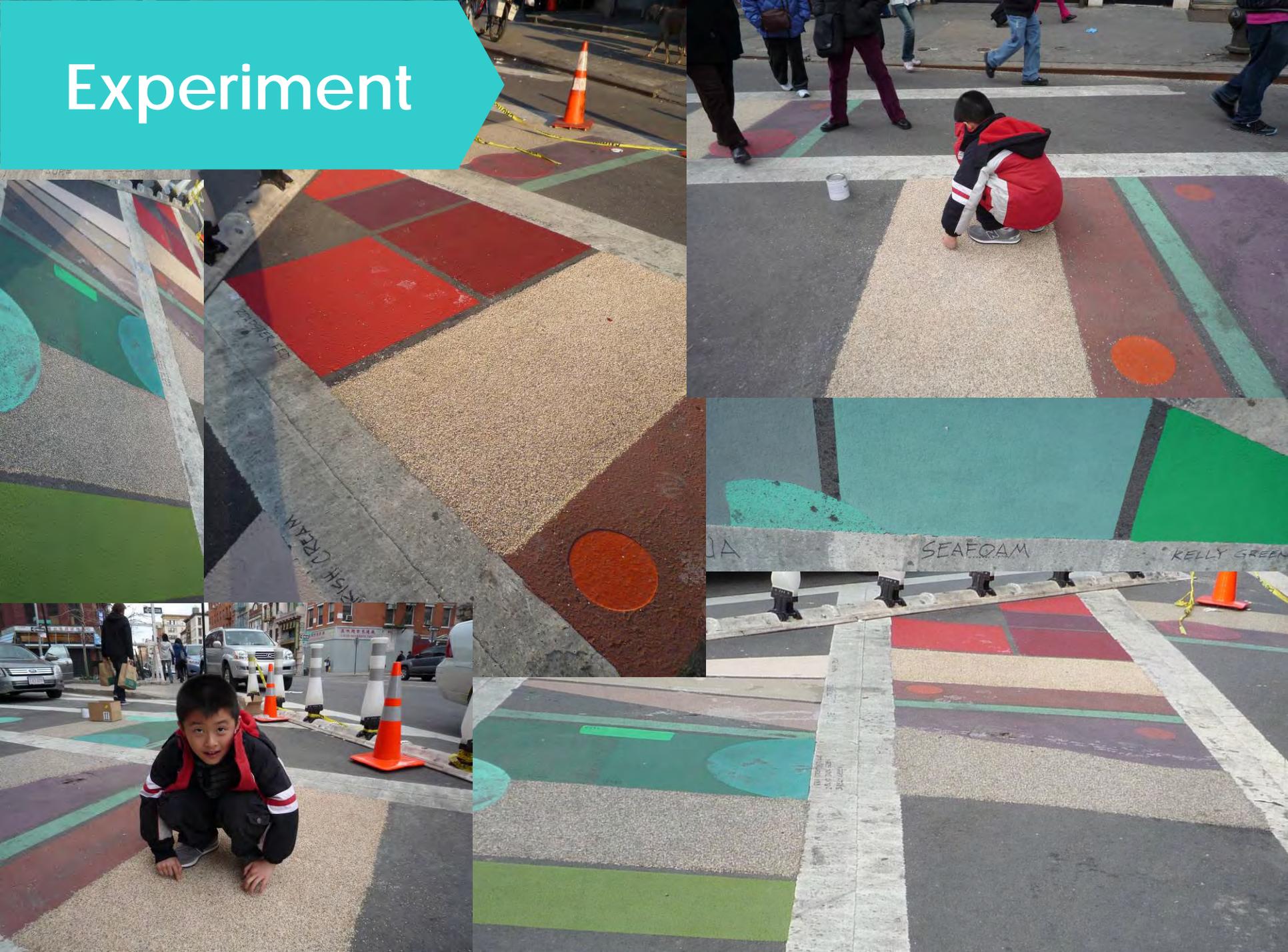
# Purchased granite blocks



# Pedestrian protective devices



# Experiment





# Torch Down Plastic



# Experiment thoroughly



# Painted sidewalks



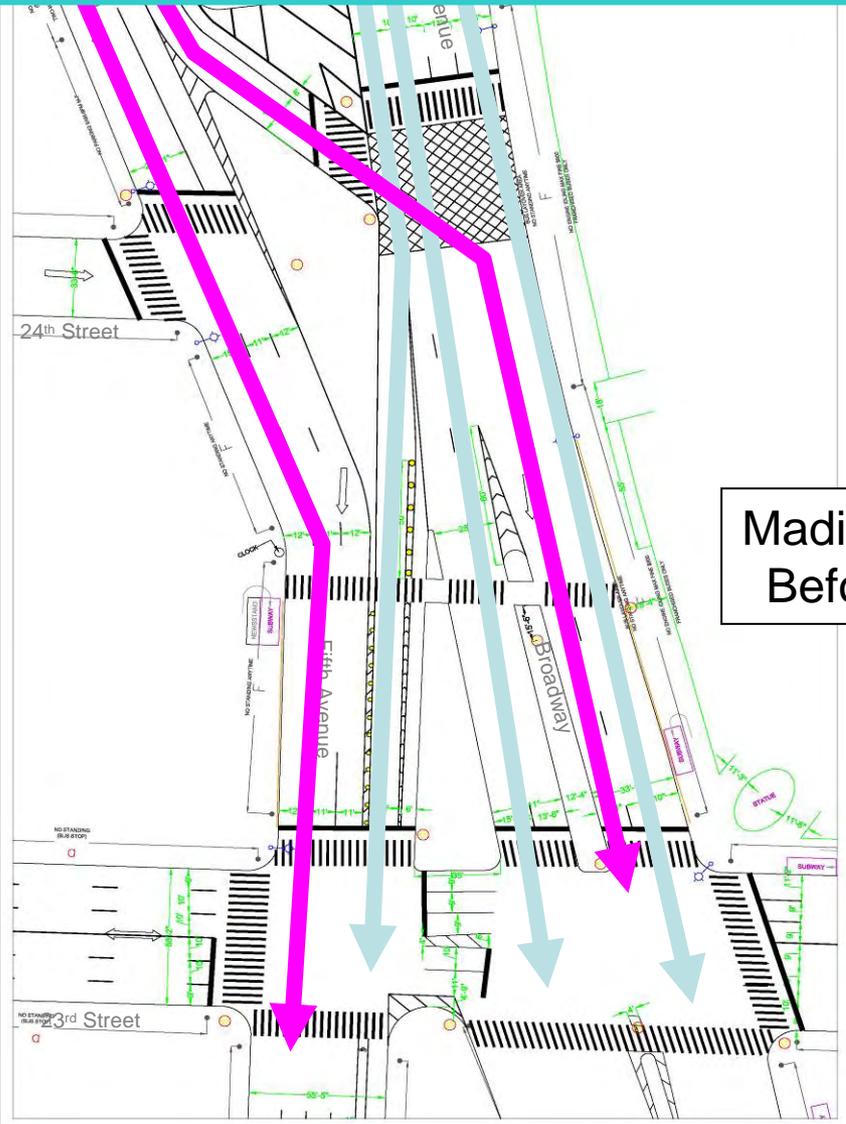
# Epoxied gravel



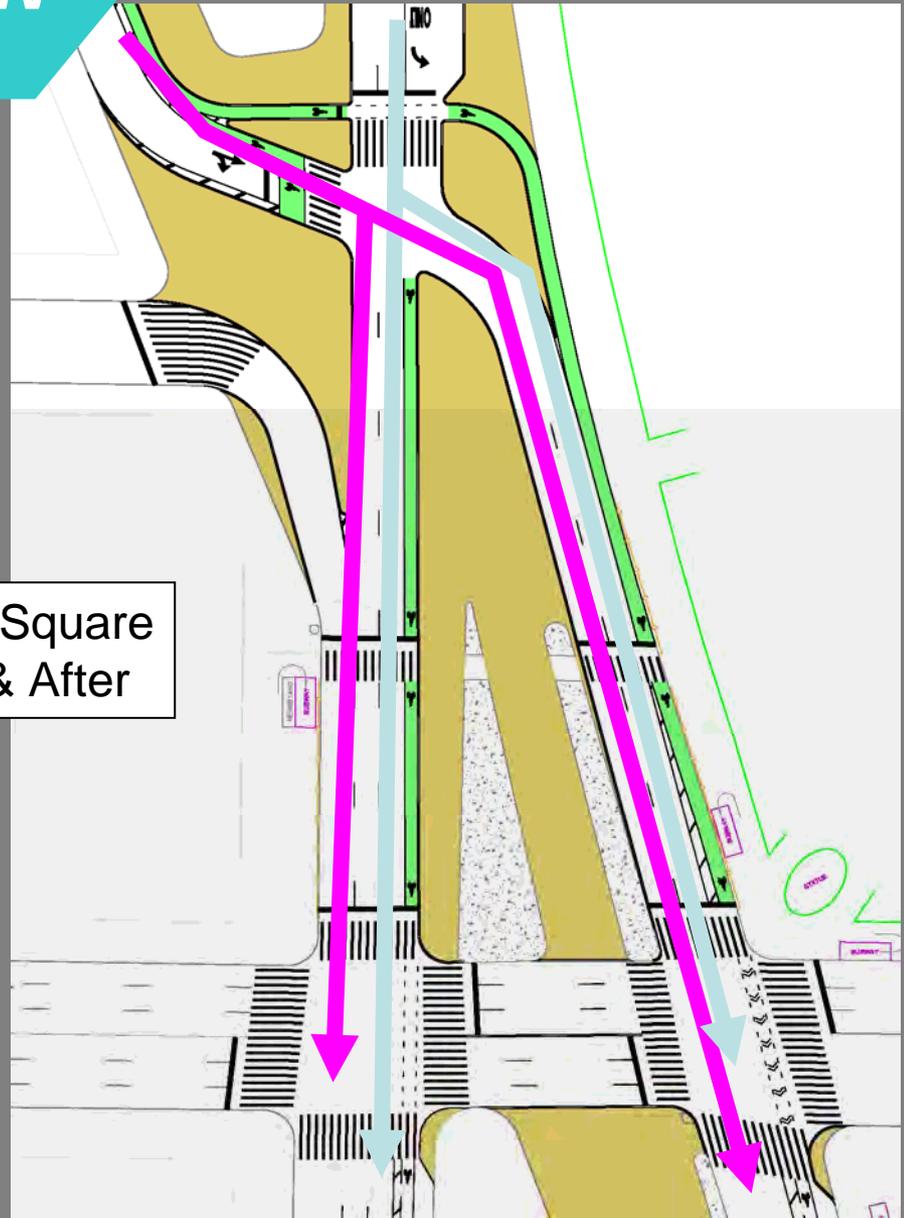




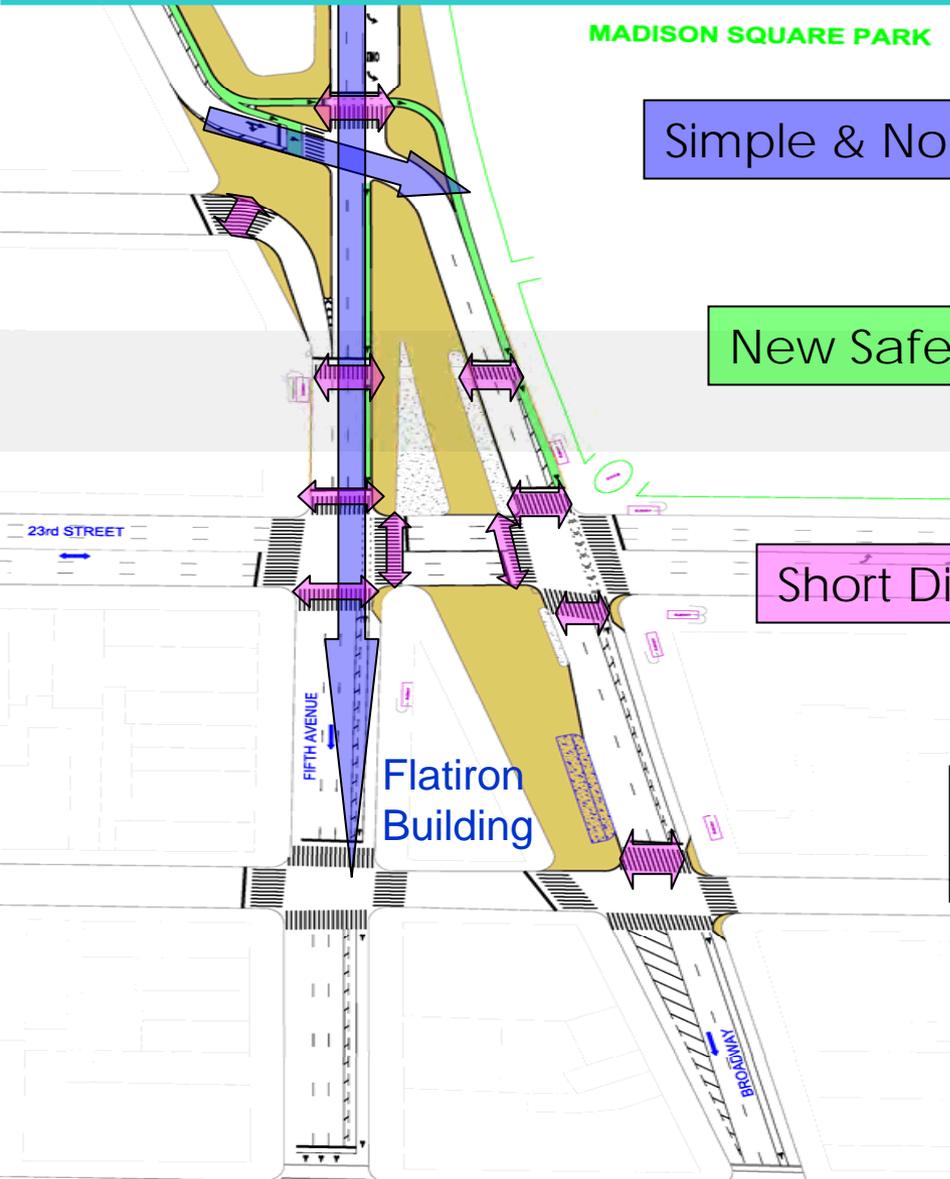
# Visualize Traffic Flow



Madison Square  
Before & After



# Simplify – Patterns + Message



Simple & Normal Traffic Patterns

New Safe Bike Lane Connections

Short Direct Crosswalks

38,000+ sq. ft.  
of New Public Space

# Play with the road



# Anything can be changed



# Island cut back to close street



New concrete road for bus turns



Future landscaped plaza

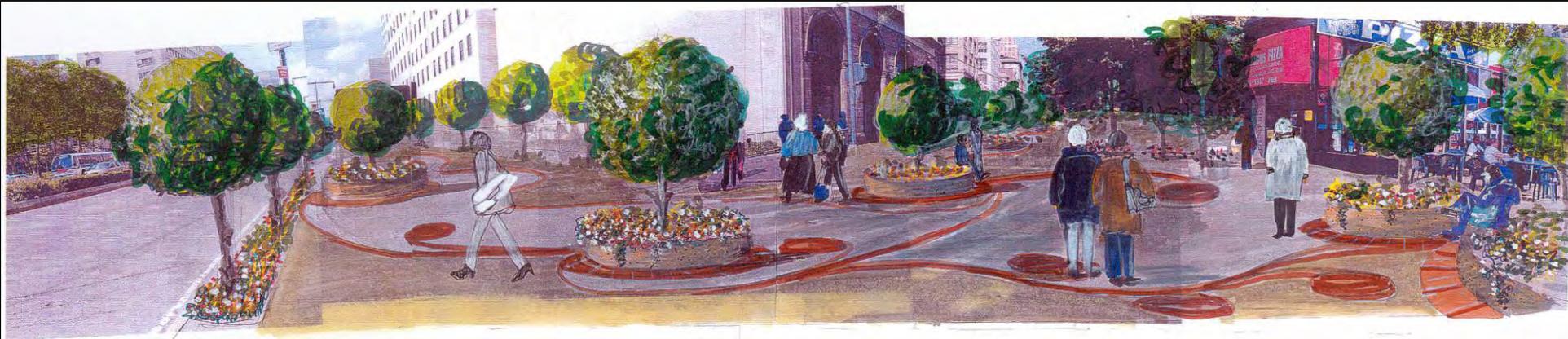


# Expect traffic complaints



- Implementation messy
- Make adjustments
- Only panic after traffic patterns settle
- Pedestrians benefit Day 1

# Explain with Renderings



# People sit when chairs go down



# While still unpacking & in the rain...



# Bike racks = Off the shelf whimsy



# Experiment with objects



Coenties Slip, Manhattan



Willoughby Street, Brooklyn



Pearl Street DUMBO, Brooklyn

stant Pedestrian Plazas

# Let the public weigh in



Don't expect applause



Sit back and enjoy

