



Melinda Katz  
Queens Borough President

# Community Board No. 2

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Patrick A. O'Brien  
Chairman

Debra Markell Kleinert  
District Manager

April 1, 2015

## Community Board 2 Meeting Minutes

### Attendees

Terri Adams  
Czarinna Andres  
Anna Bridge  
Bessie Cassaro  
Claudia Chan  
Stephen Cooper  
Lisa Deller  
Sally Frank  
Dana Frankel  
William Garrett  
Kenneth Greenberg  
Benjamin Guttman  
Anne Hart  
Mohammed Jewel  
Ellen Kang  
Denise Keehan-Smith  
Badrun Khan  
Marie Konecko

Jordan Levine  
Sheila Lewandowski  
Donald McCallian  
Dorothy Morehead  
Patrick A. O'Brien  
Lakshmi Reddy  
Moitre Savard  
Regina Shanley  
Michael Son  
Anthony Tudela  
Santiago Vargas  
Al Volpe

### Absentees

Diane Ballek  
Sandra Bigitschke  
Shampa Chanda  
Barbara Coleman  
Richard Gundlach  
Reverend Joseph Jerome  
Dominic Lippolis  
Charles Markey  
Patrick Murray

Elliot Park  
Norberto Saldana  
Elba Santiago  
Beth Sexton  
Lauren Springer  
Carol Terrano  
Mary Torres  
Karolina Tosi  
Rebecca Trent

### Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager  
MaryAnn Gurrado

### Elected Officials

Ed Babor, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney's Office

Barry Grodenchik, Queens Borough President's Office  
Matthew Lerch, Senator Gianaris's Office  
Matthew Wallace, Council Member Van Bramer's Office

**Public Comment**

Laura Osanitch, US Department of Agriculture  
Jim Condes  
Melissa Orland  
Larry Gallegos, Queens Library  
Noah Kaufman, LIC Roots Inc. /FF Michael Brennan Memorial

**Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Bike Lanes Safety Enhancement Project - Public Hearing Speakers**

Seth Pollack  
Sarah Hexter  
Laura Wiles  
Alex Rubin  
Angela Stach  
Ian McNally  
Faye Bi  
David Bosch

**Guests**

John Espinosa  
Crystal Wolfe, Woodside Herald  
Christian Amez  
Susan Sheim  
Rob Basch  
Michael Fox  
Kenan Tabi

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. O'Brien welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Barry Grodenchik, Queens Borough President's Office made the following announcements:

- Recognized Joseph Conley and announced tonight was the first night, in 30 years that Joe, the former Chairman of Community Board 2 is not a member of the Board. Mr. Grodenchik thanked Joe personally and also on behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz for his many years of dedicated service.
- Mr. Conley received a standing ovation.
- Thanked and recognized former board member Gertrude McDonald for over four decades of service.

Welcomed in the new Board Members of Community Board 2:

- Claudia Chan
- Benjamin Guttman
- Beth Sexton

- Mary Torres
- Lakshmi Reddy
- Sally Frank
- Czarinna Andres
- Badrun Khan

Congratulated all on behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz and wished everyone a happy Passover and Easter.

Captain Travaglia, Commanding Officer, 108<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct provided the following report on crime stats. He stated it is a privilege and an honor when he can report that crime is down over the previous year.

- Down 28% in Crime
- No murders
- No rapes
- Robberies are down 10 versus 20
- Felony Assaults 11 versus 10
- Burglaries 16 versus 18
- Grand Larcenies 25 versus 47
- Grand Larceny Auto 10 versus 6
- Year to date, crime is down 30%

Captain Travaglia reported we are heading in the right direction and that we live and work in a very safe community, however, he reminded everyone to lock their windows and doors, as most burglaries are crimes of opportunity.

Captain Travaglia stated he needs to hear the issues and complaints. At the 108<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting the previous evening, someone reported a complaint regarding drug sales. The Captain announced he put a team on it first thing in the morning and three people were arrested for trespassing and possession of drugs. He needs to hear the complaints as no one knows the community as well as those who live within it.

Captain Travaglia provided an update on the Traffic Program and announced there were no fatalities this year and overall accidents are down.

Captain Travaglia announced that Community Fridays will take place soon. He encouraged everyone to follow the 108<sup>th</sup> on Twitter or reach out to Officer Jeff Peattie (718) 784-5405. The Captain stated he will try to focus on problems in the precinct, moving around the district with graffiti cleanups, parking conditions, towing etc.

Questions were entertained.

**Judy Zangwill, Executive Director, Sunnyside Community Services**

Ms. Zangwill announced two new services at Sunnyside Community Services:

- After School Program for middle school students in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade takes place from 2:30 to 5:30 every day at Sunnyside Community Services after the seniors leave. SCS will also provide a program at the homeless shelter in Elmhurst. The program is free, with various activities and is well supervised.
- Sunnyside Community Services has two Medicaid Eligibility Specialists that will assist those who need long term care and transition to Medicaid. It is also a free service.

**Larry Gallegos, Queens Library Community Affairs**

Mr. Gallegos provided an update on the following:

- Court Square Library currently has an expansion taking place and the project will be completed once the fire alarm is installed, certified and then inspected by the DOB. This should be completed within two months.
- Hunters Point Library will have their ground breaking on May 16, 2015. They are looking at two options which are either Gantry State Park or a Block Party through the friends group at Hunters Point.
- Mr. Gallegos recognized the efforts of Mark Christie, President of Friends Group at Hunters Point Library and Council Member/Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer who is an advocate and champion for the Library.
- Friends of the Library will be supporting a popup library during the summer until the library gets built.
- Sunnyside Library was chosen as a finalist for the NYC Neighborhood Library Award. Should they win they will receive \$20,000 to spend on resources and programming.
- Woodside Library Shape-Up NY will offer exercise programs beginning at 2:30 on Monday's.

Questions were entertained.

Mr. O'Brien recognized the following individuals

- Ed Babor of Congresswoman Maloney's Office
- Matthew Wallace, Council Member/Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer's Office
- Matthew Lerch, Senator Gianaris's Office

**Matthew Wallace, Council Member/Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer's Office**

Mr. Wallace provided the following update:

- Congratulated the newly appointed board members.
- Participatory Budgeting Process - A meeting will take place on Monday, April 6, 2015 at Sunnyside Community Services from 7pm to 9pm for the projects that can be voted upon. Ballots were provided on the back table. Voting would take place from April 11 to 19 throughout the council district.

Questions were entertained.

**Public Comment**

**Laura Osanitch, US Department of Agriculture**

Ms. Osanitch announced that the US Department of Agriculture will be sending tree climbers to inspect trees for the Asian Long Horned Beetle. They will be working mostly in Maspeth, and tree climbers will be seeking to gain access to properties for inspection. They will be wearing a uniform that will say USDA. Property owners can also request to see their identification. They work normal business hours from approximately 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

### **Jim Condes**

Mr. Condes spoke about problems with Access-A-Ride and reminded everyone that he had spoken at a Community Board 2 meeting about Access-A-Ride a year ago. Seniors are not being treated respectfully as Access A Ride has gone from a voucher format with nine private companies who knew what they were doing to two broker companies which he believes are third rate because a low bid means low quality. In addition to speaking about the issue, Mr. Condes has also written many letters requesting resolution. Mr. Condes is seeking assistance in bringing back the voucher system; and made other suggestions for improvements.

Mr. O'Brien announced that Access-A-Ride will be coming to the May CB 2 Meeting.

Mr. Conley stated there was a meeting last year set up by Congressman Joseph Crowley. Representatives were present to address issues and concerns and that there will be another opportunity at the May Meeting.

### **Melissa Orlando**

Ms. Orlando spoke about the deteriorating conditions of the #7 Line. She reported that she has started a blog and a Facebook page called the 7 Train Blues to document train delays and service issues. She thanked Council Member /Majority Leader Van Bramer for a rally that was held with regard to this issue. She is requesting the MTA address these issues and she has many suggestions for improvements.

### **Rob Basch, Hunters Point South Park Conservancy**

Mr. Basch announced the following:

- Invited all to come to Hunters Point South Park
- April 18, 2015 - Volunteer event to replant of grass, weeding, trimming and cleaning
- April 25, 2015 - Out Door Movie Night, featuring the movie Frozen
- May 2, 2015 - It's My Park Day at Gantry and Hunters Point South Park, cleaning weeding and mulching.
- Yoga
- Wi-Fi is in the park.
- May 29, 2015 Teen Cancer Charity at the LIC Bar.
- For information on board membership, which is \$20.00 visit the website at: [www.Hunters Point South Park.org](http://www.Hunters Point South Park.org).

### **Noah Kaufman, Chairman, LIC Roots Inc.**

Mr. Kaufman spoke about the mission of LIC Roots which is listed as follows:

- To maintain Michael Brennan Memorial. Michael Brennan was a firefighter who died on September 11 and was a member of the Sunnyside Community from Engine Company 54 and ladder 54
- The garden is open to the public every day Monday through Friday.
- Green the community and support efforts for open space and parkland in Western Queens
- Location of the Garden is on 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 29<sup>th</sup> Street and 30<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Attended a meeting where DEP announced they have funding to establish a wetland demonstration at the Dutch Kills Turning Basin. Will discuss this at the next Land Use Committee.
- Wished all Happy Holidays.

#### **Gil Lopez, Smiling Hogs Head Ranch**

Mr. Lopez provided an update about the following:

- Urban farm in LIC Queens.
- Supports the Bike Lanes on the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge.
- Smiling Hogs Head Ranch asked for a letter of support from CB 2 last year and they are now a Green Thumb Garden in New York City.
- They are a composting site which can be accessed anytime.
- They will be partnering with the Queens Action Council Round Table on April 9, 2015 to discuss urban farming.
- April 11, 2015 will team up with the Citizens Committee for NYC to conduct a workshop to teach people how to extend growing season.
- April 25, 2015, Love Your Block Action Day from 11:00 to 4:00 pm.
- Smiling Hogs Head Ranch is located at 25-30 Skillman Avenue.
- May 3, 2015 will team up with Grow NYC again to accept food scraps from Greenmarkets.

#### **Lisle Noll**

Ms. Noll, longtime resident of the community spoke about problem concerning her Con Edison Bill and Energy Service Company (ESCO). This practice is called Slamming and left a copy of her bill for assistance.

#### **Ed Babor, SHAREing & CAREing**

Mr. Babor stated he is a board member of SHAREing & CAREing, which assists those dealing with breast and ovarian cancer. Mr. Babor announced there will be a fund raiser on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Manducatis Rustica and it will be a Roaring 20's theme. Invitations were available at the back table.

#### **Presentation by Department of Transportation - Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Bike Lanes Safety Enhancement Project**

Mr. Baerwalk, NYC Department of Transportation, Bicycle Program provided a power point presentation on the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Bike Lanes Safety Enhancement Program. A copy of which is attached.

Questions were entertained.

#### **Public Hearing Speakers**

The following individuals spoke in favor of this proposal:

Seth Pollack  
Sarah Hexter  
Laura Wiles  
Alex Rubin  
Angela Stach  
Ian McNally  
Faye Bi  
David Bosch

**Attendance**

**Total Present                    30                    Total Absent    18**

**Approval of the Community Board 2 Meeting Minutes for February 2015**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the CB 2 Meeting Minutes for February 2015.

**Chairman's Report**

Mr. O'Brien welcomed and introduced the new CB 2 Board Members:

- BENJAMIN GUTTMAN
- BETH SEXTON
- MARY TORRES
- LAKSHMI REDDY
- SALLY FRANK
- CLAUDIA CHAN
- BADRUM KHAN
- CZARINNA ANDRES

Mr. O'Brien thanked the outgoing CB 2 Board Members:

- JOE CONLEY
- ANDREW ANZALONE
- EMILIA CROTTY
- MARY ENGLISH
- GERT MCDONALD
- TAINA MCSHANE
- DAVID SHIN
- NICK TROYA

- There will be an informal review for new board members in May.
- A moment of silence was observed for Roel Vanderkooi, he was a member of the Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club member.
- Provided an update on the CB 2 website which is still under review.
- Reviewed the CB 2 Committee Structure and committees. CB2 will resume the Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee. Anyone interested should notify the board office.
- All members need to participate actively.
- CB 2 attended Council Member/Majority Leader Van Bramer Cultural Town Hall.
- Attended press conference with Council Member/Majority Leader Van Bramer on the service disruptions on the #7 line.
- CB 2 attended Assemblywoman Nolan Woman's History Month at LaGuardia Community College.

- CB2 attended Borough President's Strategic Tech Plan Task Force Meeting and they will attend the June board meeting and provide an update to the Community Board.
- CB2 spoke with the Parks Department who are exploring the possibility of Wi-Fi however, there is nothing official yet. This would be positive for the community as Parks is exploring its feasibility.
- CB 2 attended a meeting with the Mayor's Office of Film and TV. We discussed parking issues.
- CB 2 attended a budget hearing at the Borough President's Office to present our top ten priorities in March.
- CB 2 and the Queens boards met with the Parks Commissioner at Borough Hall in February. Parks will be attending the Land Use meeting to discuss Phase 2 of Hunters Point South.
- CB2 requested graffiti clean-up at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Station and the New York City Transit reported it has been cleaned of all graffiti.

### **District Manager's Report**

Ms. Markell Kleinert provided the following update:

- Update Wi-Fi access at the center is (Sunnysidetw and the Password is Sunnytech321.)
- The new Website is about to be launched. The Executive Committee is reviewing the final version. We are looking forward to the end of April if not sooner. Thanked MaryAnn Gurrado for her hard work.
- District Manager attends a monthly Borough Cabinet meeting and this one is with the Queens Chamber and the BP Cabinet for a borough update.
- Homeowners Night with the Department Of Buildings. The hours have been expanded from 4 – 7pm every Tuesday at the Queens Office. Department experts provide one-on-one guidance to homeowners and residents.
- Remember to report pot holes and cave-in complaints to the Board Office.
- To report faded street signs, call CB 2 Office with exact location.
- CB 2 Newsletters are informative and have a lot of good information.
- Attended a District Managers Meeting. Michael Jones from SLA was there and they noted they also want notes on positive businesses in the file as well.

### **Penny Lee, Department of City Planning Report**

Ms. Lee provided the following update:

- Bright Horizon Day Care Facility that requires the Zoning Text Amendment to occupy the Department of Health building at Queens Plaza is very close to starting the public review process. It will be referred to CB 2 and CB 1 on April 20, as it affects blocks in both boards. It is a text amendment not a map amendment.
- Wolkoff site has been leveled and clean-up is underway.
- EDC will come to the Land Use Committee on April 22, 2015 to present the balance of the plans for Phase II of the Hunters Point South Park Project.
- Draft preliminary recommendations for the Queens Plaza Study should be ready by the fall.

Questions were entertained and a discussion followed.

### **Land Use Committee**

Ms. Deller provided the following update:

- Tony Mazarella was the owner of the Waterfront Crab house and served as a Community Board 2 Member from 1989 to 2001. A proposal came to the board to have Borden Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to be renamed Anthony Mazarella Way.
- Mr. Conley provided a brief history of Mr. Mazarella's who established many programs and for his dedication to the community.
- Ms. Deller provided an update concerning the Cultural Town Hall Meeting sponsored by Council Member/Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer.

**Dual Street Renaming Anthony Mazarella on Borden Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street/aka Anthony Mazarella Way**

Stephen Cooper made a motion and it was seconded to approve the street renaming for Anthony Mazarella on Borden Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

The vote was unanimous with all in favor by a show of hands with 29 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions with the Chairman of Community Board 2 present and voting.

**Consumer Affairs Application**

**An Application for an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 10 Tables and 20 Seats At Mickey's Place on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, LTD, Bar 43, Located at 43-06 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Sunnyside**

Santiago Vargas made a motion and it was seconded to approve the application for an unenclosed sidewalk café at Mickey's Place on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street. All were in favor by a show of hands with 29 in favor; 0 opposed and 0 abstentions with the Chairman of Community Board 2 present and voting.

**Transportation Committee**

Mr. Conley provided the following update:

**Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Improvements Bicycle Safety Enhancements**

Santiago Vargas made a motion and it was seconded by Dorothy Morehead to support the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Improvements Bicycle Safety Enhancements. All were in favor and the vote was unanimous by a show of hands with 29 in favor; 0 opposed; and 0 abstentions with the Chairman present and voting.

- Provided MTA update from Transportation Meeting on the extended service for the Q103 bus.
- Provided an update from Transportation Meeting on the Queens Blvd presentation.
- Provided an update on the Kosciuszko Bridge Update. They are working mostly on the Brooklyn side doing utility work. They will have a Parks Sub Committee Meeting on April 7, 2015 at 6:00 pm.
- CB 2 has received over 50 pothole complaints over the past two months and we are still receiving more daily. We have compiled a comprehensive list and gave it to DOT.
- **Additional Street Lights**
  - Additional street lights will be installed on 39<sup>th</sup> Street between Skillman Avenue and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.
  - Additional street lights will be installed at 43-20 Van Dam Street during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015.

- Traffic signal will be installed at 51<sup>st</sup> Street and Skillman Avenue and it is tentatively scheduled for March 2015. Mr. Conley announced this was due to Al Volpe's persistence on this issue.
- CB2 requested the installation of school regulations at PS 343Q located at 45-45 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. DOT issued an order to install no standing 7AM to 4PM School days regulations signs in the front of the school. This should be completed by May 31, 2015.
- DOT is planning on placing bike racks at the entrance to the YMCA opposite 43-44 32<sup>nd</sup> Place. They will determine the final placement in the spring.

#### **City Services & Public Safety Committee**

Mr. O'Brien provided the following update:

- City Services Public Meeting for Bellwether LIC Corp/ dba Gantry LIC and the regular City Services and Public Safety Committee Meeting will be held on April 8, 2015 at the NY Irish Center at 10-40 Jackson Avenue in the downstairs conference room.
- We are aware of complaints at Baru and have notified PD and the 108<sup>th</sup> is very well aware of it.

#### **Environment Committee**

Ms. Morehead provided the following update:

- DEP will support efforts to clean the Dutch Kill with using natural methods and it was a result of a letter that CB 2 sent to DEP which approved the building they wanted of a small structure under the LIE to house the pumps for the filtration projects in Dutch Kills and the creek. We were only asked to approve the construction of the building. We expressed dismay at being called upon so late in the process and only had the ability to rubber stamp the building and did not approve of the aeration.
- Ms. Morehead provided an update on the Green Infrastructure Project and announced if there are places where you see an opportunity for a Green Infrastructure to let CB 2 Office know.
- Street Tree Survey will be conducted and if anyone is interested in participating to contact the CB 2 Office.

#### **Health and Human Services Committee**

Dr. Savard reported on behalf of Ms. Terrano, who was not in attendance at the meeting and provided the following update:

- Phil Konigsberg, Community Board 7 came to present a resolution that was adopted on Smoke Free Housing Units in NYC.
- Summarized many of the resolutions from other Community Boards around the city.
- Health Committee drafted a resolution on Smoke Free Housing in multiple dwelling units that they hope to present to the Executive Committee and then the Health Committee will present to the full board in May.

**Sock Drive**

Ms. Shanley reported on a successful sock drive.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mr. O'Brien wished everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter and announced the next Community Board 2 meeting will be Thursday, May 7, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:  
MA Gurrado

04012015 CB2 Meeting Minutes

# Greenpoint Avenue Bridge Improvements

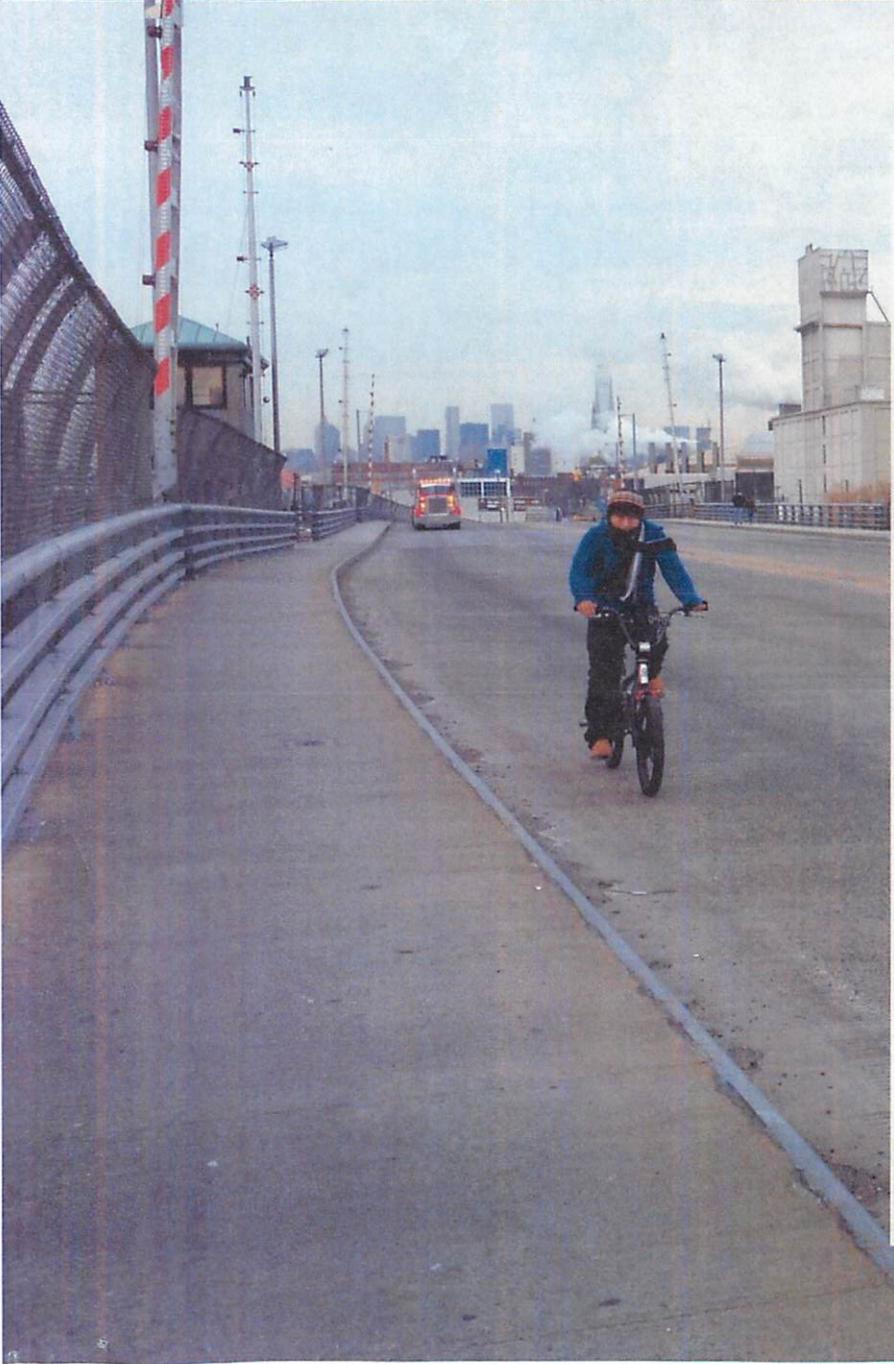
Bicycle Safety Enhancements

2015

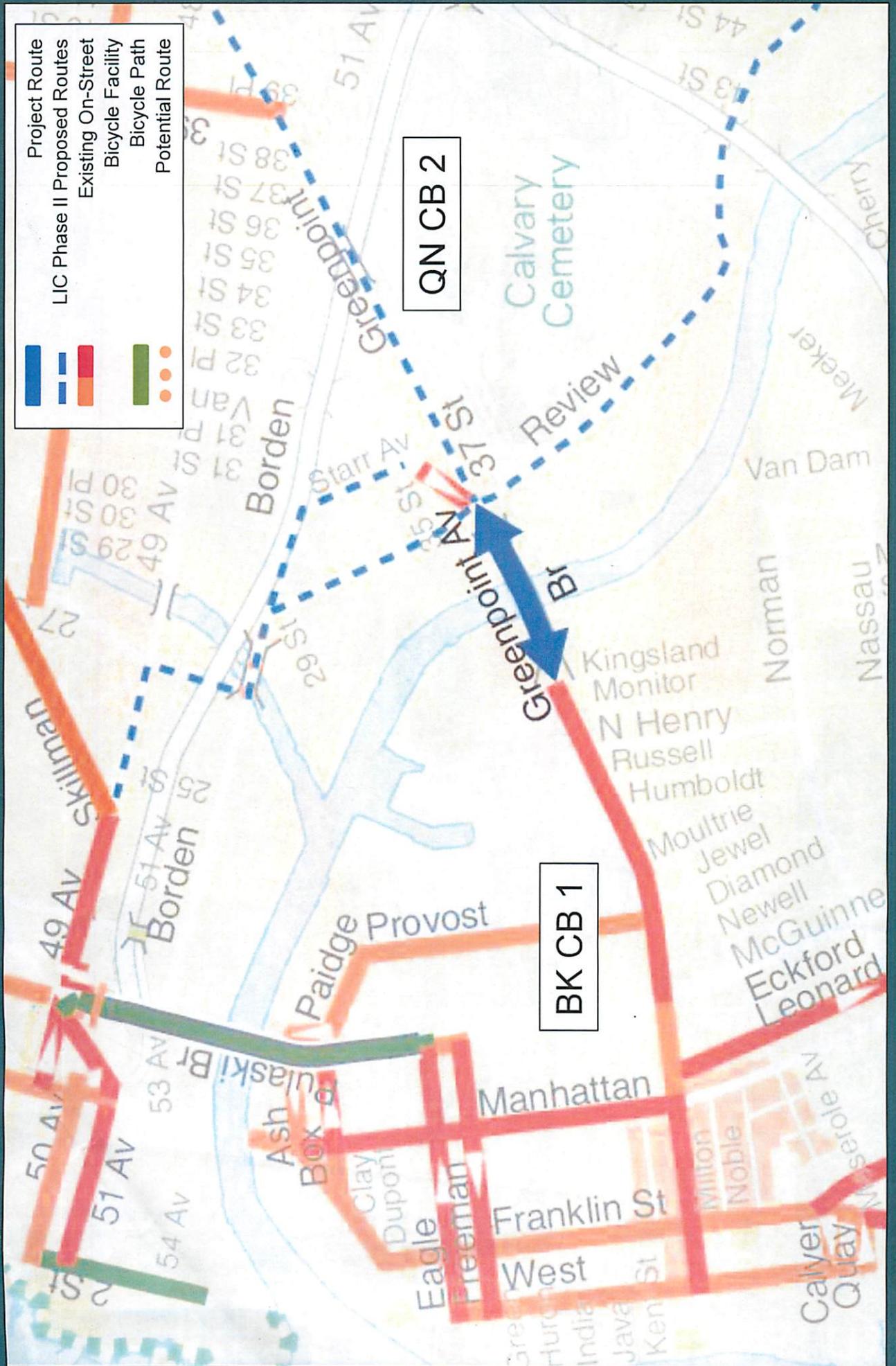


New York City Department of Transportation  
Presented to Queens CB 2 on March 3, 2015

# Background

- 
- April 2010 DOT proposed safety changes over bridge as part of bridge component rehabilitation, which included buffered bike lanes; implementation was delayed due to construction and utility work
  - Existing Greenpoint Ave bike lanes end at Kingsland Ave on Brooklyn side
  - No connection over Newtown Creek
  - Identified as a bicycle connection through bicycle workshop in Long Island City
  - DOT has received numerous requests for bike facilities on the bridge over the years
  - Complaints about speeding
  - Assembly Member Joseph Lentol & Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer requested improvements

# Project Map



# Existing Conditions

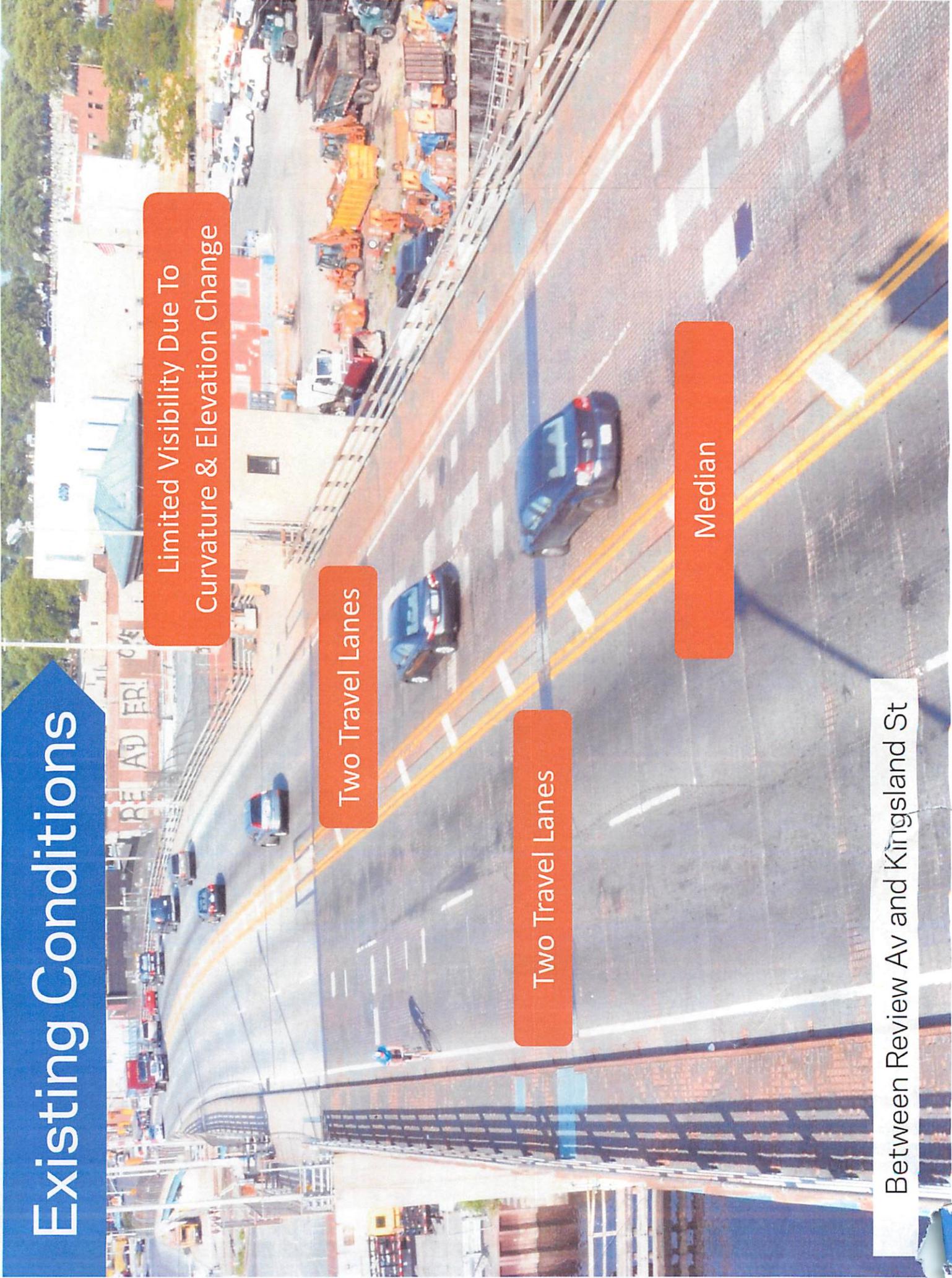
Limited Visibility Due To Curvature & Elevation Change

Two Travel Lanes

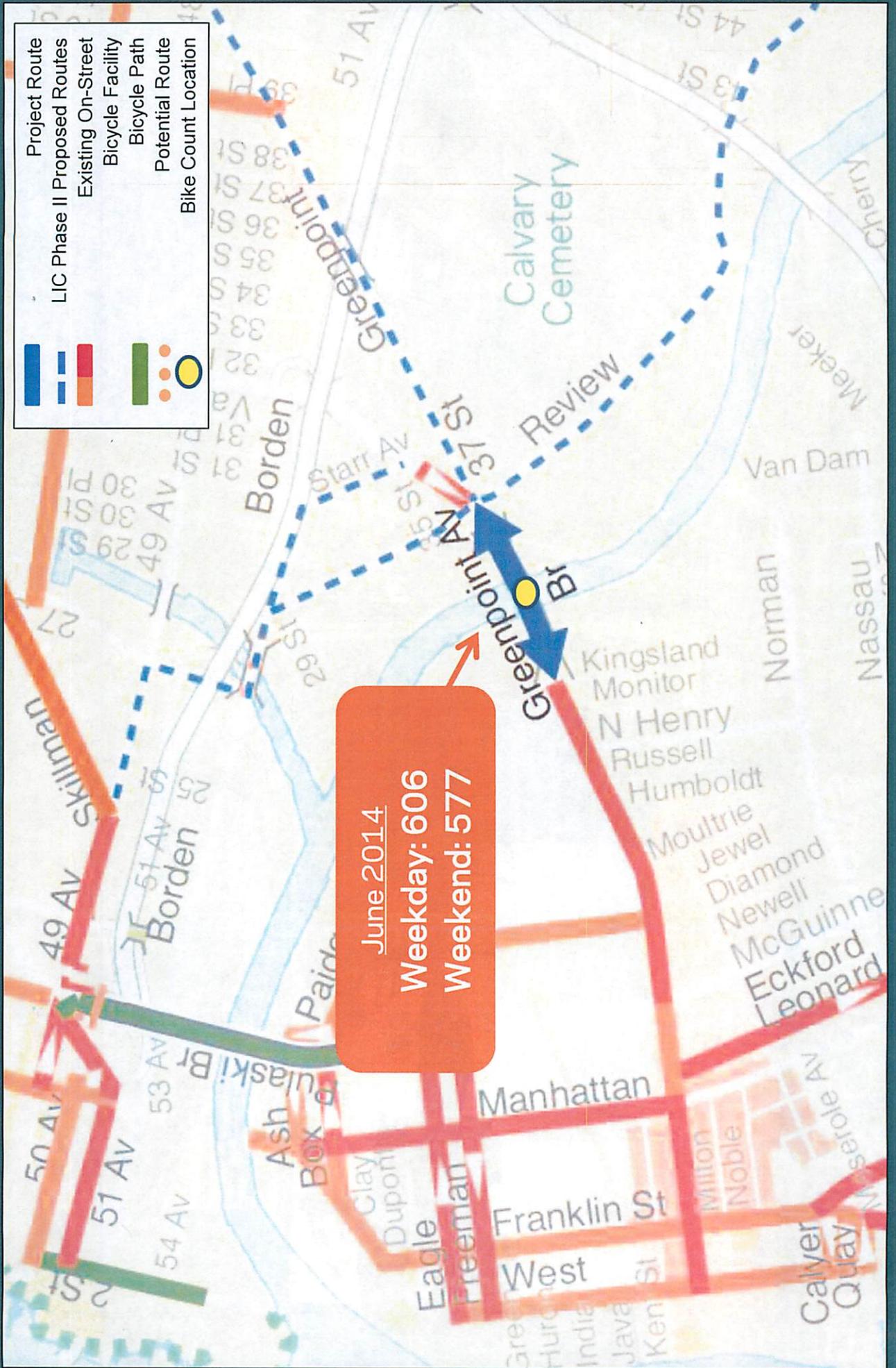
Two Travel Lanes

Median

Between Review Av and Kingsland St



# 14-Hour Bicycle Volumes

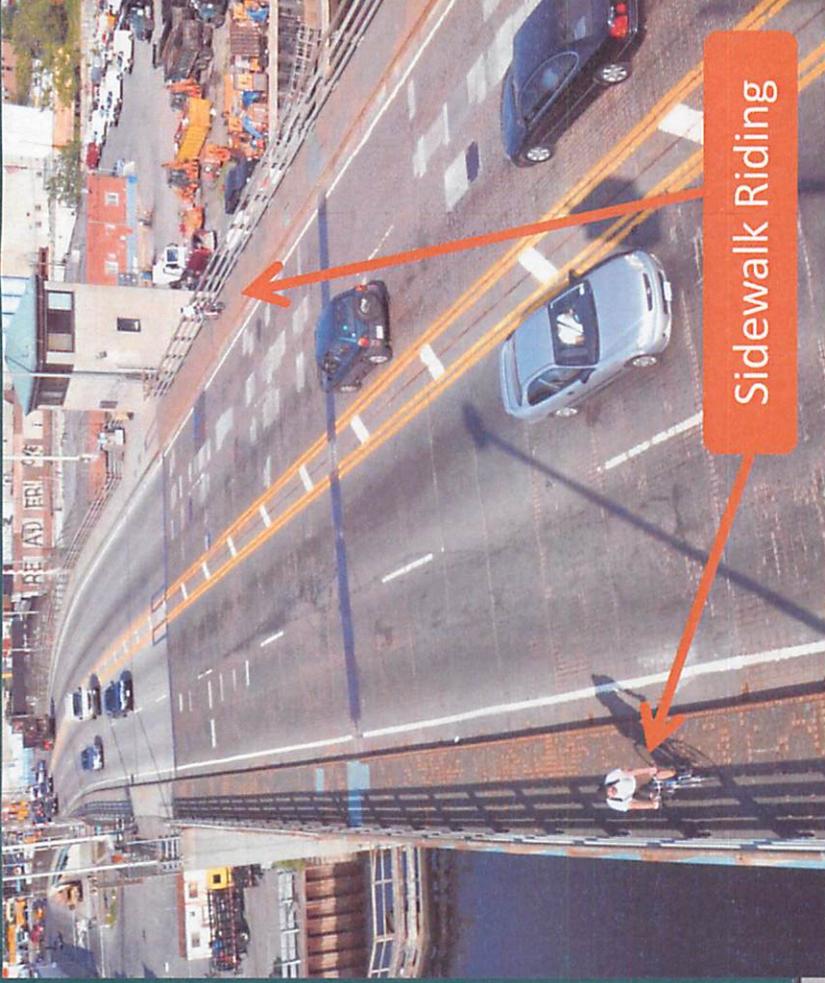


# Existing Conditions

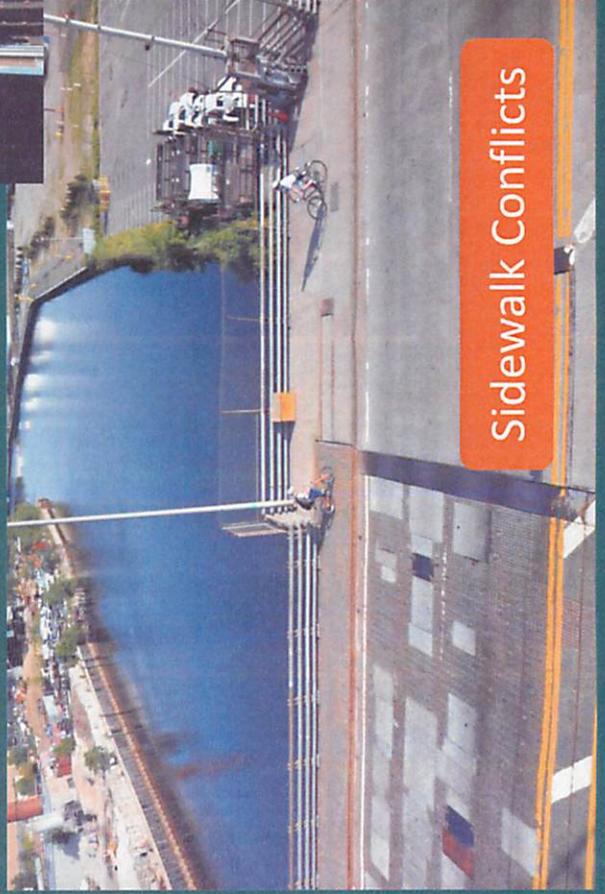
Bicycle Riders Stop and Dismount  
Walk Bike



Sidewalk Riding



Sidewalk Conflicts



# Peak-Hour Vehicle Volumes

Kingsland Ave

750/900

Greenpoint Ave Bridge

850/850

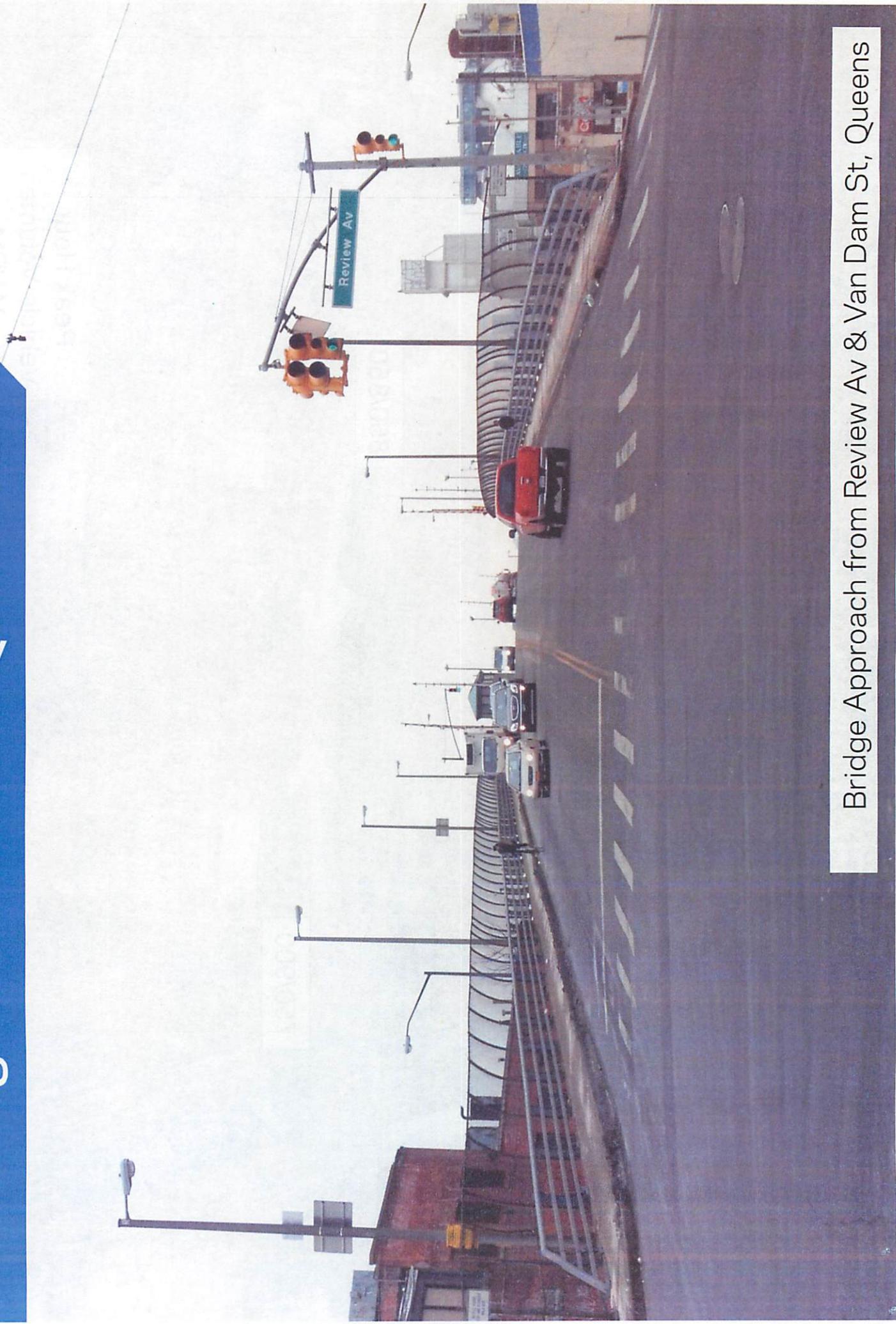
Review Ave

Van Dam St

Peak Hour  
Vehicle Volumes:  
AM/PM  
Nov 2014

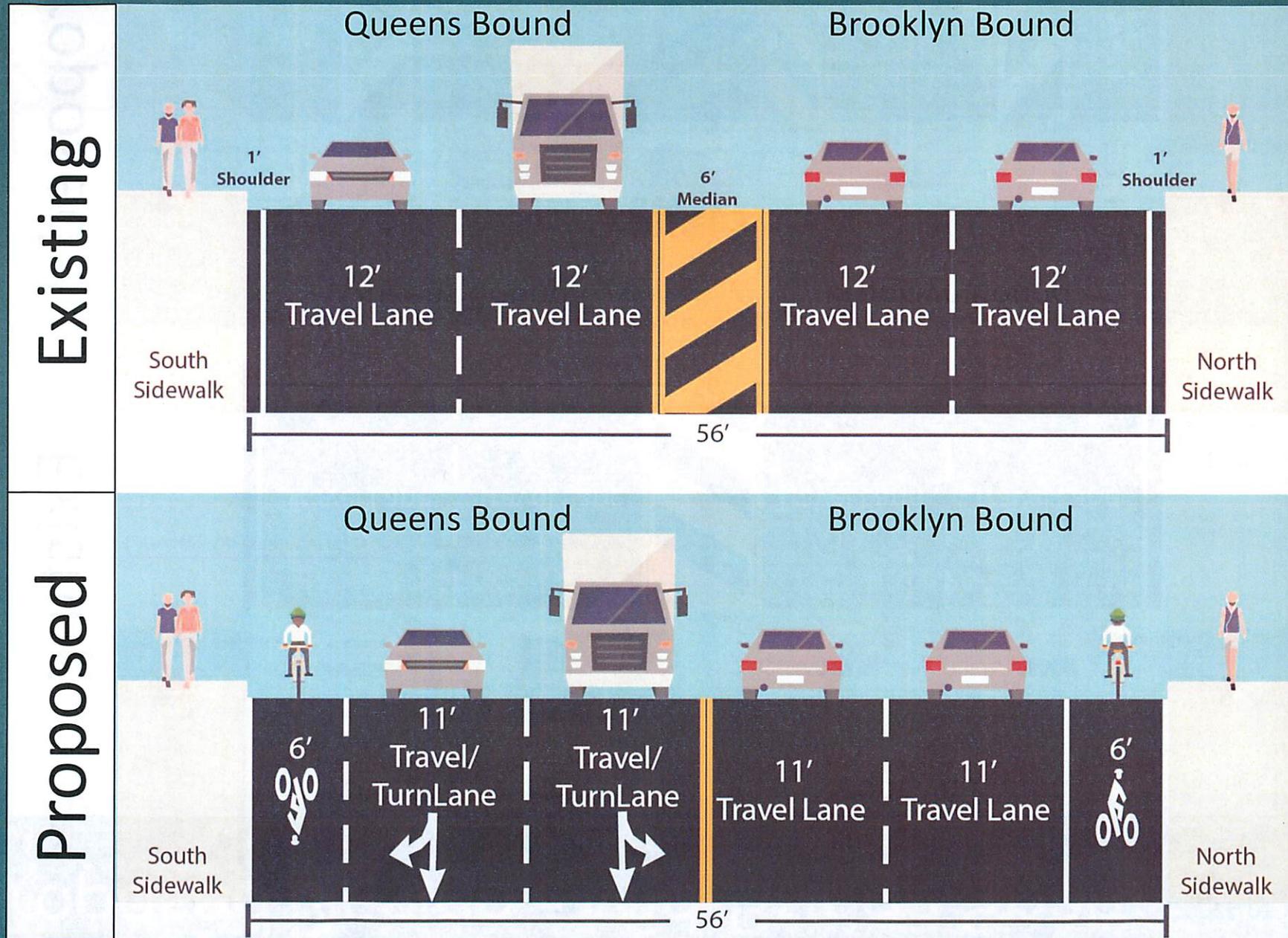


# Existing Conditions - Queens

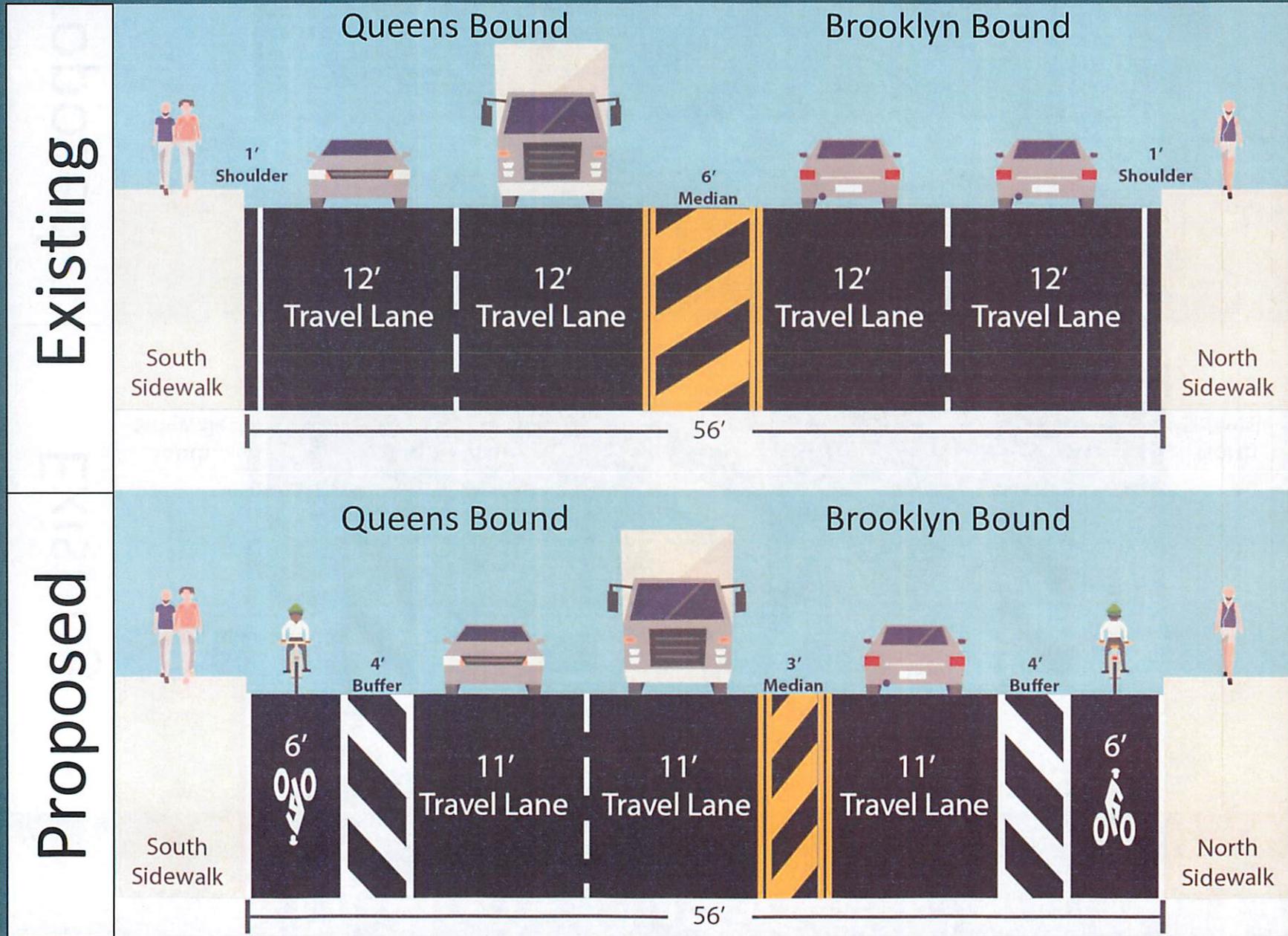


Bridge Approach from Review Av & Van Dam St, Queens

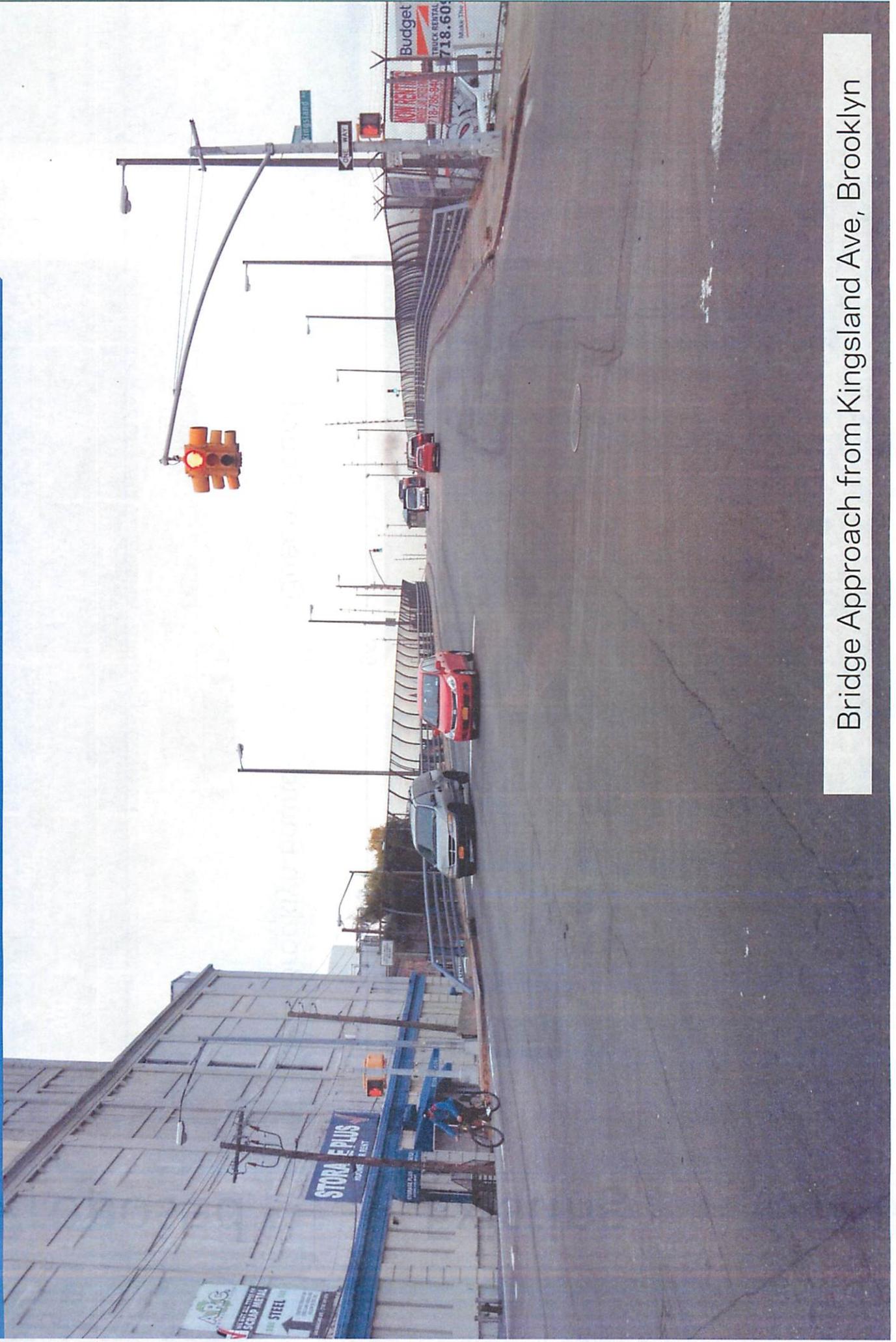
# Proposed Design - Queens Side



# Proposed Design – Mid-Bridge Span

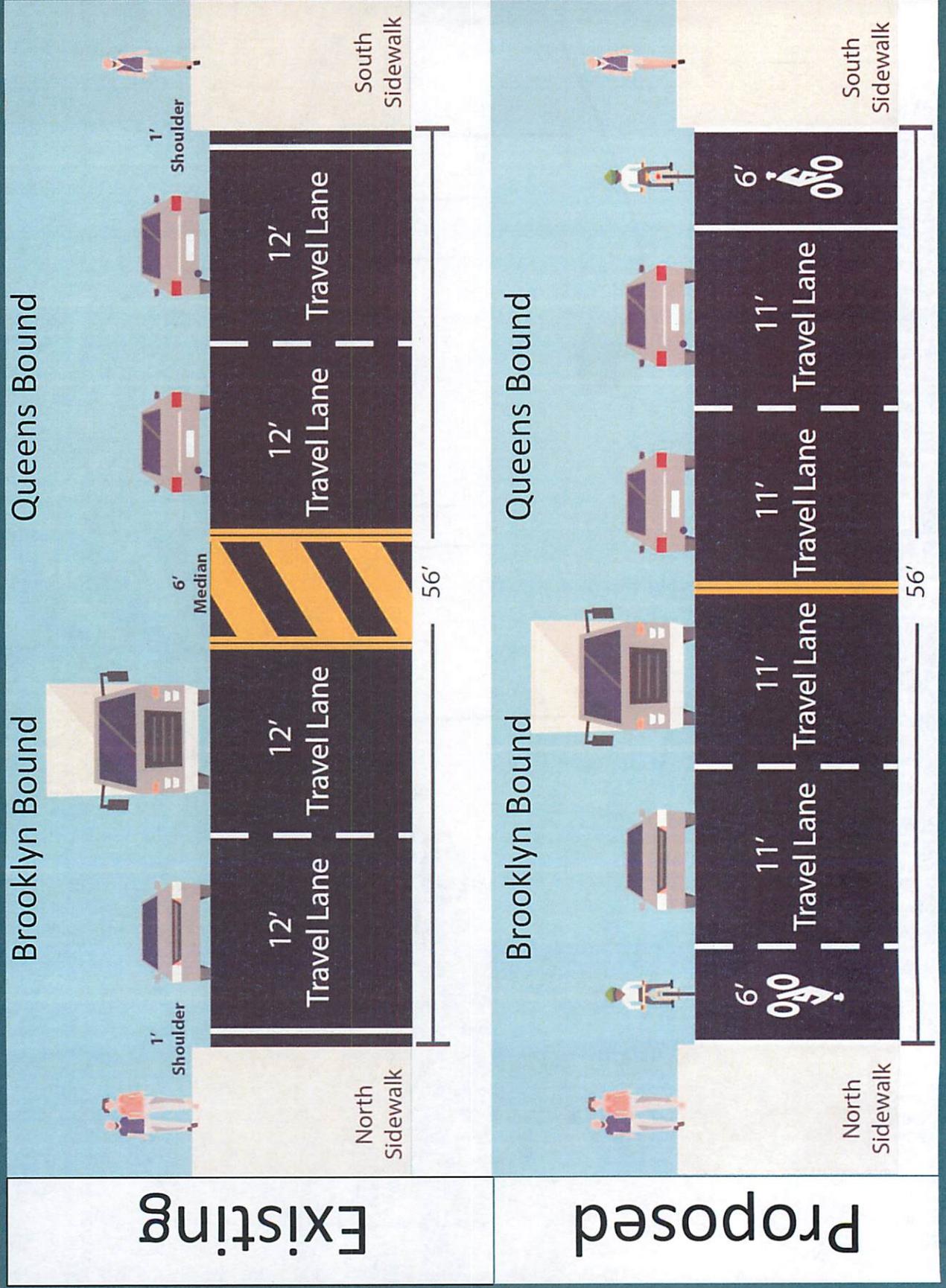


# Existing Conditions - Brooklyn Side



Bridge Approach from Kingsland Ave, Brooklyn

# Proposed Design - Brooklyn Side



# Peak-Hour Vehicle Volumes

Van Dam St

Review Ave

Peak Hour  
Vehicle Volumes:  
AM/PM  
Nov 2014

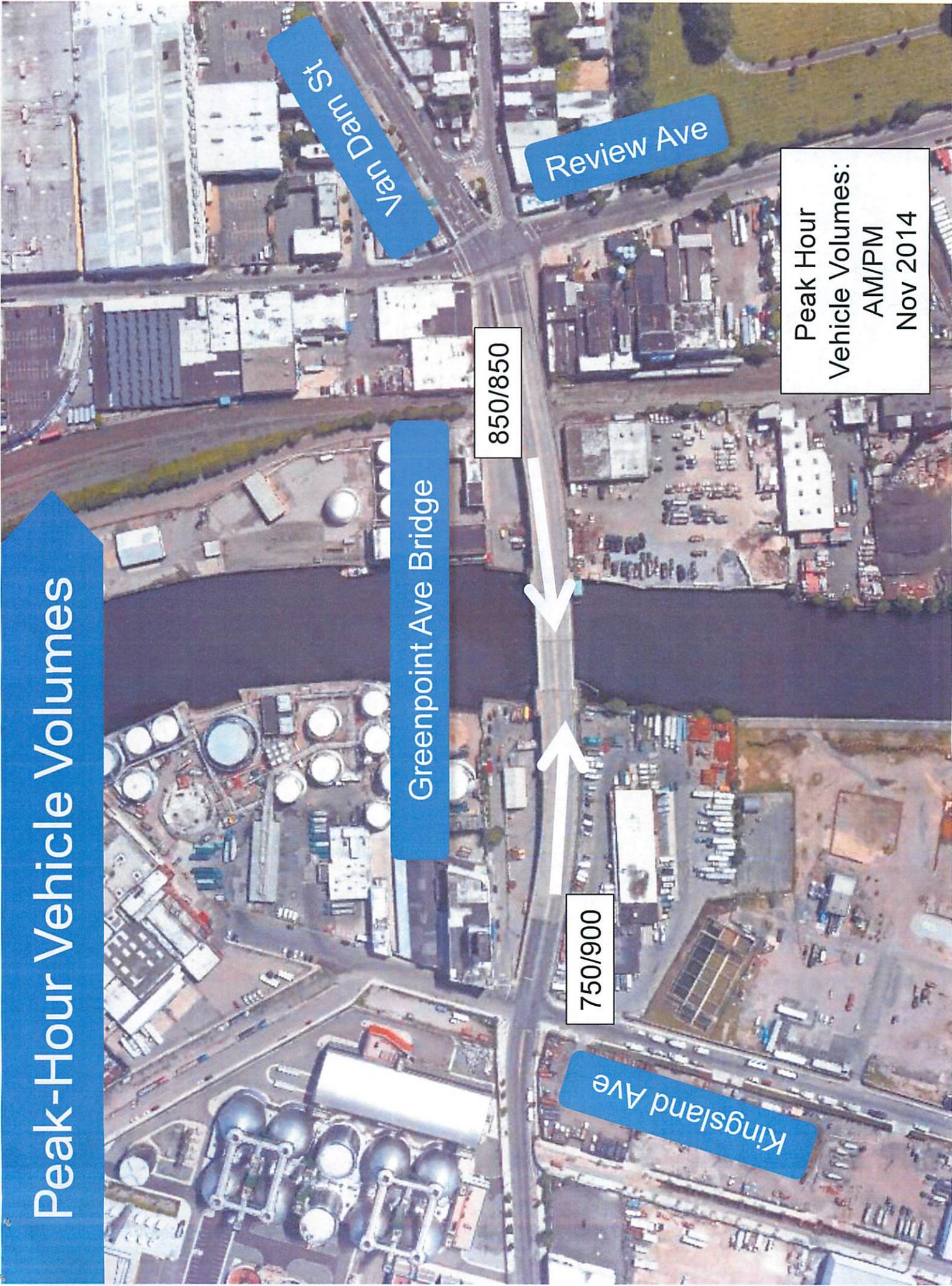
850/850

Greenpoint Ave Bridge



750/900

Kingsland Ave



# Proposed Design



39<sup>th</sup> St Bridge, Queens

# Summary of Proposal

- Bridge Span

- Two travel lanes for eastbound traffic
- One travel lane for westbound traffic
- 6' curbside bike lanes in both directions with 4' buffer

- Approaches

- Two travel lanes in each direction
- 6' curbside bike lanes in both directions

- Establishes a connection between the bicycle network in Brooklyn to the expanding network in CB 2

- Improves bicycle circulation throughout the community and to major employment centers

- Improves safety for cyclists by designating space for riding & addressing sight line issues on the bridge

- Increases awareness of the presence of cyclists

Questions?

Thank  
You

For questions contact Queens Borough Commissioner's Office: (212) 839-2510