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Community Board No. 2

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Denise Keehan-Smith
Chairwoman

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

May 3, 2016

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members-

Present

Denise Keehan-Smith, Chairperson
Claudia Chan
Dana Frankel
Jordan Levine
Sheila Lewandowski
Santiago Vargas

Committee Members-Absent

Bessie Cassaro
Charles Markey
Donald McCallian

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Guests

Stephen Miller, Council Member/Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer's Office
Jason Banrey, NYC DOT
Samantha Dolgoff, NYC DOT
Nick Carey, NYC DOT
Nick Pettinati, NYC DOT
Betsy Jacobson, NYC DOT
Neil Bigliard, NYC DOT
Alexis Wheeler, DCP
Anne Berman, Parsons
Wing Tseing, Parsons
Isabel Gonzalez, NYC DDC
Rhiannon Weitowitz, DDC
Ajay Patel, NYC DDC
Maria Centeno, NYC DDC

Denise Keehan-Smith, Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the Transportation Committee Meeting.

AGENDA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Hunters Point/LIC Reconstruction Project

Samantha Dolgoff, DOT, and Nick Pettinati, DOT, provided a slide presentation of the proposed updated Hunters Point/LIC Reconstruction Project. Ms. Dolgoff stated that DOT is presently in the proposed preliminary conceptual design phase of the project.

The design was presented to the Public Design Commission for their feedback. The Committee:

- Found the proposed master plan appropriate.
- Appreciated the proposed improvements to pedestrian safety.
- Noted the proposed work would have a significant positive impact on the area.
- Supported the proposed redesign of the Pulaski intersection.
- Requested further exploration of 11th Street and 44th Drive and proposed improved bike connections.
- Stressed the importance of coordinating the effort with DEP.

See attached presentation which provides proposed updated designs.

Ms. Dolgoff stated:

- 23rd Street is a vision zero corridor, and 23rd Street and Jackson Avenue is a vision zero intersection. DOT stated that they are proposing using increased pedestrian lighting, and looking into extending the median on the east side of the intersection of Jackson Avenue, and expanding the left lane from 23rd Street to allow for truck traffic.
- 21st street-DOT is proposing to extend the sidewalks for pedestrian safety.

11th Street-Existing and Proposed Sections

See attached presentation which provides proposed updated designs.

Thomson Avenue-Proposed Plan-New Crosswalk

Proposed Next Steps-Proposed Time Line

- Preliminary Design Contract
- CB 2 Transportation Committee Meeting-End of May, 2016 (If needed)
- Finalize Geometric Design
- CB 2 Full Board Meeting—June 2016
- Identify Phase 1 Limits based upon available funding and coordination with stakeholders
- Complete Preliminary Design Contract-August, 2016

DOT stated they would like to have the support of CB 2 prior to the Stake Holders Meeting.

Proposed Final Design-Proposed Time Line

- Develop Proposed Phase 1 final design project scope and initiate new design contract-Fall, 2016
- Community Workshop (Phase 1 Project Limits)-Early 2017

Ms. Markell Kleinert requested flexibility in the proposed time line so that there can be further discussions, some of which will also include the input of the community, and the businesses in the area, taking into account their priorities in the proposed reconstruction plan, and prior to giving the support of CB 2.

Ms. Denise Keehan-Smith had a discussion on this matter and agreed. Sheila Lewandowski stated that as a Community Board 2 Member and Transportation Committee Member, she would want to connect with all of the residents in the buildings on 48th Avenue, the LIC Partnership, the residents of 49th Avenue and those that live near Jackson Avenue and 49th Avenue, as well as the 108th Precinct.

Ms. Denise Keehan-Smith thanked the DOT Transportation Team for their extensive presentation and the proposed improvements in the Long Island City/Hunters Point Area.

A copy of the presentation is attached – See Attachment 1 – Long Island City/Hunters Point Area-Wide Reconstruction-Queens, NY – CB 2 Transportation Committee Meeting – May 3, 2016 – Project ID HWQ788 – New York City Department of Design and Construction.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Provide an update on the 33rd Street and Van Dam Initiative

DOT stated they needed more time to prepare their information regarding the 33rd Street and Van Dam Initiative update.

DOT also reported that there are still some questions DOT will need answers to regarding the Thomson Avenue project. DOT is working on the possible implementation of proposed changes that would provide a certain amount of protection for pedestrians. There was a discussion on how the changes would fit into the framework of the capital funding part of the project.

Continue discussion of Queens Blvd. Safety Improvement Project

Backup onto the BQE at Queens Blvd. exit (CB 2 received many complaints)

Ms. Dolgoff, DOT, reported that regarding the backup onto the BQE at the Queens Blvd. exit, DOT has approved and is designing appropriate signs. They will state that “this is not a normal stop, and there is no need to make a stop at this location”.

Ms. Markell Kleinert, District Manager, stated that CB 2 is awaiting an official letter for the approval of the signs for the above.

Timing of light at 58th Street –

Residents have requested an extension in the crossing times for pedestrians. DOT advised the time is already at the maximum time period.

Relocate light at 60th Street Eastbound –

DOT stated that the light on the left of 60th Street eastbound was moved up, and a light on the right side of 60th Street eastbound was added.

Add bollards to 60th Street –

DOT stated that they had looked into this situation, and advised that no more bollards were able to be added to the 60th Street location. They advised that the 108th Precinct should be contacted for enforcement.

Add signage to 65th Place at BQE ramp Westbound –

DOT advised that the issue had already been addressed at this meeting.

Improve commercial area on 63rd - 64th Streets –

Ms. Keehan-Smith provided clarification on the problem at 63rd and 64th Streets. Ms. Dolgoff, DOT, stated that DOT would readdress this situation, and advise CB 2.

Add parking back if possible –

DOT advised that they were unable to add parking back into the designated requested areas.

Walk through of 57th-63rd Streets and 43rd and 44th Avenue to discuss one way conversions and day lighting with DOT

There was a discussion regarding the one way conversions and day lighting. No decision was reached. DOT stated that they would readdress this issue.

Discussion of feasibility study of a one way southbound conversion to one way northbound on 36th Street between Hunters Point Avenue and 48th Avenue. (DOT-283976-H959)

A motion was made to complete the one way southbound conversion to one way northbound on just the block of 36th Street between Hunters Point Avenue and 48th Avenue. (DOT-283976-H959). The motion was seconded. DOT requested that a letter with a motion to complete the conversion.

Discussion and vote on speed bumps

A motion was made to vote on the approval of the following 7 speed bumps. The motion was seconded:

1. Installing of a speed hump on 37th Avenue between 43rd and 48th Street (CB1 and CB2)
2. Installing one speed bump at 41st Avenue between 69th Street and 73rd Street (DOT- 233727-F2P9)

3. Installing one speed bump at 41st Avenue between 72nd Street and 73rd Street (DOT233727-F2P9)
4. Installing a speed bump at 37th Avenue between 58th Street and Woodside Avenue DOT-213496-G3S6)
5. Installing a speed bump at 64th Street between Roosevelt Avenue and Trimble Road (DOT-270058-B8X6-118K1)
6. Installing a speed bump at 58th Place from Laurel Hill Blvd. to 52nd Avenue (DOT-56895-Z9Q5)
7. Installing a speed bump at 37th Avenue from Woodside Avenue and 54th Street (DOT-237423-G8M0)

In Favor: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstention: 0

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Continue discussion on 70th Street Conversion to one way.

DOT advised that they are awaiting a date to schedule a meeting to further discuss this item.

Discussion on 29th Street and 28th Street one way street conversions.

DOT provided an update on the 29th Street and 28th Street one way conversion. They stated that DOT does not implement one way conversions during the school year, and in this case the area is under construction, as well. Therefore, DOT would need to wait to implement the one way conversion until the construction is completed.

Complaints were received regarding the following issues:

Street lights are dim on 51st Street and Broadway. DOT will be provided with an e-mail request, and they will look in the lighting at this location.

57th Street and Roosevelt Avenue – Parking issues interfering with pick-up and deliveries from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

Traffic problems on Jackson Avenue and 58th Street between Queens Blvd. and Orchard Street. There was a great deal of traffic generating from Jackson Avenue and Orchard Street. Cars block the intersection. Enforcement is needed at this location

51st Avenue between 2nd Street and Center Blvd. – Parking problem

51st Avenue changes west of 2nd Street. East of the area, there is parking in the major lane, and there is traffic. On the other end of 51st Avenue, there is a school on one side of the street, so people cannot park there during school hours on the south side of the street, and on the north side of the street, there are spaces to park. There is also a bike lane that is up against the building.

Old construction sites still have no parking signs posted, even though construction has ended. DOT suggests contacting 311 to get a reference number, and then provide the reference number to DOT. DOT will investigate as to valid permits being issued, and if a valid permit does not exist, DOT will issue a violation.

Request for a feasibility study for a one way conversion west of Van Dam Street.

37th Street and Bradley and Van Dam Street - DOT reported that a feasibility study was made at the request of the LIC Partnership on behalf of the businesses in the area. The study was completed at this location. DOT is recommending a one way conversion to avoid a head on collision condition.

A motion was made to move forward with the one way conversion at the location of 37th and Bradley and Van Dam Street. The motion was seconded.

In Favor: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstention: 0

There was a discussion regarding the 39th Street, 50th Avenue and Greenpoint Avenue issue. Clarification was made. It was noted:

- Three intersections come together. There is a pedestrian triangle that has been enhanced. The intersection has been cleared. Parking has been eliminated on the left side, so now there is no parking on both sides of the street. Traffic slows eliminating the possibility of a head on traffic accident.
- However, now, traffic comes in on the angle, and especially during rush hour, since there is no traffic light, and only a stop sign, traffic forces its way into Greenpoint Avenue, head on. Traffic going in the opposite direction, forces its way on the side street, having no traffic light, only a stop sign. This would be fine except there is a school on the corner, and a hotel. Unfortunately, a stop sign is not enough to resolve this problem, and there is a potential danger. A possible on-site visit will be requested.

Ms. Keehan-Smith stated that it was the understanding of the Transportation Committee that DOT would be initiating a visibility study to try to resolve this problem. Ms. Keehan-Smith requested that DOT follow up on this issue, and advise CB 2.

PS 351 on 39th Avenue between 57th and 58th Streets

Jason Banrey, NY DOT, provided background information and an update, as follows:

- Approximately 2 months ago, there was a crosswalk scarified at this location.
- DOT did an on-site visit with the Principal, the Assistant Principal, NYPD.
- The school requested the return of the crosswalk.
- Community Board 2, and Council Member Van Bramer's Office, has requested the return of the crosswalk, as well.
- A study was conducted, and it was determined that it does warrant an all way stop sign.

- DOT will be reinstalling the crosswalk, and adding some additional treatments to the area. They will be working with the School Unit at 57th Street and 58th Street requesting a school zone, so that cars and vehicles know that they are in a school area.
- The 57th Street block is the eastern boundary for the school slow zone, that was previously approved.
- Adding signage on both 57th Street and 58th Street.
- Looking into the feasibility of adding a second speed bump between Woodside Avenue and 39th Avenue.
- Looking into the feasibility of turning the slow zone area, reducing the speed limit by 20 miles per hour.
- Enforcement will be provided in the area.

There was a discussion regarding the evolution and implementation of the above measures.

A Transportation Committee Member reported that no parking signs were requested at Hunters Point Avenue between Greenpoint Avenue and 38th Street, opposite St. Raphael's Church. The signs were installed, but have subsequently been vandalized. The sign has been re-requested.

Ms. Keehan-Smith thanked everyone for attending the Transportation Committee Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joan Bergman/Debra Markell Kleinert

05 03 2016 Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachment 1-Long Island City/Hunters Point Area-Wide Reconstruction Queens, NY-CB 2 Transportation Committee Meeting
May 3, 2016-Project ID HWQ788-New York City Department of Design and Construction



PARSONS

Long Island City/Hunters Point Area-wide Reconstruction Queens, NY

CB2 Transportation Committee Meeting
May 3, 2016

Project ID HWQ788
New York City Department of Design and Construction

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Preliminary Design

- Community Board Review: May/June 2016
- Preliminary Design Completion: Aug 2016

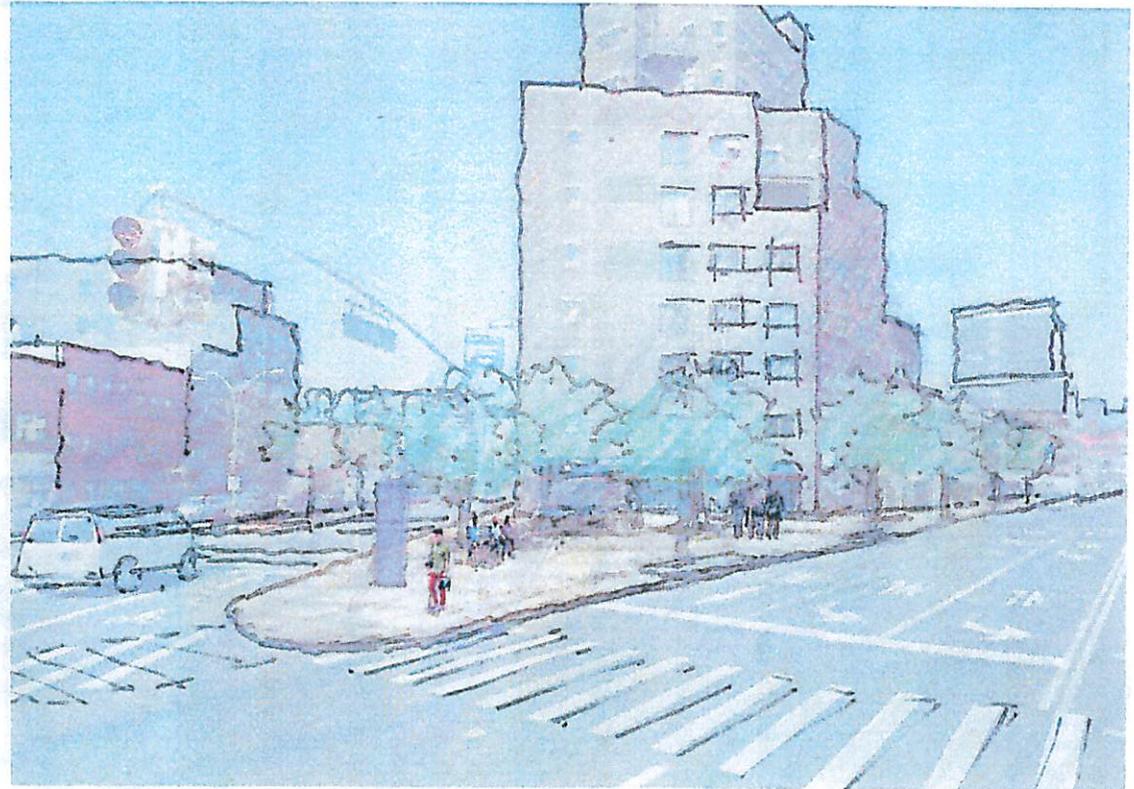
Final Design

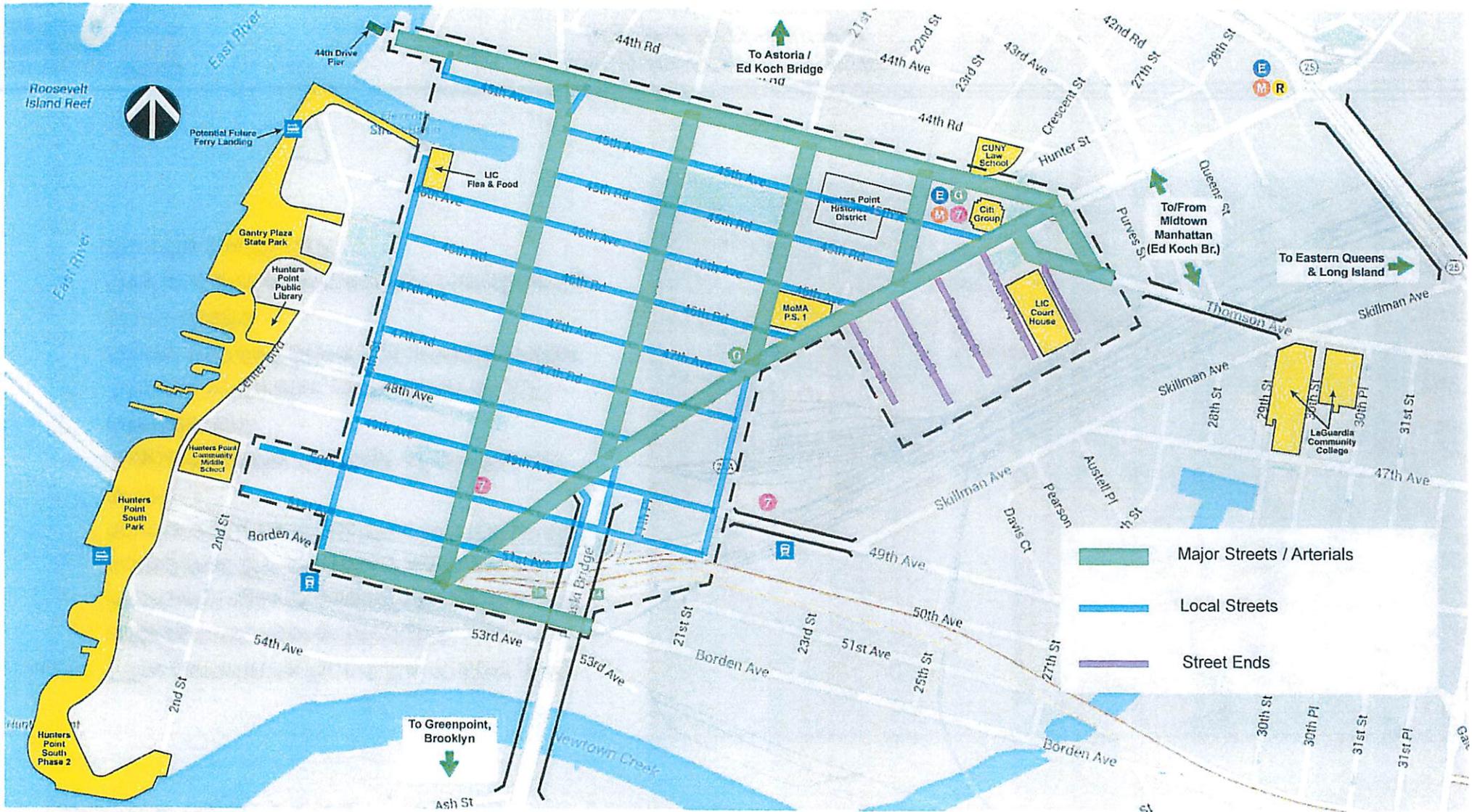
- Capital funding of ~\$38m for Phase 1
- Phase 1 project limits to be determined

Public Design Commission Feedback

Presented: April 4, 2016

- “The committee found the master plan appropriate, appreciated the improvements to pedestrian safety, and noted that the proposed work would have a significant positive impact on the area”
- Support for the redesign of the Pulaski intersection.
- Requested further exploration of 11th Street and 44th Drive and improved bike connections.
- Stressed the importance of coordinating the effort with DEP.

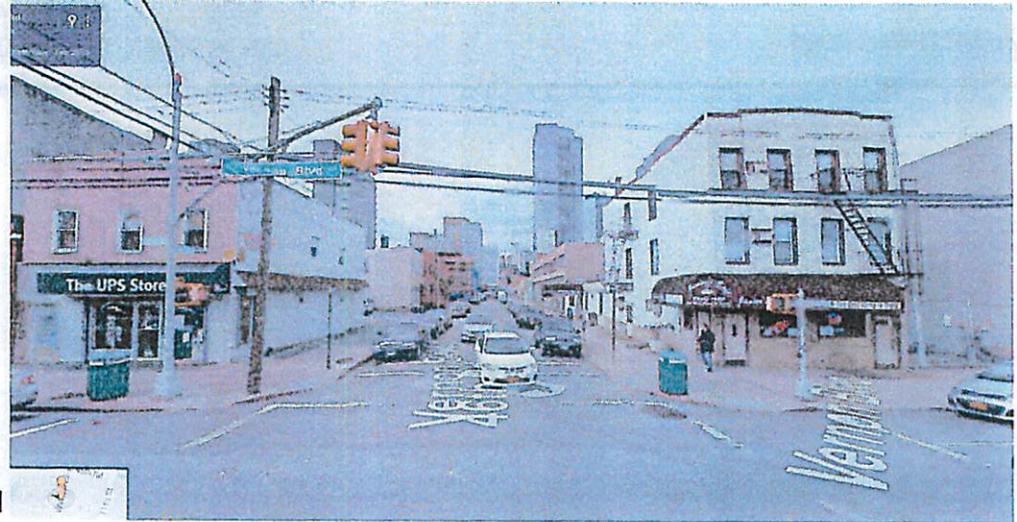




Local Streets: Perspective



1. Existing view west on 46th Road from Vernon Boulevard



1. Proposed view west on 46th Road from Vernon Boulevard

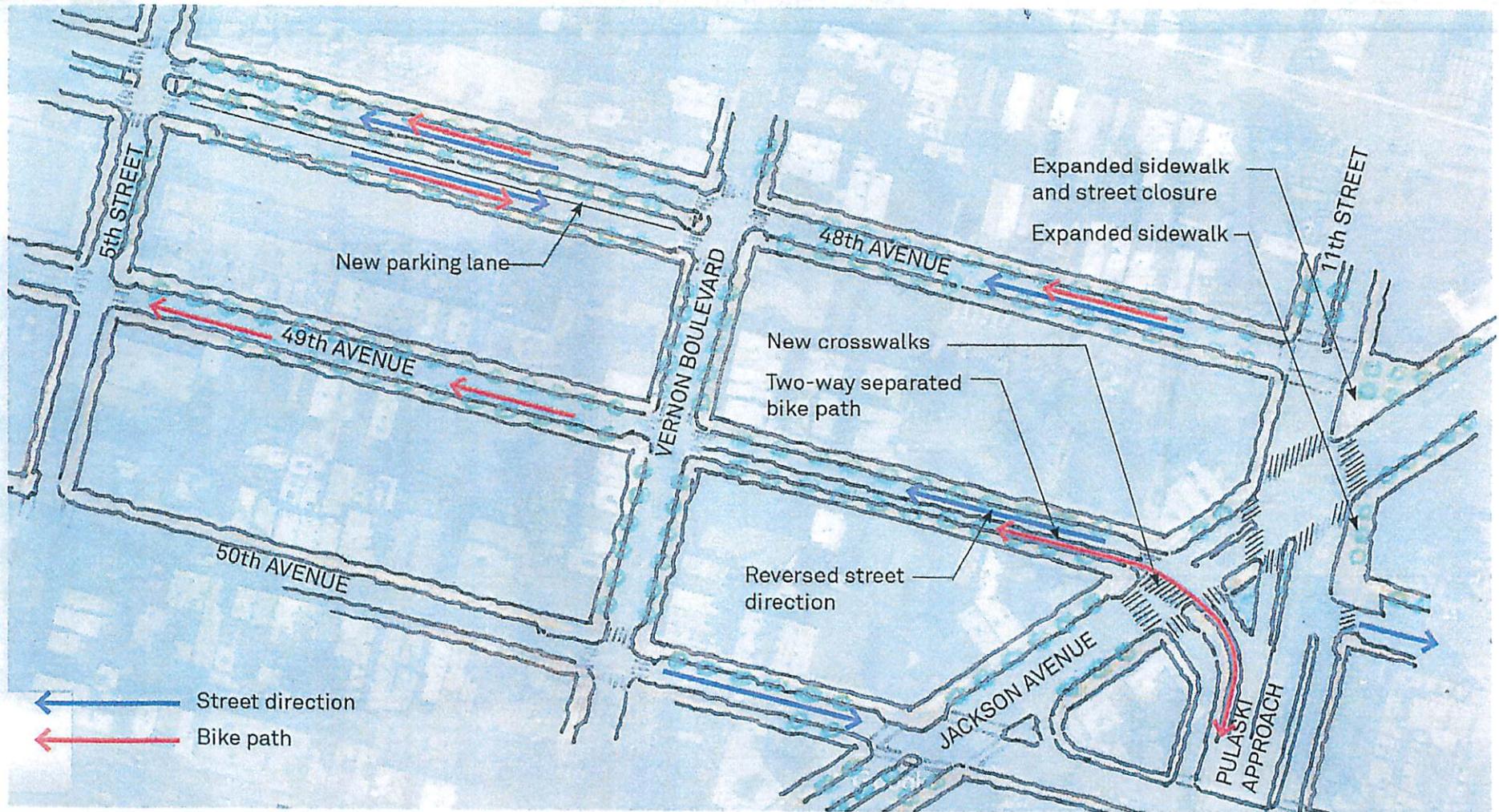


Jackson Avenue

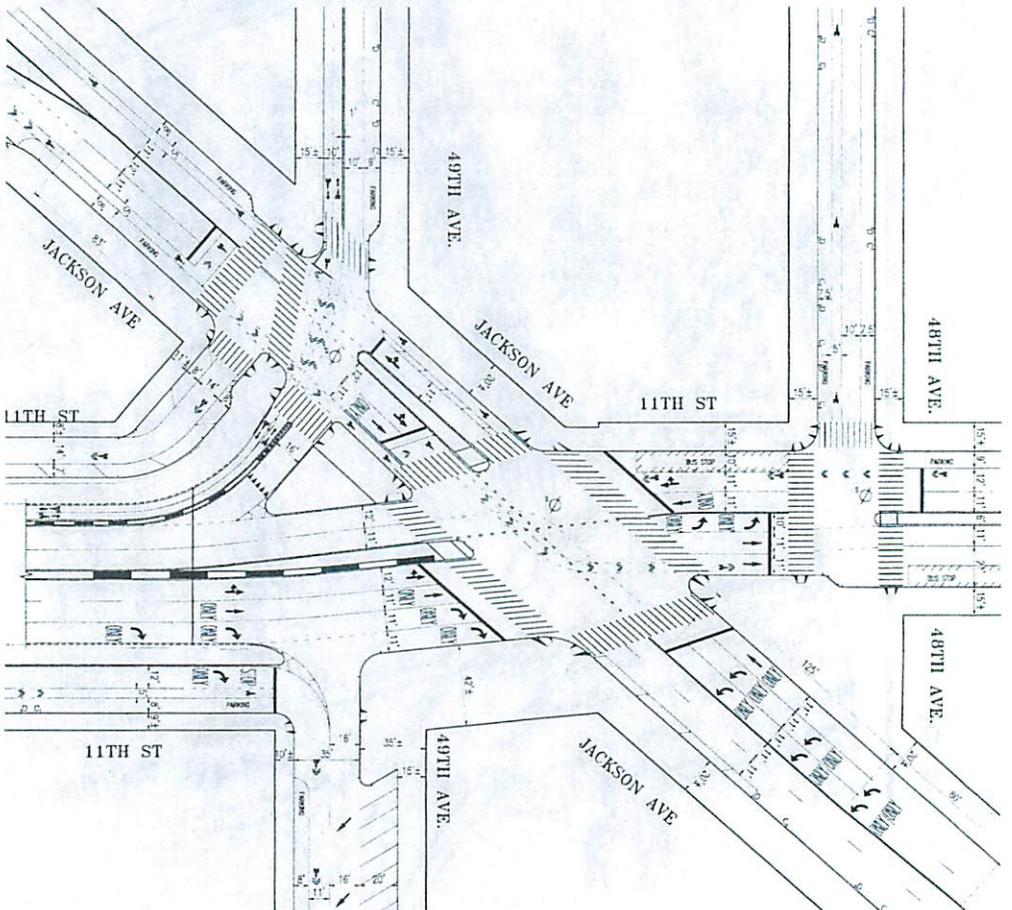
- Continuing raised median treatment between 21st Street and 23rd Street
- Investigating installing bike lanes to delineate space for cyclists
- Improve crosswalks at 21st Street



Jackson/Pulaski/11th/49th Ave/48th Ave



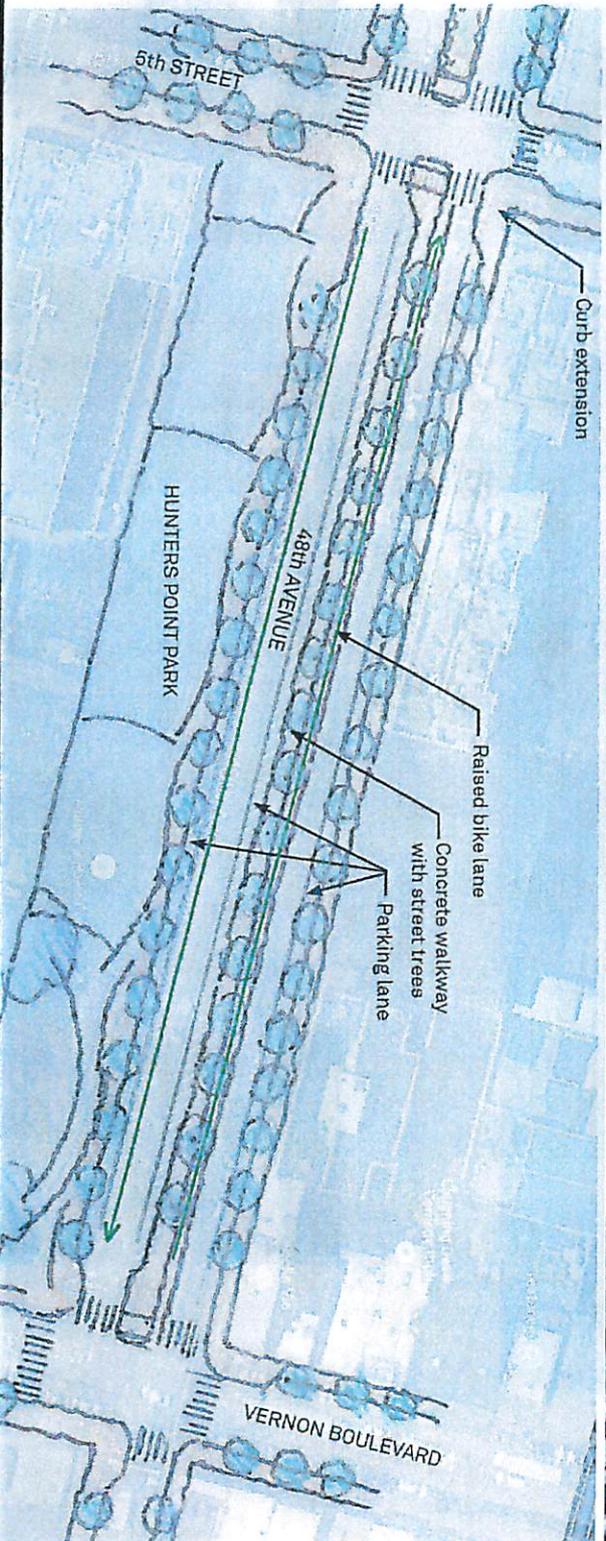
Jackson/Pulaski/11th/49th Ave



LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

PULASKI BRIDGE APPROACH
Existing/Proposed Design

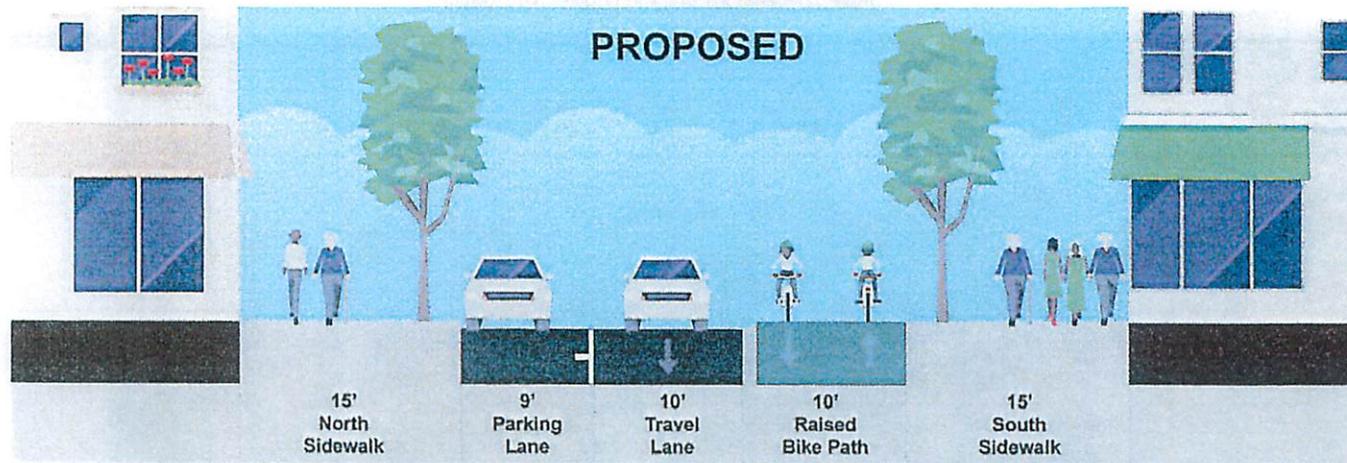
48th Avenue



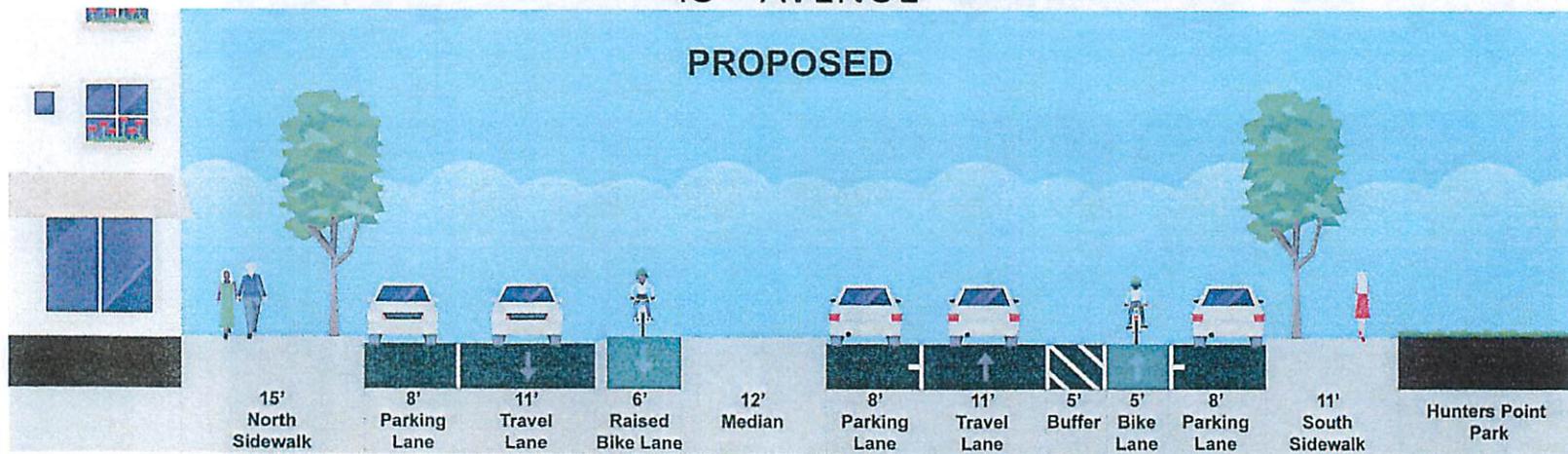
LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

48th AVENUE
Proposed Plan

49TH AVENUE



48TH AVENUE



Jackson Avenue

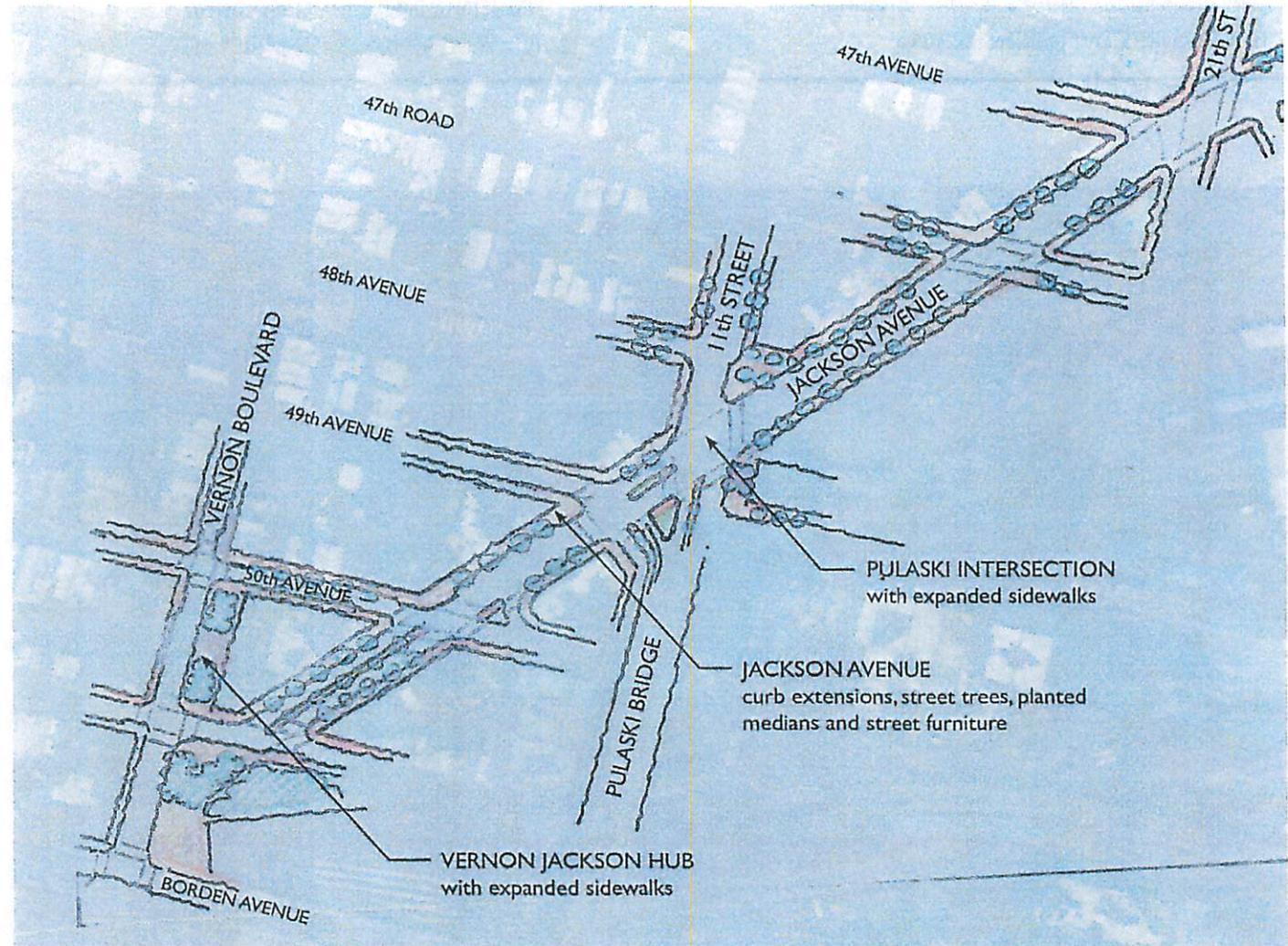
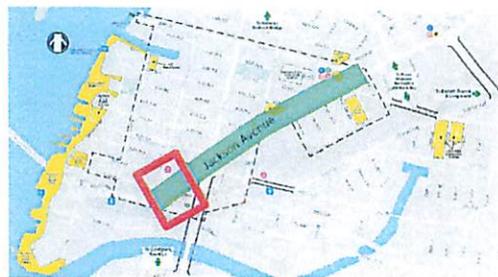
South of Pulaski Bridge



Jackson Ave

Proposed Design

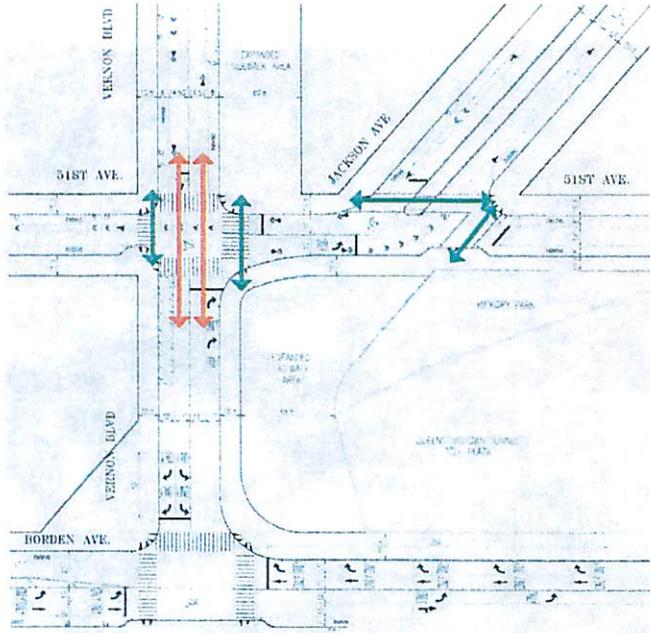
- Traffic calming
- Incorporate additional trees and understory plantings
- Improve crosswalks
- Signal timing improvements
- Improve street lighting



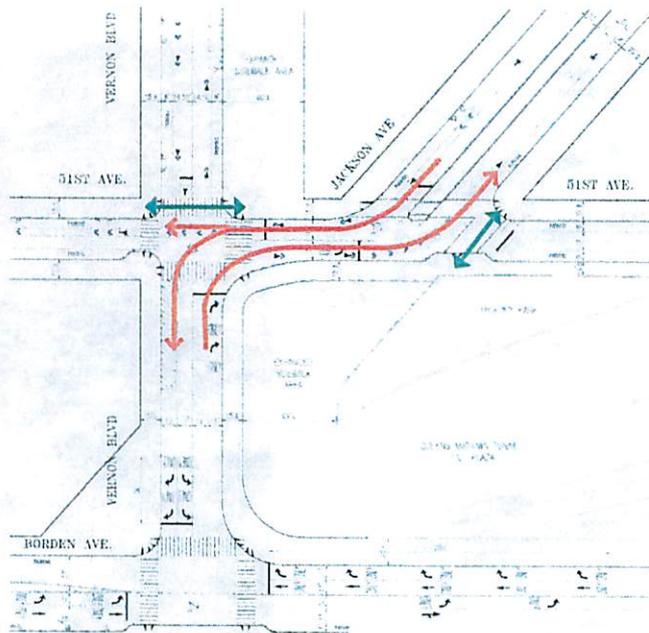
LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

MAJOR STREET: JACKSON AVENUE
Proposed Plan (South of Pulaski Bridge)

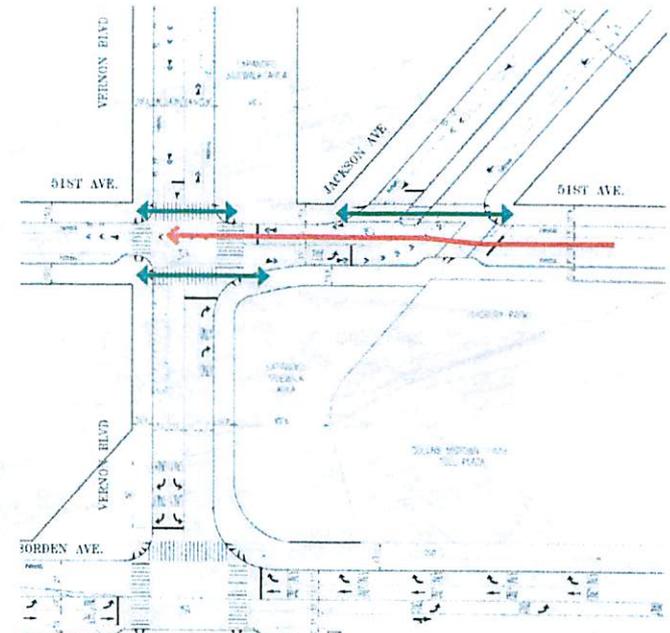
Vernon Hub



Phase A



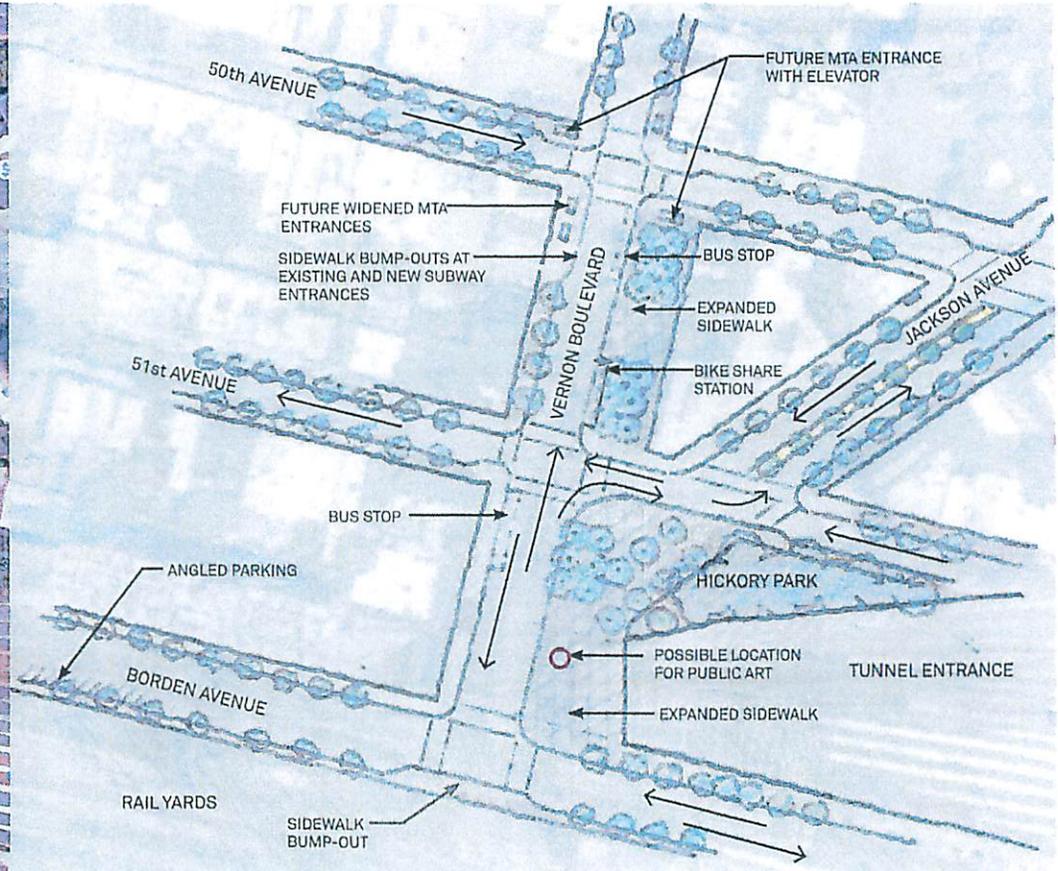
Phase B



Phase C

 VEHICLE MOVEMENTS
 PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS

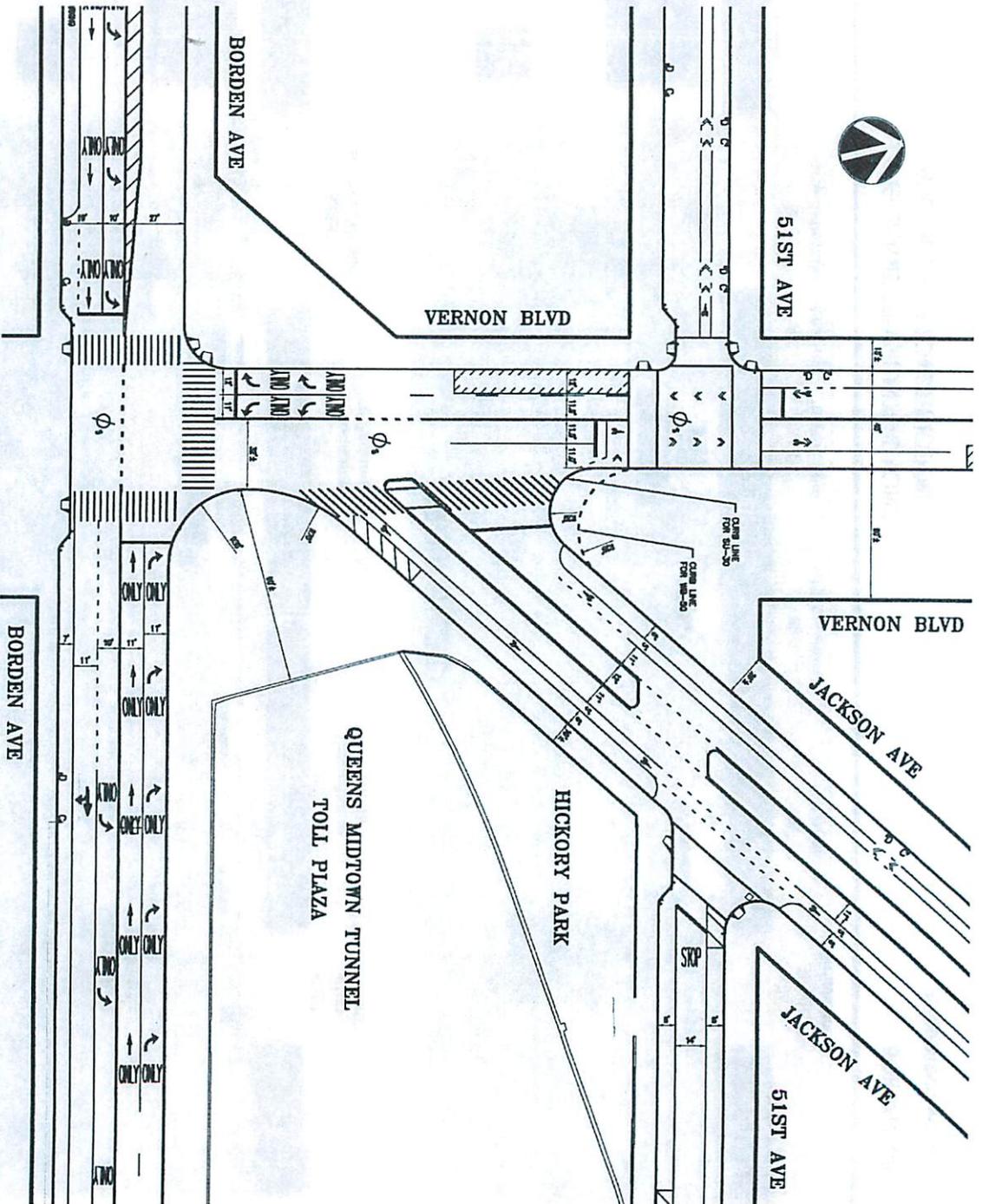
Vernon Hub



Vernon Hub

Proposed Design

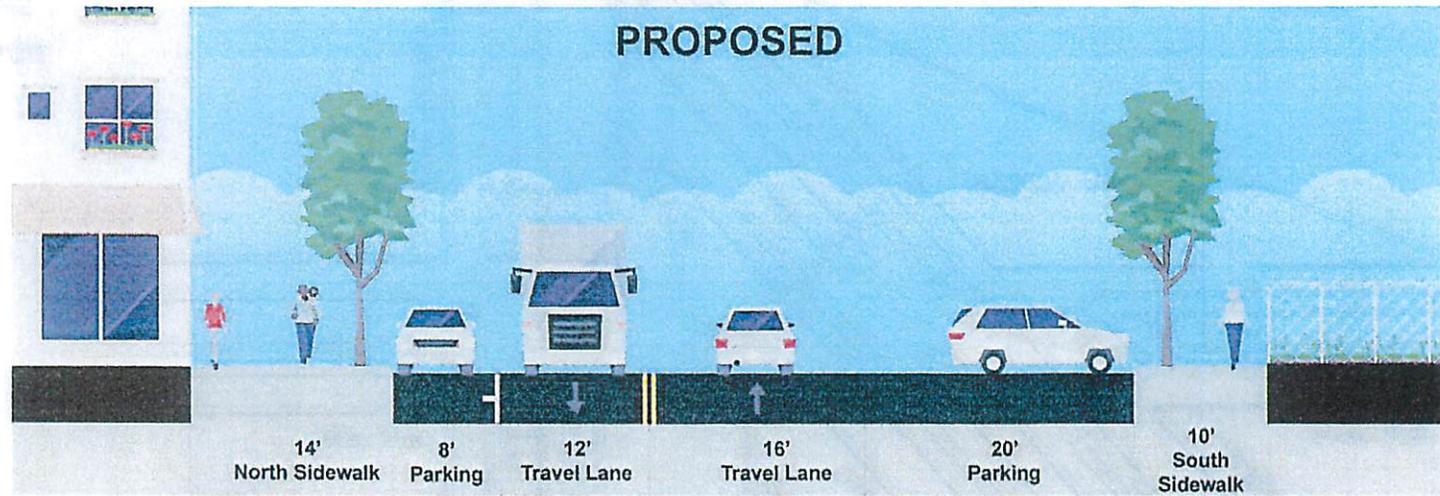
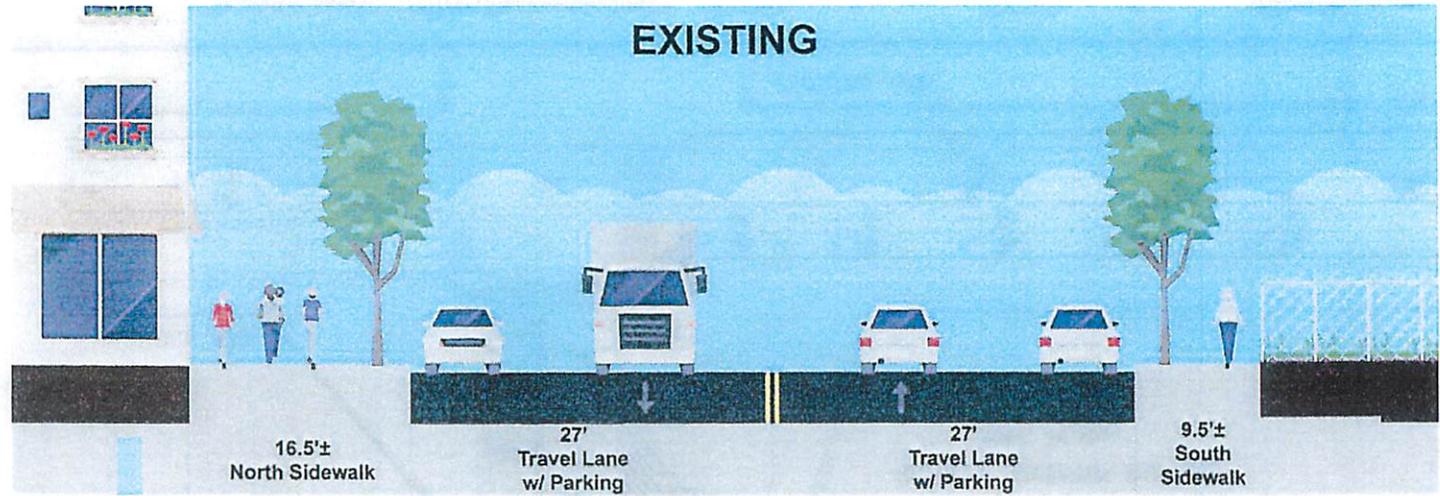
- Long pedestrian crossing
- Potential vehicle queuing and intersection clearance issues



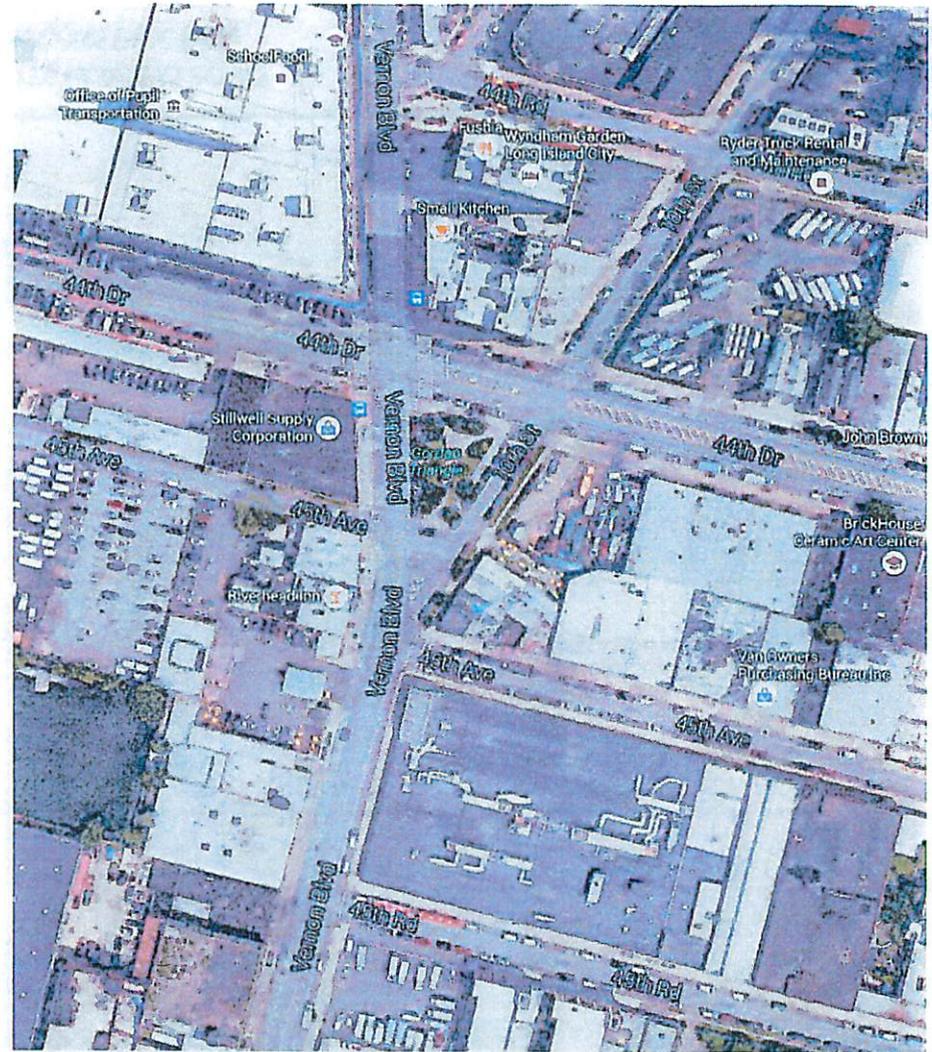
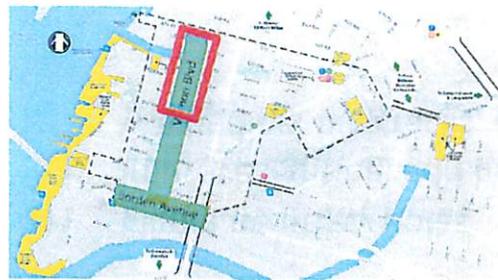
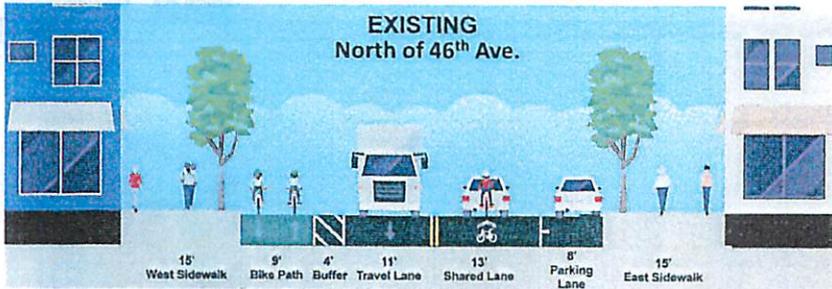
LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

VERNON HUB
Proposed Alternative by CB

Borden Avenue



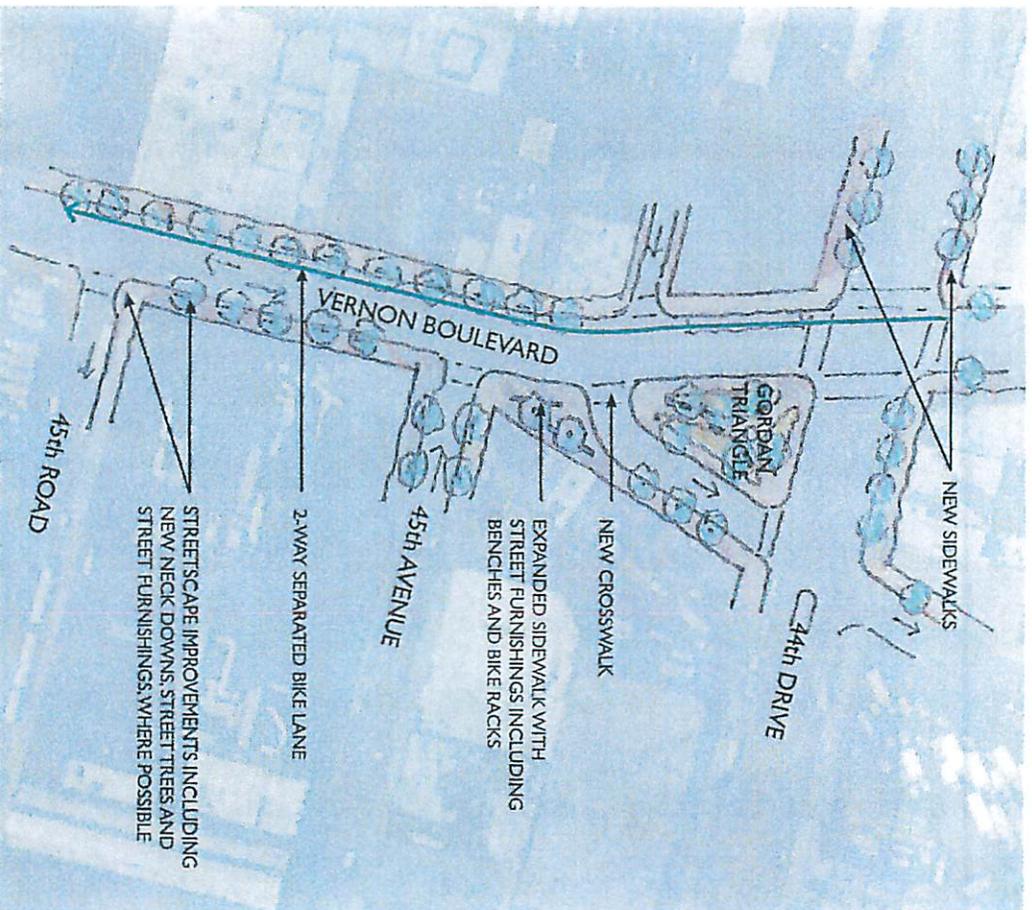
Vernon Boulevard



Vernon Boulevard/Gordan Triangle

Proposed Design

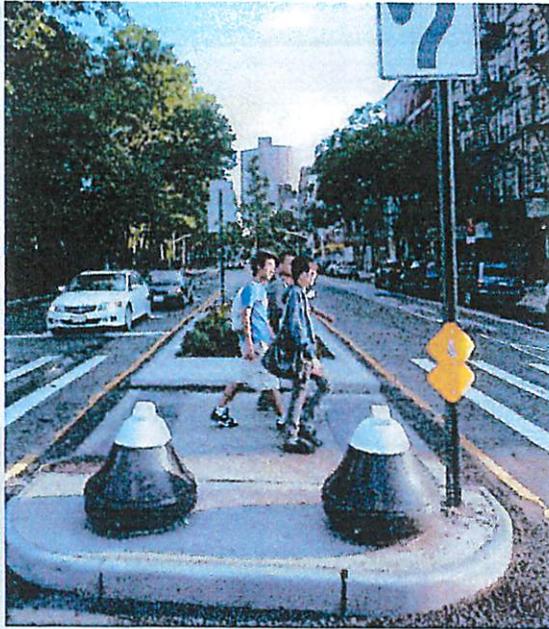
- Eliminate utility poles
- Improve lighting, add benches, wayfinding, bike racks, etc.



LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

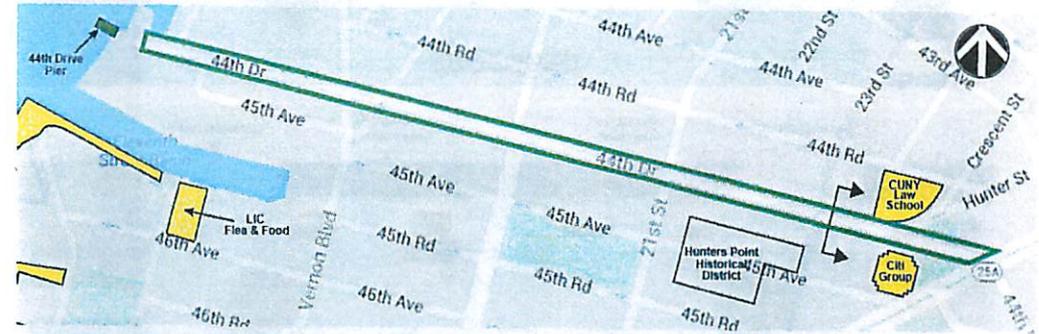
VERNON BOULEVARD
Rendering

44th Drive

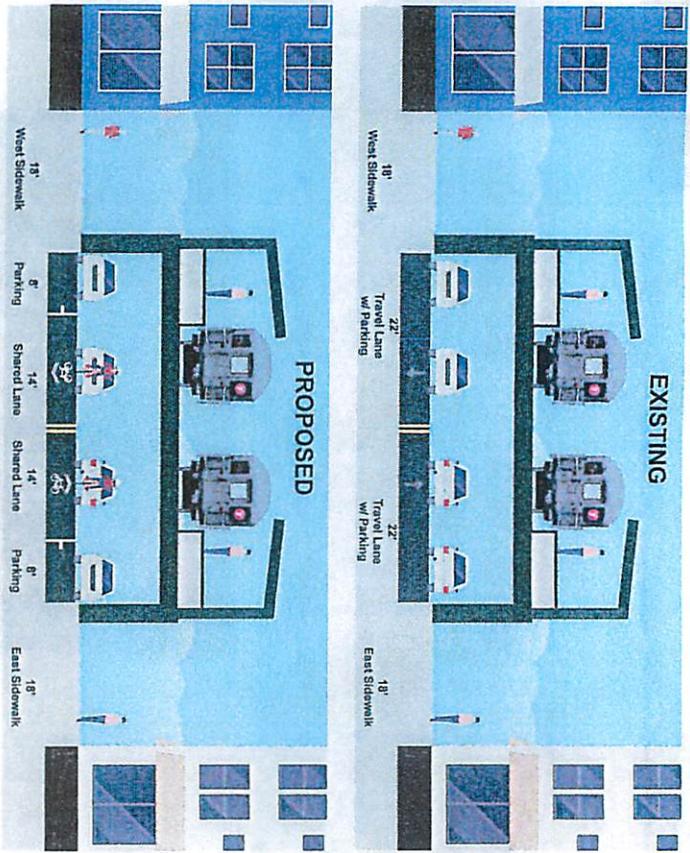


Proposed:

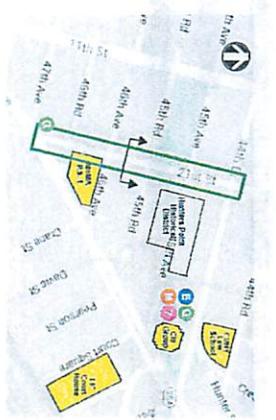
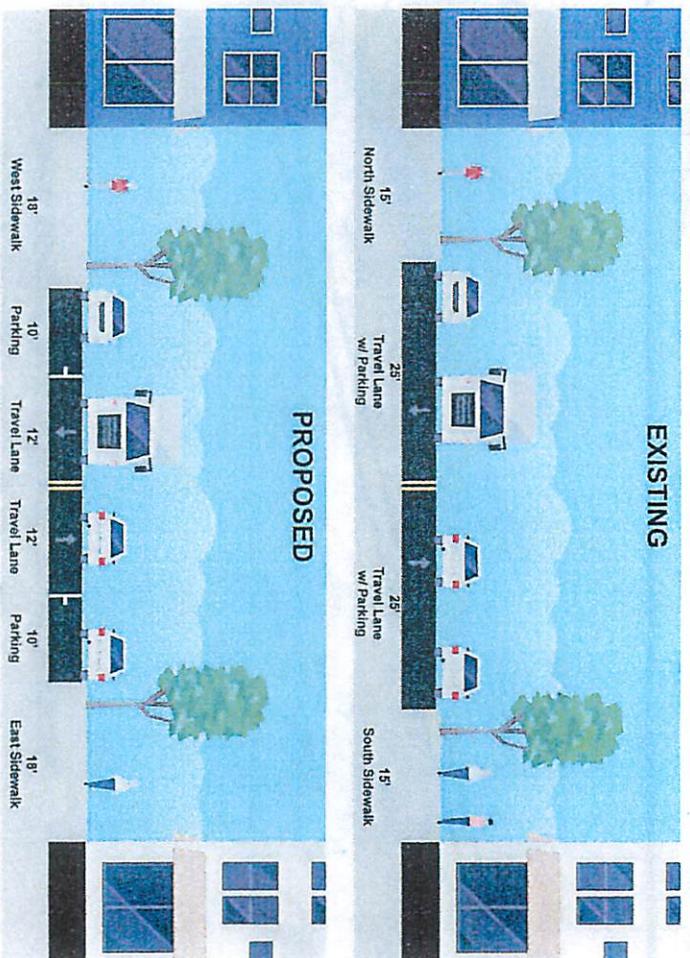
- Raised medians where feasible between 23rd St. & Jackson Ave
- Pedestrian refuge islands and traffic calming where feasible west of 23rd St.
- New continuous sidewalk to waterfront



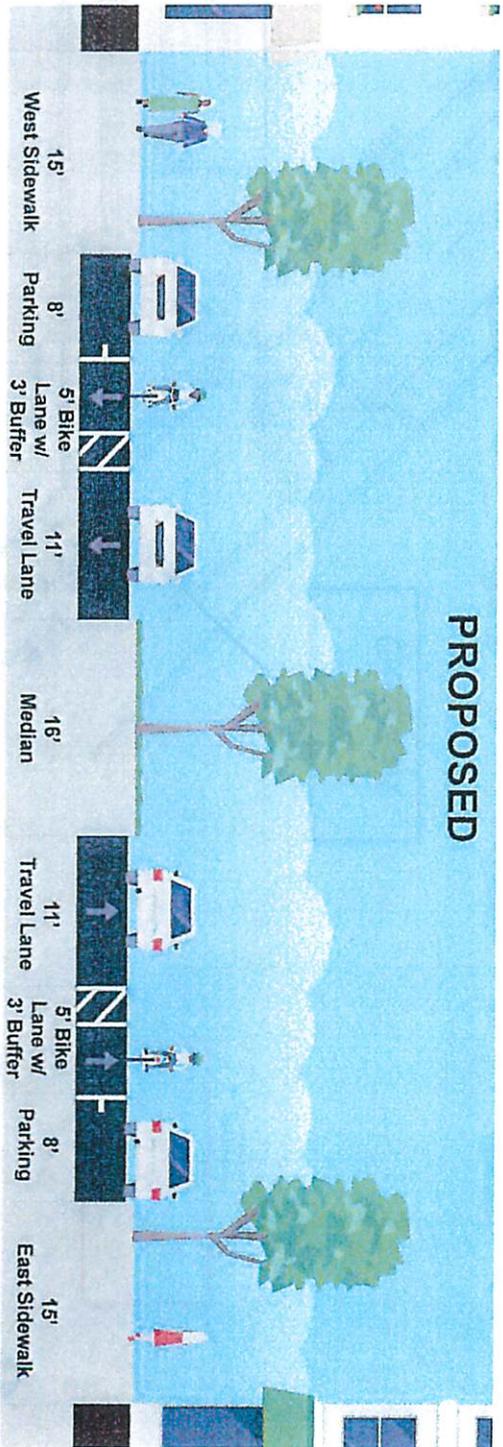
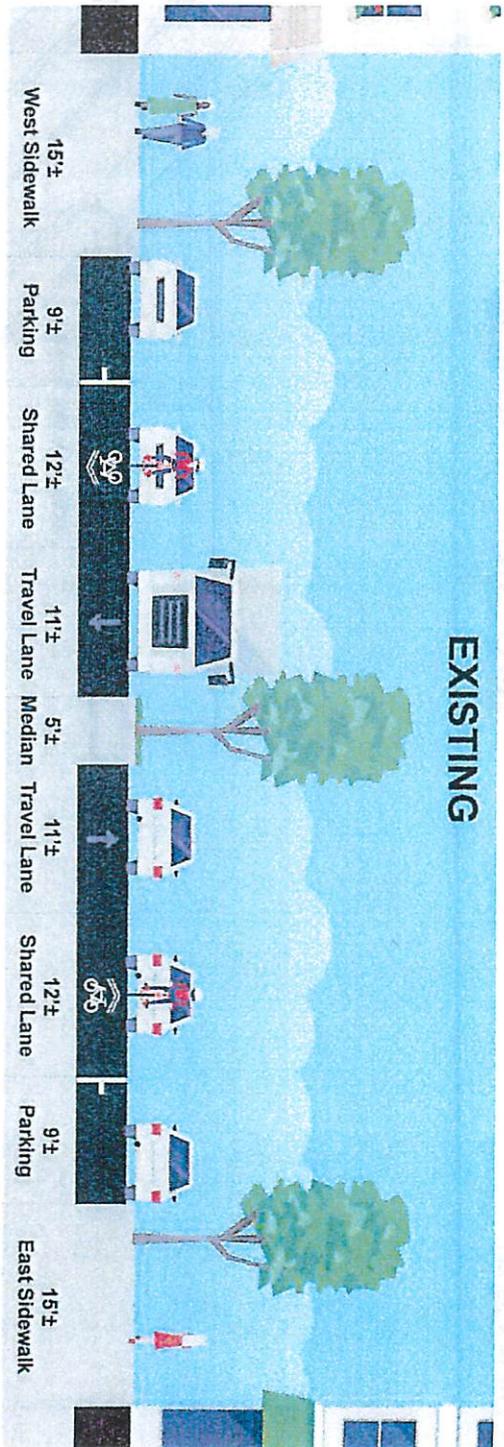
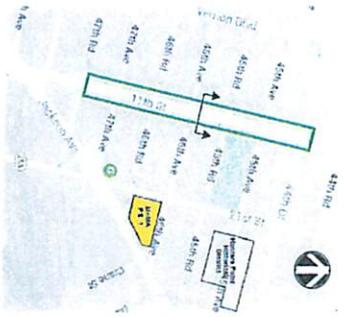
23rd Street



21st Street



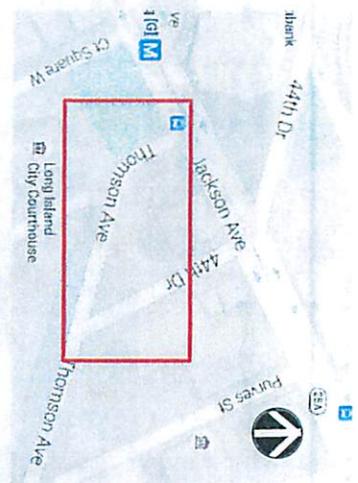
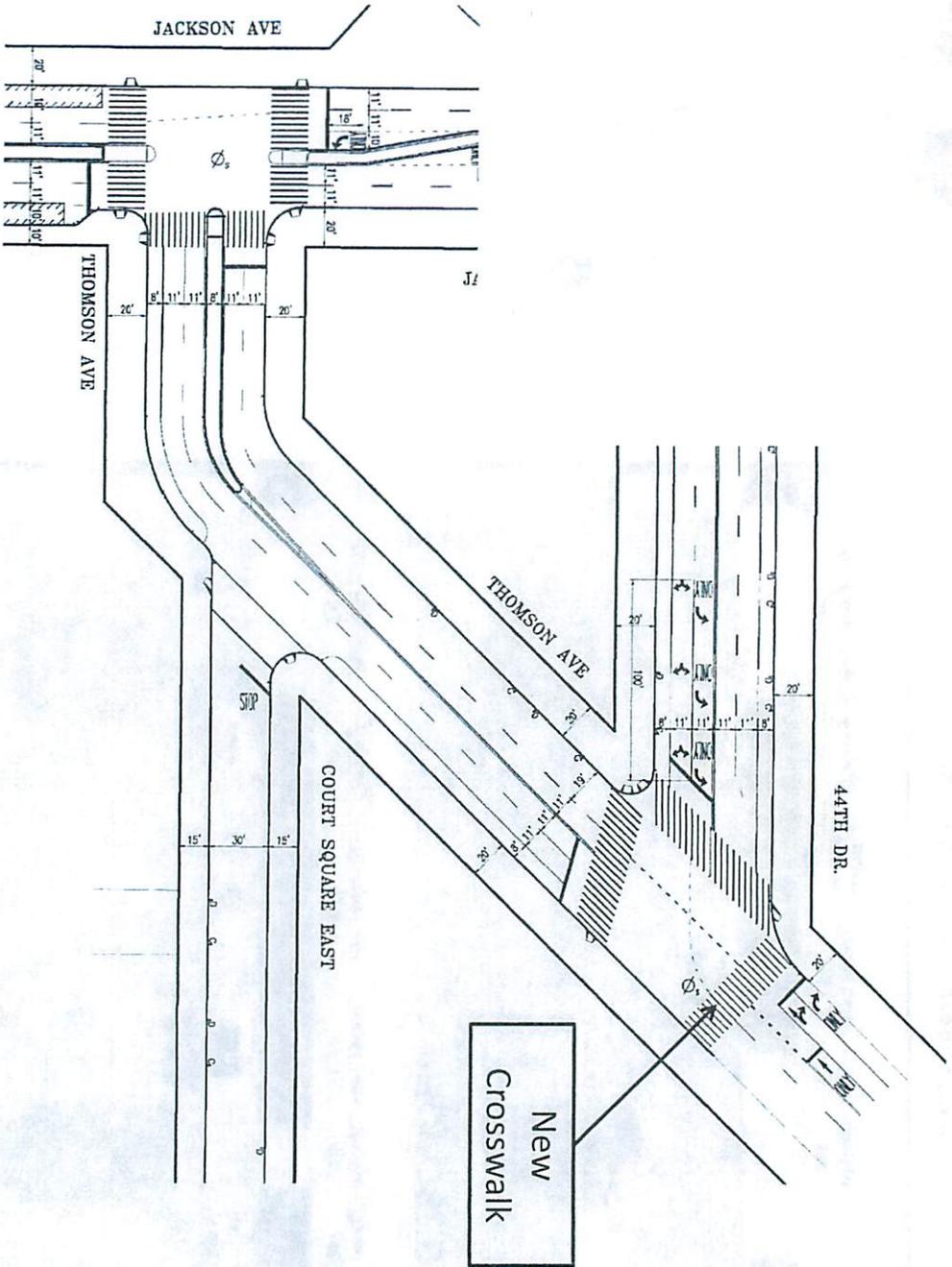
11th Street



LONG ISLAND CITY/HUNTERS POINT
AREA-WIDE RECONSTRUCTION

11th STREET
Proposed Sections

Thomson Avenue



Next Steps

Preliminary Design Contract

- CB2 Transportation Committee Meeting – End of May, 2016 (if needed)
- Finalize Geometric Design
- CB2 Full Board Meeting – June, 2016
- **Identify Phase 1 Limits based on available funding and coordination with stakeholders**
- Complete Preliminary Design Contract – August, 2016

Final Design

- Develop Phase 1 final design project scope and initiate new design contract – Fall, 2016
- Community Workshop (Phase 1 Project Limits) – Early 2017