





NORTHWEST BRONX SCHOOL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

WEST 254TH STREET/VAN CORTLANDT PARK EAST

PROJECT ID: HWX406
RIVERDALE AND WOODLAWN
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

PROJECT DESIGN UPDATE – Community Board 8, The Bronx

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BACKGROUND

A DOT School Safety Capital Project

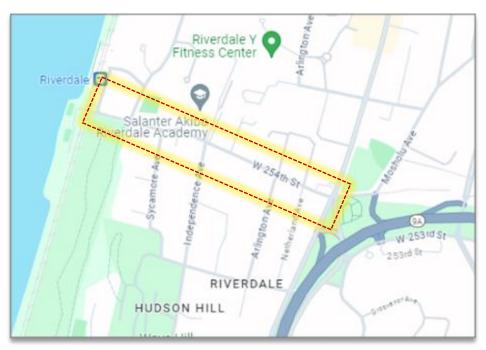
- Improve pedestrian safety and accessibility near two schools and Metro-North.
 - Salanter Akiba Riverdale (SAR) Academy on West 254th Street
 - Judith K. Weiss Woodlawn School (P.S. 19) on East 237th Street
- **Project Locations**
 - Location 1 West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue
 - Location 2 Van Cortlandt Park Fast and Fast 238th Street



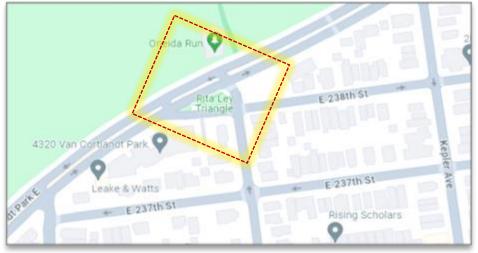








Location 1 – West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue



Location 2 - Van Cortlandt Park East and East 238th Street

BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Existing Street Conditions

- West 254th Street is used by SAR Academy students to access school
- West 254th Street also leads into the Metro-North Riverdale Train Station
- Missing sidewalks and curbs
- Poor roadway surfaces
- Lack of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- Poor visibility















TEMPORARY IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Interim Improvements in 2023

- Temporary pedestrian path along north curb to provide safer access for students and local residents
- All-way stop controlled intersections and new crosswalks on West 254 Street at Sycamore Avenue and at Independence Avenue
- Flexible delineators, granite blocks, and planters added as protection for pedestrians
- Potential future adjustments: replacing some of the granite blocks with jersey barriers











BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue

Existing Sewer and Watermain Conditions

- Water main installed in the 1920s showing signs of aging
- Existing sewers exhibit cracks and defects
- Undersized sewers on West 254th Street from Independence Avenue to Palisades Avenue
- Undersized sewer on Palisade Avenue between West 254th Street and West 255th Street











PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Capital Project Improvements

- Streetscape Amenities street trees, planting strip (street tree removals and plantings)
- Upgraded infrastructure street lighting, signage
- No reduction in traffic flow capacity









PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Arlington Avenue

Proposed trees

NEW YORK CITY

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to

- Full roadway reconstruction with one 12 ft travel lane in each direction
- Continuous 5' to 8' sidewalks on both roadway sides
- ADA compliant pedestrian ramps and crosswalks

Capital Project Improvements Proposed pedestrian crossing Metro-North Railroad Salanter Akiba Riverdale Academy

> Proposed sidewalk

Environmental

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue

Sewer and Water Main Improvements

- Water main replacement and upsize for 2000 LF from
 - Railroad Terrace to Palisade Avenue
 - Independence Avenue to Riverdale Avenue
- New sanitary and storm sewers, both spanning approximately 1300 LF from Palisade Avenue to east of Rivercrest Road
- New sewer for 450 LF on Palisade Avenue from West 254th Street to West 255th
 Street
- New catch basins and green infrastructure practices for capturing stormwater









CHALLENGES

Design Challenges

NYCDEP

- Design changes mid-project for sewer upgrades
- DEP Unified Stormwater Rule West 254th Street project triggers the rule because it disturbs more than one acre of soil

DEP USWR requires Post Construction Stormwater Mitigation Practices, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Plan

Private utility coordination

• (Con Edison, ECS, AlticeUSA) – Required underground and overhead utility relocation per sidewalk construction and DEP sewer / water main upgrades

MTA coordination

• Metro-North Hudson Line and the Riverdale Metro-North Station adjacent to project area.







CHALLENGES

Design Challenges

NYCDOT

- Street Lighting Requires relocation of light poles
- OCMC Maintain roadway open, school and property access during construction
- Pedestrian Geometry constraints for installation of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- Highway Design Steep roadway alignment
- Street Parking Restrictions to parking during and after construction

Landmarks Preservation Commission

Protect Riverdale Historic District

Community

- Minimize land acquisition
- Minimize impacts to encroachments on both sides of West 254th Street
- Ensure smooth transition to driveways, pathways, walkways, and entrances
- Tree mitigation Plans are pending







TENTATIVE PROJECT MILESTONES

Estimated timelines are subject to change as project is still in design.

- March 2025 40% Design Plans Complete
- August 2025 75% Design Plans Complete
- February 2026 100% Design Plans Approval
- March 2026 Advertise Bid
- April 2026 Bid Opening
- October 2026 Award Contract
- Early Winter 2027 Start Construction







COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- DDC's Office of Community Outreach + Notification (OCON) works with CB's, BID's, local businesses, and other community stakeholders impacted by construction.
- DDC will assign a dedicated on-site Community Construction Liaison (CCL).
 The CCL information will be provided at the pre-Construction phase:

Email:

Phone:

Field Office Location:

Field Office Hours: 7AM to 3:30PM



COMMUNITY OUTREACH (continued)

Community Construction Liaison (CCL) responsibilities are as follows:

- First point of contact, maintain on-site presence and communications
- Identify, resolve and/or proactively address issues and inquiries
- Distribute advisories and weekly construction activities newsletter
- Provide 72-hour and 24-hour (confirmation or cancellation) advisories for work impacts by email and door to door
- Attend community board monthly DSC meetings



How we communicate with you

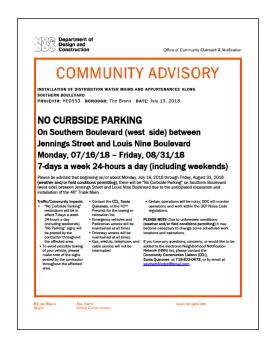


Besides having an on site CCL, we also have printed materials that are updated continuously, including:

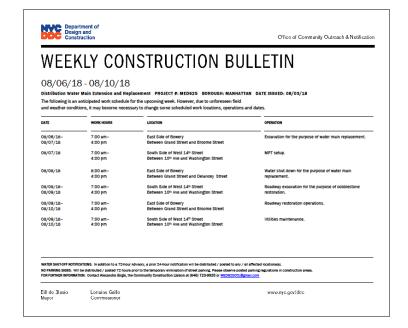
PROJECT INFORMATION CARD



ADVISORY



LOOK AHEAD WEEKLY BULLETIN



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS

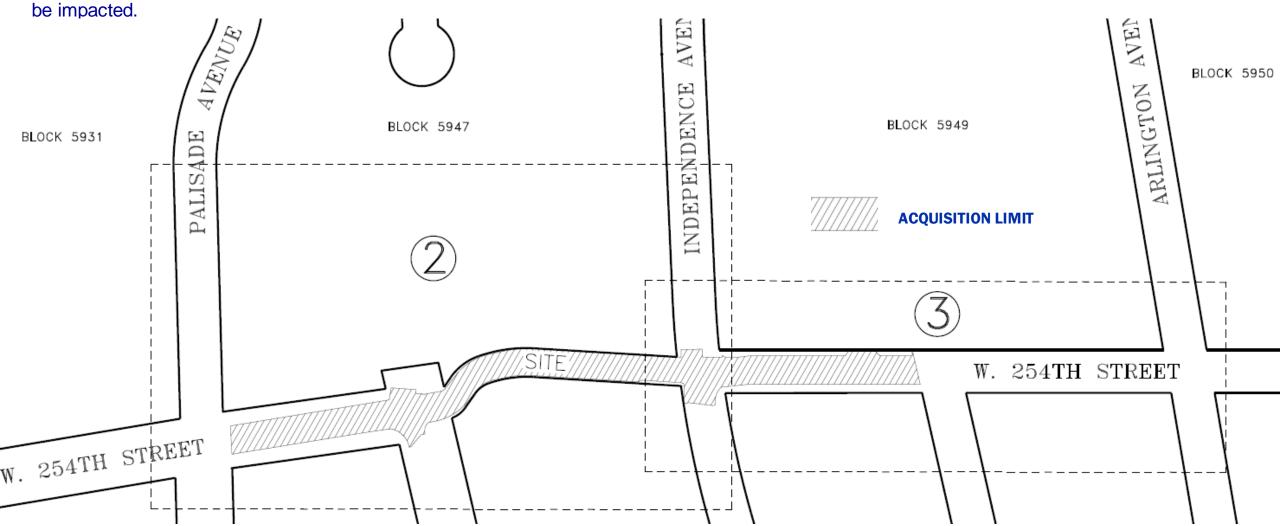


STREET ACQUISITION



City is acquiring W. 254th Street, extending from Palisade Avenue to Blackstone Avenue, along with portions of Block 5947, Lot 1, 5949, Lots 265, 268 & 271 and Block 5942, Lot 298, Block 5939, Lots 399 & 410 and Block 5937, Lot 493 with a total of 1,654 square feet.

This acquisition is necessary to accommodate the construction of a new street alignment, which extends beyond the existing roadway, curbs and sidewalks. As part of the acquisition, portions of lots and any private improvements which the mapped street right-of-way may



STREET ACQUISITION

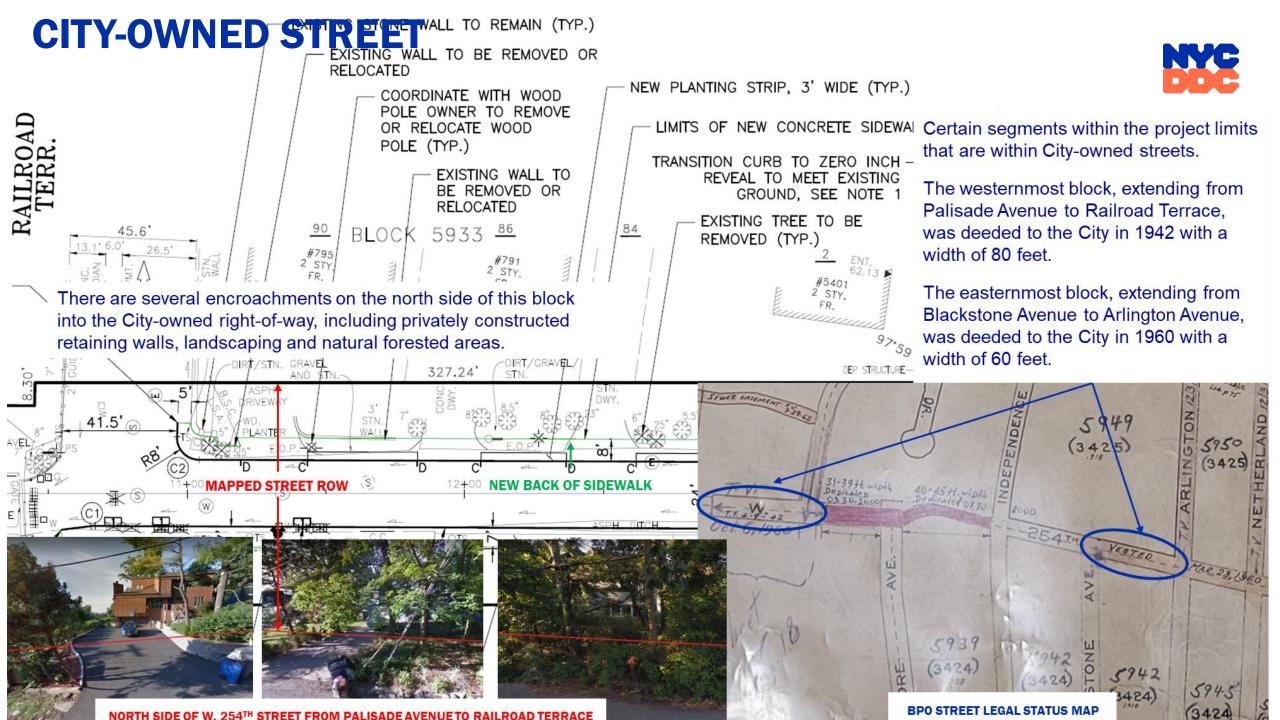
City is acquiring portions of lots along W. 254th Street, extending from Independence Avenue to Blackstone Avenue.

Below is an image of street acquisition limits, as shown on the Damage and Acquisition Map, highlighting the portions of lots being taken.

A table of property information and the square footage of area acquired is also included o the right side.

DAMAGE PARCEL NO.	BLOCK NO.	LOT NO.	REPUTED OWNER(S)	AREA IN SQ. FEET	
				TAKEN	REMAINING
1	5947	1	SAR ACADEMY	460	211,535
2-1	- 5949	271	SAFDIE, ABRAHAM HALVEY, JENNA	4	7,756
2-2				96	
3	5949	268	SCHORR JUDAH	302	8,006
4	5949	265	NORINSBERG, JON	368	9,663
7	5942	298	R SCHWARTZ	179	10,949
8	5939	410	5297 LLC	3	30,133
9	5939	399	MARTIN, YAEL MARTIN, JONATHAN SCHILLER, YAEL	18	14,396
10	5937	493	WALTERS, SUZANNE	224	7,854
·			TOTAL:	1,654	





ACQUISITION MILESTONES



Acquisition process milestones and projected schedule, which is subject to change.



ACQUISITION PROCESS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Will the City condemn the property or lot?

The City will need to acquire portions of several lots, including areas of roadway, curb, sidewalk, and grass that extend into the mapped street within certain sections of the project.

2. How does the acquisition process affect the certain properties?

Certain lots impacted by the acquisition will have their tax lot dimensions adjusted. However, adjacent lots that are not affected by the street acquisition will remain unchanged.

3. How does street reconstruction and street acquisition affect the property improvements or fixtures?

Property improvements or fixtures, such as fences, walls, or movable structures, that extend beyond the property lot line will be considered "encroachments" once the City takes ownership of the streets. Affect property owners will be notified and asked to remove these encroachments prior to the commencement of street work.

4. How will property owners be compensated for portion of lot taking or removed encroachments?

The portion of the lot acquired will be compensated based on the land's value. For encroachment fixtures, such as fences or walls, a licensed appraiser will assess their depreciated value on a case-by-case basis, depending on the location and type of the fixture. The NYC Law Department will issue a notice detailing the award amount for the land and/or encroachments. Property owners will be required to clear title to confirm rightful ownership before payment is made.

5. Contact to DDC Property Acquisition Unit and Acquisition Events Website?

Mian Faisal, Project Acquisition Coordinator at phone: (718) 391-1367, email: <u>FaisalMi@ddc.nyc.gov</u>, website: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ddc/projects/acquisition-events.page







Q&A

THANK YOU