

HUNTS POINT STATION AREA



DRAFT

CONTENTS

1.VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

- A. LAND USE AND PLACEMAKING
- B. STATION AREA AND ACCESS
- C. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE
- D. COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vibrant Communities, which relates to how we plan for growth while celebrating who we are

2.WORKING COMMUNITIES

- A. CONNECTING TO THE REGION
- B. SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND JOBS GROWTH
- C. JOB PREPAREDNESS

3.CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

- A. VEHICULAR ACCESS
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PLANNING WORK IN PANDEMIC

COVID-19 has changed the world. The Bronx has been particularly affected, and our health and economy are suffering. As we continue to fight back COVID-19, we seek to make the City a hub for public health research, create high-quality jobs, and make New York the fairest city in America. New Metro North service in the Bronx can support economic recovery of the borough and the city in the wake of the pandemic, and station-area planning can bring much needed amenities and services to the neighborhoods of the East and South Bronx.

However, as the City and MTA face extreme financial challenges, stakeholders of all kinds – elected officials, community residents, businesses, institutions - must continue to advocate for the regional rail stations and service to support New York City's recovery. The new stations can be critical to kickstarting the recovery of the borough and city's economy by thoughtfully and pro-actively planning for job growth, supporting existing commercial corridors, and working to get New Yorkers back to work in the Bronx, the city, or the wider region.

The draft recommendations shared in this remote open house are a first attempt at understanding how we move forward amidst the current health, social, and financial crises. Your guidance and feedback on the recommendations in the coming weeks will be fundamental to the plan's success as we seek to understand and respond to changing priorities during COVID.

Through the public planning process, you and your neighbors have already helped develop planning objectives that have only grown in importance as we confront COVID. These include:

- Create new or expanded open spaces where people can relax, play, and enjoy the outdoors.
- Help residents of the Bronx access opportunities for jobs in the borough, the city, and the region.
- Ensure affordable homes are available across the East and South Bronx.
- Help address longstanding health inequities, which have exacerbated the pandemic's impact on Bronxites, by working to reduce systemic barriers to good health. To address this we must plan for:
 - Access to transit that reduces reliance on automobile use and the pollution that comes with it.
 - Expanded healthy food options.
 - Convenient mixed-use neighborhoods that allow residents to accomplish their daily tasks within walking distance from home.

After you have viewed the recommendations, we encourage you to join the conversation, share your priorities, and provide your own guidance as a member of the community.



Photo: Restaurant outdoor dining, Bronx



Photo: Food distribution center, Bronx

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HOW TO READ THE RECOMMENDATION BOARDS ?

1. NAVIGATION BAR:

This text tells you where you are.
For instance, this is the "Land Use and Placemaking: Neighborhood Center" category of the Vibrant Communities section.

2. ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY:

This text explains the issue or opportunity to be addressed by each set of objectives and recommendations. These came out of conversations with the community.

3. OBJECTIVE:

The objectives state what we are trying to accomplish with each set of recommendations and are a response to the issue/opportunity identified.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS:

These are the recommendations for how to carry out the objective identified above

5. IMPLEMENTATION:

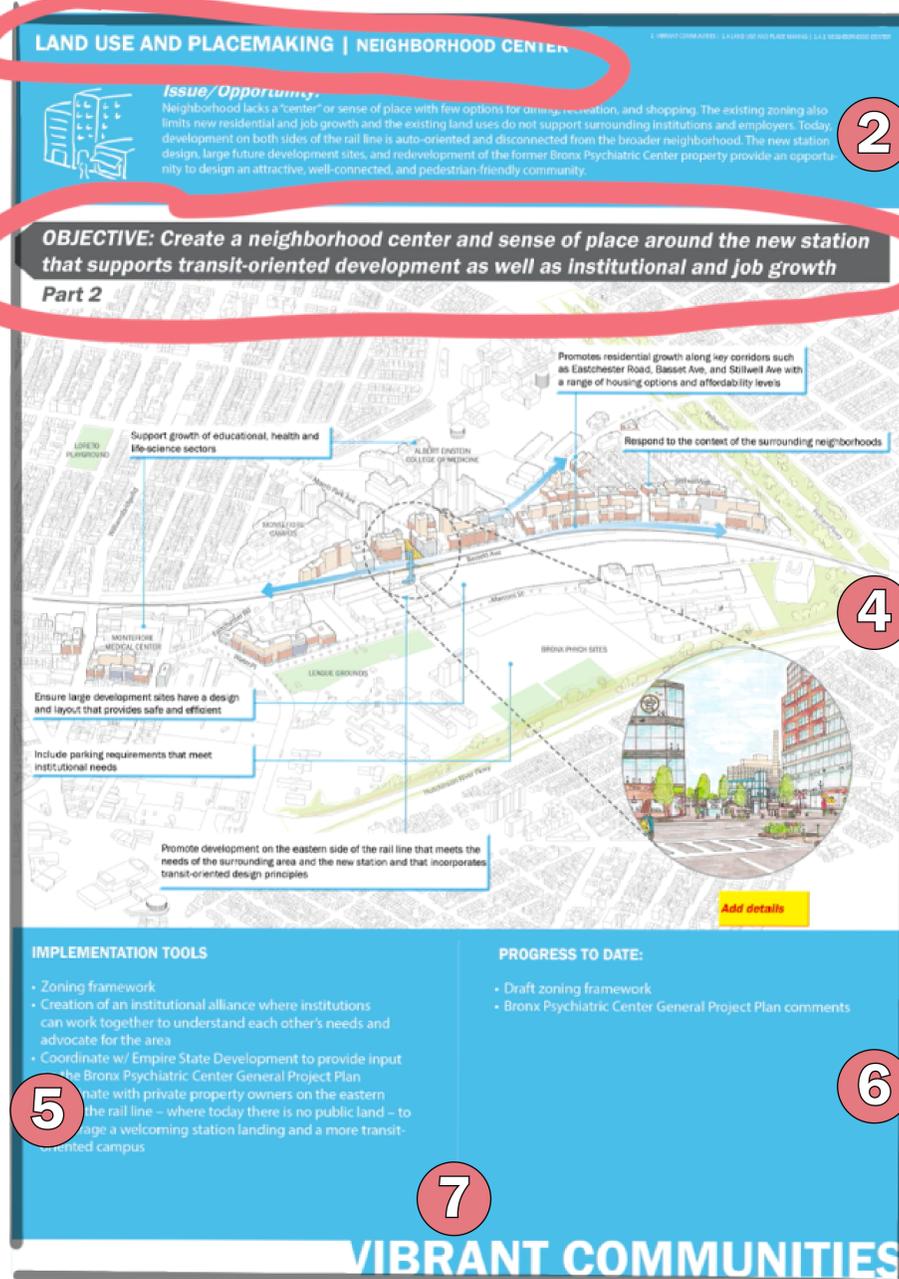
This section identifies how and by whom the above recommendations might be addressed

6. PROGRESS TO DATE:

This section identifies the progress to date the city has made, over the course of study, to advance certain recommendations.

7. SECTION TITLE:

This bar identifies which of the three major categories or recommendations (Vibrant Communities, Working Communities, or Connected Communities) you're in. Each of these categories is also associated with its own color (blue, purple, and orange, respectively)



ACRONYMS

HPD - Housing Preservation and Development
DPR - Department of Parks and Recreation
DOT - Department of Transportation
MIH - Mandatory Inclusionary Housing
TOD - Transit Oriented Development
BID - Business Improvement District

FDNY - Fire Department
NYPD - Police Department
DCLA - Department of Cultural Affairs
MTA - Metropolitan Transportation Authority
FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency
ZCFR - Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency

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VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

HUNTS POINT

OBJECTIVES:

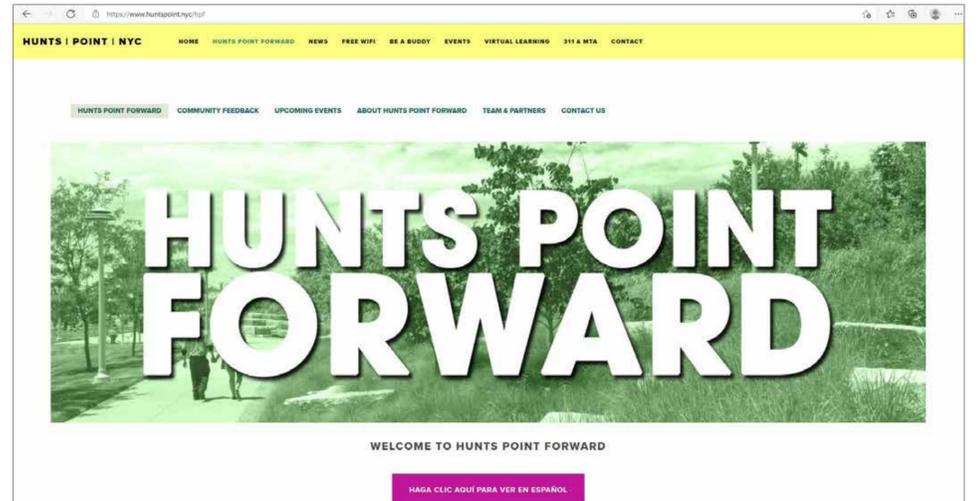
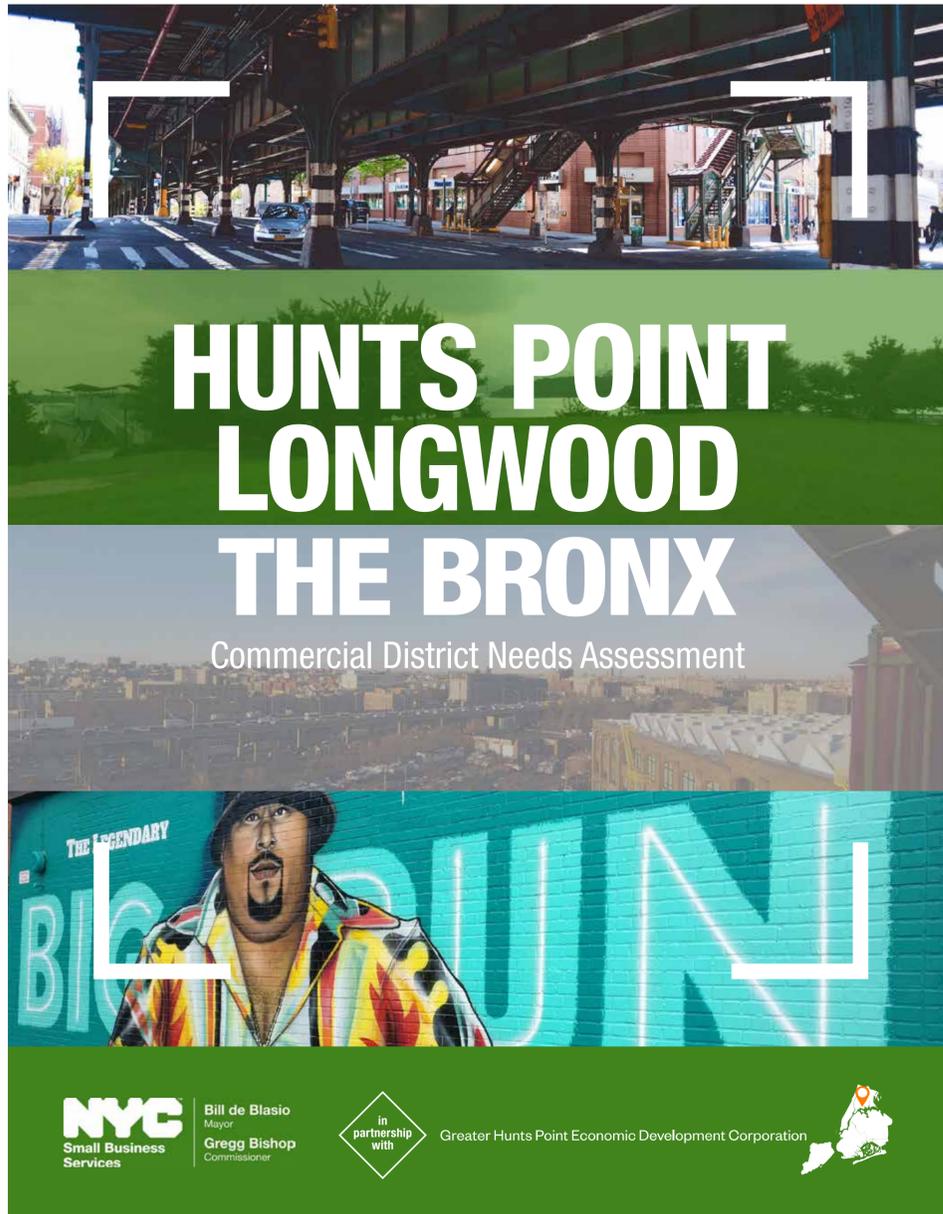
1. Coordinate with and support the work of ongoing and past studies in the area
2. Encourage welcoming public connections throughout the neighborhood and better connect to existing open spaces
3. Make new stations a part of the neighborhood
4. Improve and better connect to existing open spaces
5. Promote fair, transit-oriented development that benefits all residents
6. Honor the area's history and promote public art
7. Encourage and promote retail close to station area

LAND USE AND PLACEMAKING | COORDINATE WORK

Issue/Opportunity:

The Hunts Points station area has been the subject of past and ongoing neighborhood planning work. It's important that new station work and access improvements related to the Metro-North study are coordinated with past and ongoing work, such as the Hunts Point Forward vision planning work.

OBJECTIVE: Coordinate and support the work of ongoing and past studies in the area



Work with EDC to ensure that the work of Hunts Point Forward reflects neighborhood priorities raised as part of Bronx Metro-North outreach

Ensure that future projects, such as the reconstruction of Del Valle Square, reflect the future needs of the station area and are informed by this planning study

Coordinate planning work with the Hunts Point/Longwood Commercial District Needs Assessment (CDNA)

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- Urban Design Guidelines
- Special Zoning rules
- DOT Street Design Manual
- City street mapping

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

- Held series of public meetings that included interactive exercises around transportation and access to develop circulation plan
- Reconstruction of Garrison Park and Starlight Park
- Planning around reconstruction of Del Valle Square

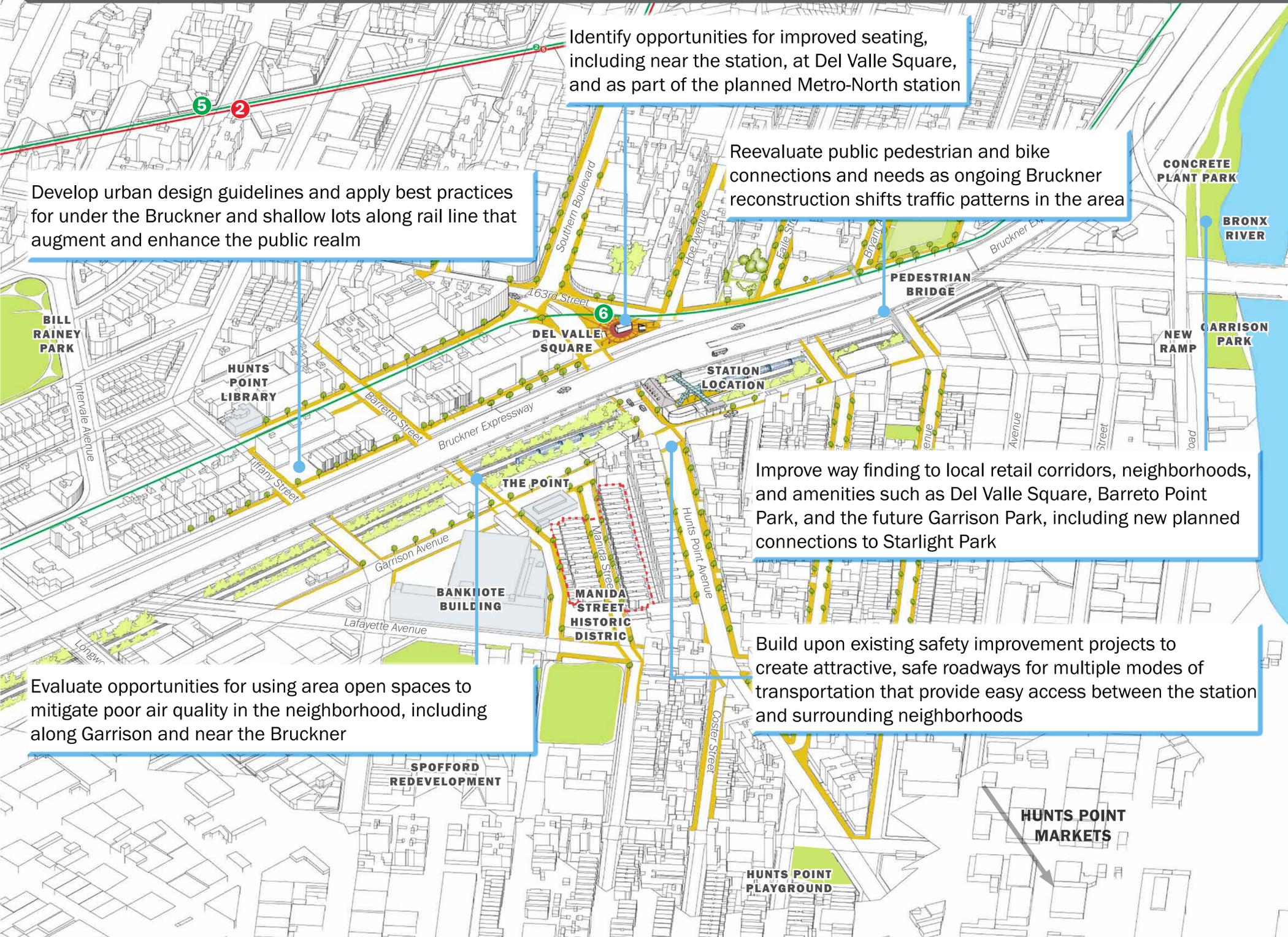
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LAND USE AND PLACEMAKING | PUBLIC REALM

Issue/Opportunity:

Bruckner Blvd acts as a barrier between the Hunts Point Peninsula and the neighborhoods to the north and west, including connections to the Hunts Point station of the 6 train at Del Valle Square.

OBJECTIVE: Encourage welcoming public connections throughout the neighborhood



Identify opportunities for improved seating, including near the station, at Del Valle Square, and as part of the planned Metro-North station

Develop urban design guidelines and apply best practices for under the Bruckner and shallow lots along rail line that augment and enhance the public realm

Reevaluate public pedestrian and bike connections and needs as ongoing Bruckner reconstruction shifts traffic patterns in the area

Improve way finding to local retail corridors, neighborhoods, and amenities such as Del Valle Square, Barreto Point Park, and the future Garrison Park, including new planned connections to Starlight Park

Evaluate opportunities for using area open spaces to mitigate poor air quality in the neighborhood, including along Garrison and near the Bruckner

Build upon existing safety improvement projects to create attractive, safe roadways for multiple modes of transportation that provide easy access between the station and surrounding neighborhoods

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- Urban Design Guidelines
- DOT Street Design Manual
- City street mapping

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

- Held series of public meetings that included interactive exercises around transportation and access to develop circulation plan
- Construction of Garrison Park and expansion of Starlight Park
- Planning around reconstruction of Del Valle Square

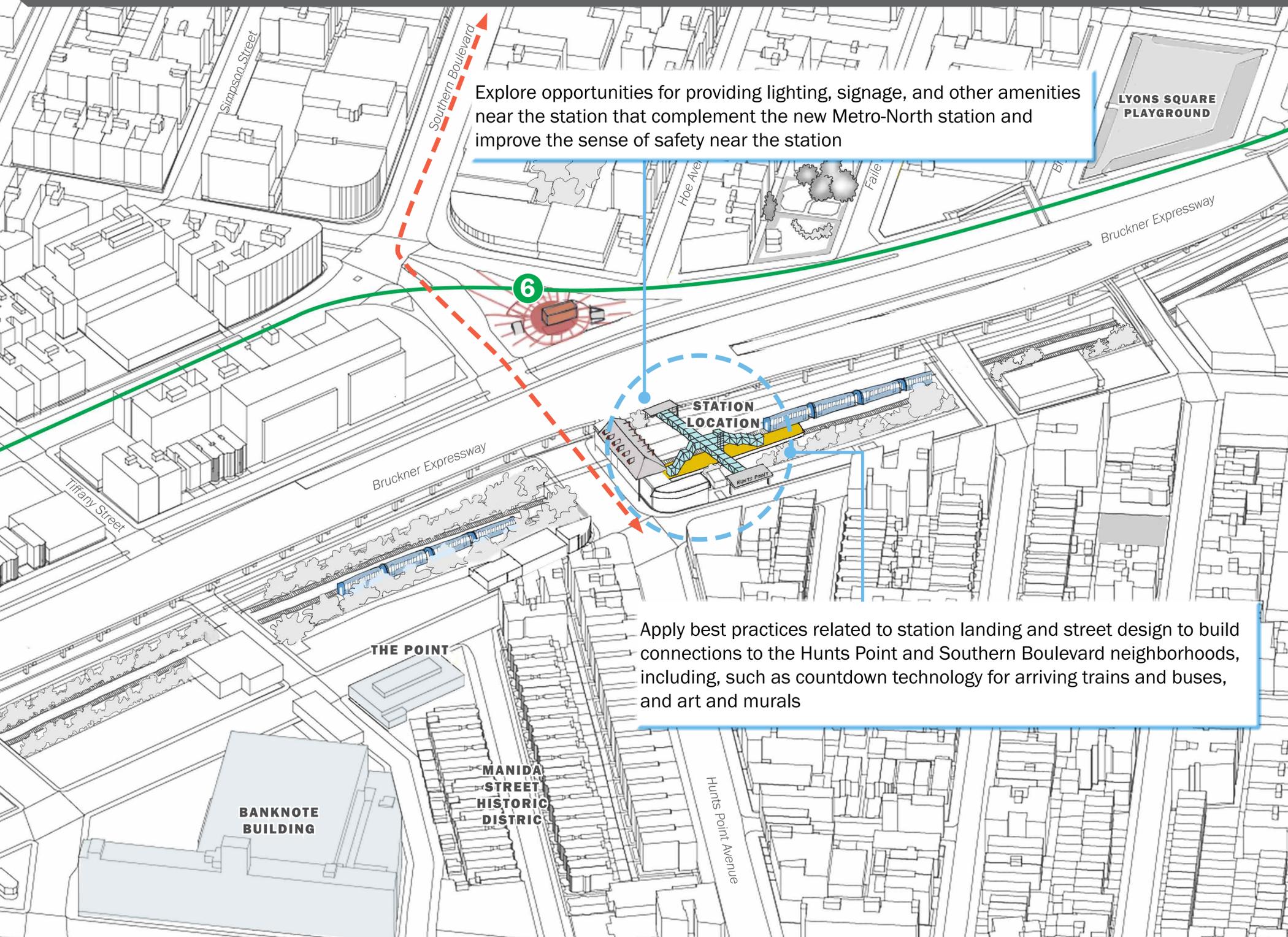
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STATION AREA AND ACCESS | STATION CONNECTIONS AND AMENITIES

Issue/Opportunity:

Constraints along Hunts Point Ave create access and visibility challenges for the new station, but the design of the new station provides an opportunity to better connect the station to surrounding neighborhoods and provide comfortable waiting area and efficient pick-up and drop-off for passengers.

OBJECTIVE: Make new stations a part of the neighborhood



Explore opportunities for providing lighting, signage, and other amenities near the station that complement the new Metro-North station and improve the sense of safety near the station

Apply best practices related to station landing and street design to build connections to the Hunts Point and Southern Boulevard neighborhoods, including, such as countdown technology for arriving trains and buses, and art and murals

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- Coordination of MTA station design and City station-area planning
- MTA design work and guidelines
- DOT Street Design Manual and toolkit

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

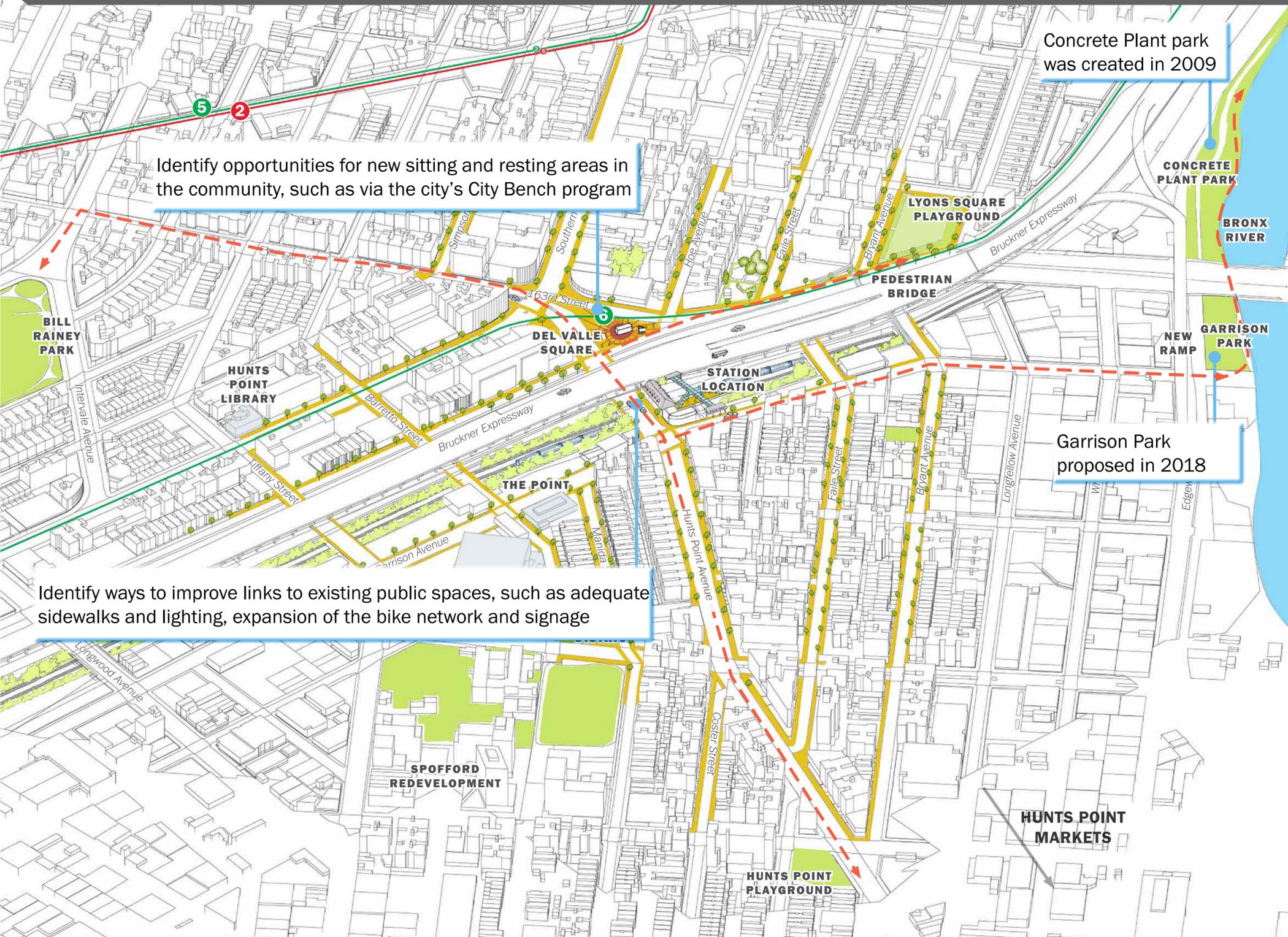
- Influence preliminary stations design by MTA which included feedback from planning process

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Issue/Opportunity:

There are many open spaces already in the area, but difficult connections under the Bruckner and throughout Hunts Point make it difficult to access them. Additionally, new planned open spaces for the community should be better connected to the surrounding communities.

OBJECTIVE: Improve and better connect to existing open spaces



IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- DOT Street Design Manual and toolkit
- Bike network and facilities improvements
- WalkNYC and other wayfinding signage
- Pedestrian-level lighting in new developments

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

- Ongoing coordination with city agencies, including the Department of Transportation and Department of Parks and Recreation

Issue/Opportunity:

Currently, the station area lacks regional rail transit, limiting access to important job centers and employment opportunities north of the Bronx and in the region. Recent studies show that households in areas with new transit-oriented development (TOD) projects had access to almost two times more jobs than households in areas with no TOD activity. When centered on racial inclusion and community wealth building, TOD can be a driver of positive transformation for more vibrant, prosperous, and resilient neighborhoods connected to opportunities throughout the city and region.

OBJECTIVE: Promote equitable transit-oriented development that benefits all residents, regardless of income, race, ethnicity, age, gender, immigration status, and ability



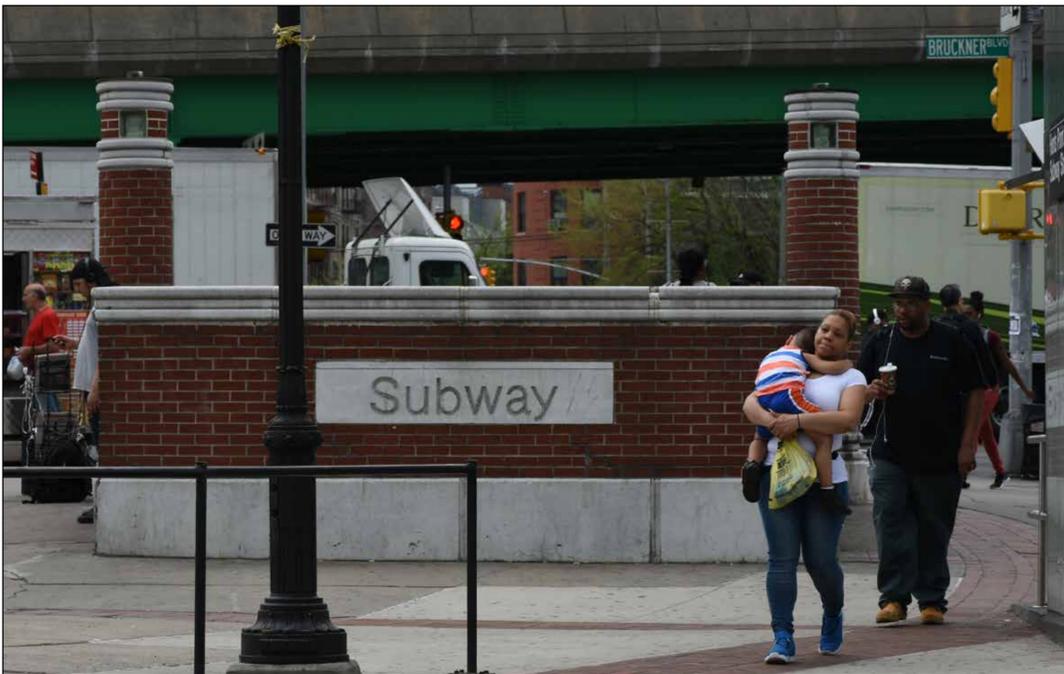
Photo taken along Hunts Point ave

Inventory current sidewalk infrastructure to prioritize needed improvements in pedestrian infrastructure around new stations

Improve visibility and accessibility of transit signage and way finding, especially for people with disabilities or for whom English is not their first language

Increase access to alternative forms of transportation for community members, including bike-share, e-bikes, and e-scooters

Work with elected official and local stakeholders to advocate for prioritization of MTA funding to make area subway stations fully accessible to people with disabilities



Hunts Point MTA Subway station

Work with elected officials and local stakeholders to advocate to MTA to provide frequency that is sufficient for communities and job centers

Work with NYC Transit to optimize bus service to and from new Metro-North stations and along major corridors

Prioritize high-quality bicycle infrastructure, such as protected bike lanes, connecting people to each other, resources, opportunities, and assets, including the stations

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- MTA station design guidelines
- NYC Transit bus redesign
- Public realm design guidelines

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

- MTA preliminary station design, which is fully ADA accessible
- Ongoing work with City agencies to develop plan for connecting Bronxites to jobs

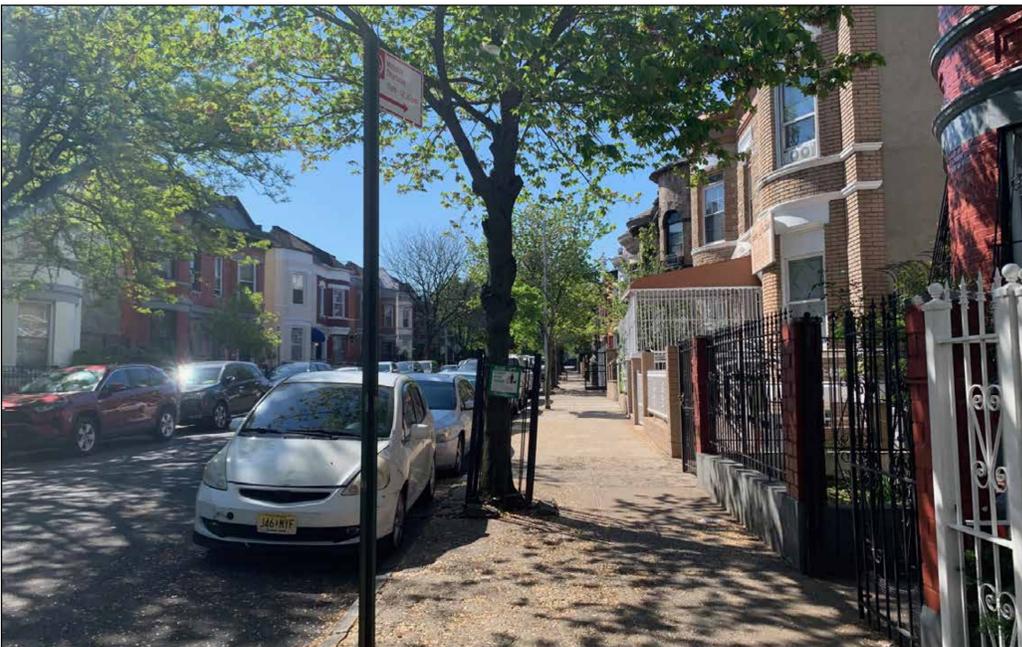
Issue/Opportunity:

: Hunts Point and the surrounding areas have a unique history, and public art celebrating its history should be incorporated into the station, surrounding streets, and new developments as possible

OBJECTIVE: Honor the area's history through public art and design



Art mural on the facade of The Point



Manida Street Historic District declared in 2020

Work with local community organizations to identify opportunities for historical markers, murals, or public art elements that pay homage to the area's history

Incorporate the area's history into parks and public spaces, including public spaces created near the station or as part of the station plaza

Incorporate the area's history into area wayfinding

Identify and cultivate open space and art maintenance partners

Identify opportunities for incorporation of venues for live music and entertainment that honor the area's unique and rich musical history

Continue to support the work of neighborhood organizations working to recognize and protect the neighborhood's identity, such as via the recent designation of Manida Street as a historic district

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- MTA Percent for Arts
- DOT Art and Event Programming
- DPR Art in the Parks Program
- Collaboration with DCLA

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

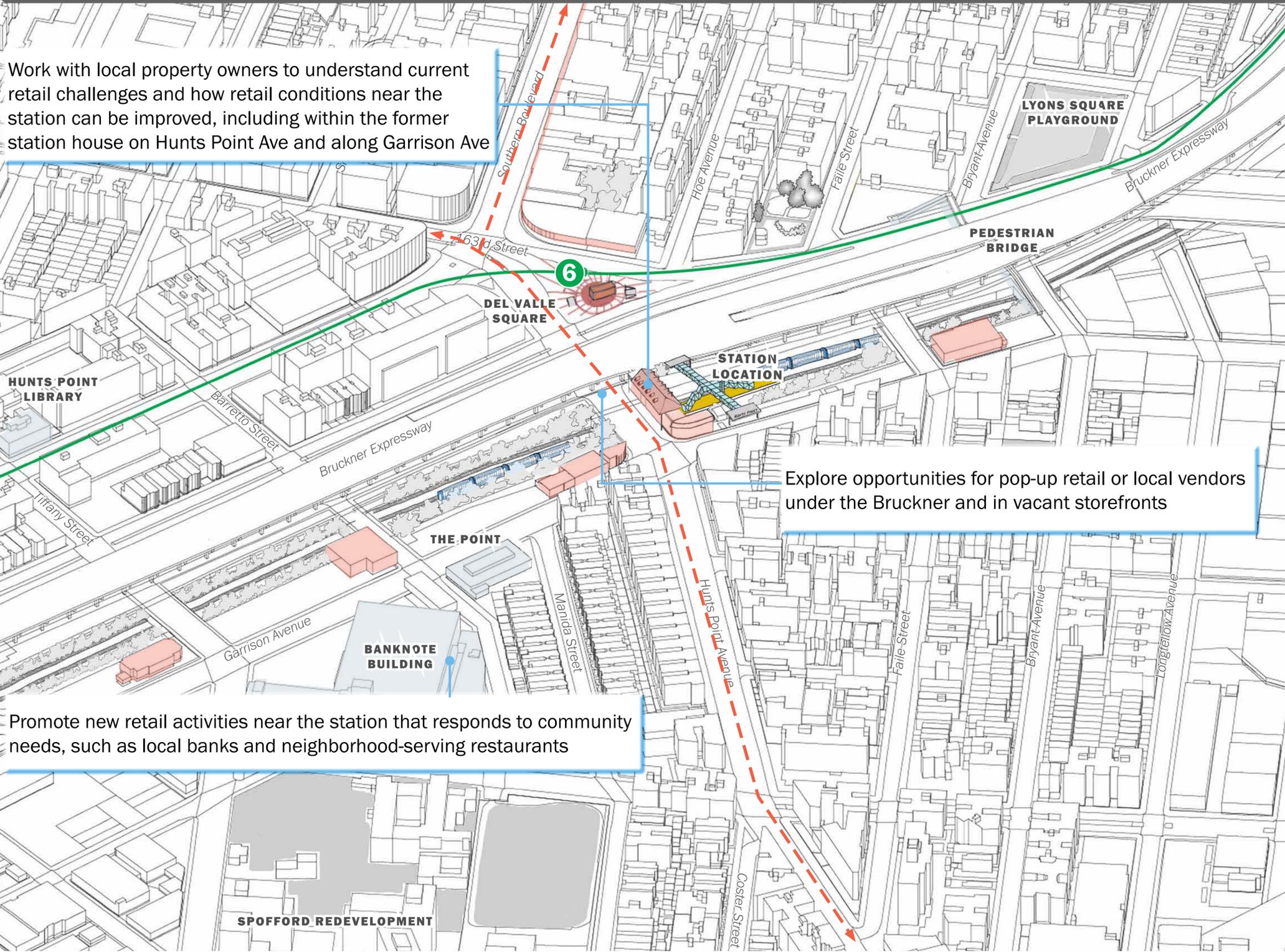
- Engaged the community during public workshops to understand the history of the area

Issue/Opportunity:

The new station offers an opportunity to enliven a struggling retail node at Hunts Point Ave and Garrison Ave

OBJECTIVE: Support existing businesses and encourage and promote new retail uses close to station area

Work with local property owners to understand current retail challenges and how retail conditions near the station can be improved, including within the former station house on Hunts Point Ave and along Garrison Ave



Explore opportunities for pop-up retail or local vendors under the Bruckner and in vacant storefronts

Promote new retail activities near the station that responds to community needs, such as local banks and neighborhood-serving restaurants

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS:

- Coordination with the [Hunts Point Forward](#) planning work

PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS TO DATE:

- Ongoing coordination with the Economic Development Corporation's Hunts Point Forward planning process

To voice your opinion on these recommendations, [click here](#)

To see how the study seeks to make Hunts Point :

***Connected Community*, [click here: \[links to pdf\]](#)**

***Working Community*, [click here: \[links to pdf\]](#)**

To return to the Remote Open House, [click here](#)

