

Bx6 South Bronx Crosstown Select Bus Service

Manhattan CB 12 Transportation Committee Meeting | September 12, 2016



+selectbusservice



Agenda

- Select Bus Service overview
- Bx6 corridor overview
- Proposed SBS stops
- Proposed street design and signal changes
- Next steps
- Questions and discussion

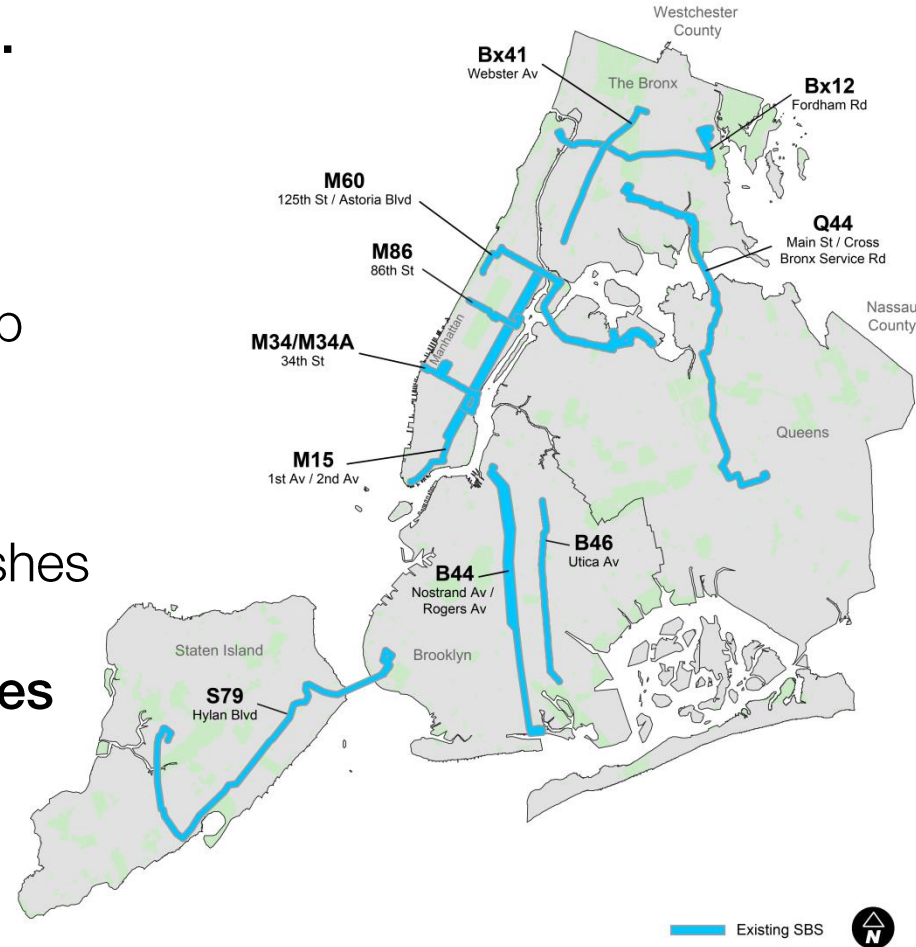
Select Bus Service in New York City

Select Bus Service (SBS) is New York City's brand name for Bus Rapid Transit: an improved bus service that offers fast, frequent, and reliable service on high-ridership bus routes.

SBS has brought:

- 10-25% faster bus speeds
- About 10% increase in ridership
- More reliable service
- Customer satisfaction of 95%
- Safer streets / reduction in crashes

There are 10 Select Bus Service routes in operation serving all 5 boroughs.



Select Bus Service Features

Dedicated Bus Lanes



Signal Priority for Buses



- **Faster** bus rides
- **Reduced traffic conflicts** between buses and traffic
- **More reliable** bus service
- Buses spend **less time stopped** at red lights

Off-Board Fare Collection



All-Door Boarding



- **Quicker** bus boarding
- Buses spend **less time waiting** at bus stops

Select Bus Service Features

Improved Station Amenities



Real-Time Passenger Information



- **More attractive, appealing** bus stops
- **Better trip information** for riders to **know when** the bus is coming
- **More comfortable wait** for the bus

Pedestrian Safety Improvements



- **Better visibility** for pedestrians, bus operators, and drivers
- **Clearer, shorter** pedestrian crossings

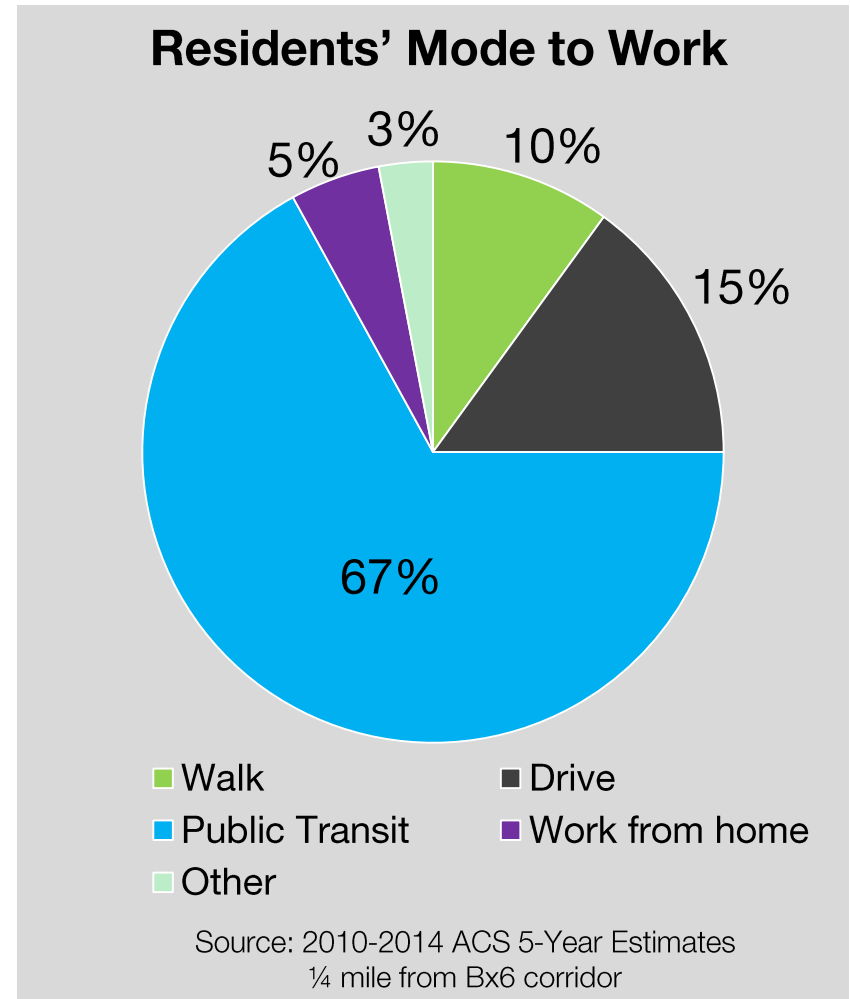
Existing Bx6 local bus route



Bx6 Background

The Bx6 South Bronx corridor was identified as a potential candidate for Select Bus Service in the 2009 Bus Rapid Transit Phase II Study.

- Serves nearly 25,000 daily riders
- Connects to **1** / **C** / **4** **B** **D** / **2** **5** / **6** subway lines, Metro-North, and 20 bus routes, including Bx41 SBS
- 76% of households within a quarter-mile of the route do not own a vehicle



Community Engagement

- **Bronx Kickoff Meeting** (November 2015)
- **Bronx/Manhattan On-street Outreach** (November 2015 – June 2016)
 - During AM peak at six locations
 - Received 578 individual comments and distributed over 1,300 Bx6 SBS information cards in English and Spanish
- **Online Feedback Portal** (launched November 2015)
 - Received 52 location-specific comments
- **Bronx Elected Officials Briefing** (April 2016)
- **Bronx Community Board Meetings** (May 2016)
- **Manhattan Community Board Meetings** (June 2016)
- **Small Stakeholder Meetings** (June 2016 and ongoing)



Community Engagement

- Online Feedback Portal
- We appreciate your input!

The screenshot displays the NYC BRT online feedback portal. The top navigation bar includes 'Content', 'Structure', 'Translate', 'Help', and a user profile 'Hello jschipper' with a 'Log out' option. The main heading is 'SOUTH BRONX CROSSTOWN SBS'. Below this is a map of the South Bronx area, showing the proposed Crosstown SBS route in black. A yellow callout box on the map says 'Click the marker icon and place it on the map to add a comment.' The map shows various streets, parks, and landmarks. To the right of the map is a 'RECENT COMMENTS' section with a search filter set to '- Any -' and a 'Filter' button. The comments are listed as follows:

- Other** (03/30/2016 - 15:06): "This corridor should be considered for elevated light rail transit instead of buses. The transit demands are so high that buses cannot cope." (Average: 5 (1 vote))
- Crowded Bus** (03/15/2016 - 13:39): "The b6x bus 90% of the time is super crowded. Its a struggle for people with walkers or wheelchairs to get on or off the bus. The bus has that staircase in the back which is a hazard. The aisle is narrow and you can barely squeeze by to get to the back of the bus. Nobody wants to stand on the stairs, in case there is a sudden stop, you could easily fall. The bus stops are usually crowded with no form of a line. I think the b6x bus during peak times could use the long extended bus and it should also have select bus service." (Average: 3.3 (3 votes))
- Long Distance to Cross** (02/06/2016 - 06:44): "E 163rd St is TOO WIDE. Cars travel TOO FAST." (Average: 4 (3 votes))
- Long Distance to Cross** (02/05/2016 - 01:46): "E 163rd St is too wide." (Average: 5 (1 vote))
- Blocking the Box** (02/05/2016 - 01:44): "Blocking the Box"

nyc.gov/brt

Safety



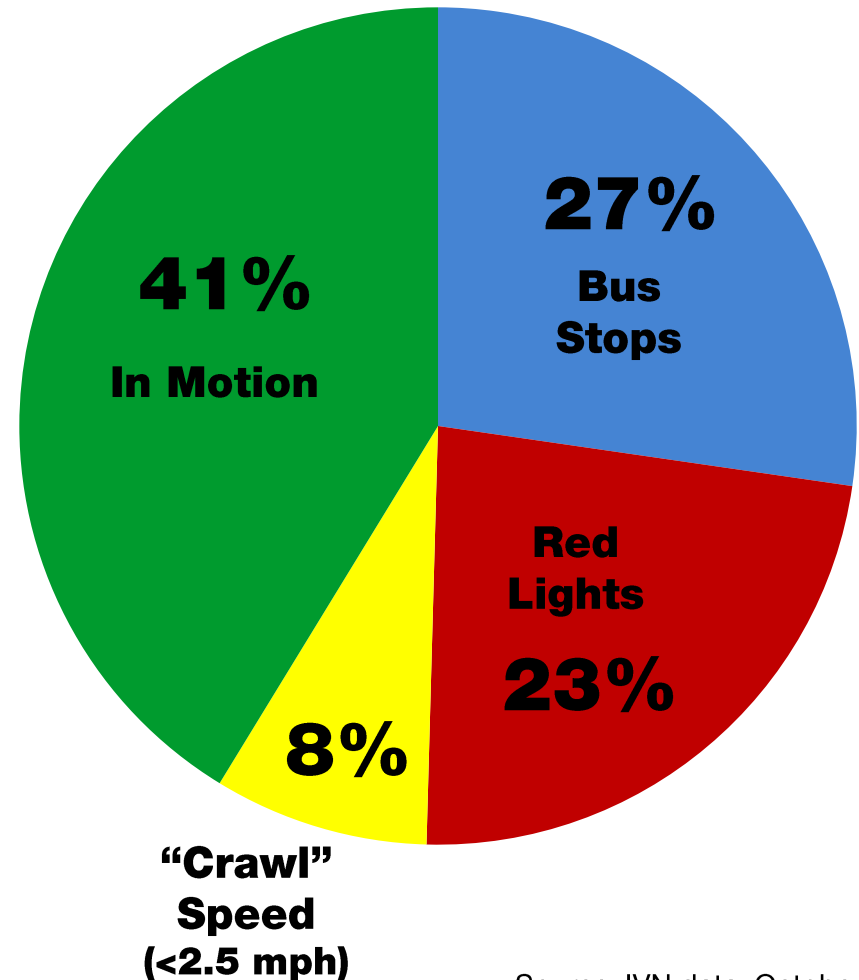
- Vision Zero: multiagency effort to reduce traffic fatalities
- 2 Priority Intersections along route in Manhattan



Bus Delays

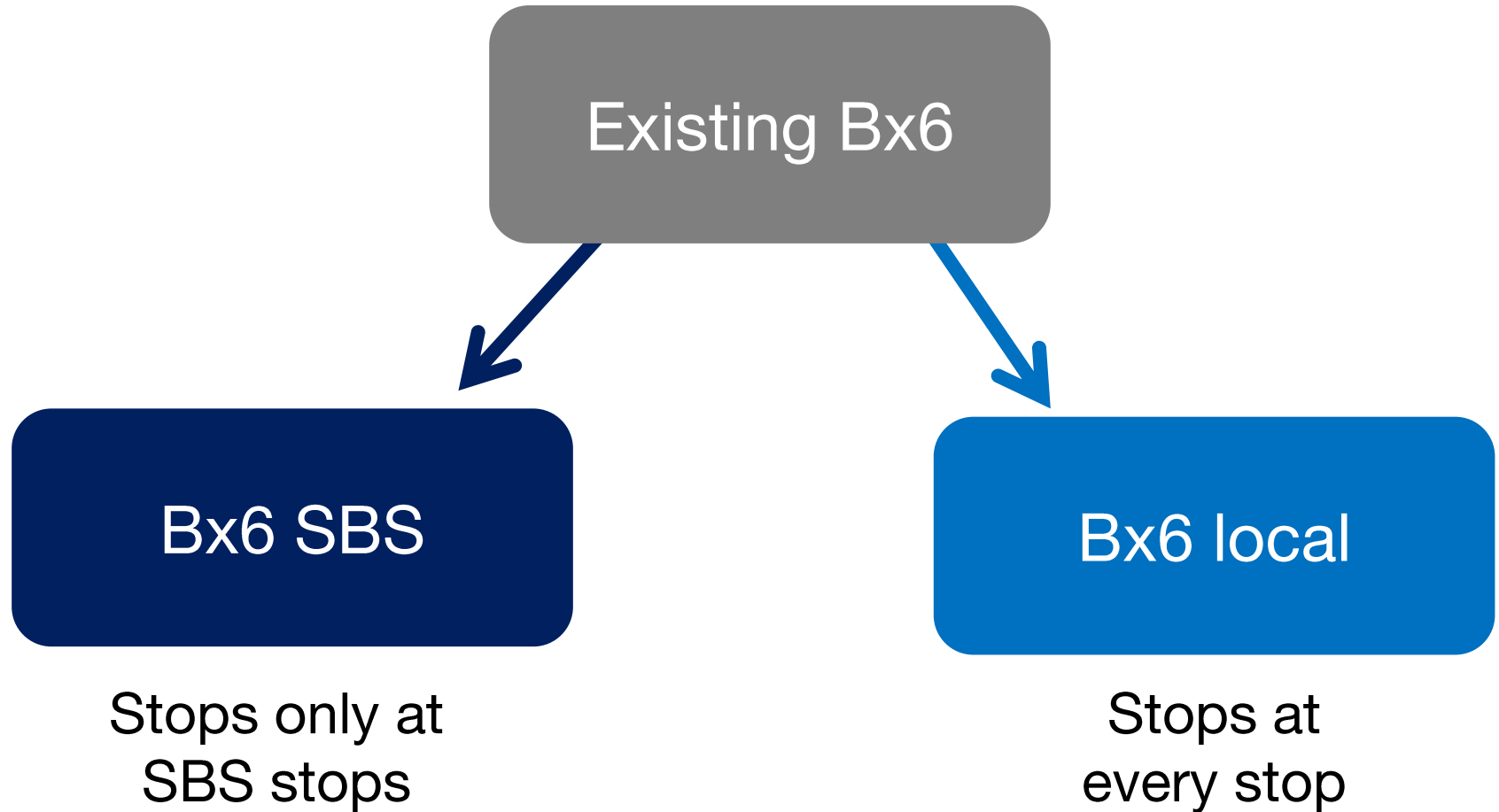
- 56 minutes on average to travel from Hunts Point to Riverside Drive (4.8 miles)
- Over 25% of trip spent boarding passengers
- Bus is moving less than half of the time

**Bx6 Westbound
4-7 PM Weekdays**



Source: IVN data, October 2015

Proposed Service Plan

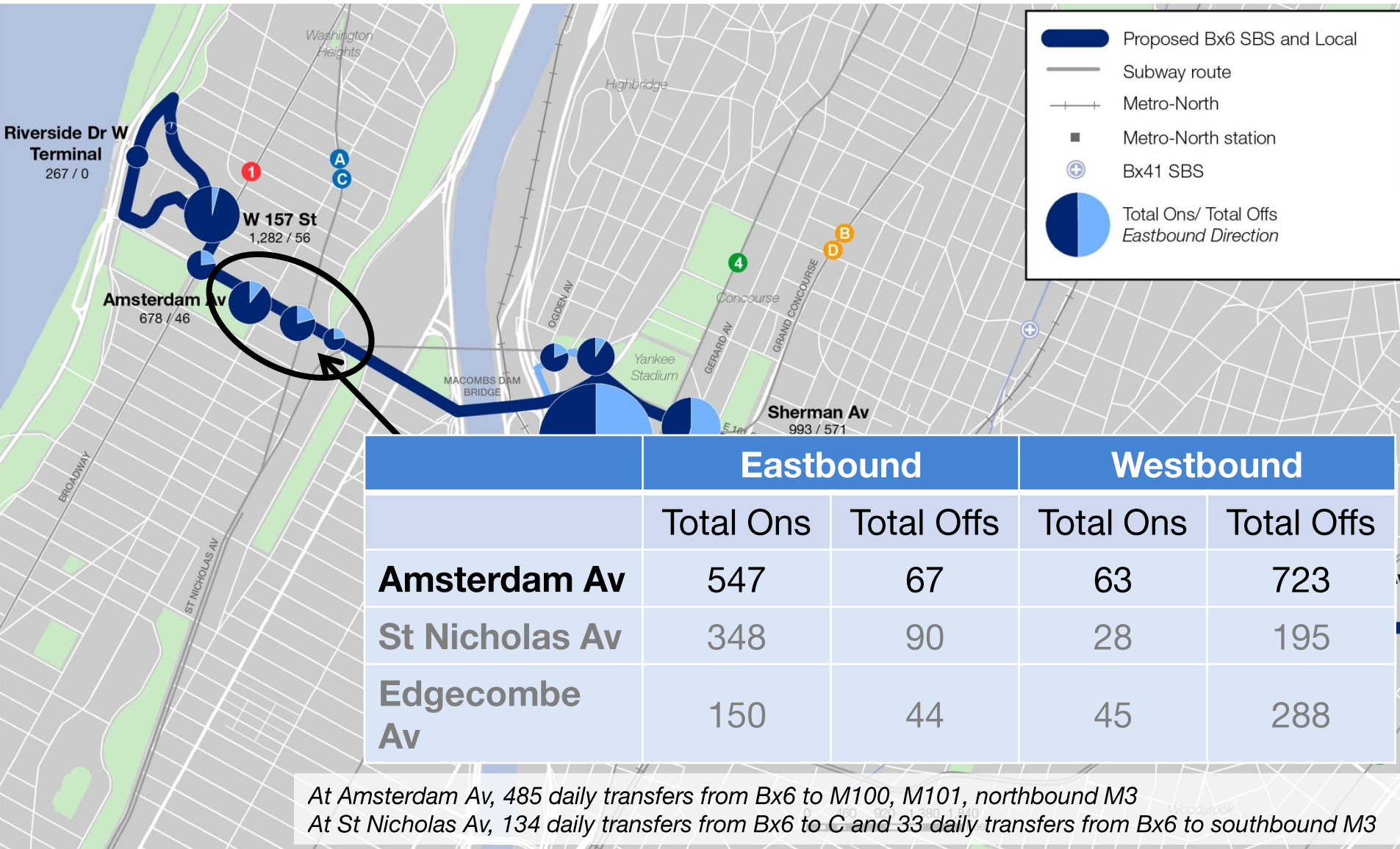


Existing Ridership

3,700 total eastbound boardings in Manhattan



155th Street Ridership, 7am-7pm

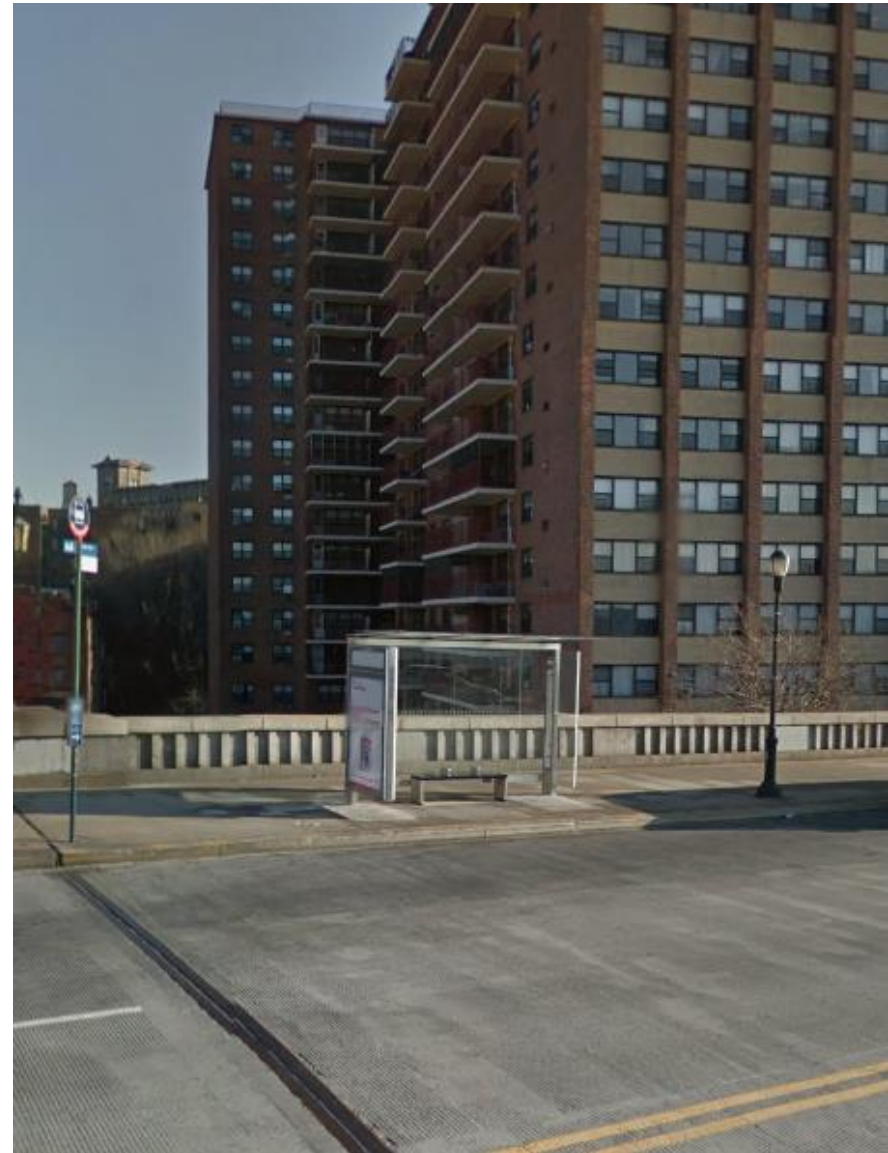


Proposed SBS Stops – Western Section

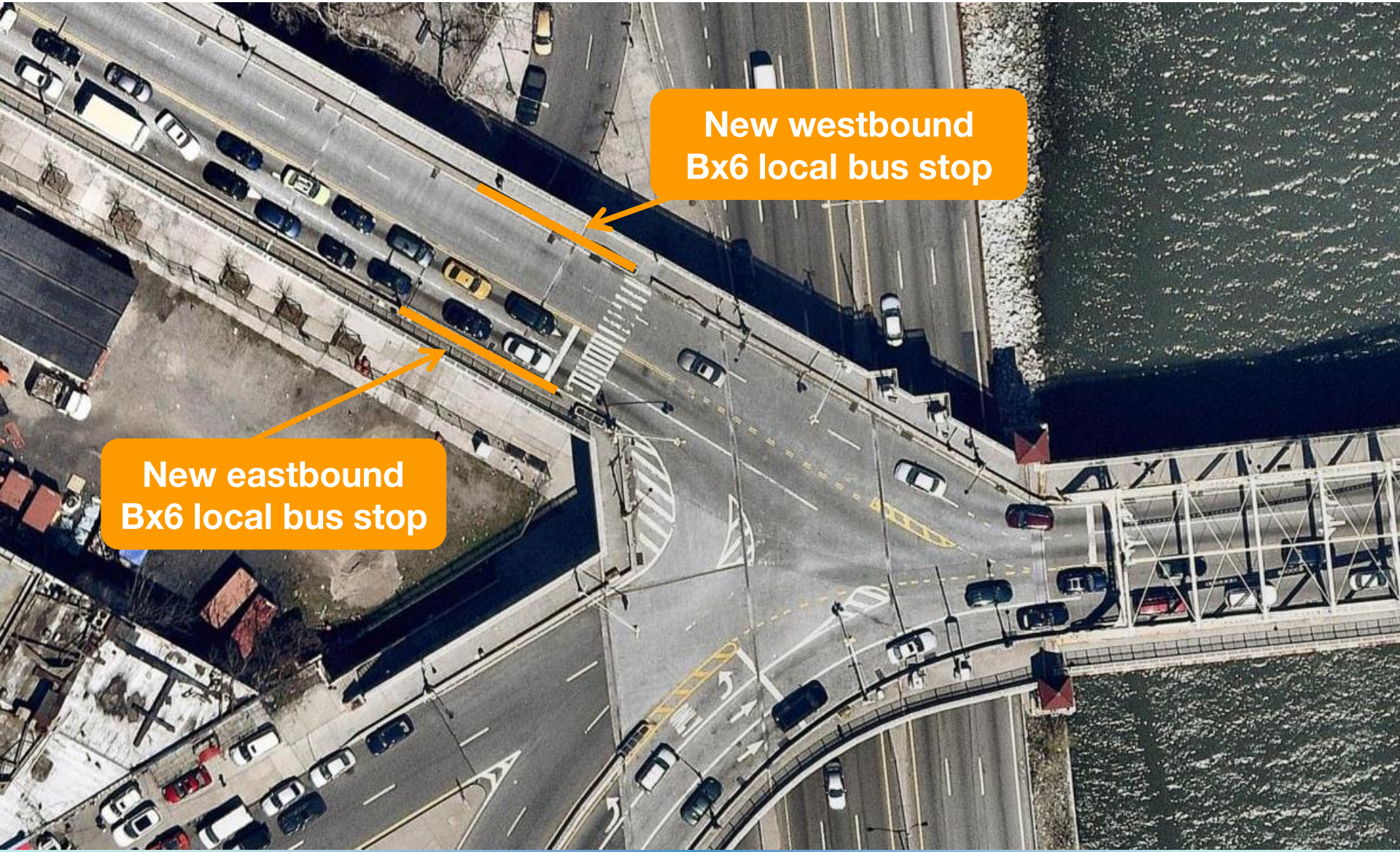


Riverside Drive West Challenges Being Addressed

- Developing alternative method for fare machine installation on bridge structure
- Exploring options for powering fare machines, as there are no nearby 24-hour DOT-owned street lights



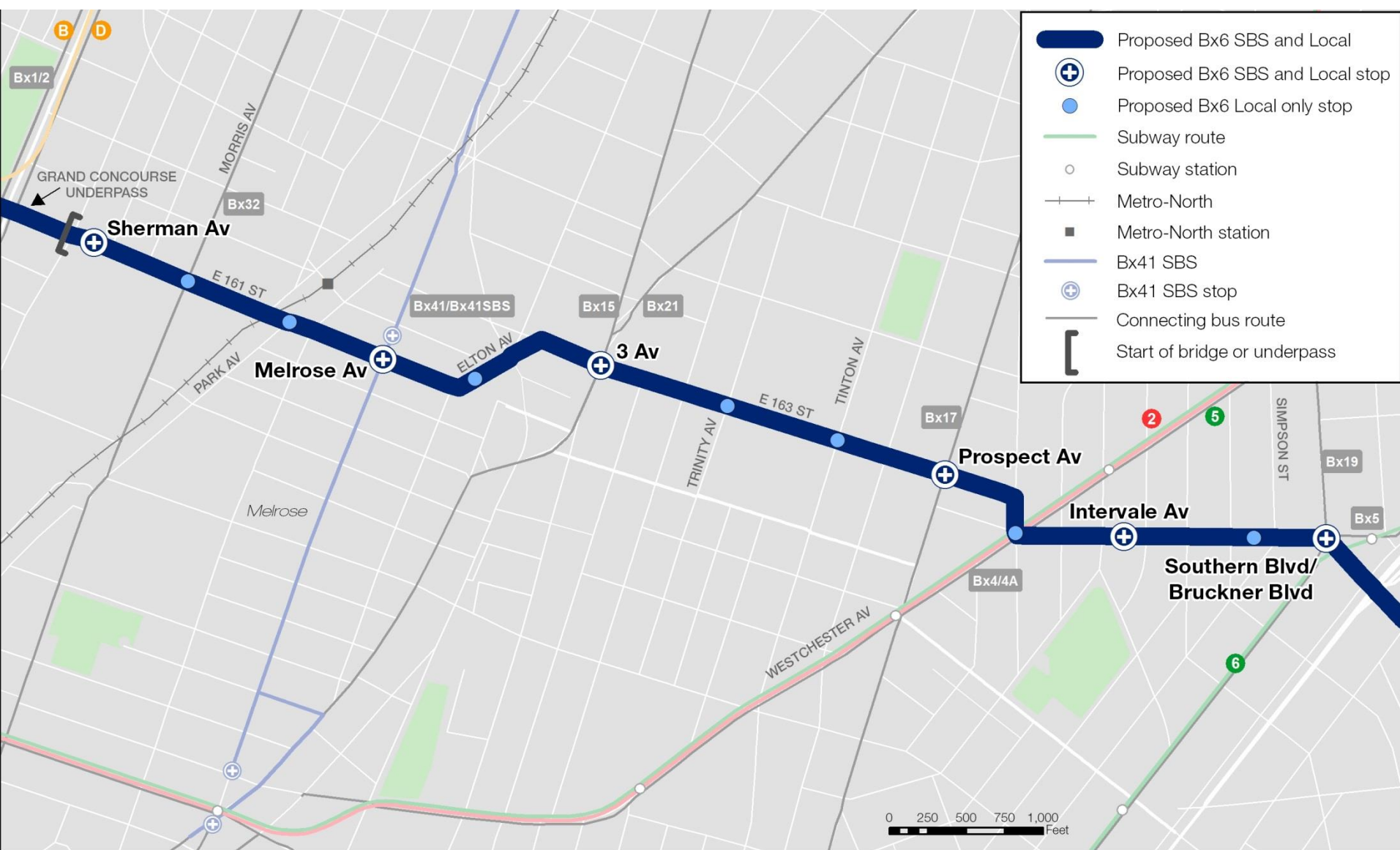
Future 155th St Viaduct Bus Stops



New westbound
Bx6 local bus stop

New eastbound
Bx6 local bus stop

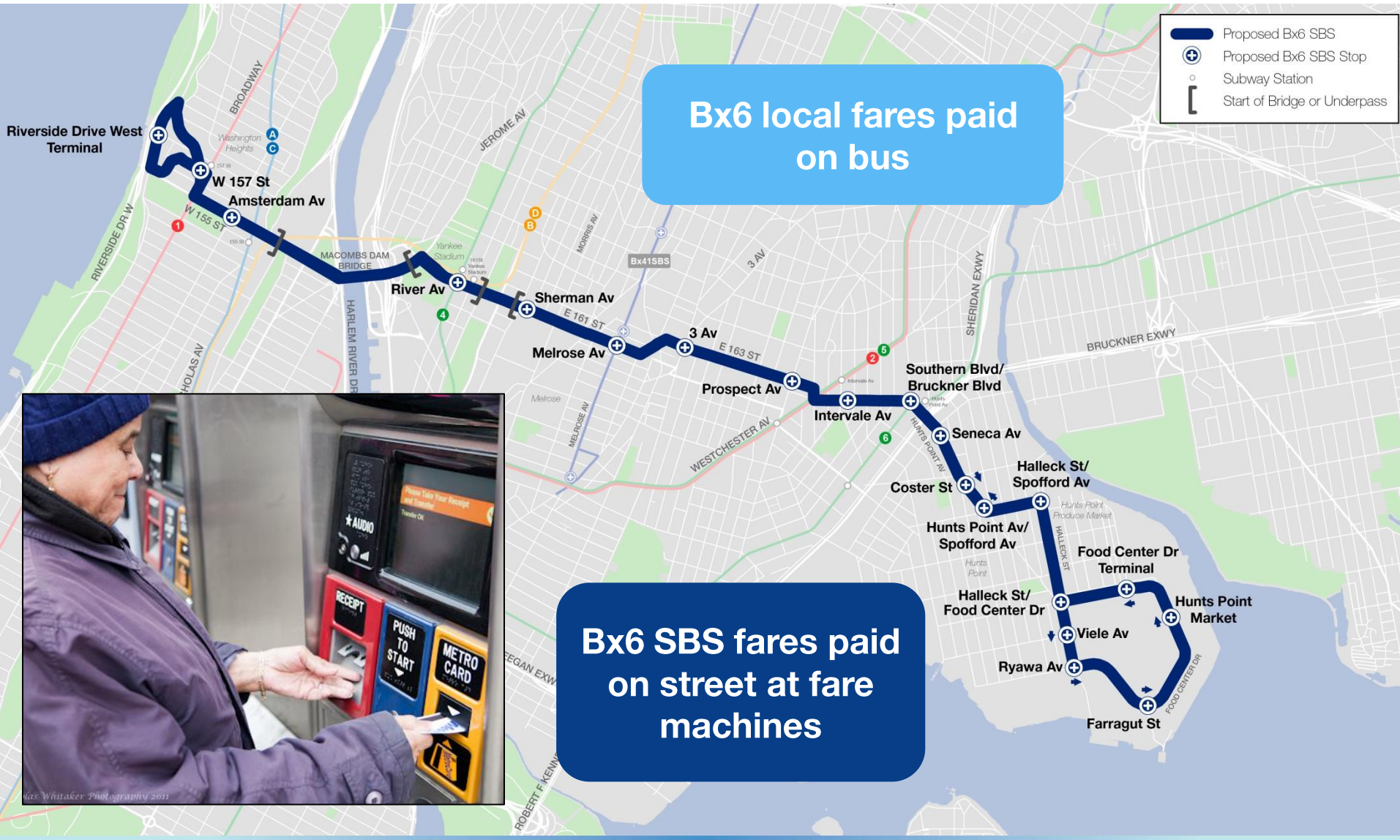
Proposed SBS Stops – Central Section



Proposed SBS Stops – Eastern Section



Proposed SBS Stops



Issue: 155th St / St Nicholas Pl / Harlem River Driveway

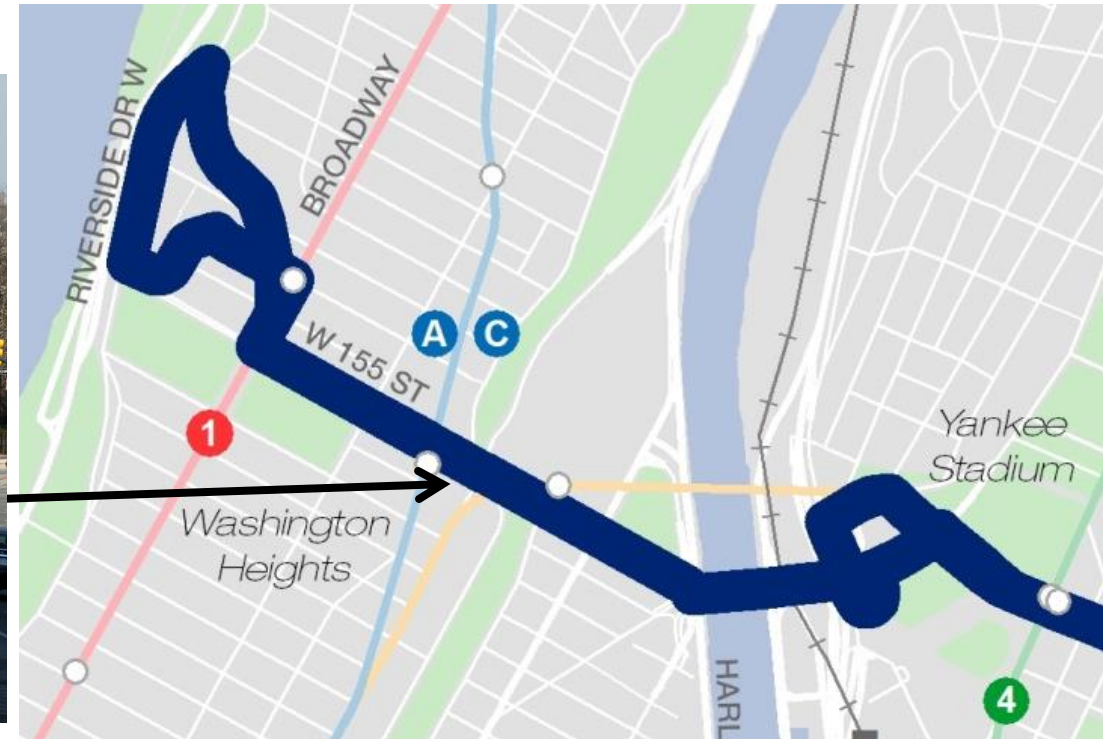


Issue: 155th St Viaduct Congestion



Proposed Street Design and Signal Changes

- No bus lanes proposed for 155th St
- Potential signal timing adjustments to improve traffic flow across Macombs Dam Bridge



Next steps

- Fall 2016
 - Draft street design
 - Traffic analysis
 - Finalize service plan
 - Continued community outreach
 - community boards
 - on-street outreach
 - stakeholder meetings
 - elected official briefings
- Winter 2017
 - Finalize street design
- Spring/Summer 2017
 - Launch Bx6 SBS service



Questions and Discussion

Thank
You!

