

M79 Select Bus Service

Manhattan Community Board 8 | March 1, 2017



Overview

- **Select Bus Service in New York City**
- **M79 Select Bus Service Background**
- **M79 SBS Draft Street Designs**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions**

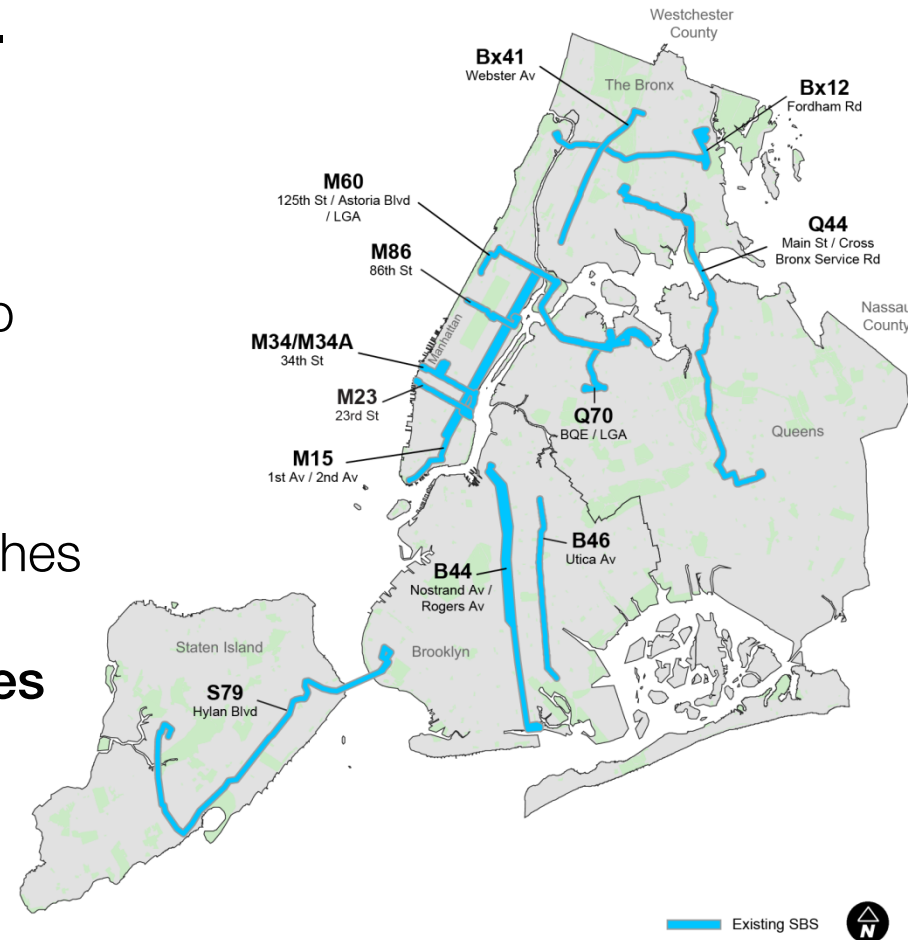
Select Bus Service in New York City

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:

- 10-30% faster bus speeds
- About 10% increase in ridership
- More reliable service
- Customer satisfaction of 95%
- Safer streets / reduction in crashes

There are 12 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

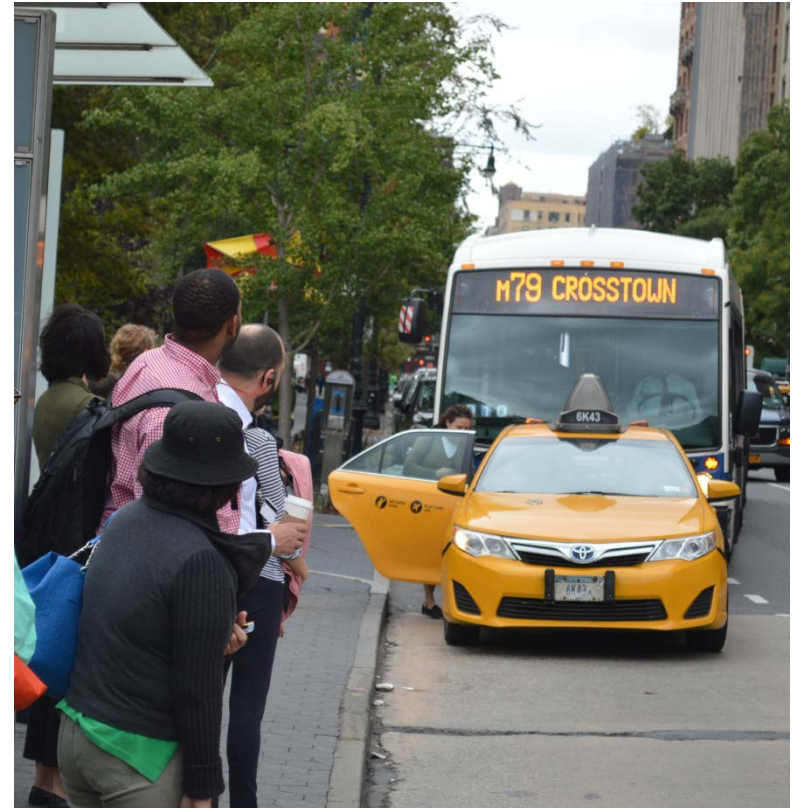


- **Better visibility** for pedestrians, bus operators, and drivers
- **Clearer, shorter** pedestrian crossings

M79 Project Background

The M79 bus corridor was identified as a potential candidate for Select Bus Service in the “Bus Rapid Transit: Phase II Study” (2009).

- Request for M79 SBS from local elected officials and community
- Heavily used route with slow trips
- Carries over 18,000 passengers per day over about 2 miles
- Crucial connection to **1** **6** **B** **C** trains
- Serves areas far from the subway
- Connection to 16 bus routes including M15 SBS



M79 SBS Project Goals

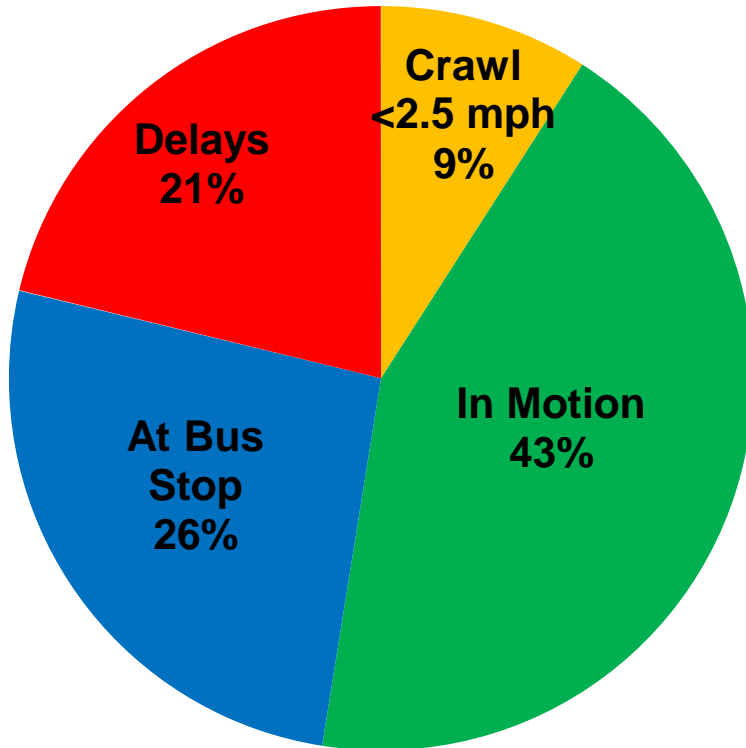
- Increase bus speeds and reliability
- Improve pedestrian and traffic safety
- Enhance customer experience with better station amenities, reduced wait times, and travel times

M79 Bus Operations

M79 Route



Transit Issues



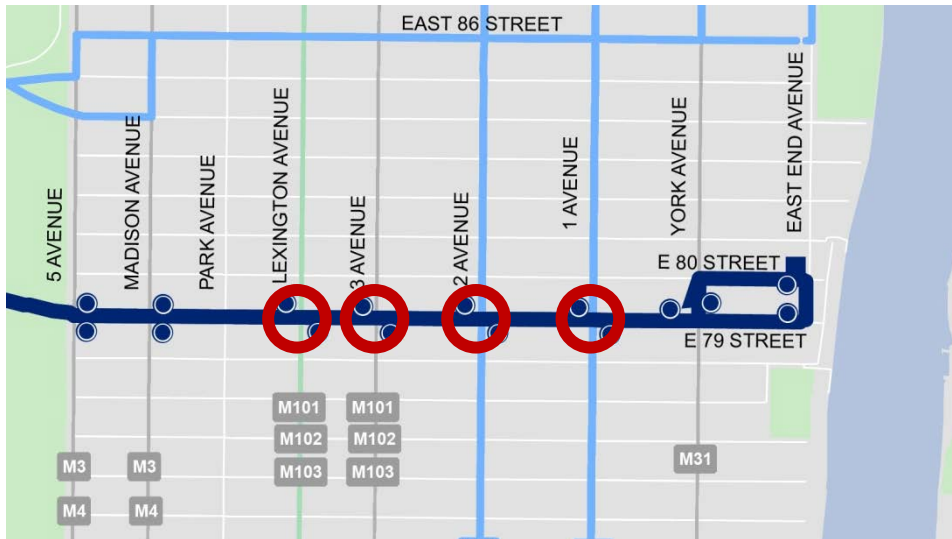
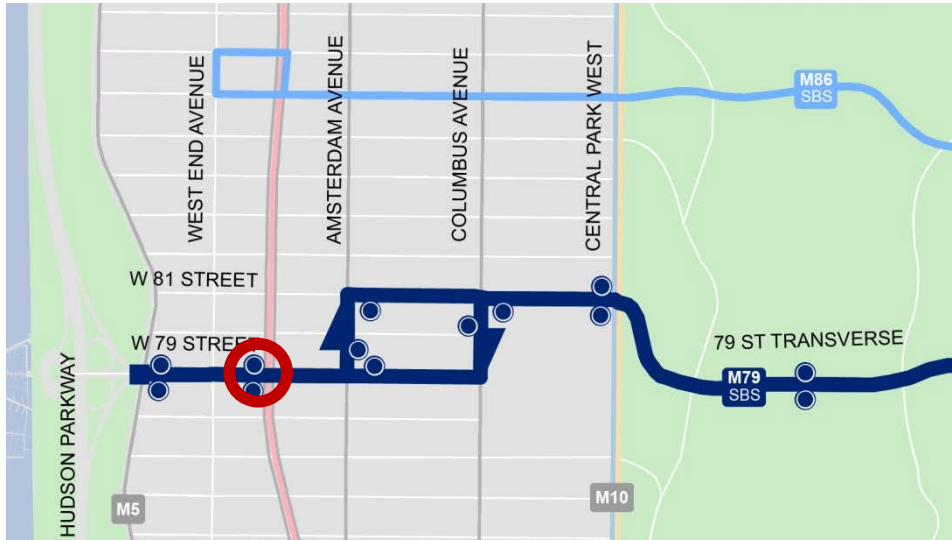
- Over 50% of trip spent delayed, crawling, or at bus stop
- Bus is moving well only 43% of the trip



- Customers wait in long lines to pay on board

M79 Street Operations

Safety Issues



- Multiagency effort to reduce traffic fatalities
- 5 intersections:
 - 79th St and Broadway
 - 79th St and Lexington Ave
 - 79th St and 3rd Ave
 - 79th St and 2nd Ave
 - 79th St and 1st Ave

Traffic Issues

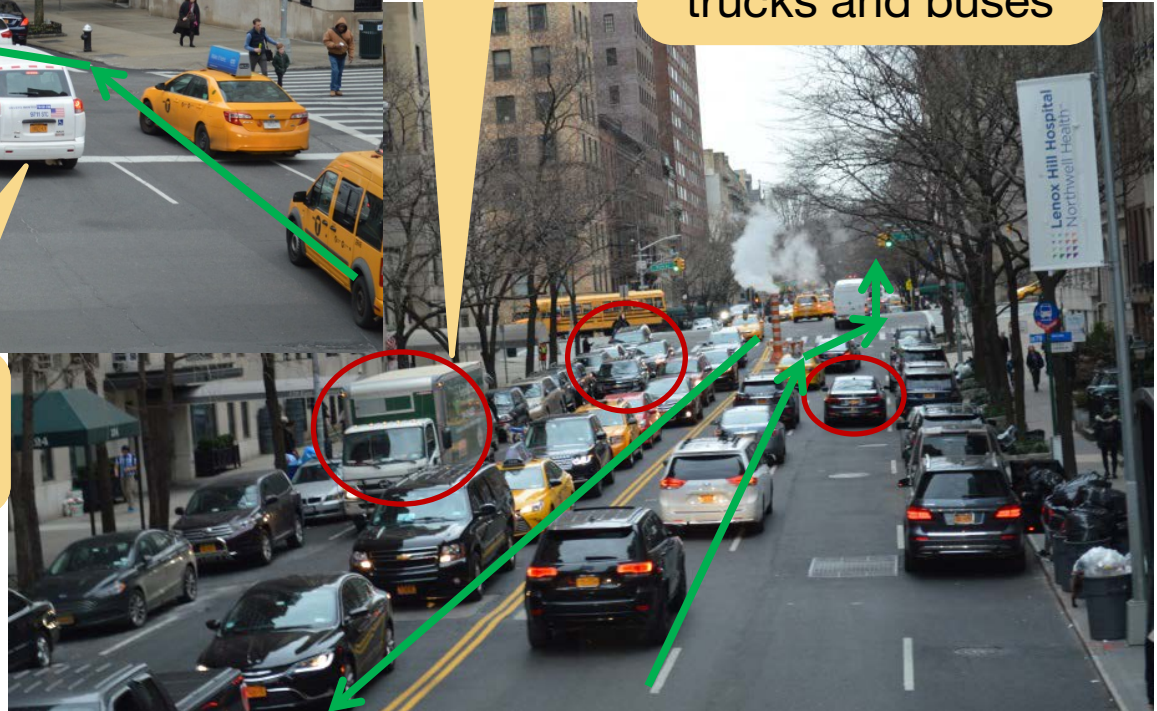


Lack of curb space for deliveries

Red =
Double Parking

Narrow lanes,
especially for
trucks and buses

Left turn
queues

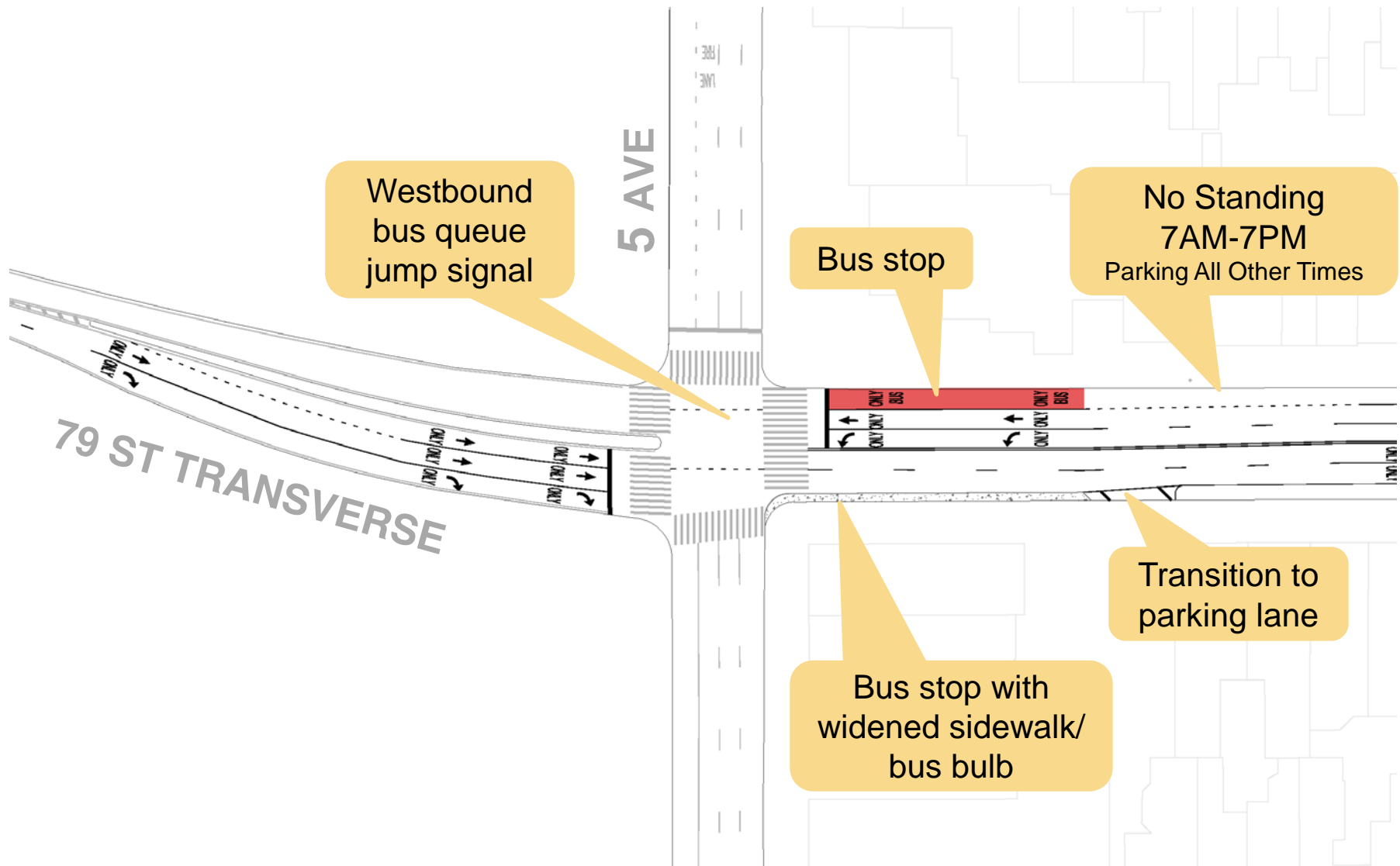


East Side Treatments

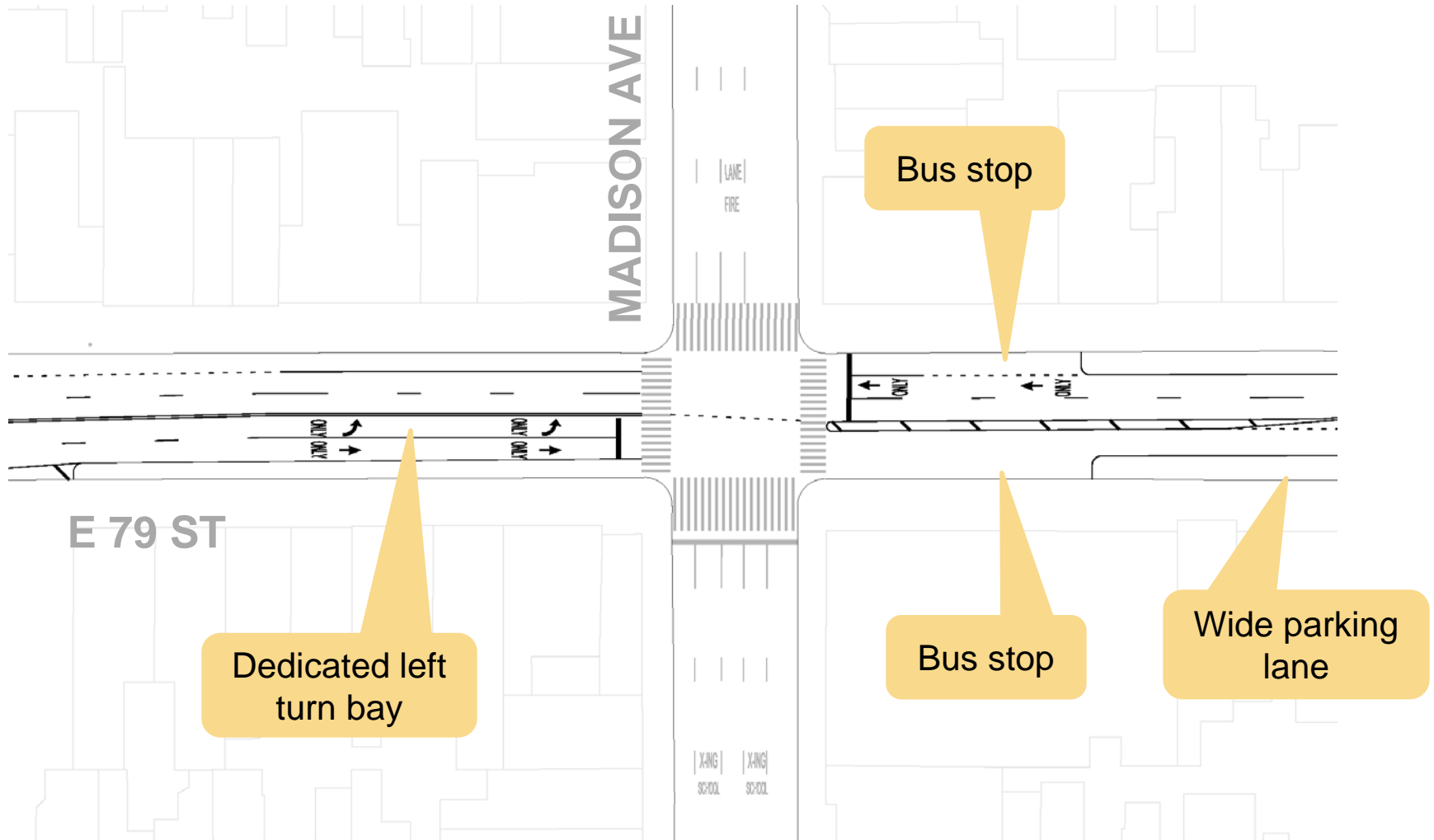
Summary: Reorganize E 79 St to meet transit, traffic, and safety needs, especially for daytime demands along the corridor



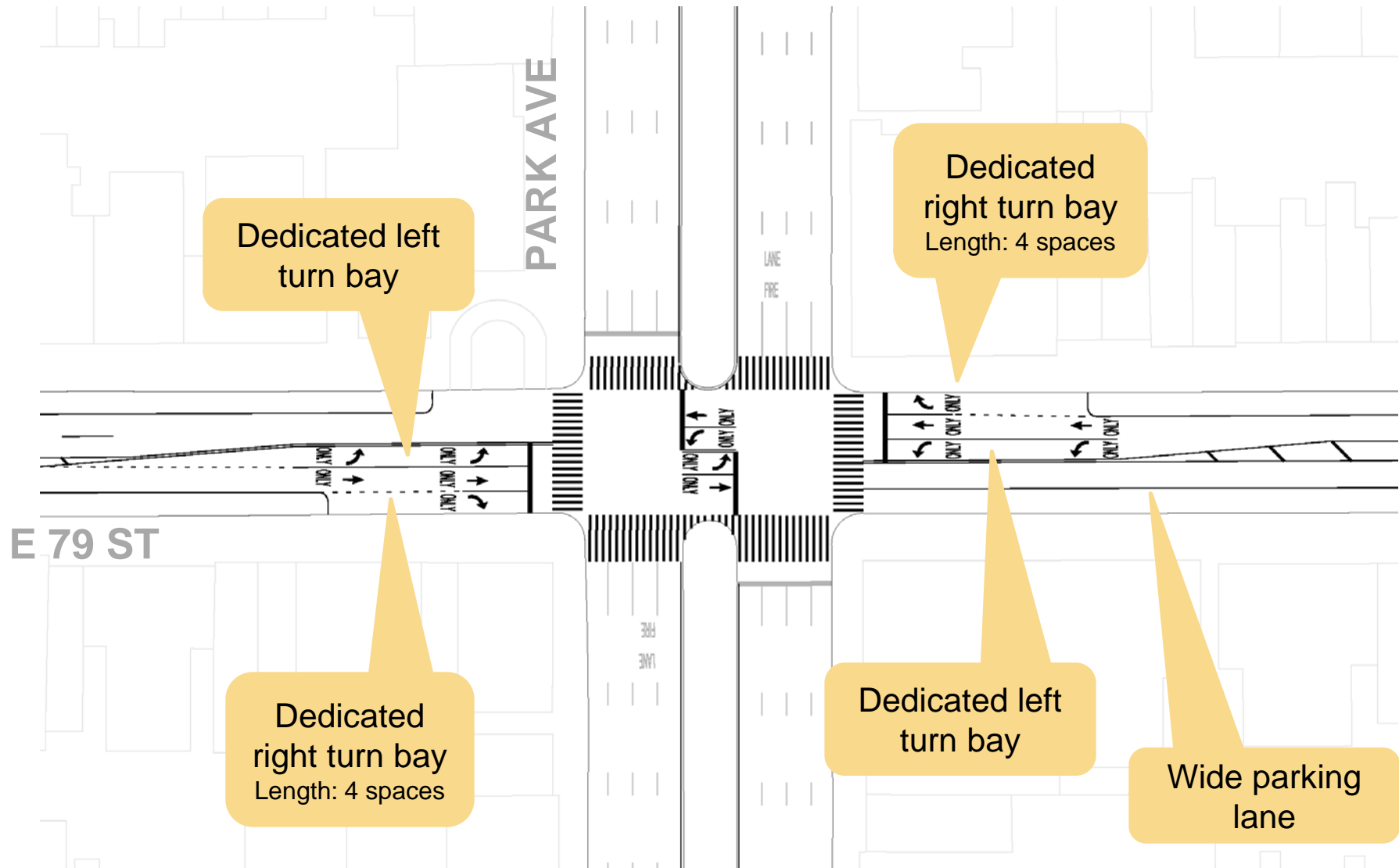
79th and 5th Ave



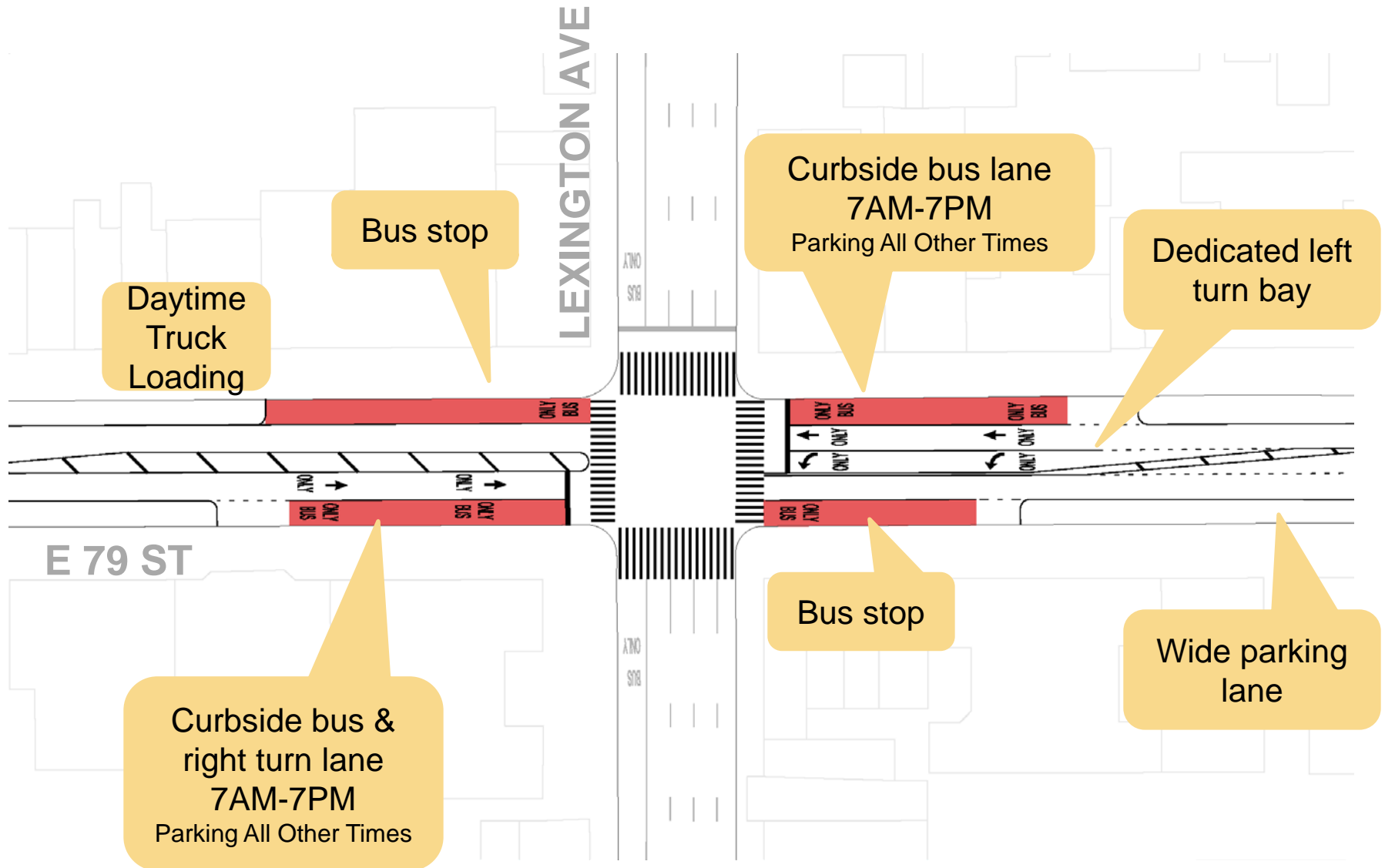
79th and Madison Ave



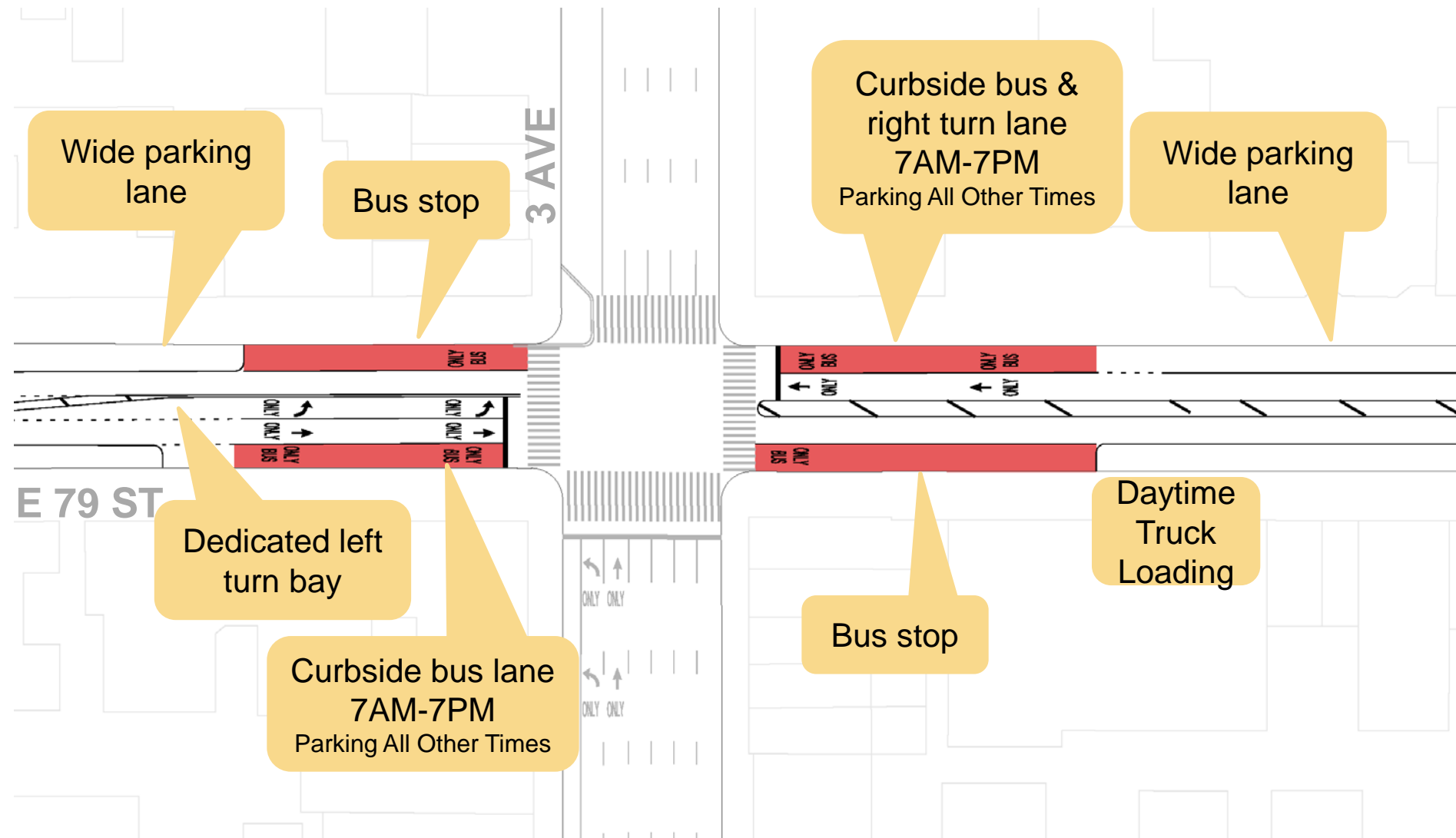
79th and Park Ave



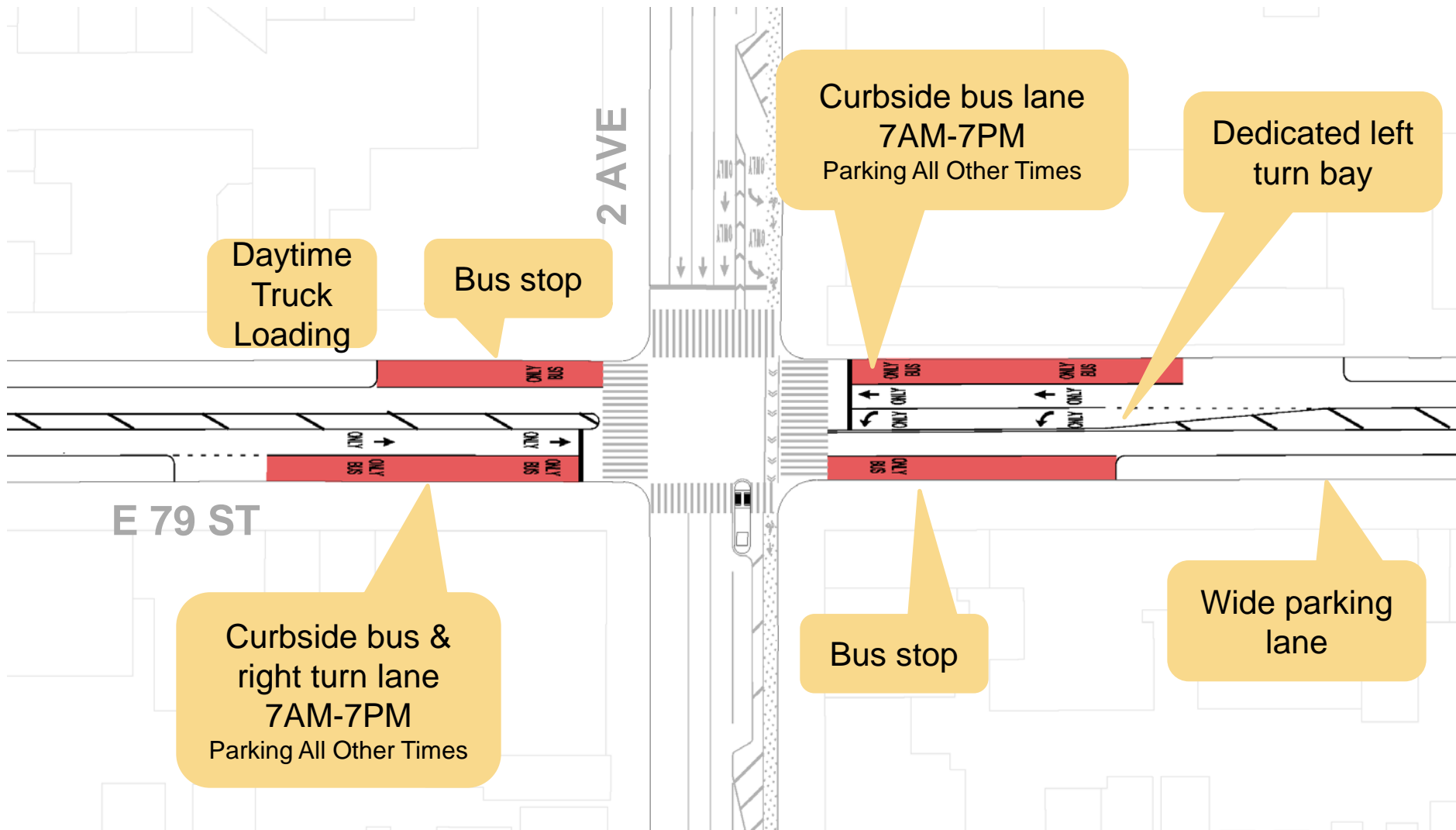
79th and Lexington Ave



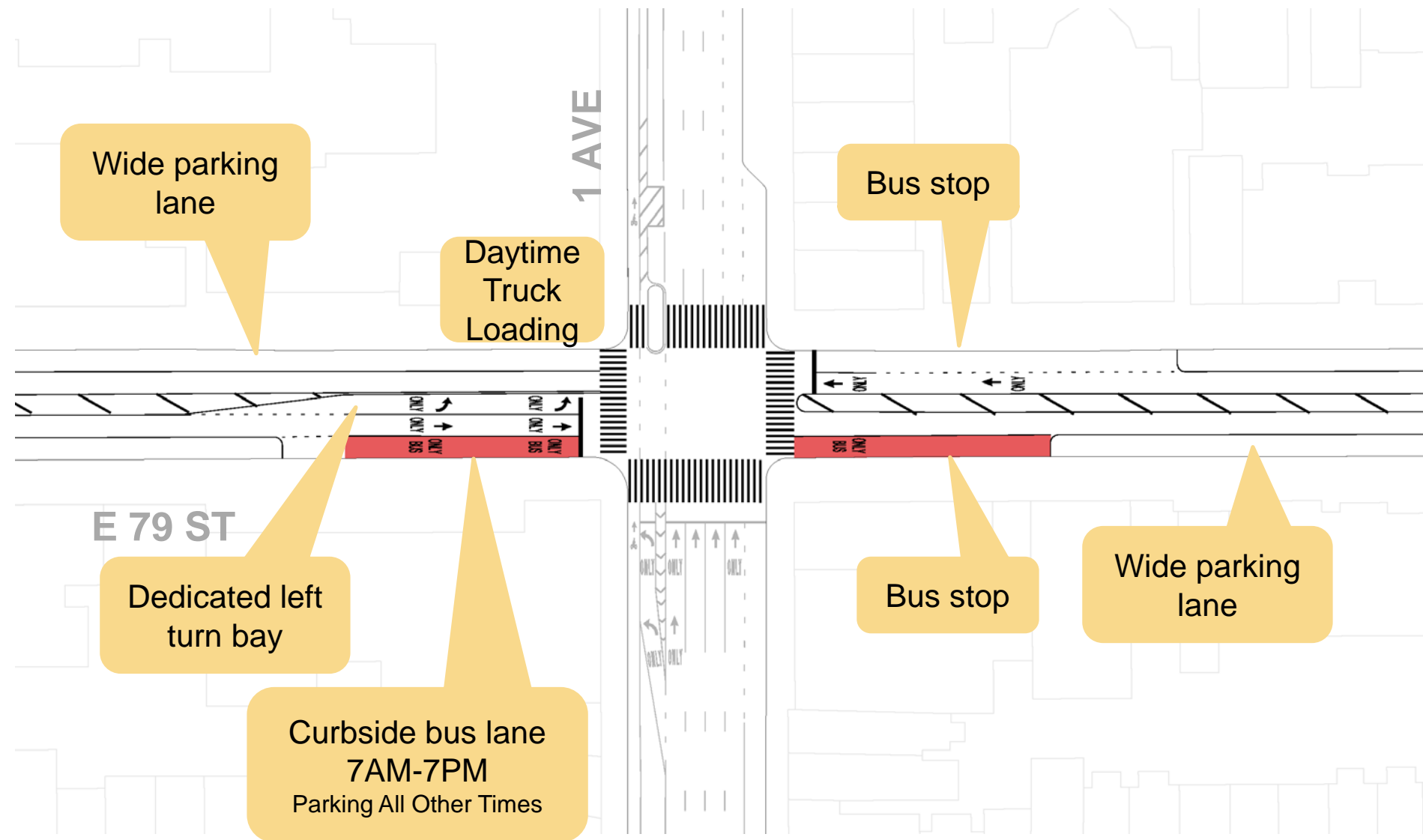
79th and 3rd Ave



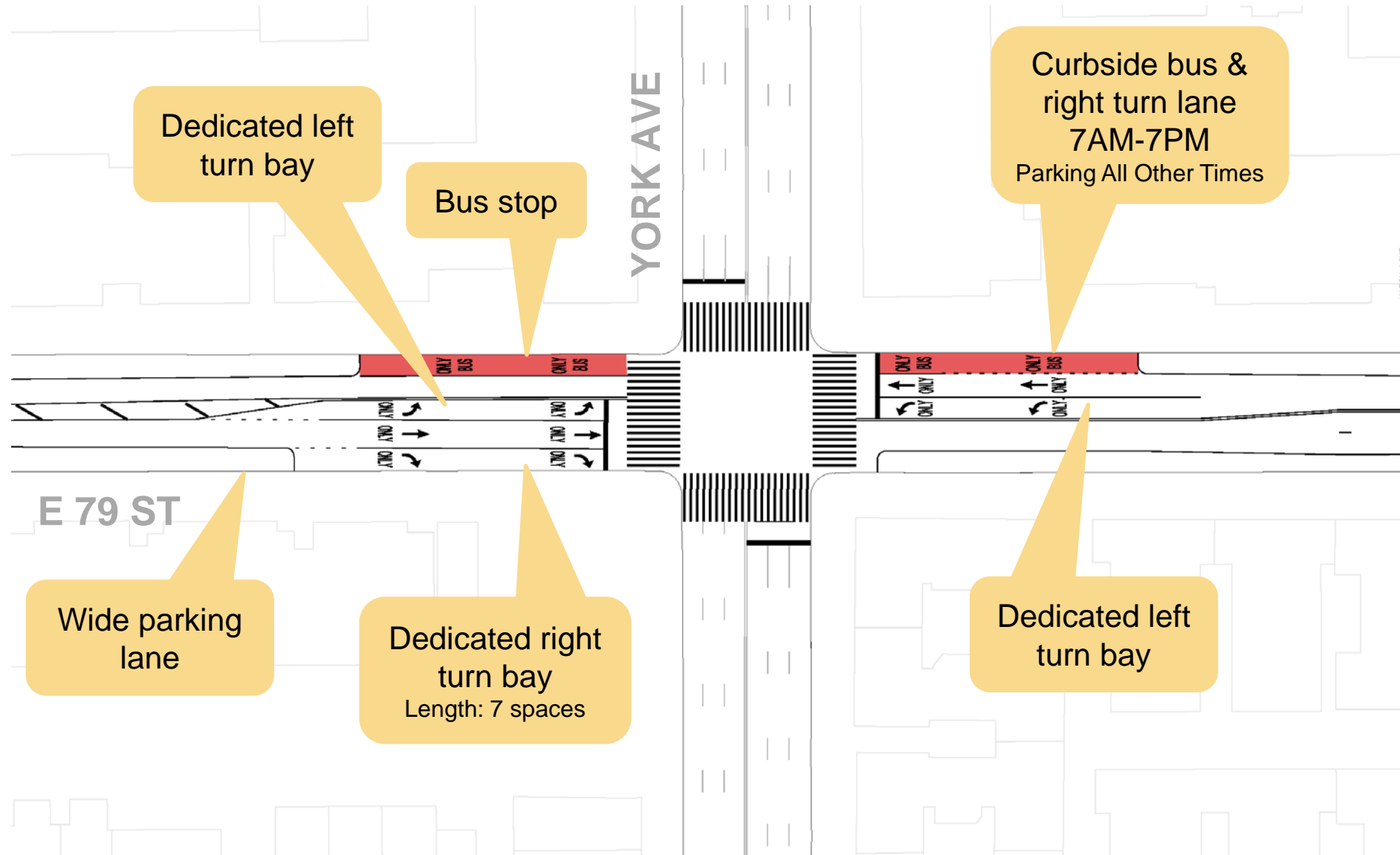
79th and 2nd Ave



79th and 1st Ave



79th and York Ave



M79 SBS Project Benefits

- Improve bus speeds, reliability, and access to subway transfers
- Improve traffic & pedestrian safety along corridor
- Increase daytime access to curb for deliveries
- Better organize traffic and transit to meet daytime demands

Next Steps

March 2017

- Present draft plan to CB 7
- Finalize designs based on community feedback
- Continue SBS bus stop construction
 - Fare machines, wayfinding, real time passenger info

April 2017

- Begin roadway and signage work

Late Spring 2017

- Complete project implementation
- Launch M79 SBS service

Questions?



Appendix

Proposed bus lanes

