



149th Street, Bayside Ave to Willets Pt Blvd

School Safety Improvements

Presentation for CB 7 | April 29, 2021

149th Street, Bayside Ave to Willets Pt Blvd

Agenda

- Project background
- Safety data
- Pedestrian safety concerns
- Proposed safety improvements



149th Street at 26th Avenue

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Background

- High concentration of school-aged pedestrians, including students from JHS 185 & PS 21, and Flushing High School students using the park
- School-age pedestrians hit by car in 2015 and 2019
- Requests for safety improvements from Council Member Vallone, JHS 185, PS 21, and CB 7
- One-way redirections of 147 St, 25 Dr, and 27 Ave implemented in 2017
- DOT Safety Education work in 2017 & 2020
- DOT School Safety meetings with JHS 185 & PS 21 in January 2020 and March 2021



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

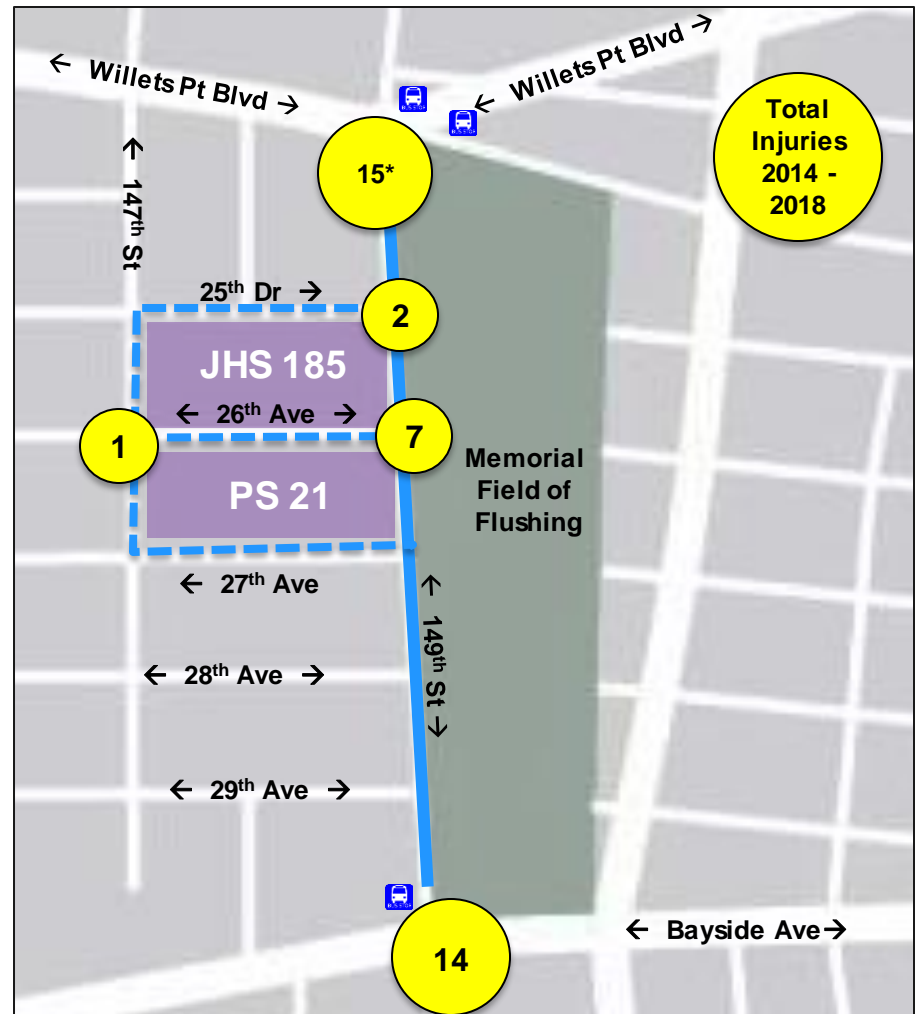
Safety Data

- 39 total injuries, 2 of them severe
- 44% of bicycle and pedestrian injuries are children, a higher portion than the 15% average in Queens
- 21% of motor-vehicle injuries caused by rear-end collisions, indicative of speeding

Injury Summary, 2014 – 2018 (5 years)

	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	7	2	0	2
Bicyclist	3	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Occupant	29	0	0	0
Total	39	2	0	2

KSI: Persons killed or severely injured
Source: Fatalities: NYC DOT; Injuries: NYS DOT



*Data is based off of NYSDOT/NYS DMV crash and injury data available as of 03/05/21

*the number of crashes here includes two intersections of Willets Pt Blvd and 25th Ave

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Safety Concerns: Speeding on 149th Street

Wide roadway with low traffic encourages
fast wide turns

60%
of drivers above 25 mph speed
limit on 149th St at 25th Dr

Max Speed Recorded:
45 mph

149th Street at 25th Drive, facing north

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Safety Concerns: No Dedicated Space for Bicyclists



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Safety Concerns: Lack of Dedicated Space for Bicyclists & Narrow Sidewalk

The lack of safe, dedicated space for bicyclists on 149 St leads to people using the sidewalk



Narrow sidewalk cannot safely accommodate all street users



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Safety Concerns: Long Crossings on 149th Street



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Safety Concerns: Missing Crossings Next to Schools



149th Street at 25th Drive, facing north

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

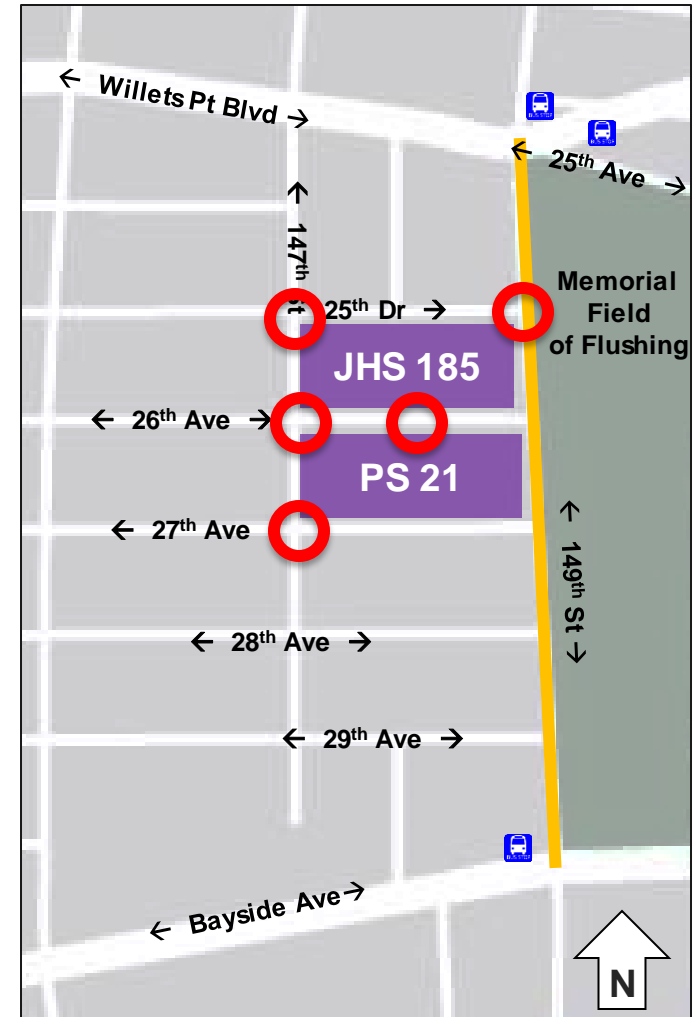
Proposal: Speed Hump and Traffic Control Studies



Traffic control studies will be conducted, after DEP construction is complete, at the intersections of 147th St at 25th Dr, 26th Ave, and 27th Ave; 149th St at 25th Dr; and 26th Ave between 147th St and 149th St.



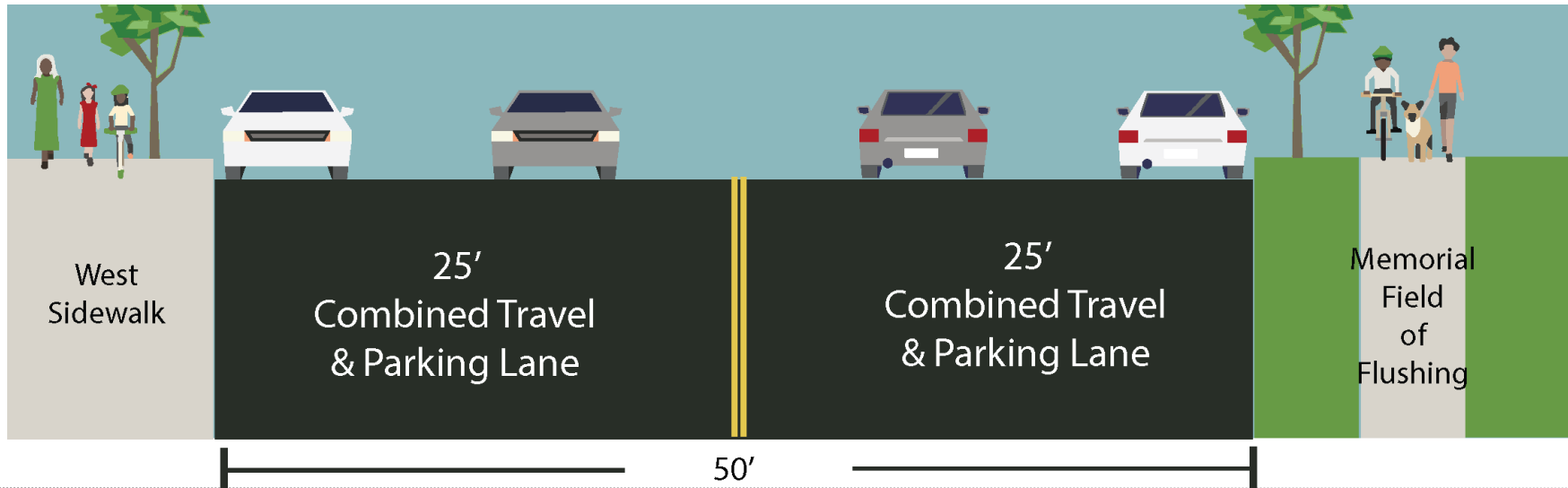
Speed bumps will be evaluated on 149th St after DEP's construction is complete, approximately the end of 2021.



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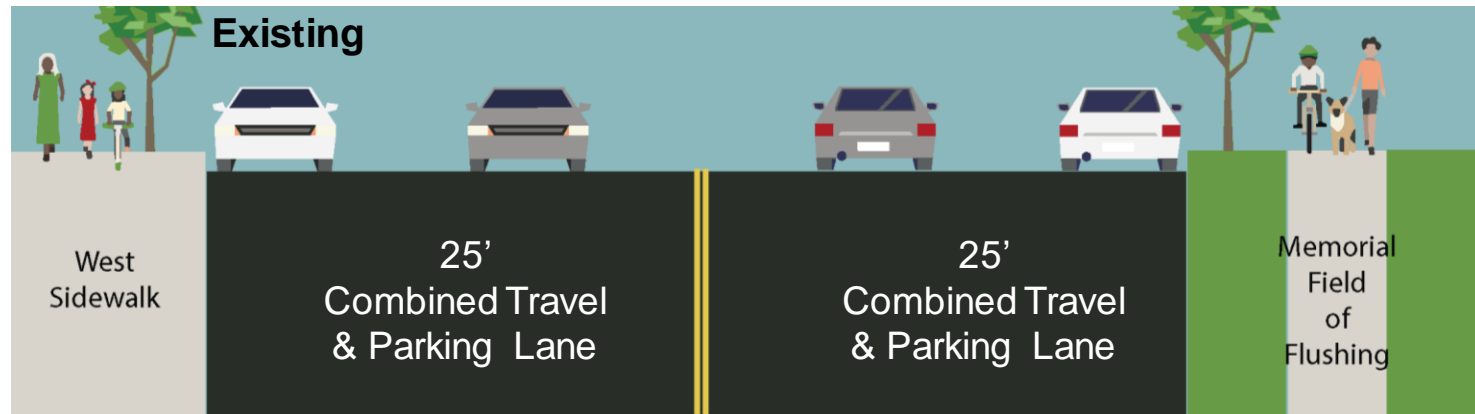
Existing: Wide Roadway with Long Crossing Distances

- Neighborhood street between 2 schools and a park
- One combined moving/parking lane in two directions
- 5' sidewalk by the park



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Proposal: Protected Bike Lane and Shorter Pedestrian Crossings



50'

Standard-width travel lane discourages speeding and reduces unpredictable vehicular movements

Pedestrian islands reduce crossing distances

Parking-protected bike lane provides dedicated space for cyclists



50'

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Proposal – Example: School Safety Improvements at MS 74, Queens (2017)



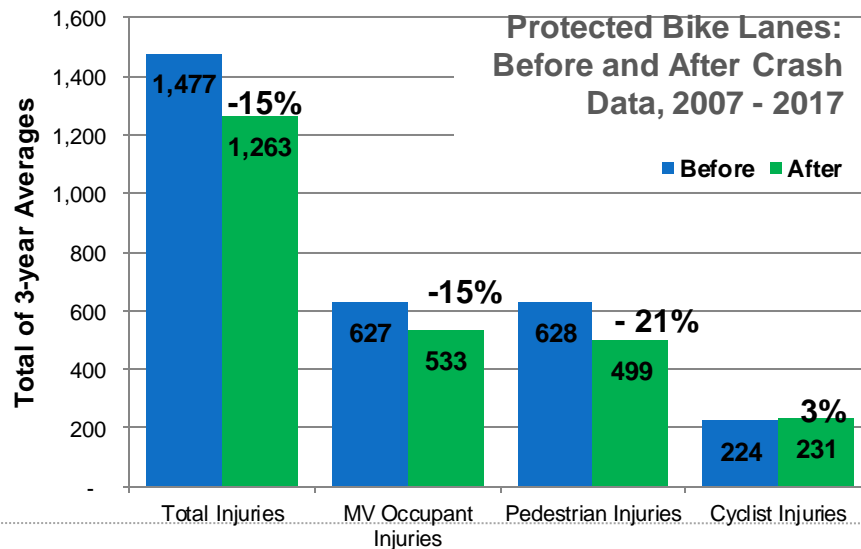
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Protected Bike Lanes: Safety Data

On NYC streets where protected bike lanes were installed in 2007 – 2017:

- **15% drop** in all crashes with injuries
- **21% drop** in pedestrian injuries
- Injuries to cyclists increase only 3%, despite a 61% bike volume increase*

Street designs that include protected bike lanes increase safety for all users



*Based on total volume change for 12 hour weekday (in season) before/after counts on protected bike lanes in this study".



Data from 25 separate protected bicycle lane projects installed from 2007-2014 with 3 years of after data. Includes portions of 1 Ave, 2 Ave, 8 Ave, 9 Ave, Broadway, Columbus Ave, Hudson St, Lafayette St / 4 Ave, Sands St, Allen/Pike St, Kent Ave, Prospect Park West, Flushing Ave, Bruckner Blvd & Longfellow Ave, Imlay St / Conover St, Paerdegat Ave. Only sections of projects that included protected bike lanes were analyzed.

Source: NYPD AIS/TAMS Crash Database

149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Proposal: Benefits of a Protected Bike Lane with Concrete Islands

Traffic calming and speed reduction

Pedestrian islands provide protection and visibility

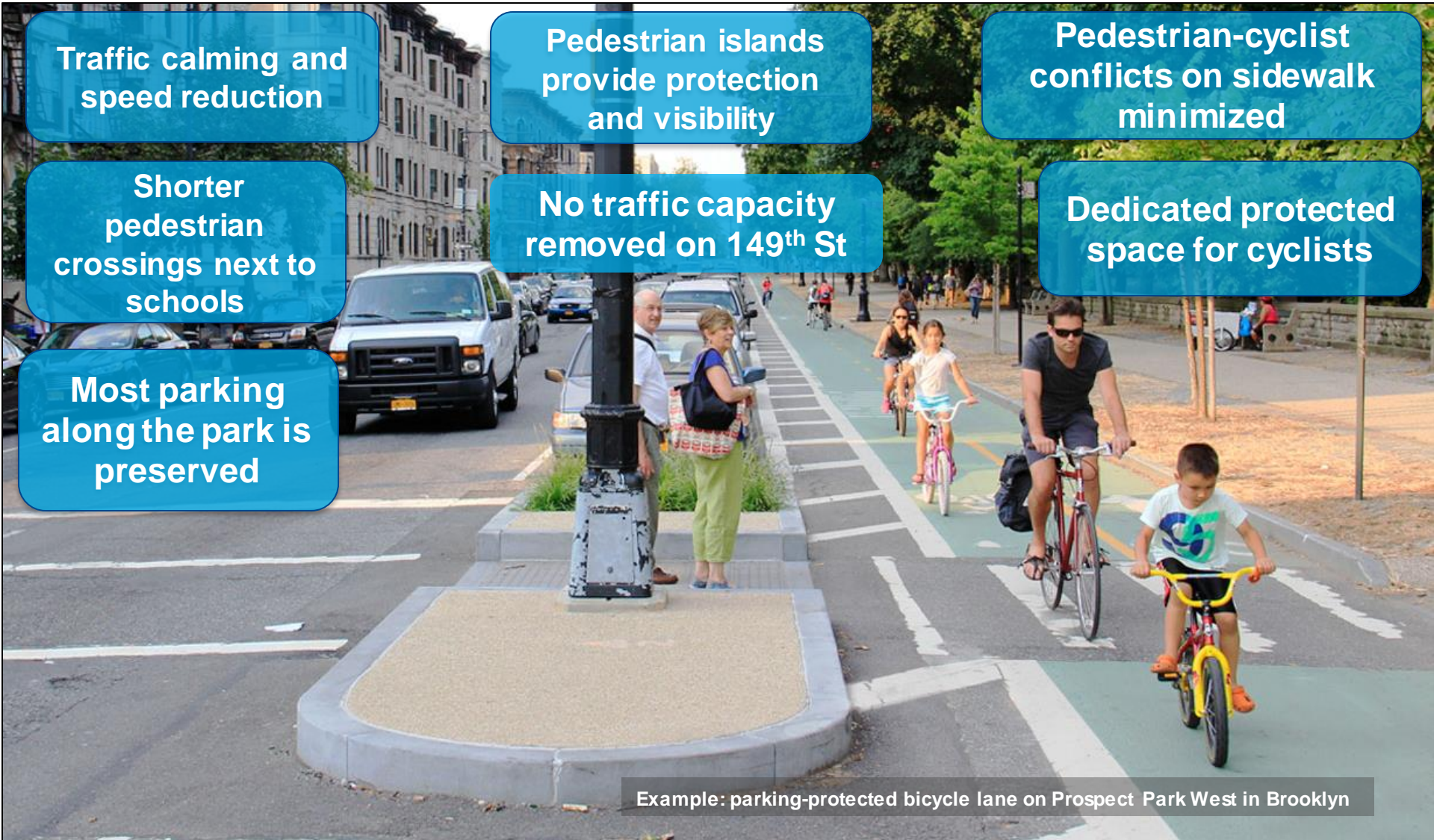
Pedestrian-cyclist conflicts on sidewalk minimized

Shorter pedestrian crossings next to schools

No traffic capacity removed on 149th St

Dedicated protected space for cyclists

Most parking along the park is preserved



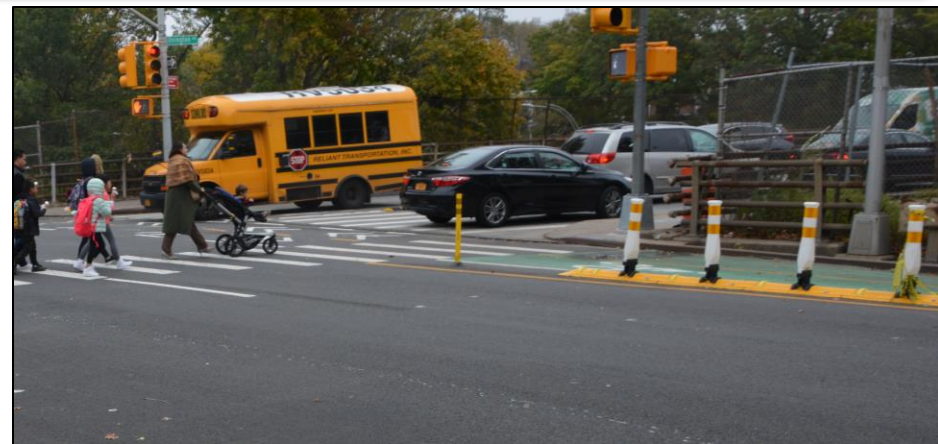
Example: parking-protected bicycle lane on Prospect Park West in Brooklyn

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Proposal Detail: Parking



Repurpose 3 to 5 spaces per block to shorten pedestrian crossings, improve pedestrian visibility, and create safe bicycle connections



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Proposal: Community Review

- In January 2020, DOT met with JHS 185 and PS 21 to gather feedback
- In March 2021, DOT presented the school safety project to JHS 185 and PS 21 and received their support
- In March 2021, DOT briefed Council Member Vallone on the project's school safety improvements



149th Street, Bayside Avenue to Willets Point Boulevard

Proposal: Community Support

P.S. 21Q The Edward Hart School

We Are One Heart
147-36 26 Avenue, Flushing, New York 11354 • (Phone) 718-445-8693 (Fax) 718-388-0801

Michael Swirsky, Principal

Jennifer Nizio, Assistant Principal
Lucy Quintanango, Assistant Principal

March 26, 2021

Ms. Marilyn McAndrews
District Manager
Community Board 7
133-32 41st Rd – Room 3B
Flushing, New York 11355

Dear Ms. McAndrews,

I recently had the opportunity to review the NYC DOT School Safety proposal to improve traffic safety on 149th Street from Willets Point Boulevard to Bayside Avenue, in the vicinity of our school. We had a positive experience working with NYC DOT School Safety in the recent past: the traffic reversals implemented by NYC DOT next to our school in 2017 helped to improve school operations, reduce turning vehicle conflicts, and improved pedestrian safety.

Our school supports the safety proposal. The addition of the parking protected bike lane and four pedestrian islands on 149th Street will reduce speeding on 149th Street, provide significantly shorter, safer crossings for our students and staff, and help slow down vehicle turns. The protected bike lane will provide our students with an opportunity to practice non-competitive endurance sports like cycling next to the school while being fully separated from traffic.

We further support DOT's evaluation of the intersections next to our school for the new traffic-controlled pedestrian crossings on 149th Street at 25th Drive, 147th Street at 25th Drive, 147th Street at 26th Avenue, 147th Street at 27th Avenue, and midblock on 26th Avenue between 147th St and 149th Street, and a speed hump/s in 149th Street. We are also hopeful that the evaluations will meet engineering standards required for such installations.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Swirsky



Edward Bleeker Junior High School 185Q

147-26 25th Drive, Flushing, NY 11354
718-445-3232 Fax 718-359-5352
Contact@jhs185.org



Theresa Mshar, Principal

Primal Dhillon, Assistant Principal
Michael Leung, Assistant Principal
Josefa Sande, Assistant Principal

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Sincerely,



Theresa Mshar
Principal JHS 185Q

2020-2021 Instructional Focus:

"Foster Strong Discussions that are Rooted in Deep Questions"

THANK YOU!

Questions?



NYCDOT



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Contact: NYCDOT Queens Borough Commissioner's Office – (212) 839-2510