



NYC 
Open Streets
REIMAGINING OUR STREETS

NEW YORK CITY



2023 Recap Report

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A busy street scene in Hong Kong. In the foreground, a young girl in a pink shirt and purple pants is sitting on a white bench, drawing on a piece of paper. The bench is covered with a yellow cloth and has two small wooden containers filled with colored pencils. In the background, a woman in a green shirt and blue face mask is walking, carrying a white bag with red polka dots. Other people are walking, including a man in a blue shirt and a woman in a blue shirt. A man in a blue uniform and cap is pushing a red cart. In the background, there is a building with a sign that says "嘉麗髮型屋 KELLY SALON".

By the Numbers 2023 Program Overview



By the numbers:

25+ Miles

200+ Locations

400+ City Blocks

40%+ increase in number of sites compared to the 2022 Open Streets season

56% of sites fall within an [NYC Streets Plan](#) tier 1 or tier 2 Priority Investment Area

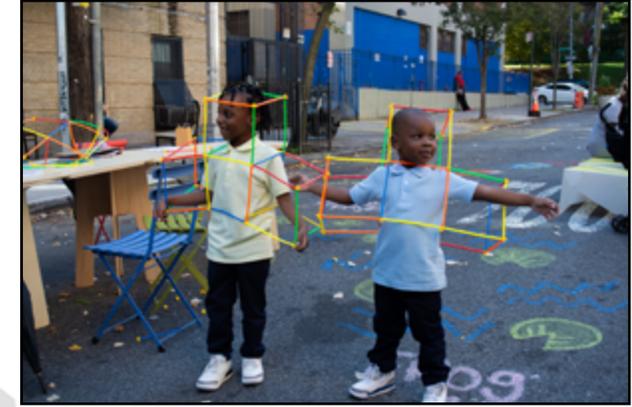
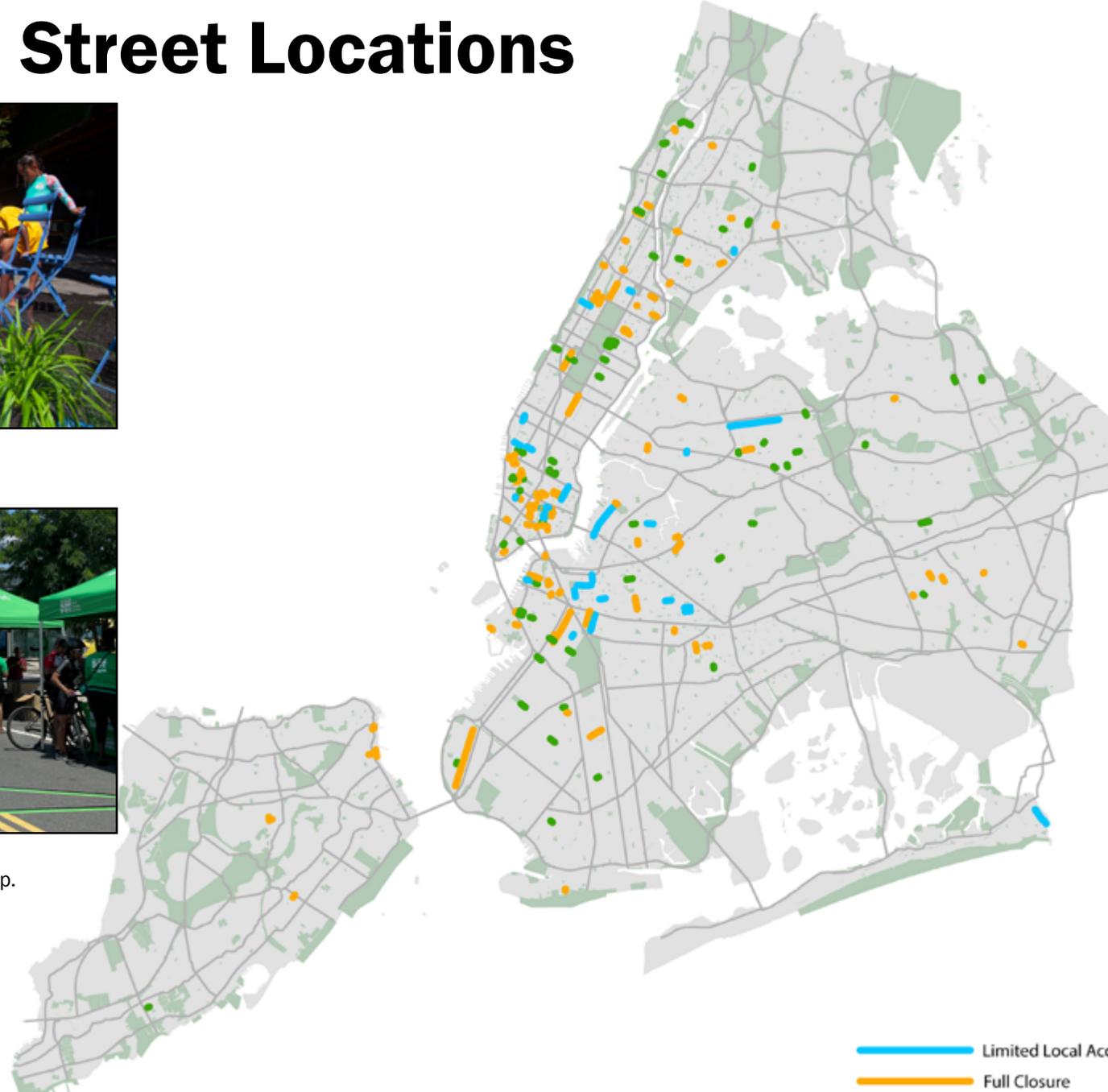
2023 Open Street Locations



W 164th Street Open Street, Manhattan
Community League of the Heights



Front Street Open Street, Staten Island
Staten Island Economic Development Corp.



Evelyn Place Open Street, The Bronx
I AM MY COMMUNITY



Montague Open Street, Brooklyn
Montague Street Business Improvement District

- Limited Local Access
- Full Closure
- Full Closure: Schools



Open Streets are managed by a variety of different partner types. Below is a partner breakdown for the 2023 Open Streets season:

65 Schools

49 Community Based Organizations (formal)

24 Groups of Restaurants

18 Business Improvement Districts

9 Community Based Organizations (informal)

2023 Program Highlights

Operationalized Infrastructure

- Formally changed parking regulations at 19 sites to support operations
- New SAPO permit Open Streets partner event type
- Access to barriers, signage, cones, movable furniture, and more

Partner Support

- Staffing support via the Public Space Equity Program at high need sites
- Offered \$1.2 million in partner funding to individual organizations
- Public Space Programming support throughout the Open Streets season



A photograph of a person in a dark jacket shooting a basketball on a street court. The court is set up on a city street with a brick building in the background. Other people are visible in the background, some sitting on mats on the ground. The scene is captured in a low-angle shot, looking up at the person shooting the ball. The text "Public Space Equity Program Updates" is overlaid in white on the image.

Public Space Equity Program Updates

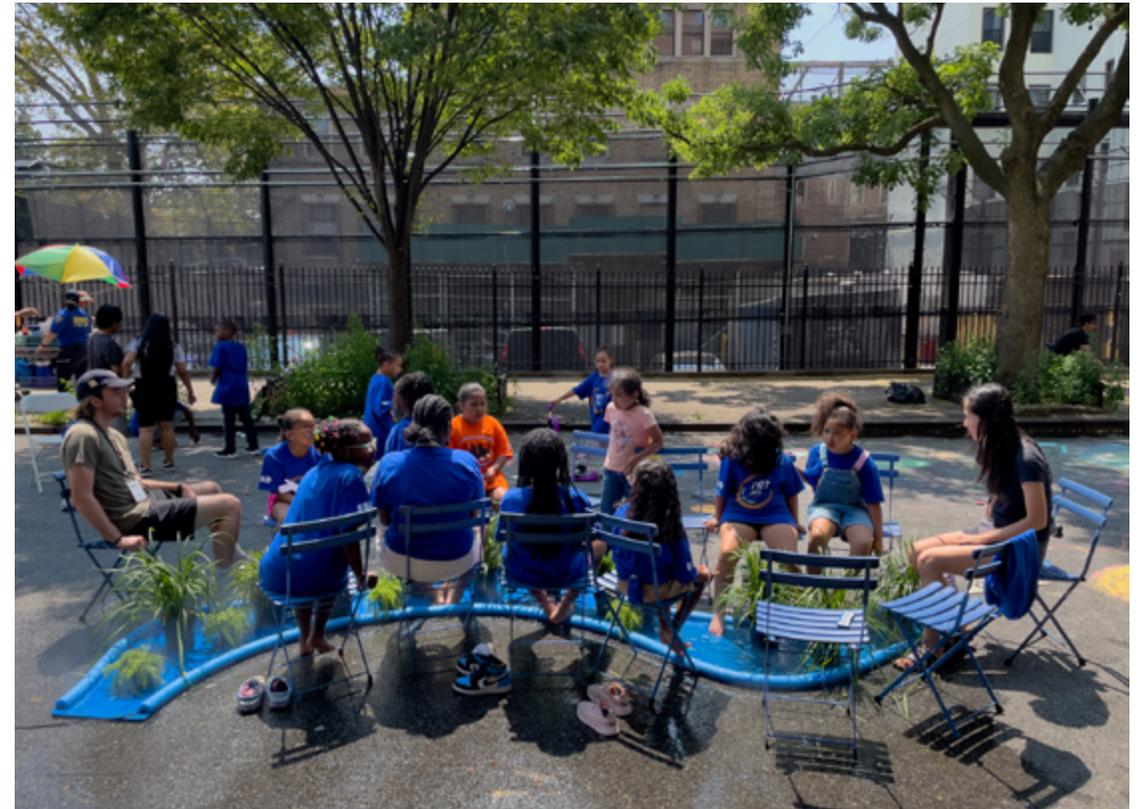
The Horticultural Society of New York

In partnership with [The Horticultural Society of New York](#) (aka The Hort), NYC DOT manages 75 public spaces citywide, including over 25 Open Streets! The Hort provides daily support to these public spaces year-round via operational maintenance, horticultural care, technical assistance and public programming. Our Public Space Equity Program partnership with The Hort will grow in an exciting new way in 2024 and we can't wait to share more!



Street Lab

For the 2nd year in a row, we worked with [Street Lab](#) and communities across New York City to create new public spaces in historically underserved areas of the city. To do this, we helped grassroots groups, schools, and other community-based organizations pilot and establish new Open Streets in their neighborhood, which provides immediate benefits to the community while also laying the groundwork for permanent changes to the public realm.



Making Open Streets Permanent



Making Open Streets Permanent

- **On an annual basis, NYC DOT implements operational, safety, and mobility projects all across New York City**
- **As part of Open Streets, NYC DOT evaluates existing open streets to determine whether they could benefit from public realm improvements, traffic calming measures, and other streetscape elements**
- **In 2023, 8 Street Improvement Projects were implemented on Open Streets**
- **NYC DOT has additionally earmarked \$52 million in capital funding to permanently transform 7 Open Streets**

Berry Street, Brooklyn

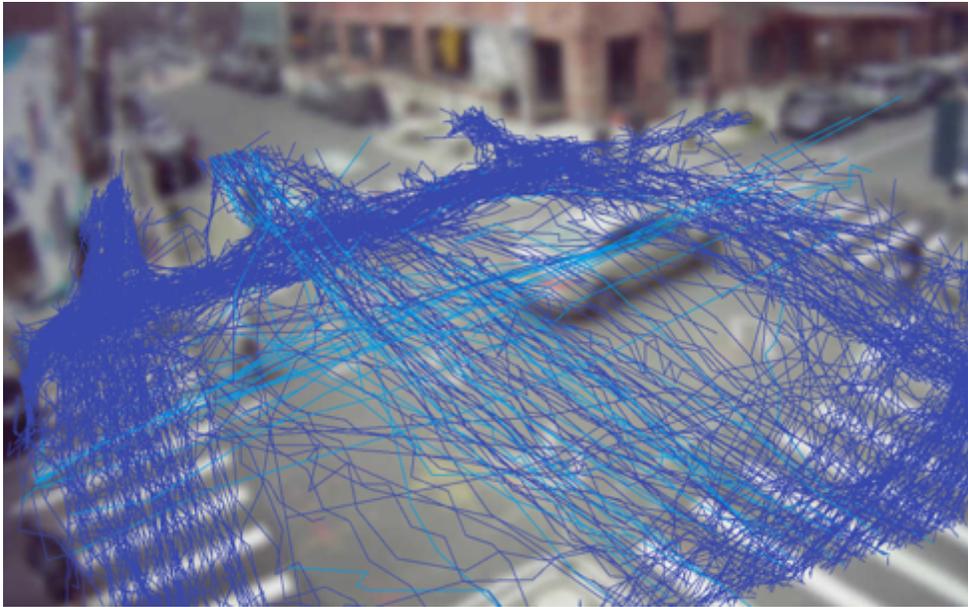


In 2023, DOT implemented a Bike Boulevard on the Berry Open Street in Brooklyn, which is the 2nd largest Open Street in the City! The new design features a new two-way cycling route, calms traffic through intersection enhancements for pedestrians and cyclists, provides dedicated vehicle loading zones, and reduces traffic volumes while preserving local vehicle access.

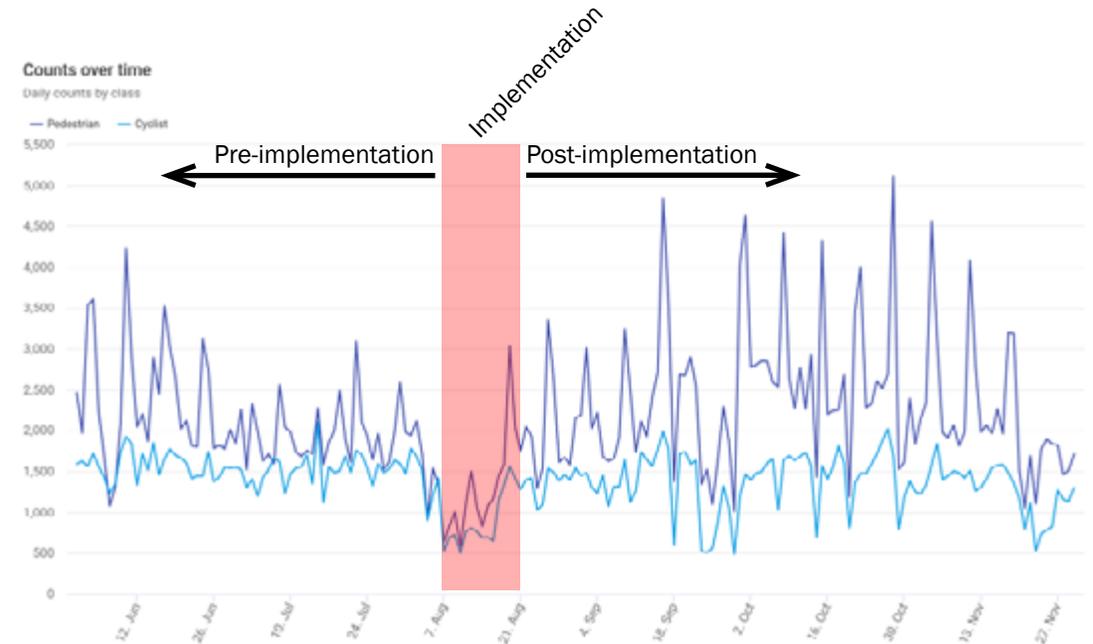


Measuring Success: Berry Open Street

NYC DOT is piloting advanced technology to improve street design by better measuring uses on New York City streets. These sensors are small devices mounted onto street light poles, viewing the street via a camera, then classifies and counts roadway users in real-time. Video frames from the sensors are deleted nearly instantaneously, and only anonymous features are stored. The Berry Open Street is included in this demonstration program, providing data on different user volumes, how the street is being used, and how it has changed post project implementation in August 2023.



Pedestrian paths of travel during 15 minutes on the afternoon of Sunday, April 7, 2024. The blue lines in the image are the flow of pedestrians along Berry Street through the intersection of N 6th Street. Pedestrians are evenly split between the sidewalks and in the Berry Street roadway showing a high comfort and use of this Open Street.



Prior to the street improvement project implementation on the Berry Open Street, a large increase in pedestrian volumes in the roadway was observed from 2020 to 2023. After the project was implemented in August 2023, pedestrian volumes in the roadway has continued to increase. Pedestrians feel even more comfortable utilizing the street with the newly redesigned Open Street.

West 22nd Street, Manhattan



On West 22nd Street, NYC DOT implemented new curb extensions at intersections and at the mid-block to increase pedestrian safety. In these new curb extension, amenities such as planters, granite blocks, and bike corrals were added.



Banker's Anchor Plaza, Brooklyn



Before

In summer 2023, the N 15th Open Street in Brooklyn evolved to become a pedestrian plaza, with new amenities like movable furniture, planters, programming, as well as new pedestrian crossings along Banker St.



After

Kensington Plaza, Brooklyn



On Beverley Road, there has been an active Open Street since 2022. Through the Public Space Equity Program, NYC DOT and Street Lab partnered to conduct outreach to see how the community wanted to see this space used in the future. In 2023, a pedestrian plaza was implemented on the Beverley Open Street and is now known as Kensington Plaza.



A photograph of a public space programming event. On the left, a performer wearing a black top hat, a black corset, and a red sash stands on a small stage with a red and white striped front. The performer is pointing towards a large, diverse crowd of people sitting on the ground in a park-like setting with trees and brick buildings in the background. The text "Public Space Programming Updates" is overlaid in white on the image.

Public Space Programming Updates

Public Space Programming

- NYC DOT's Public Space Programming initiative showcases a variety of enriching activities available to help activate public spaces across the city
- In 2023, NYC DOT executed over 350 programming events citywide
- The [Public Space Programming catalogue](#), launched in 2020, is an excellent planning tool for Open Streets partners to easily connect with programming organizations and utilize the funding NYC DOT provides to activate their sites



Bindlestiff Family Cirkus

Continuing a long-standing partnership with NYC DOT, the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus produced over 30 performances at Open Streets citywide. Performances were offered completely free of charge for communities all across New York City. Every performance included surprise and delight with a rotating roster of traditional circus artists and local talent, from musicians to comedians, ensuring no two shows were ever alike.



Bike The Block

In 2023, NYC DOT held 7 events across 5 boroughs, drawing over 2,000 attendees. We worked together with vendors and community organizations to assist with the planning and programming of these events. We partnered with local non-profits to highlight access to greenways and open streets. As we plan for 2024, we will continue to seek out strong community partnerships and expand our Bike the Block events city-wide to get more people riding bikes and increase pedestrian and cycling safety.



Trick or Streets

For the 2nd annual Trick or Streets, NYC DOT and its partners produced 115+ events on Open Streets and Plazas citywide. We distributed over 1,000lbs of candy and in partnership with The Hort, gave away 1,500+ pumpkins and squash.

Visit nyc.gov/openstreets for
more information

