



31st Ave, Astoria

Bike Network and Public Realm Planning
MAY 2024



Open House Overview

Introductions (20 min)

- NYC DOT Queens Borough Commissioner
- Elected Officials Welcome

Presentation (10 min)

- Past Improvements
- Background
- Summary of Outreach
- What We've Heard
- Proposed
 - Neighborhood Circulation
 - Design Concepts
- Next Steps

Open House

- 5:30PM -7:00PM



Ydanis Rodriguez
Commissioner



ZOHRAN



**Kristen
Gonzalez**
QUEENS • BROOKLYN • MANHATTAN



TIFFANY CABÁN
City Council Member, District 22



Assembly Member
JESSICA GONZÁLEZ-ROJAS

Past Improvements

Public Realm and Bike Network Improvements:

Painted Bike Corral:

- In coordination with the DOT Art Program, DOT installed a curb extension on 31st Ave and 34th St. featuring a new public art installation, and bike parking

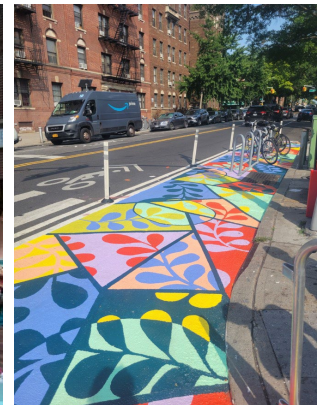
Open Streets

- 2020: OS in partnership with 31st Ave Coalition; maintenance and operational support by DOT and the Horticultural Society of New York

Bike Lane Projects:

- **2021: Astoria Bike Network, Northern Blvd**
- **2020: Crescent St**
- 2017: Hoyt Ave N
- 2016: Shore Blvd, 20th Ave Upgrade, 31st Ave
- 2015: Vernon Blvd.

Since 2015, DOT has installed over **16.5 lane miles of protected bike lanes**, and **21 lane miles of standard bike lanes and shared lanes** in the area.



Background

- Open Street
- Protected Bike Lane
- Conventional Bike Lane
- Shared Lane

1

Vernon Blvd - 30th St

- Mostly residential area
- Access to waterfront

2

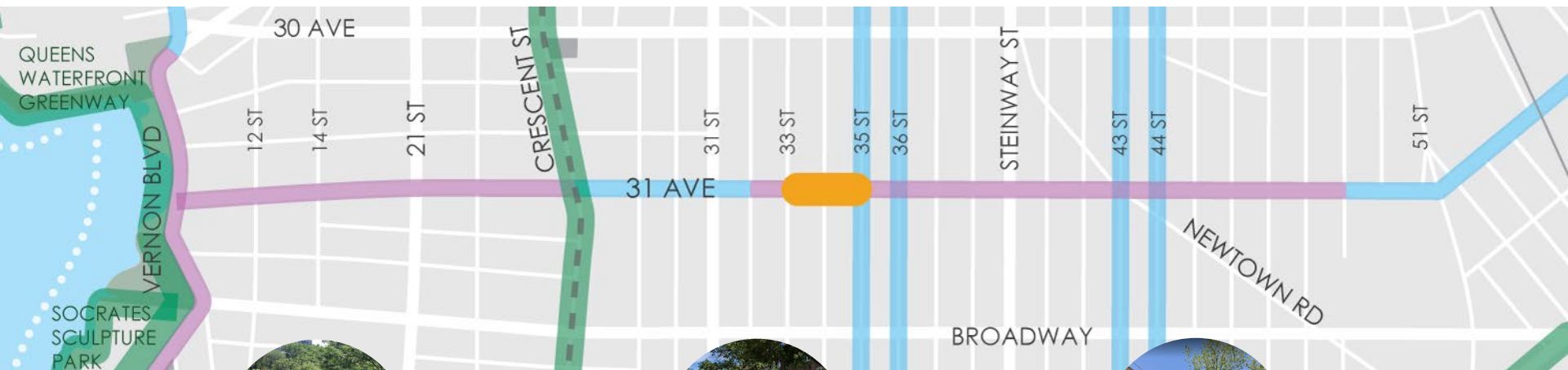
30th St - Steinway St

- Commercial land uses
- Open Street (Sat., Sun. 12-8 PM)

3

Steinway St - 51st St

- Residential; auto-oriented businesses; schools



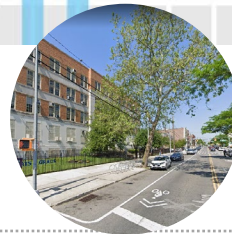
**Major
Destinations:**



**Vernon Blvd
Waterfront
Access**



**31st Ave Open
Street,
businesses**

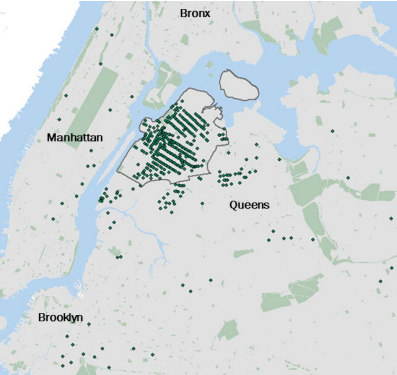


**P.S. 151,
William Cullen
Bryant HS**

Summary of Outreach

Online Survey

(April – June 2023)



2,200+ responses; 92% of respondents lived in the area. Questions on people's ideas for improvements

Five Pop-Up Workshops

(Summer, 2023)



Five pop-ups to gather additional feedback on safety and overall street improvements people would like to see realized

Merchant Survey

(July 2023)



99 businesses surveyed along 31st Ave on questions related to loading, deliveries, and other business-related issues

In-Person Workshop

(Sept. 2023)



More than 150 people attended the in-person workshop where DOT requested feedback on conceptual designs

What We've Heard



Survey: Most Frequently Mentioned Safety Concerns

- Vehicles disregard traffic signals (400+ responses)
- Lack of protected bike lanes (300+)
- Double parking for extended periods of time 250)
- Excessive vehicular speeding (180)
- Unsafe intersection crossings 150)

Intersections with most comments:

1. Newtown Rd, 31 Ave and 43 St
2. Vernon Blvd and 31 Ave
3. 31 St and 31 Ave
4. Crescent St and 31 Ave
5. 33 St and 31 Ave



Merchant Survey: Most Frequently Mentioned

- Lack of curb access for deliveries
- Delivery trucks double park on 31st Ave
- Merchants have no control of delivery times
- Many businesses have cyclists deliver their goods
- Roadway is too narrow

Public Realm and Bike Network: Most Frequently Mentioned Improvements



Pedestrian Space &
More Greenery



Street Seats, Public
Art, and Community
Programming

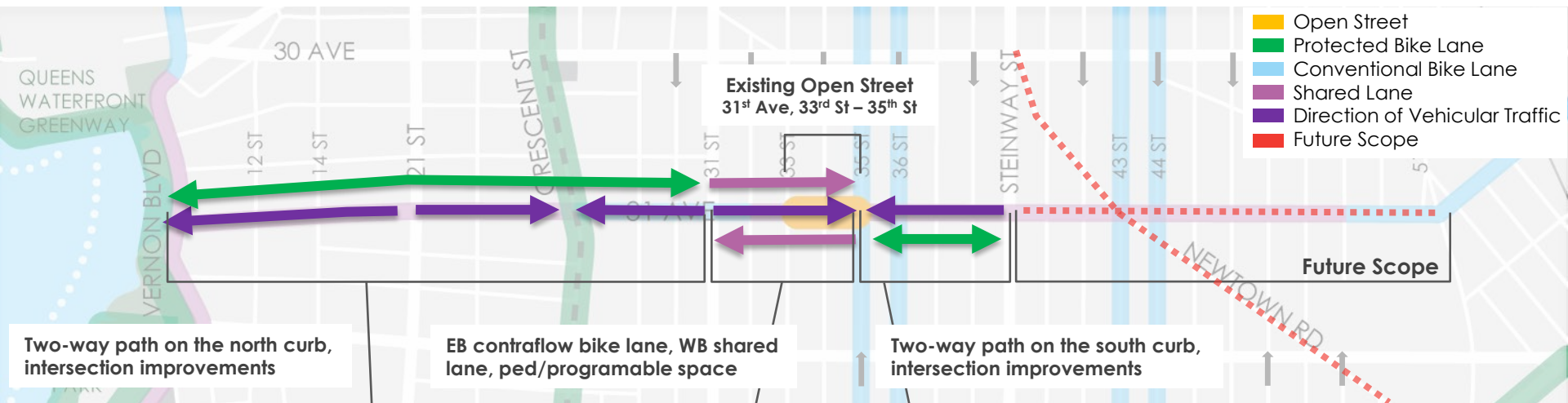


Protected Bike
Lanes



Improved Curb
Management

Proposed: Neighborhood Circulation



Typology: Crescent St
31st Ave, Vernon Blvd - 31st St



Typology: Berry St
31st Ave, 31st St – 36th St



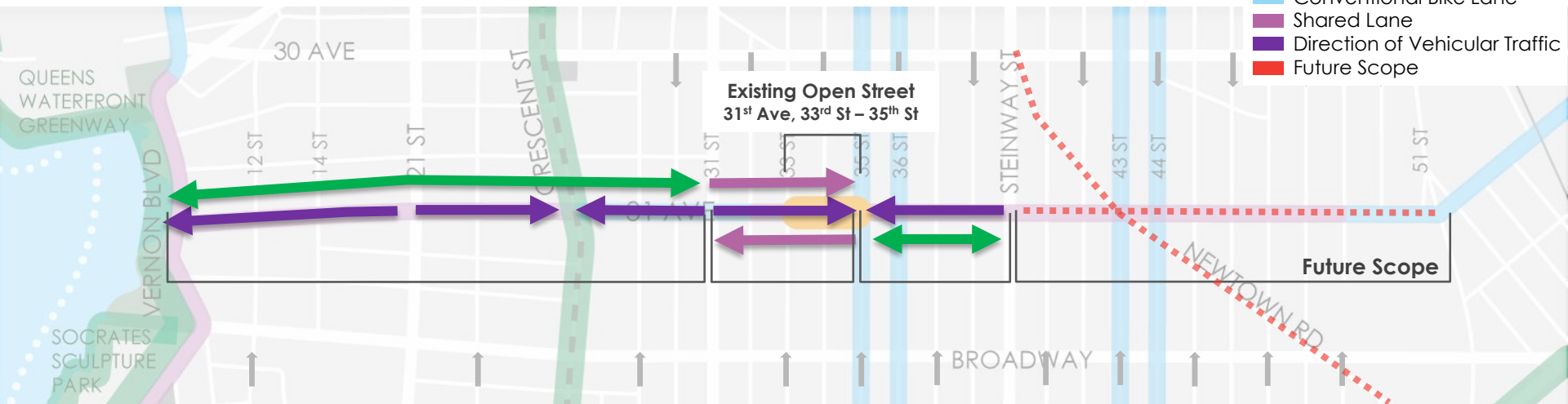
Typology: Crescent St
31st Ave, 36th St – Steinway St



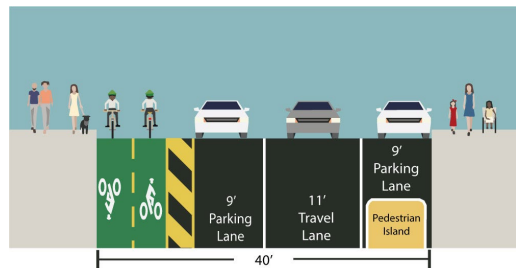
Traffic Diverters:

- 21st St (all out)
- Crescent St (all in)
- 31st St (all out)
- 35th St (all in)
- Steinway St (all out)
- Phase II diverters TBD

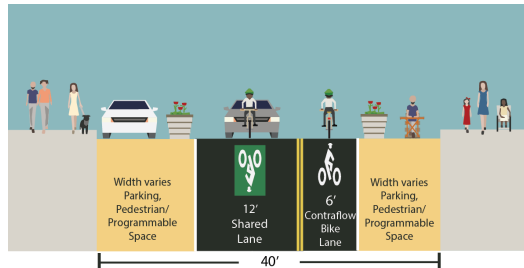
Proposed: Design Concepts



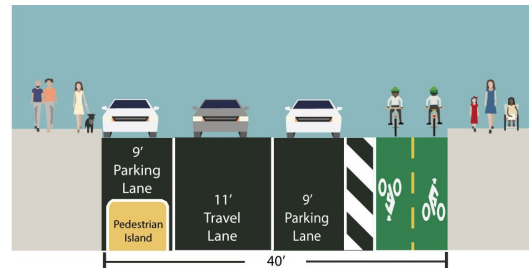
31st Ave, Vernon Blvd - 31st St



31st Ave, 31st St - 35th St



31st Ave, 35th St - Steinway St



Next Steps

May/June:

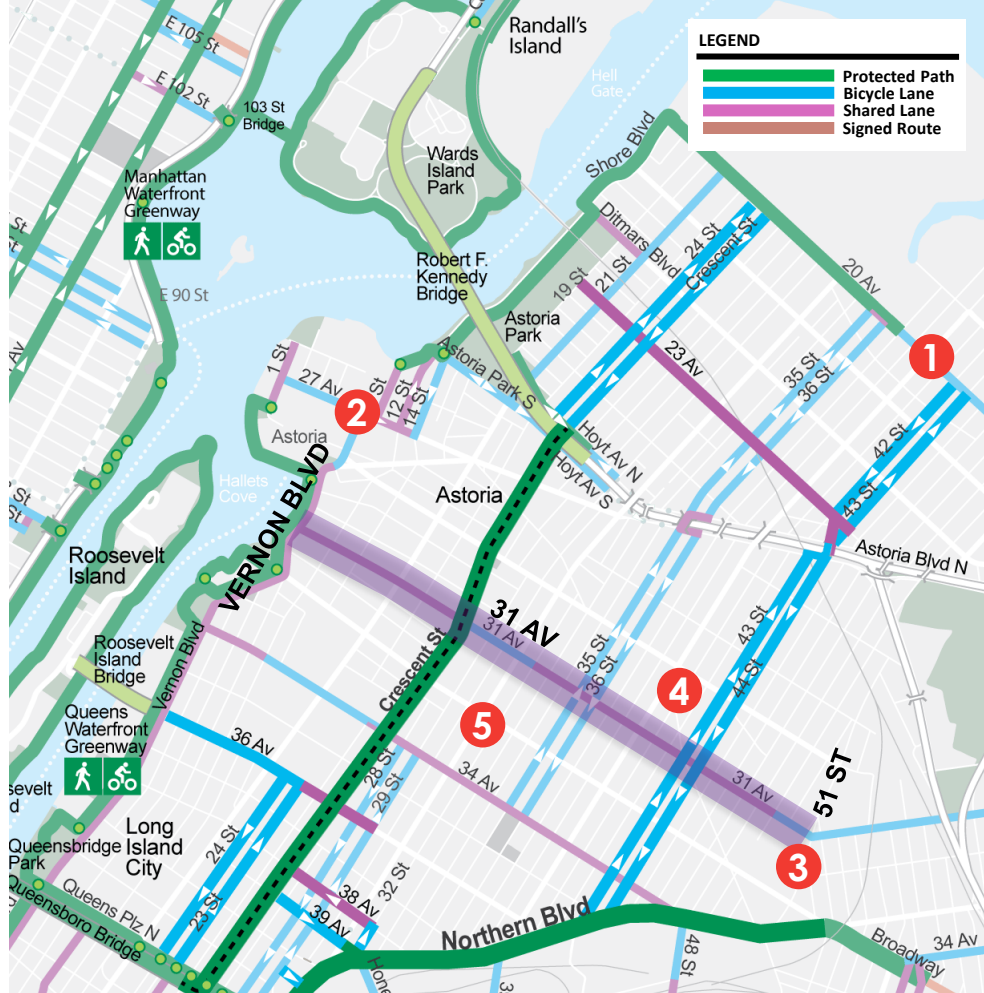
- Open House
- QN Community Board 1

Summer/Fall:

- Phase I Project Implementation
- Phase II

Future:

- Continued Outreach for Phase II
- Potential Future Projects:
 1. Astoria Heights, Queens Waterfront Greenway
 2. Astoria Park Bike Blvd
 3. 51st St Traffic Calming
 4. Newtown Rd Traffic Calming
 5. 31st St Under the El Bus Stop Upgrades



Thank You!



NYCDOT



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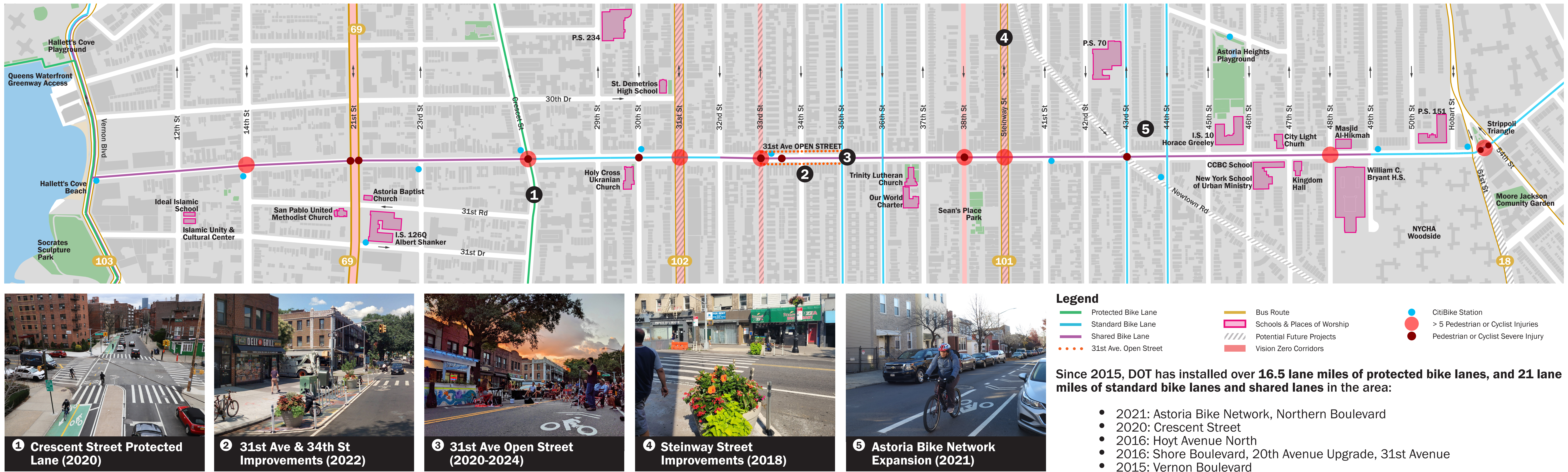


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NYCDOT

Current Conditions on 31st Avenue, Vernon Boulevard to 51st Street



Previous Outreach & Workshops:

Astoria Bike Network & Public Realm Community Survey (April-June 2023)

- Over 2,200 responses; 92% of respondents live in the area

Pop-Up Workshops (Summer 2023)

- Visioning workshops across 5 locations

31st Ave. Merchant Survey (July 2023)

- 99 businesses on 31st Ave. surveyed

Community Planning Workshop (September 2023)

- 150 people provided feedback on conceptual designs

What We've Heard:

Bike Infrastructure

- Lack of protected bike lanes in the area
- Desire to upgrade existing and create new bike lanes:
 - New: 31st, 33rd, 21st, Steinway, 29th
 - Upgrade: 35th, 36th

Corridor Operations & Curb Management

- Need to maintain access to the curb
- Frequent double parking

Pedestrian & Public Realm Infrastructure

- Safer crossings requested at 31st Ave. and:
 - Newtown Road
 - Vernon Boulevard
 - 31st Street
 - Crescent Street
 - 33rd Street
- Desire for expanded public space and programming
- Requests for daylighting at intersections
- Need for traffic calming on the corridor

Daily Trips in Astoria:

53%

34% 17% Personal Bike
15% CitiBike

11%

From 2023 Astoria Bike Network & Planning Survey

Safety & Vision Zero:

31st Ave. in Astoria is within a Vision Zero Priority Area.

Priority Corridors:

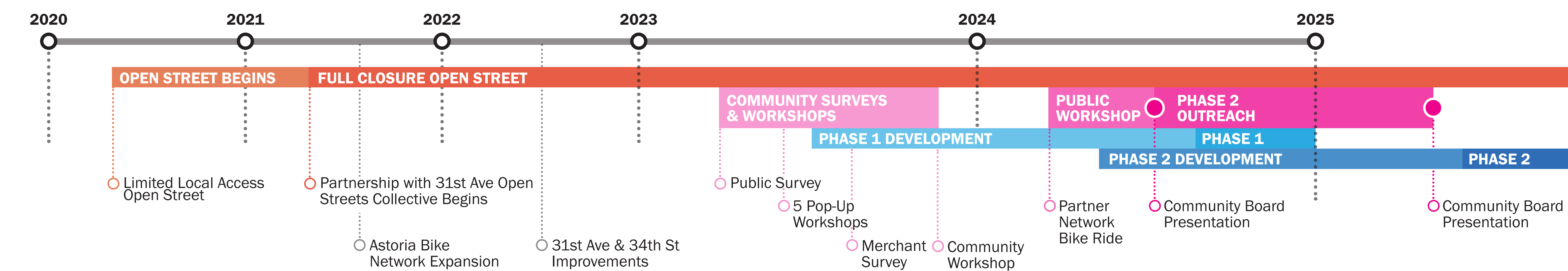
- 21st, 31st, 33rd, 38th, & Steinway St.
- 30th Ave & Broadway

Priority Intersections:

- 31st Ave. & 21st St.

In September 2020, there was a cyclist fatality at 31st Ave. & 51st St.

Project Timeline & Next Steps



31st Avenue

Street Improvement Project (SIP)

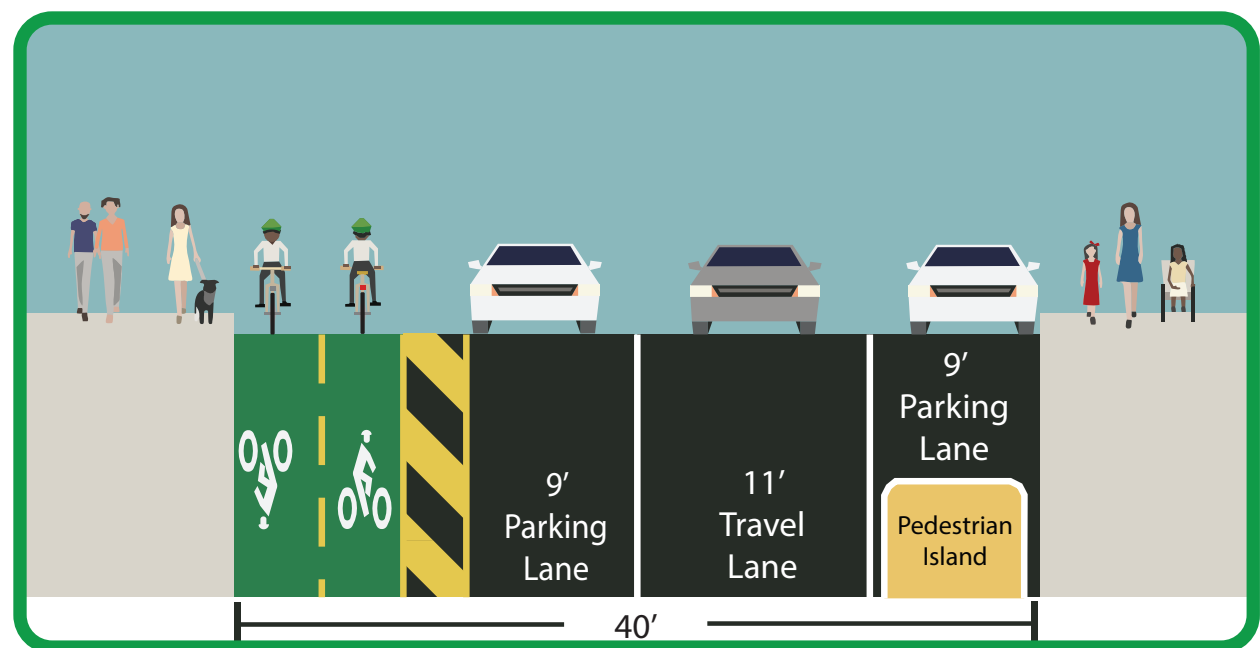
31st Avenue Corridor Concept and Project Phasing



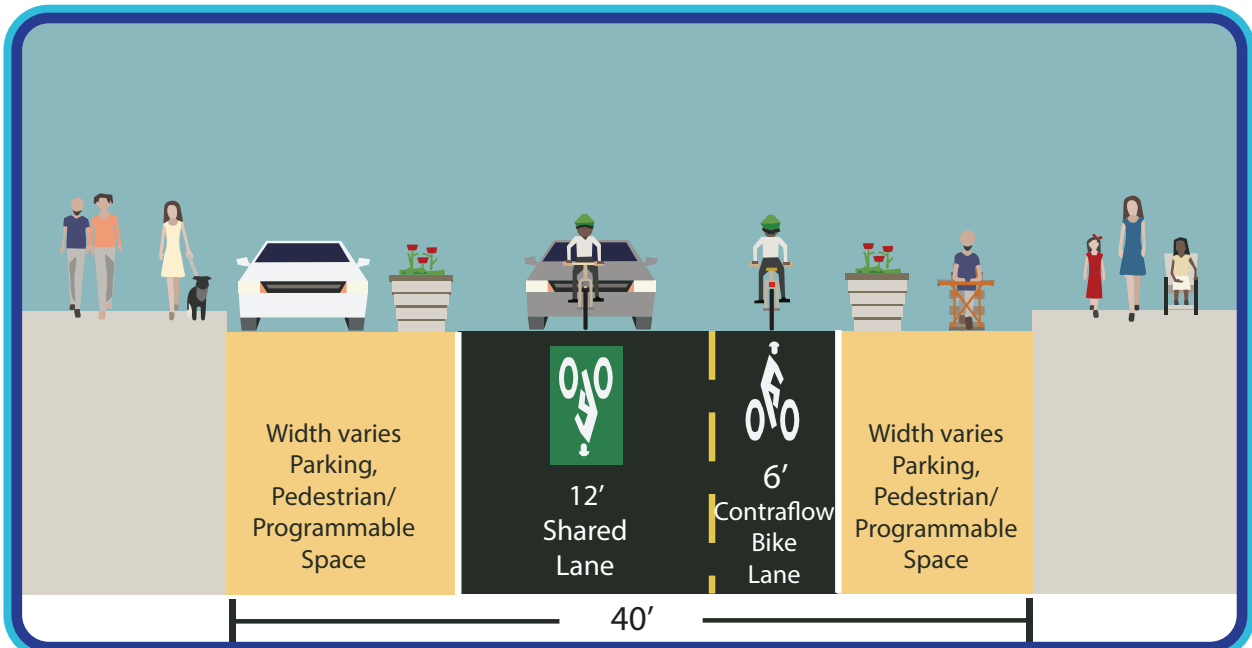
GOALS FOR A PUBLIC REALM AND CYCLING CORRIDOR

- Calm traffic for cyclists and pedestrians
- Reinforce and support Open Street operations and the cycling experience on 31st Avenue
- Improve and strengthen bicycle connections through protected bike lanes on 31st Avenue
- Expand pedestrian space in the heart of 31st Avenue's commercial area

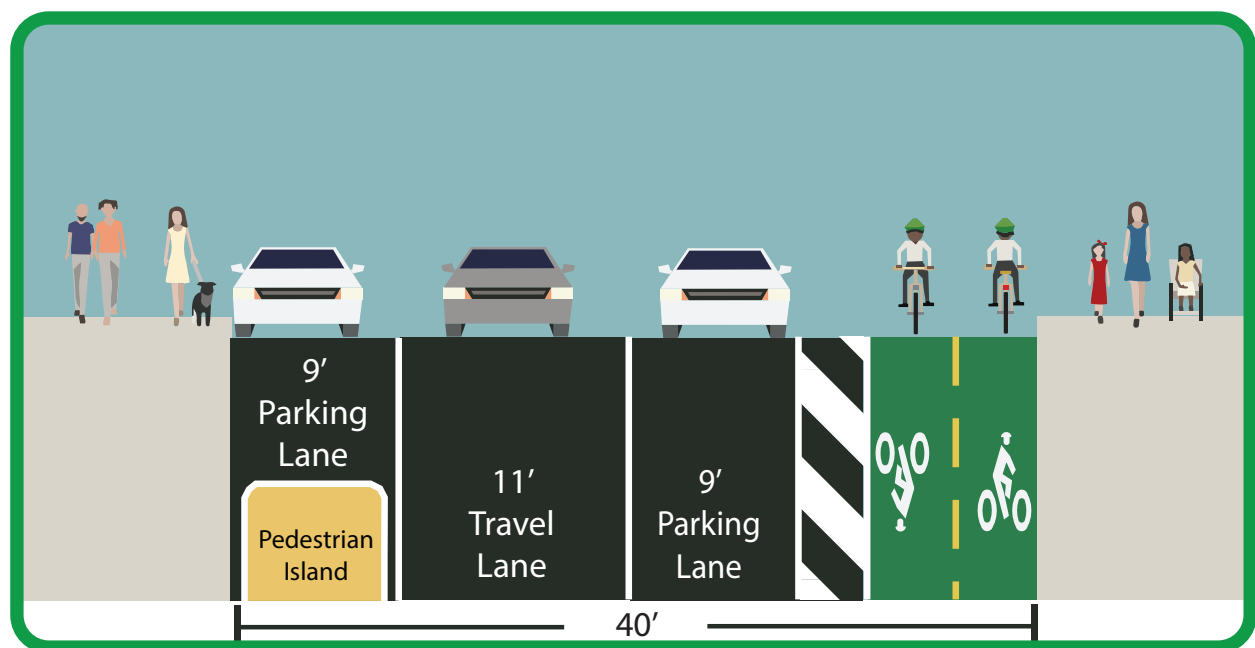
Conceptual 31st Avenue Corridor Sections



Two-Way Bike Lane: Vernon Boulevard - 31st Street

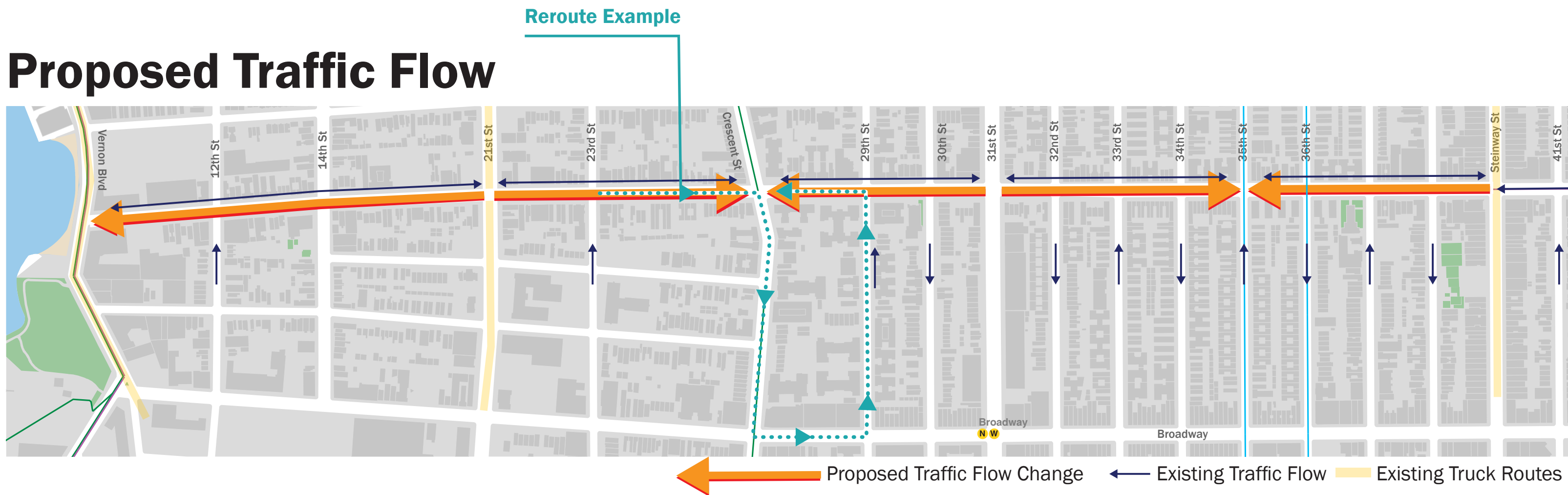


Gateways and Shared Streets: 31st Street - 35th Street



Two-Way Bike Lane: 36th Street - Steinway Street

Proposed Traffic Flow



31st Avenue Typologies

