

## 34<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, BROADWAY TO 69<sup>TH</sup> STREET PROTECTED BIKE LANE

Presented to Queens Community Board 2 Transportation Committee March 1, 2022

## **Project Area Location**



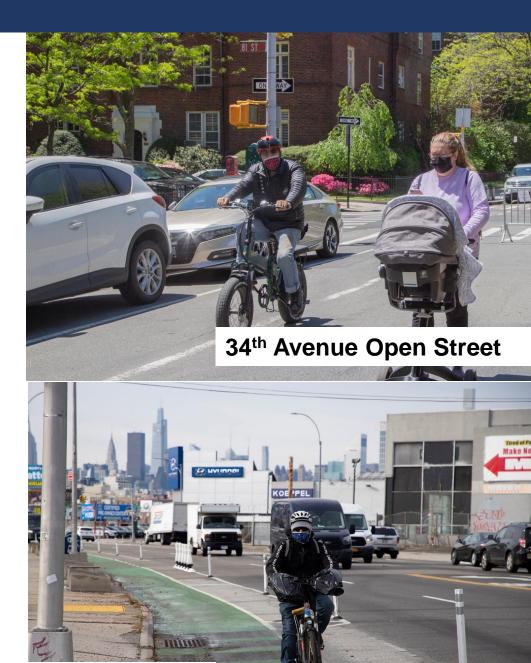
- Buffered bike lanes installed on 34th Ave in 2008
- Shared lanes installed on 59<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> St in 2008
- Phase 3 Citi Bike expansion zone
- Residential and industrial land uses

#### 34th Avenue Protected Bike Lane

## **Existing Conditions**

- 2020 34<sup>th</sup> Ave Open Street
  - Created new pedestrian and bike priority space
  - Permanent changes planned for 2022
  - Reduced traffic volumes
  - "Green Wave" signal timing changes intended to reduce delays for people on bikes
- 2021 Northern Blvd/ Broadway Protected Lanes
  - Upgraded temporary bike lanes
- Very high bike volumes on 34<sup>th</sup> Ave Open Street
  - 1,382 bikes 12-hr weekday count
  - o 1,358 bikes 12-hr weekend count

Sept 2021, 34th Ave between 73rd St and 74th St



## Northern Blvd

#### 34th Avenue Protected Bike Lane

## **Issues 34th Ave Industrial Corridor**

- Trucks and loading vehicles can cause added risk for pedestrians and people riding bikes
- It is necessary to safely accommodate loading
- Standard bike lanes are vulnerable to blockage by double parked vehicles
- Wide two-way street with long pedestrian crossings



## **Issues East-West Bicycle Connections**

- Lack of direct protected bicycle connections from Central Queens residential areas to Western Queens and Manhattan job centers
- The opening of the Northern Blvd and Broadway protected bike lanes in 2021 and the 34<sup>th</sup> Ave Open Streets created a nearly continuous corridor of high quality bicycle facilities
- 34<sup>th</sup> Ave between Broadway and 69<sup>th</sup> St represents the last link of standard bike lanes between Astoria/LIC and Jackson Heights/Corona

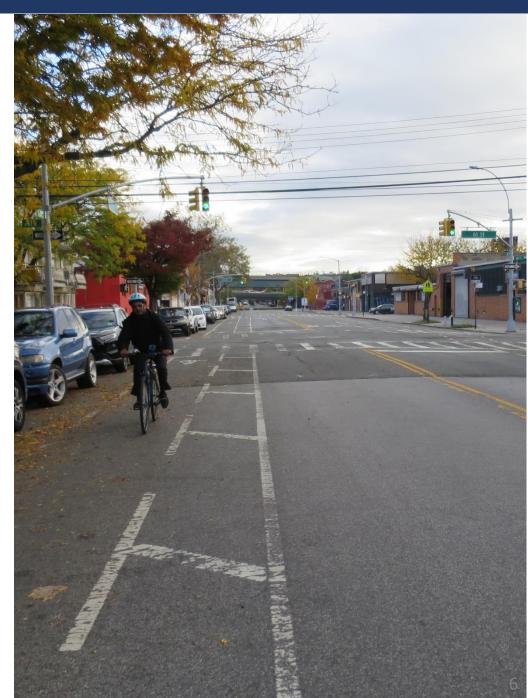


## Project Area Safety

#### 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue Broadway – 69<sup>th</sup> St Crash History 2015-2019

	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	10	0	0	0
Bicyclists	7	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Occupant	34	2	0	2
Total	51	2	0	2

• 5.9 Killed or Severely Injured (KSI) per mile puts the corridor in the top 33% of dangerous corridors in Queens



#### 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue Protected Bike Lane

## **SAFETY – Protected Bike Lanes**

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

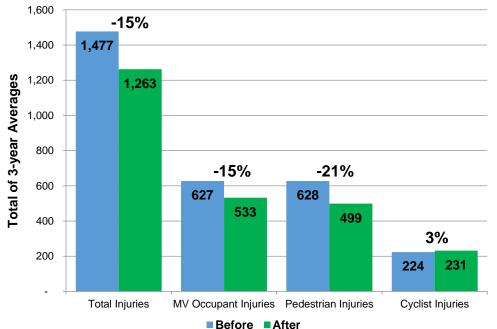
-15% drop in all crashes with injuries
-21% drop in pedestrian injuries

on streets where protected bike lanes were installed 2007-2017

Injuries to cyclists increase only 3%, despite a **61% bike volume increase** 

#### **Protected Bike Lanes**

Before and After Crash Data, 2007 - 2017







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

### Green Wave: A Plan for Cycling in New York City



#### Analysis of fatalities key factors (2014-Present):

- **60% of fatalities happened at intersections**; 23% involved a vehicle turn; 16% involved a driver's failure to yield the right of way
- Nearly 90% of fatalities happened on streets without bike lanes

#### Citywide Protected Bicycle Lane (PBL) Network

**Build 30 miles of protected bicycle lane annually**, guided by a PBL vision document.

#### **Better Design:**

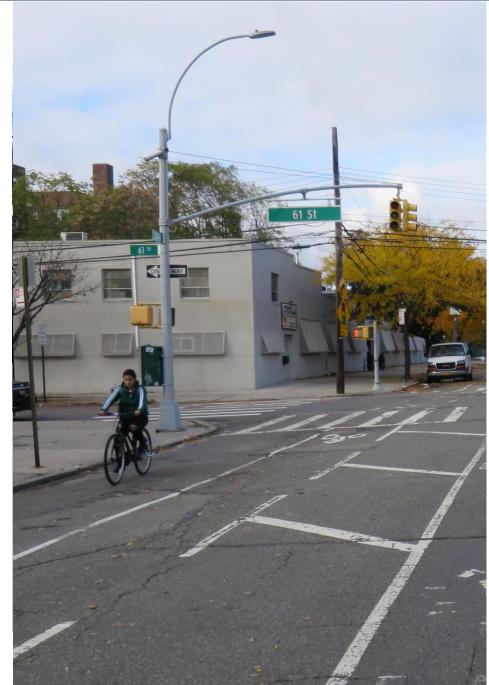
- Implement **new design** standards based on national & international best practices **to enhance safety at intersections.**
- Continue piloting new designs with rigorous safety analysis

#### Education and Outreach:

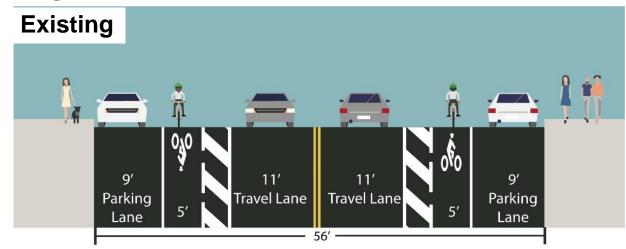
- Launch **next phase of Vision Zero** public awareness campaign, educating drivers with a focus on cyclist safety and **expand the "Get There"** bicycle encouragement/rules of the road campaign
- Educate all street users about safe truck operation on city streets
- Increase helmet giveaways and helmet use encouragement.

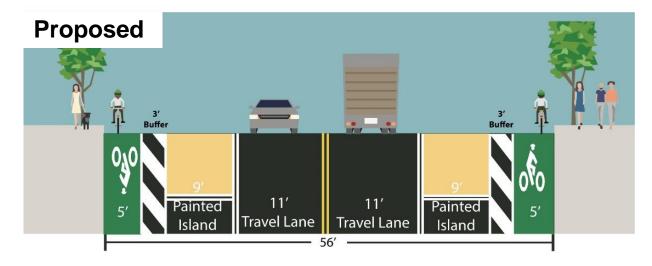
## **Proposed Design Goals**

- Improve street safety for pedestrians and drivers
  - Reduce speeding to prevent serious crashes with injuries
  - Shorten pedestrian crossing distances to enhance safe neighborhood walking connections
- Create safe, comfortable bike route to Queensboro Bridge and connections to 34th Ave, Northern Blvd, 39<sup>th</sup> Ave Bike Boulevard
  - Provide protected space for people biking
  - Add new dedicated spaces for biking
- Maintain motor vehicle circulation



## Proposed Design 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 60<sup>th</sup> Street to 69<sup>th</sup> Street





- Pedestrian islands shorten crossing distances
- ~15 parking spaces converted at pedestrian islands

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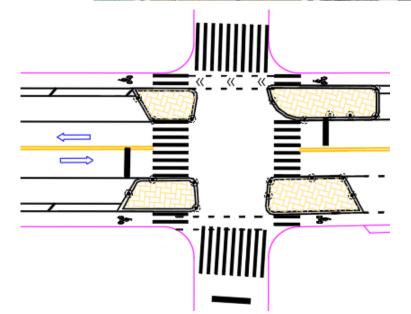
- Redesign adds green paint, floating parking lane, and pedestrian islands
- Maintains traffic capacity

## Proposed Configuration: Fountain Ave, Brooklyn



## **Turn Treatments Offset Crossings**





- Offset crossings slow right-turning vehicles to mitigate conflict with bikes traveling in same direction
- Pedestrian island shortens crossing distance
- Daylighting the intersection ensures visibility between turning vehicles and people on bikes

#### 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue Protected Bike Lane

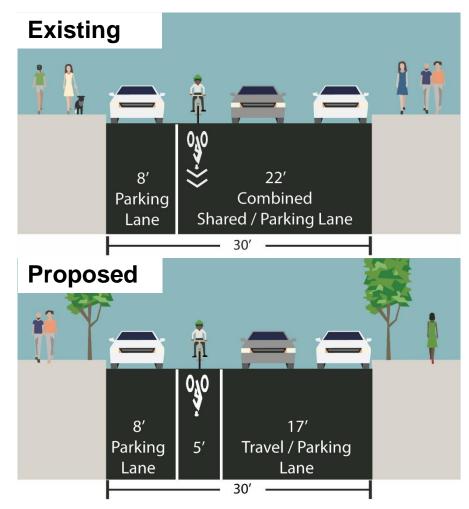
## **Connections: 59th and 60th Streets**



- Existing shared lanes meet standards to be upgraded to conventional bike lanes
- Connects 39<sup>th</sup> Ave Bike Boulevard to 34<sup>th</sup> Ave



## **Connections: 59th and 60th Streets**



- Maintains traffic capacity
- No impact to parking

## **Summary Project Benefits**

#### Protected bike lanes benefit all street users:

Crashes with				
Injuries				
Down	15%			

Motor Vehicle Occupant Injuries Down 15%

Pedestrian Injuries
Down 21%

- Connects Central Queens to Queensboro Bridge with high quality protected bike lanes
- Increases pedestrian safety by shortening crossing distances
- Discourages speeding by narrowing roadway
- Protects bicycle lane from double parking
- Upgrades shared lanes on 59<sup>th</sup> St and 60<sup>th</sup> St
- · Maintains traffic capacity
- ~15 parking spaces converted to pedestrian islands and buffers

