



Bruckner Blvd

(Lincoln Ave to Cypress Pl)

School Safety Improvements
Bronx Community Board 1 - June 5, 2024

Background

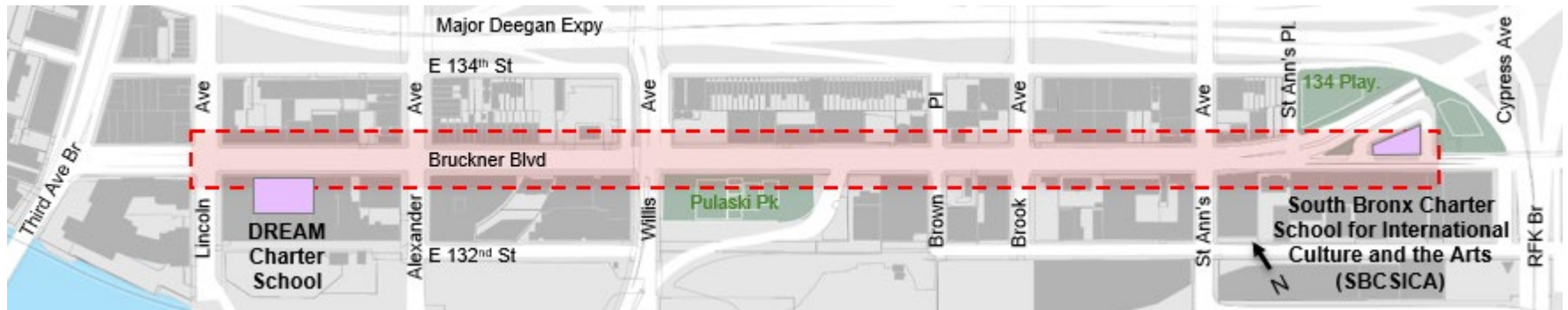
Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

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Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Why are we here?

- DREAM Charter School concerns about student safety on **high-traffic truck route**
- Longstanding complaints about **pedestrian safety and access** at South Bronx Charter School for International Culture and the Arts (SBCSICA)
- DOT effort to build a **Harlem River Greenway** in the Bronx includes recent community workshops



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

School Outreach

- Aug 2023** Walkthrough with Deputy Council Speaker Ayala, DOT Commissioner Rodríguez, and DREAM Charter School to discuss traffic safety
- Sep 2023** DOT met with DREAM Charter School
- Jan 2024** DOT & DREAM Charter School walkthrough
- Feb 2024** Stakeholder meeting at DREAM Charter School
- May 2024** Meetings with South Bronx Charter for International Cultures and the Arts and DREAM Charter

Recent work:

- DOT installed quick curb along the double-yellow centerline between Lincoln Ave and Alexander Ave to reduce U-turns.
- Expanded the school loading zone at DREAM Charter School.
- Upgraded pedestrian ramps at South Bronx Charter for International Cultures and the Arts



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Harlem River Greenway

- **Create a continuous and connected path** for cyclists, pedestrians, runners, and others
- **New transportation option** both for recreation and commuting
- **Connect people to the waterfront and parks**
- **Provide convenient and safe connections** to greenway paths from the local street network.



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Harlem River Greenway: South Bronx Outreach

Building on previous work and **working closely with local partners/advocates**, DOT has been conducting outreach since Spring 2023 to collect feedback from community members.

- 3/20/2023 Harlem River Greenway announcement with Mayor Adams on the High Bridge
- 4/22/2023 Car Free Earth Day tabling on Willis Ave
- 4/26/2023 Existing conditions workshop (on zoom)
- 6/10/2023 Bike the Block tabling on Alexander Ave
- 6/18/2023 Fish Parade tabling
- 7/8/2023 We Are Melrose tabling
- 7/15/2023 SBU City of Water Day tabling
- 8/7/2023 Environmental Justice tour with Rep. Espallat and greenway advocates
- 8/26/2023 Summer Streets Grand Concourse tabling
- 11/18/2023 NYC H2O Harlem River walking tour
- 3/19/2024 Route alternatives workshop (Bronx Brewery)
- 4/8/2024 Route alternatives workshop (on zoom)



Canoemobile School Workshops; children learned cycling and map-reading skills.



South Bronx Unite's City of Water Day Event, Maria Sola Community Greenspace

Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Harlem River Greenway: What We Heard About Bruckner Blvd

Bruckner Blvd is the way to go. It's the **most direct**.

Take **schools** into account!

Bruckner Blvd is a **direct route** and could work for the given significant improvements.

Bruckner Blvd should have **cycling infrastructure**. Adding jersey barriers would be helpful because it **needs protection**.

Make the connection to **Randall's Island**.

Greenway should connect to **Willis Ave bridge**

We need **traffic safety for schools**

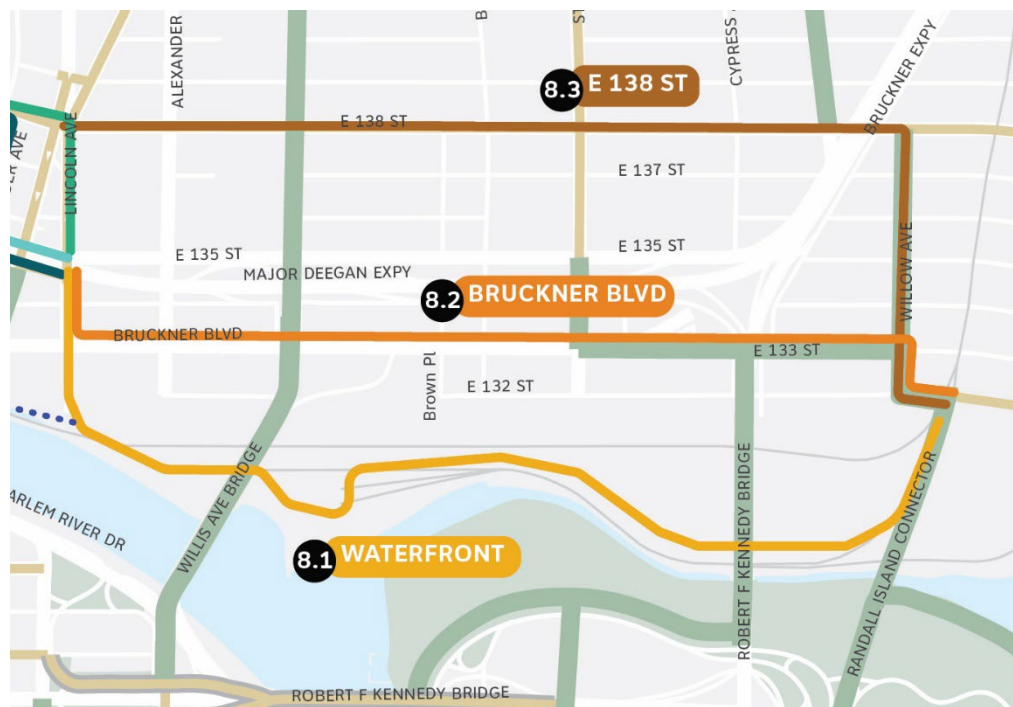


Harlem River Greenway Route Alternatives Workshop, Bronx Brewery

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Harlem River Greenway: What We Heard About Bruckner Blvd

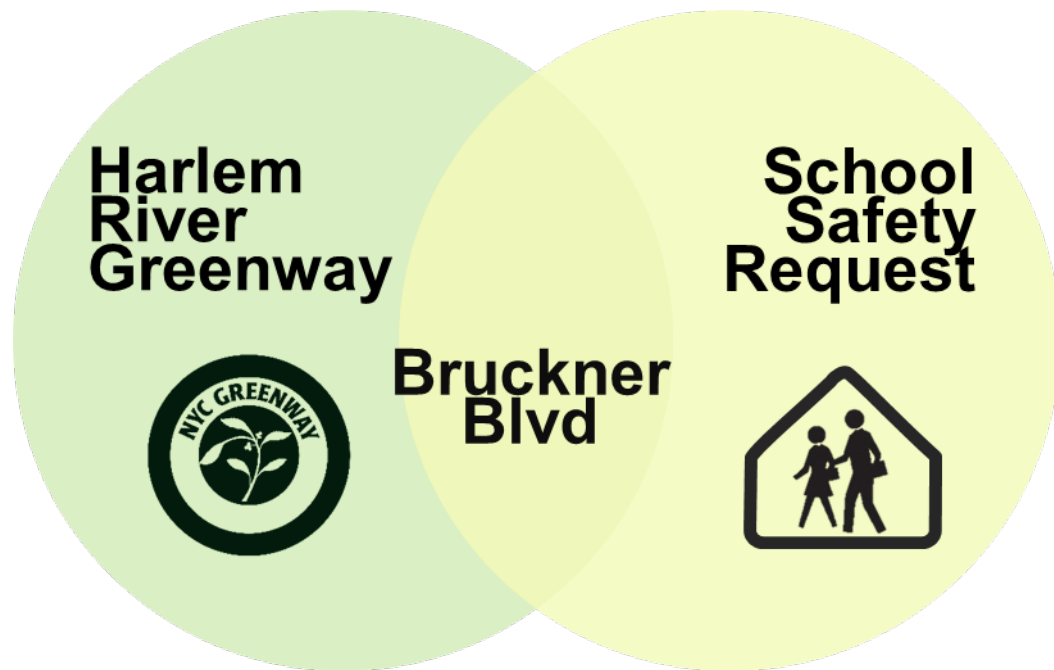
- DOT talked to community members about greenway routing alternatives in the area between Lincoln Ave and the Randall's Island Connector
- **Bruckner Blvd is the preferred near-term route for the Harlem River Greenway**
- Workshop participants liked the directness of the route, access to the Willis Ave bridge, and connections to waterfront spaces and Randall's Island Park



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Harlem River Greenway: What We Heard About Bruckner Blvd

- Community members have long voiced a desire for a continuous **greenway** along the Harlem River for cyclists and pedestrians
- Simultaneously, DOT received multiple requests to improve **safety around schools** on Bruckner Blvd
- We have an opportunity to implement a school-focused project that will also form a piece of the Harlem River Greenway



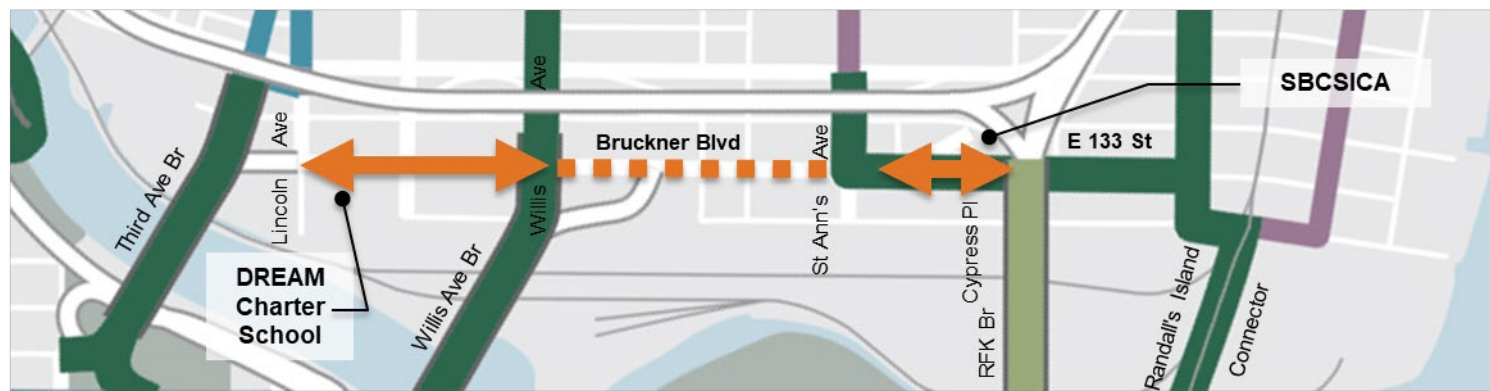
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Harlem River Greenway: Project Phasing

2024 project will focus on immediate school safety concerns:

- Bruckner Blvd between Lincoln Ave and Willis Ave, including DREAM Charter School
- E 133 St at Cypress Pl, including SBCSICA

2025+ project will close the greenway gap between Willis Ave and St. Ann's



2024 project scope



Future project



Existing Conditions

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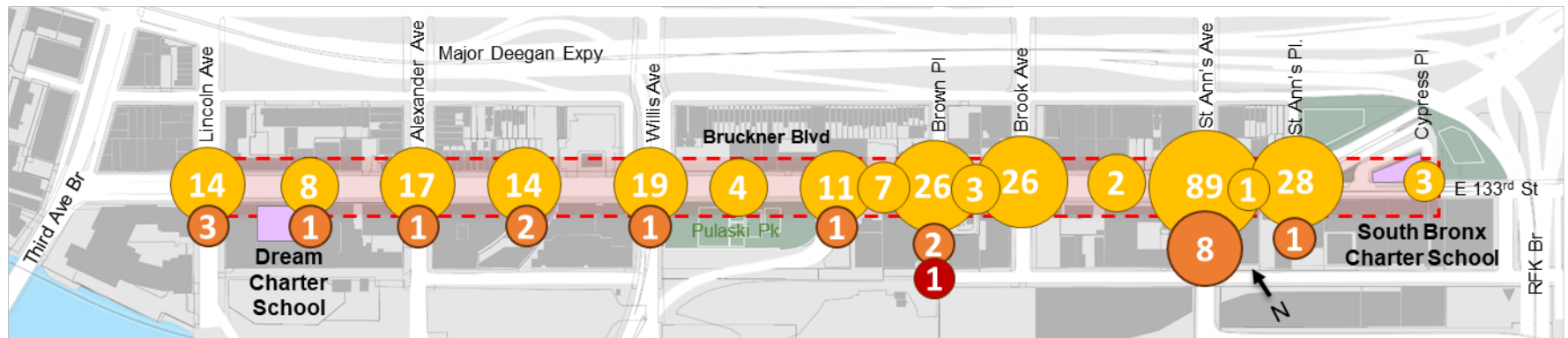
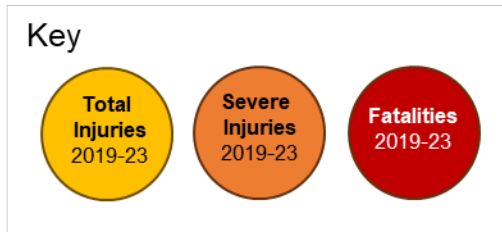
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Safety Data 2019-2023

- 273 total injuries
- 20 severe injuries
- 1 cyclist fatality at Brown Pl
- Pedestrians and cyclists make up 29% of severe injuries and fatalities

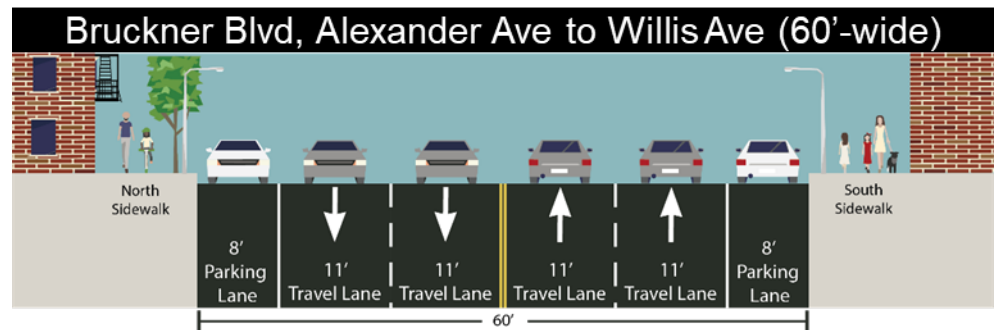
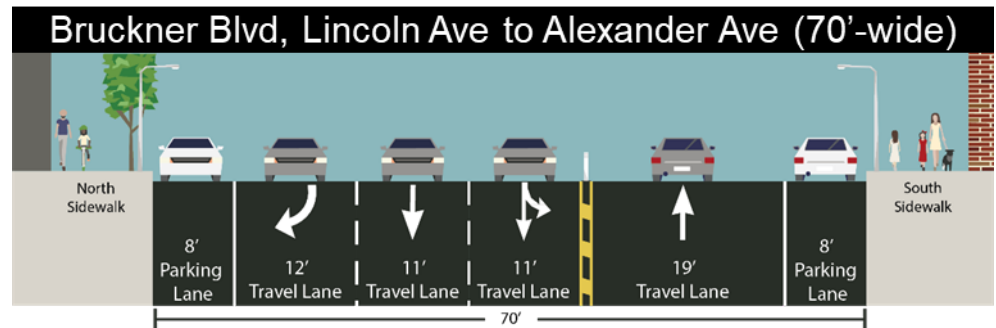
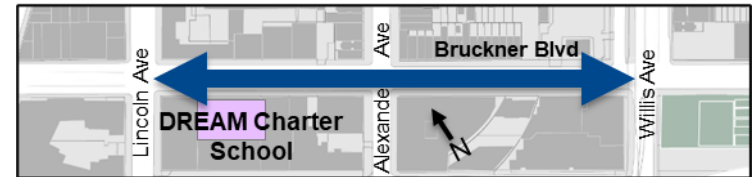
Type	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	38	5	0	5
Bicyclist	9	0	1	1
Motor Vehicle	224	15	0	15
Other Motorized	2	0	0	0
Total	273	20	1	21



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Existing Conditions: Lincoln Ave to Willis Ave

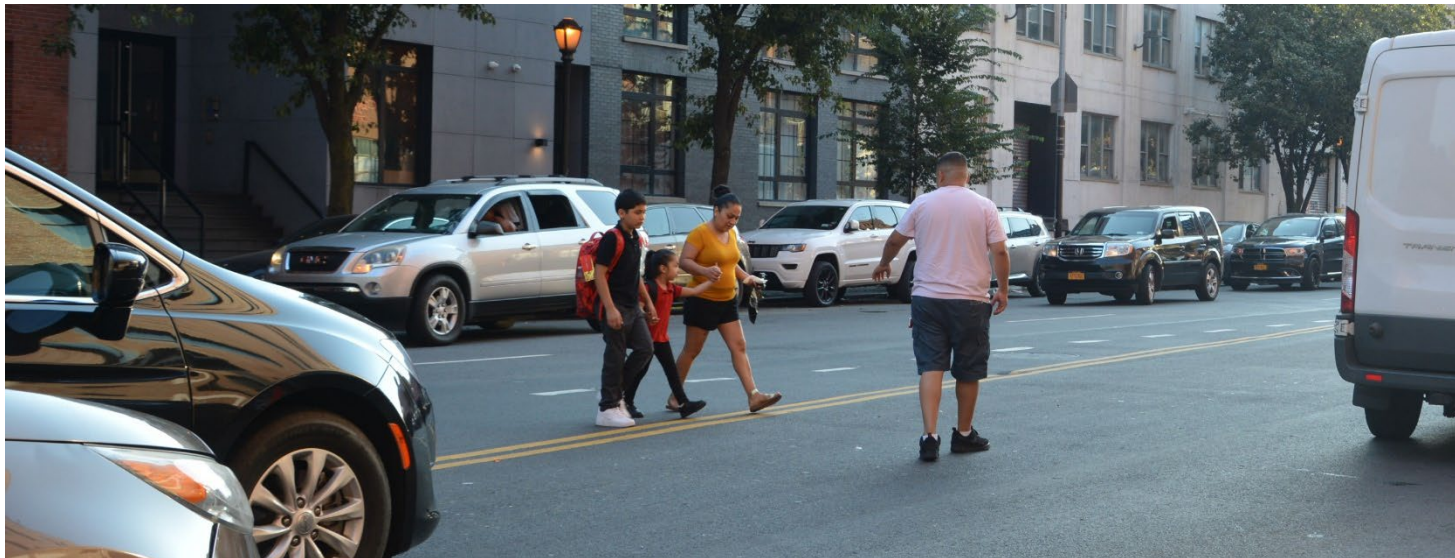
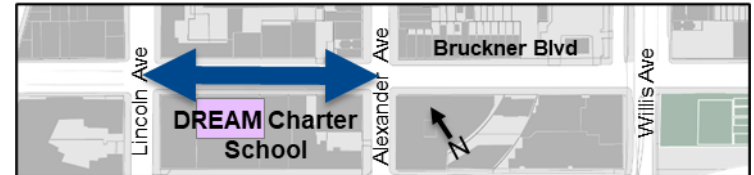
- Local truck route
- Varying roadway widths
- Higher traffic volume westbound to 3 Ave Bridge
- Light eastbound traffic



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Existing Conditions: Lincoln Ave to Alexander Ave

- Long pedestrian crossing distances
- Excess width leads to speeding near school
- Long distances between pedestrian crossings
- High volume of students crossing mid-block
- Student loading challenges
- Illegal mid-block U-turns
- High loading demand for businesses



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

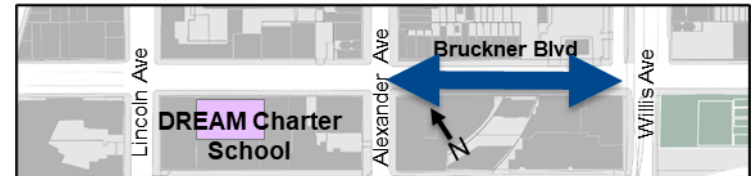
Existing Conditions: Lincoln Ave to Alexander Ave



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Existing Conditions: Alexander Ave to Willis Ave

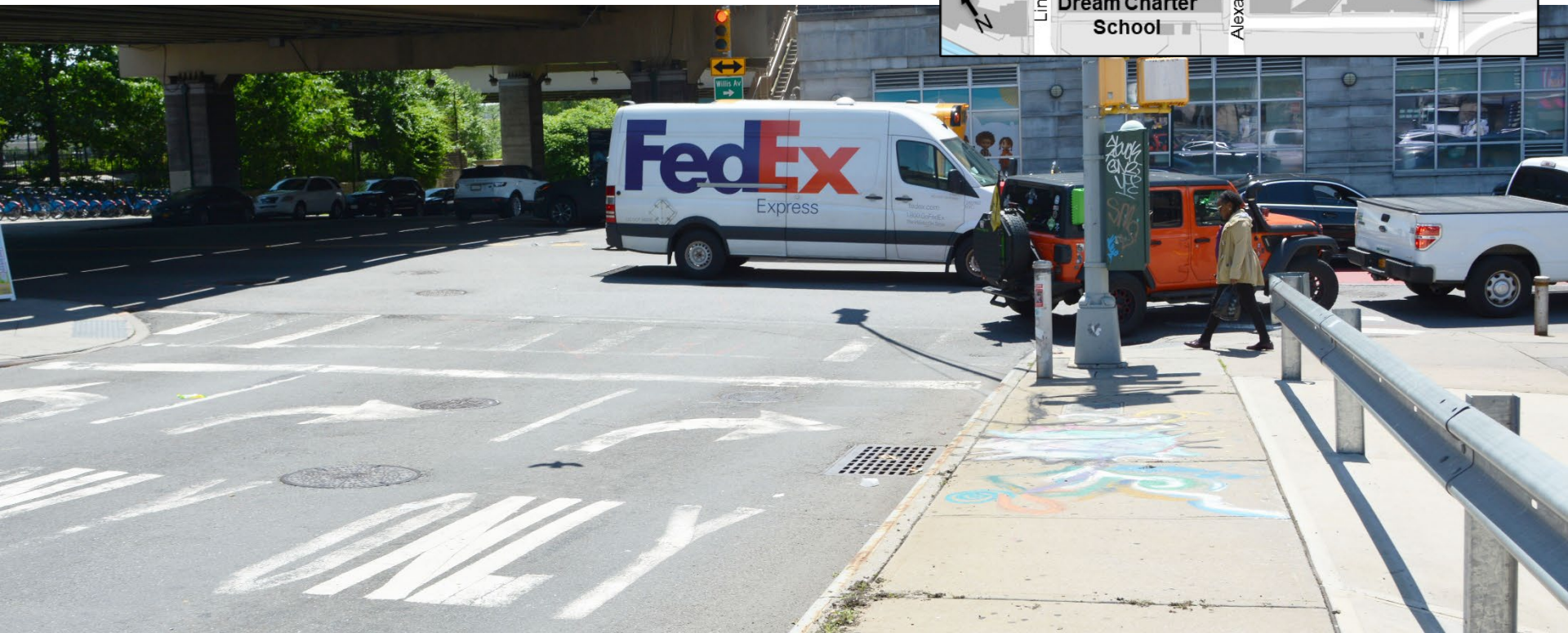
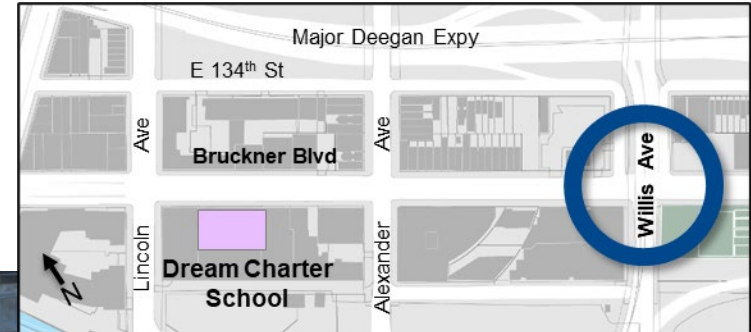
- Long pedestrian crossing distances
- Active retail, high-density housing
- Metered parking on north curb to accommodate high parking/loading demand
- New residential building under construction



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

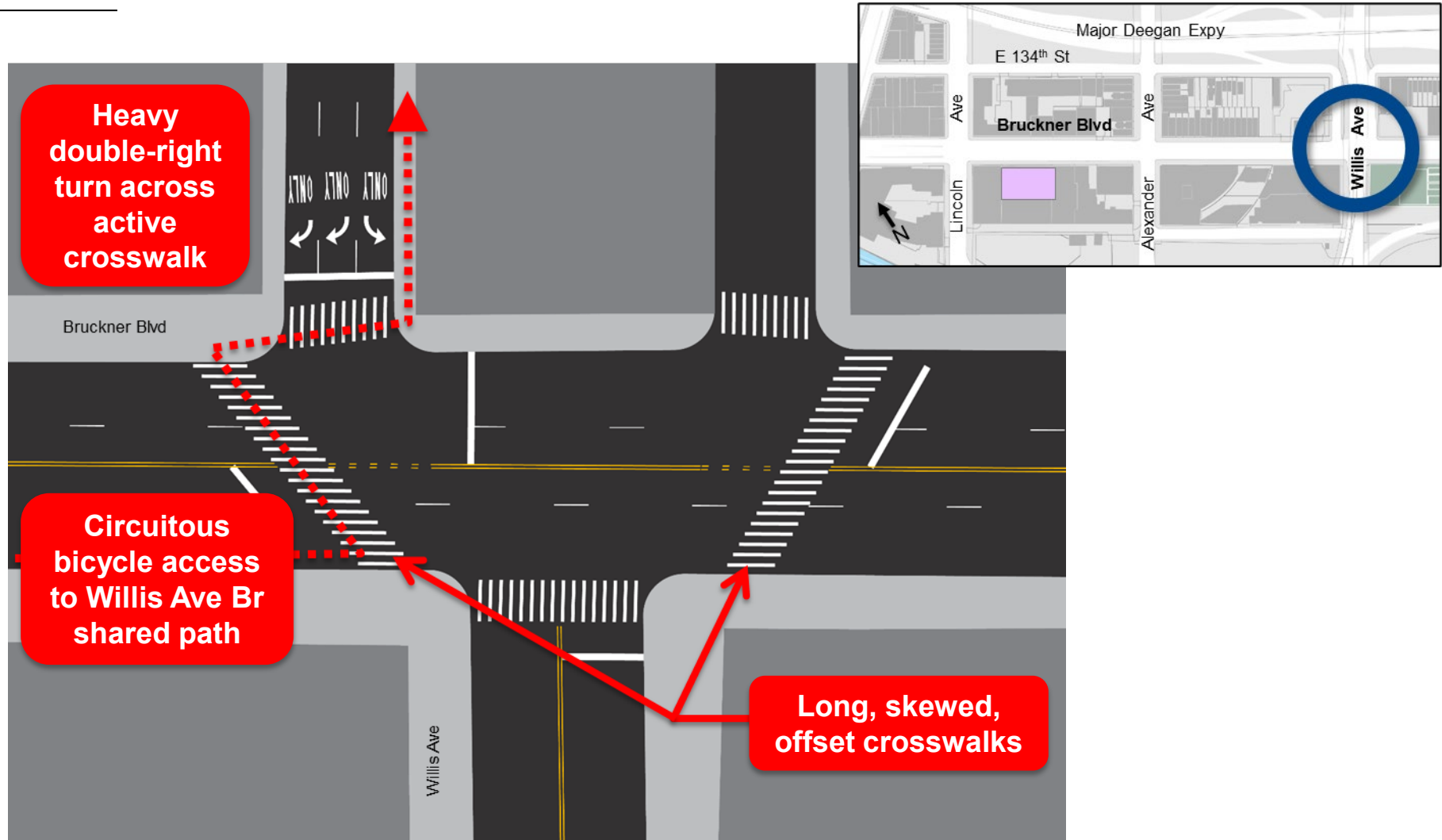
Existing Conditions: Willis Ave Intersection

- High-volume double-right turn from Major Deegan Expy off-ramp onto westbound Bruckner Blvd across an active crosswalk



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

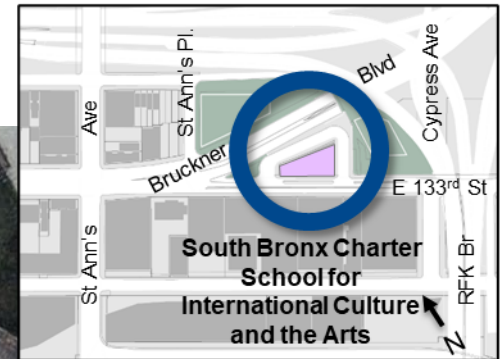
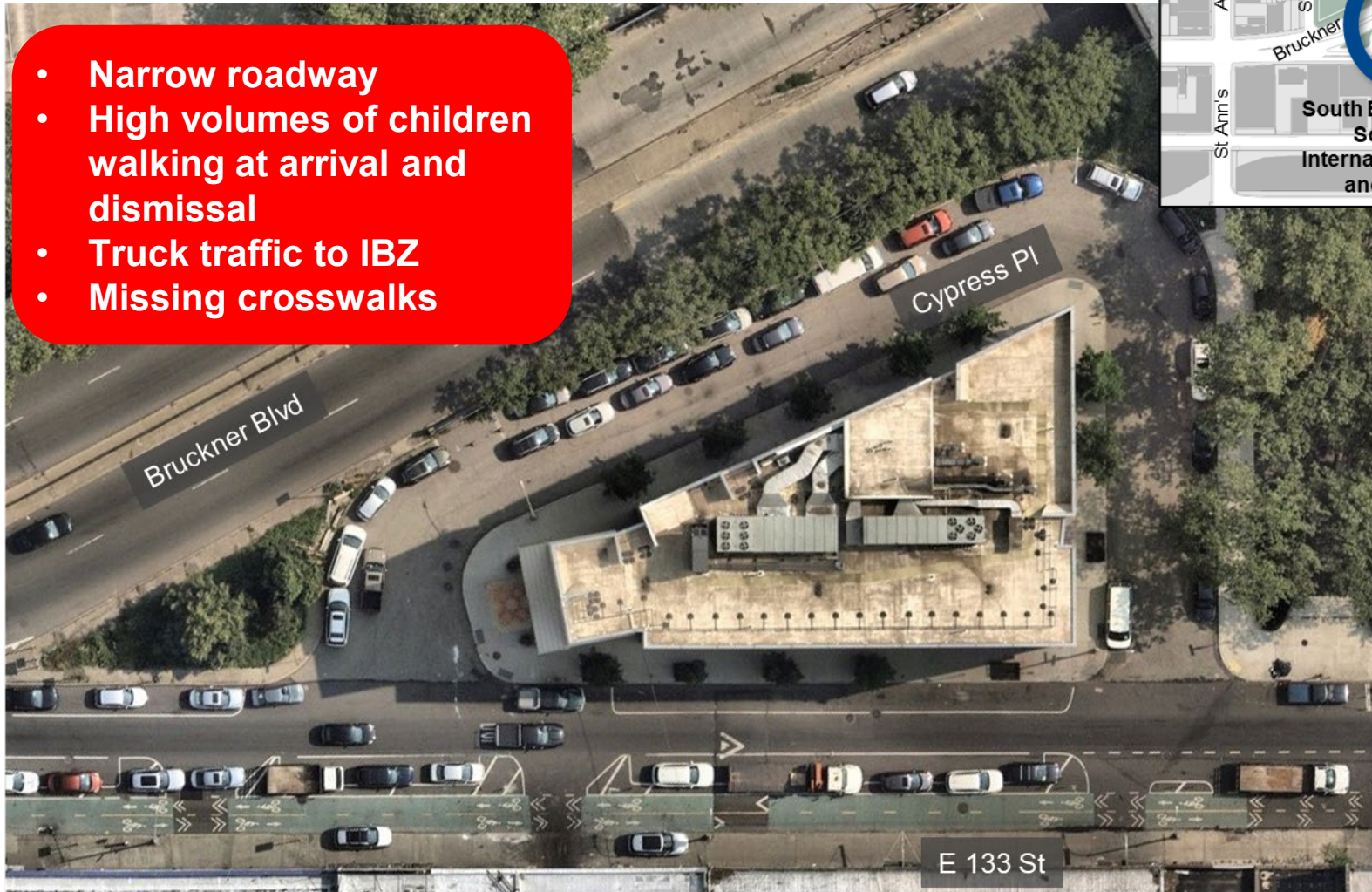
Existing Conditions: Willis Ave Intersection



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Existing Conditions: E 133 St at Cypress Pl

- Narrow roadway
- High volumes of children walking at arrival and dismissal
- Truck traffic to IBZ
- Missing crosswalks



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Existing Conditions: E 133 St at Cypress Pl



Proposal

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Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Proposed Street Design

Traffic calming and
reduced speeding

Shorter pedestrian
crossings

Protected bike lanes

Protected turn
signal phases

Willis Ave, Bronx

Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Safety Benefits of Bike Lanes

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

-15% drop in all crashes with injuries

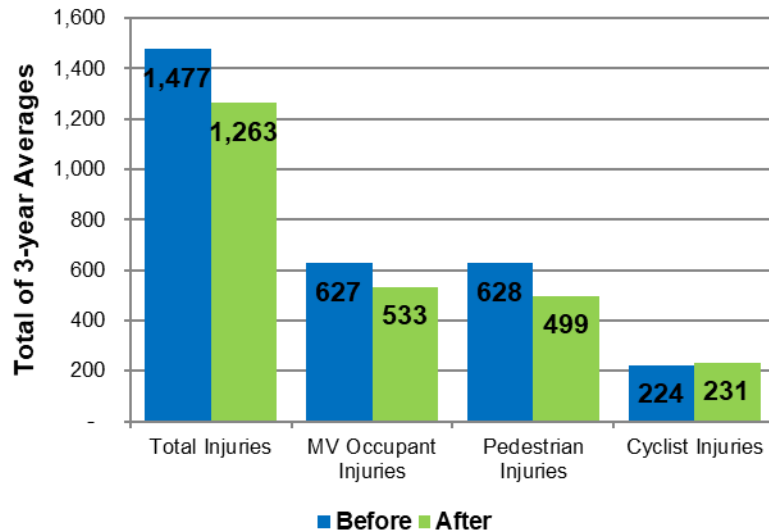
-21% drop in pedestrian injuries

on streets where protected bike lanes were installed 2007-2017



Protected Bike Lanes

Before and After Crash Data, 2007 - 2017

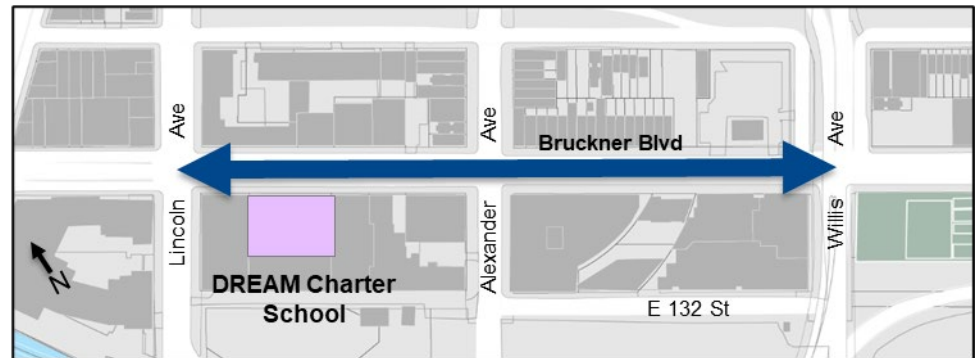


Data from 25 separate protected bicycle lane projects installed from 2007-2014 with 3 years of after data. Includes portions of 1 Ave, 2 Ave, 8 Ave, 9 Ave, Broadway, Columbus Ave, Hudson St, Lafayette St / 4 Ave, Sands St, Allen/Pike St, Kent Ave, Prospect Park West, Flushing Ave, Bruckner Blvd & Longfellow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

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Proposal Overview: Lincoln Ave to Willis Ave

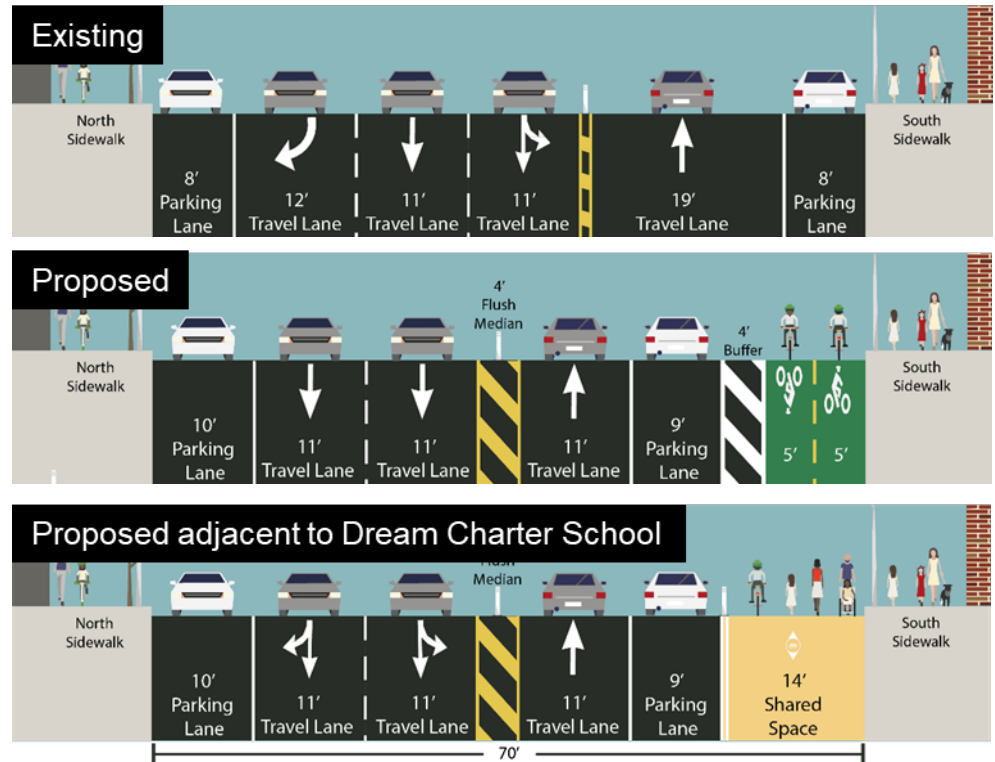
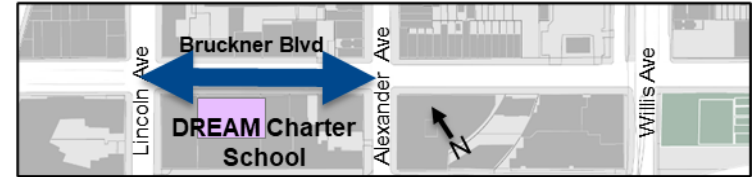
- One eastbound and two westbound travel lanes
- 2-way **protected bike lane** along south curb
- **Painted shared pedestrian space** in front of DREAM Charter School
- Signalized **pedestrian crossing mid-block** between Lincoln Ave and Alexander Ave
- Add **exclusive pedestrian crossing times** at Lincoln Ave, Alexander Ave, and Willis Ave
- Willis Ave (Bruckner Blvd to E 132 St)
 - Convert to **one-way southbound**
 - Add angled parking



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

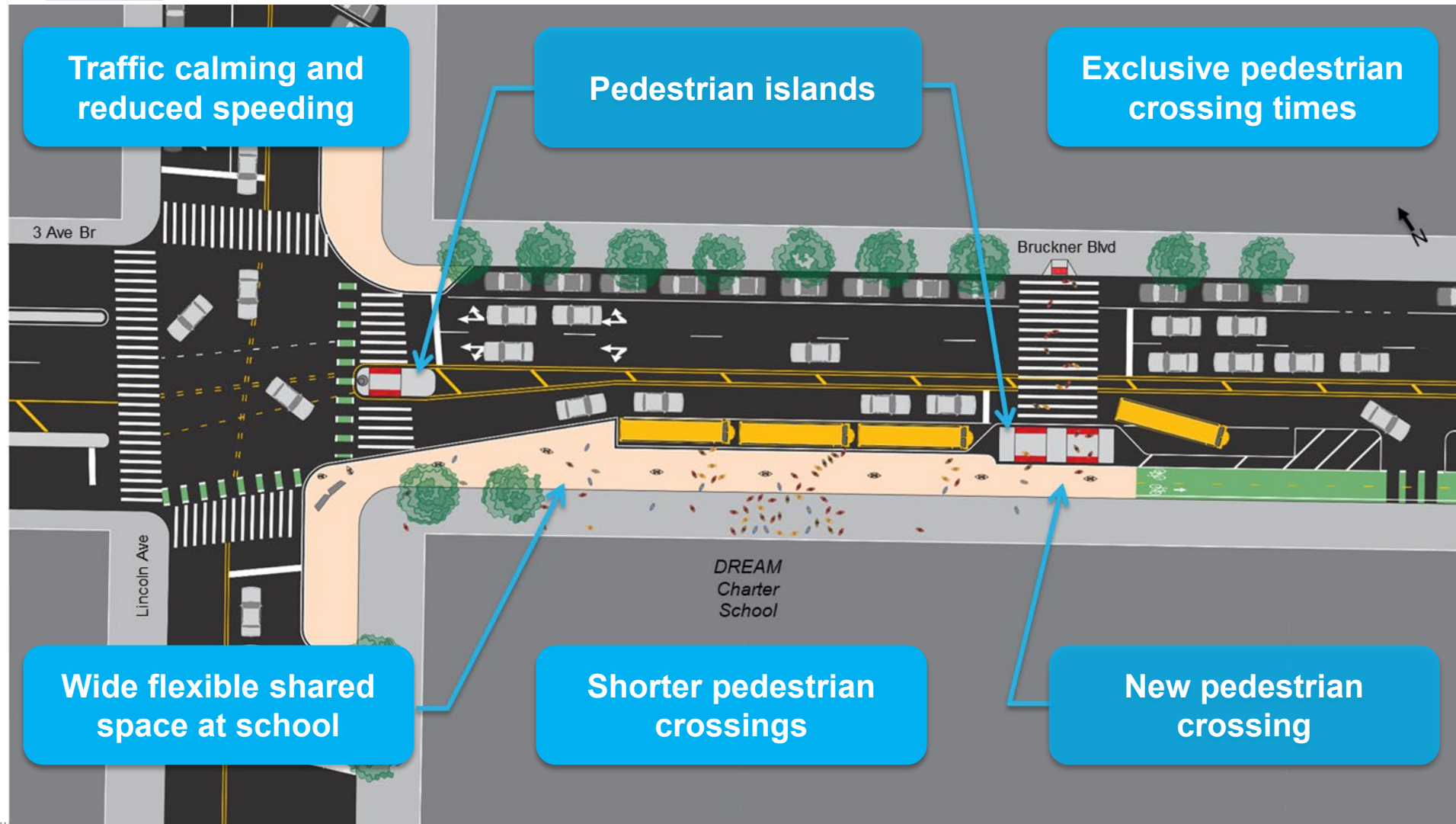
Proposal: Lincoln Ave to Alexander Ave

- New mid-block signalized pedestrian crossing
- Painted shared space in front of DREAM Charter School
 - Markings and signage establish pedestrian priority when bike lanes end
 - Operational flexibility for school
- Leading pedestrian internal signal phases for all crosswalks at Lincoln Ave and at Alexander Ave
- Remove 10 parking spaces to make room for the mid-block signal and improve visibility at Alexander Ave



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Proposal: Lincoln Ave to Alexander Ave



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Example of Protected Bike Lanes at a School



P.S. 5/M.S. 5, Port Morris School, Jackson Ave and E 149 St

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Example of Protected Bike Lanes at a School



P.S. 49, Willis Avenue School, Willis Ave and E 139 St

Audubon Ave (W 168 St to W 170 St)

Proposal: Improve Visibility



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Example of Shared Space

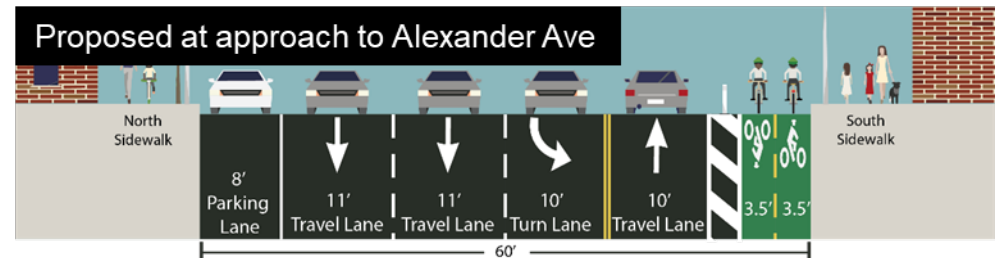
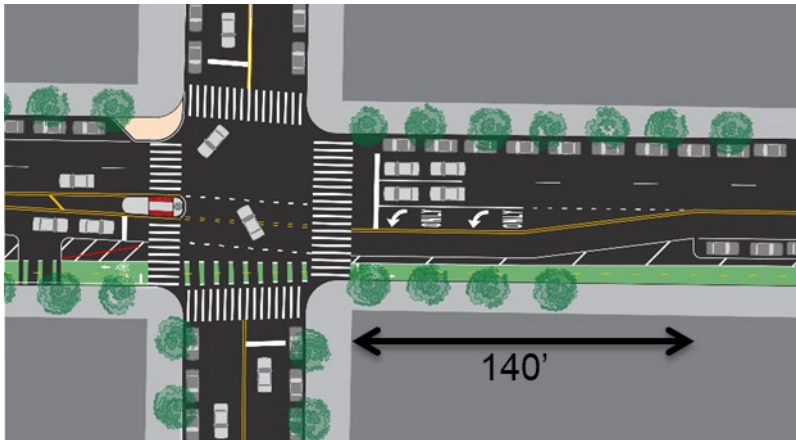
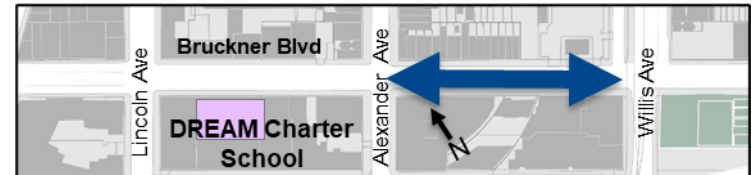


Emmons Ave, Brooklyn

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Proposal: Alexander Ave to Willis Ave

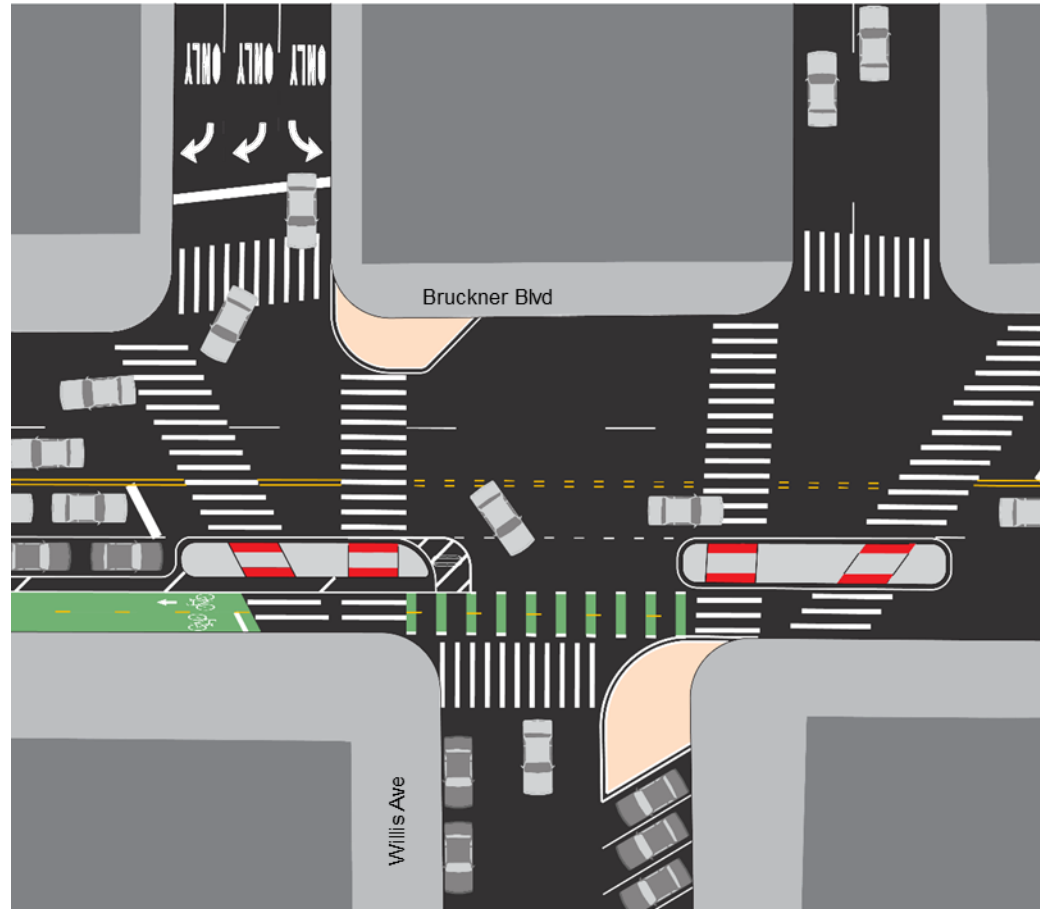
- Protected turn signal phase and turn bay for westbound left turn from Bruckner Blvd to Alexander Ave
- Remove 7 parking spaces to make room for new turn lane



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Proposal: Willis Ave Intersection

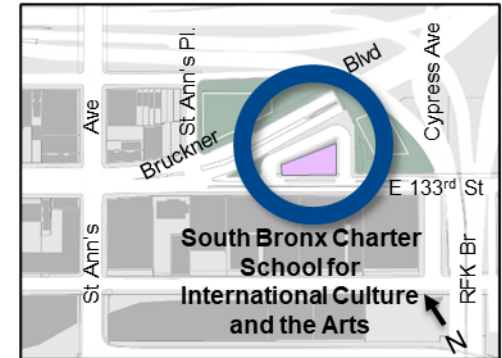
- Convert Willis Ave to one-way southbound (Bruckner Blvd to E 132 St)
- Add perpendicular crosswalks across Bruckner Blvd to shorten crossings and improve connection to Willis Ave Br shared path
- Add “Barnes Dance” pedestrian-only signal phase, mitigating all vehicular turning conflicts with pedestrians
- Install 2 pedestrian islands
- Add 6 parking spaces on Willis Ave



Bruckner Blvd School Safety Improvements

Proposal: E 133 St at Cypress Pl

- New stop signs and crosswalks across E 133 St to school
- Added pedestrian space in front of the school
- Remove 6 parking spaces to make room for added pedestrian space and new crosswalks



Summary

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Bruckner Blvd Safety Improvements

Summary

- Install 2-way protected bike lanes on the south curb of Bruckner Blvd (Lincoln Ave to Willis Ave) and shared pedestrian space in front of DREAM Charter School
- New mid-block signalized pedestrian crossing across Bruckner Blvd between Lincoln Ave and Alexander Ave
- New crosswalks across Bruckner Blvd at Willis Ave
- Convert Willis Ave to one-way southbound (Bruckner Blvd to E 132 St) and add angled parking
- Add exclusive pedestrian crossing times to crosswalks at Lincoln Ave and at Alexander Ave, and an all-pedestrian “Barnes Dance” signal phase at Willis Ave
- New stop-controlled crosswalks across E 133 St to the South Bronx Charter School at Cypress Pl

Bruckner Blvd Safety Improvements

Benefits

- Improved pedestrian access with 6 new crosswalks
- Shorter pedestrian crossings
- Signal timing enhancements give pedestrians a head start, and completely mitigate the heavy turn conflicts at the Major Deegan Expy off-ramp
- Slower vehicular turns, reduced speeding
- Shared space in front of DREAM Charter provides operational flexibility
- New segment of the Harlem River Greenway with critical connection to Willis Ave Br

Thank You!



Contact: NYCDOT BX Borough Commissioner's Office – (212) 748-6680



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