

# Gun Hill Rd Bus & Pedestrian Improvements

Community Advisory Board Meeting #3

September 14, 2022



# Table of Contents

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## 1. Introduction

## 2. Proposal

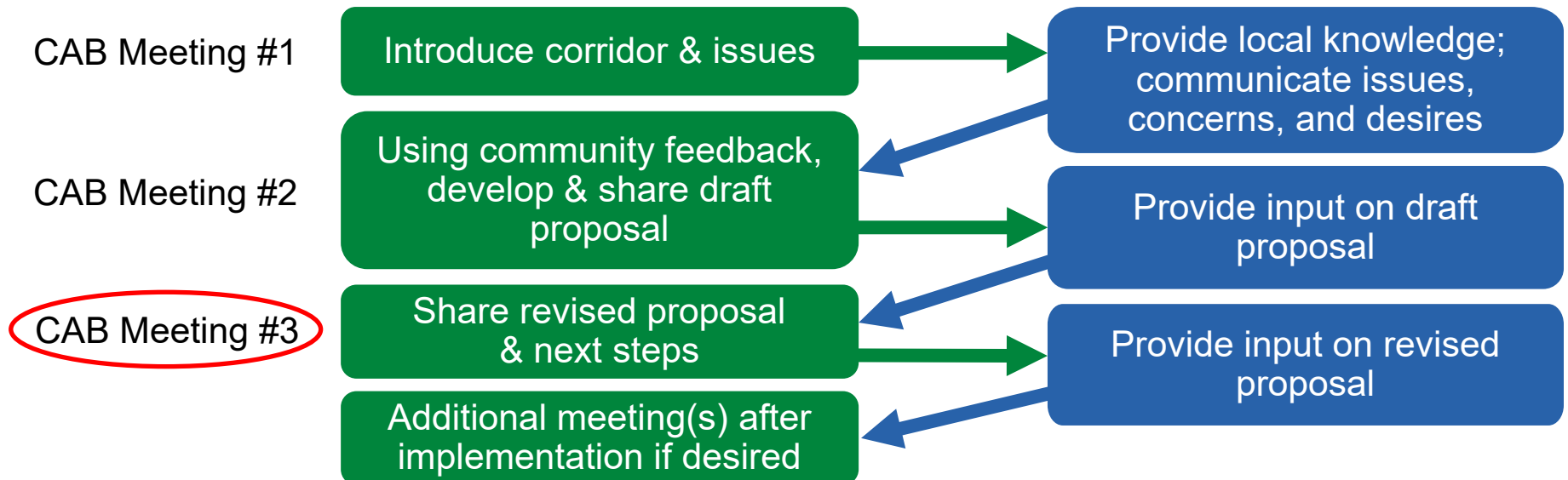
- Updated design: bus lanes & pedestrian safety improvements
- Curb regulations
- Traffic analysis

## 3. Project Timeline

# Introduction

# Community Advisory Board (CAB)

- Complements standard outreach with Community Boards, elected officials & stakeholders
- Extra opportunity to meet together, share ideas and inform each other
- CAB meets before project implementation; can continue to meet during and after implementation if desired
- Not public meetings, but intended to be broad and inclusive

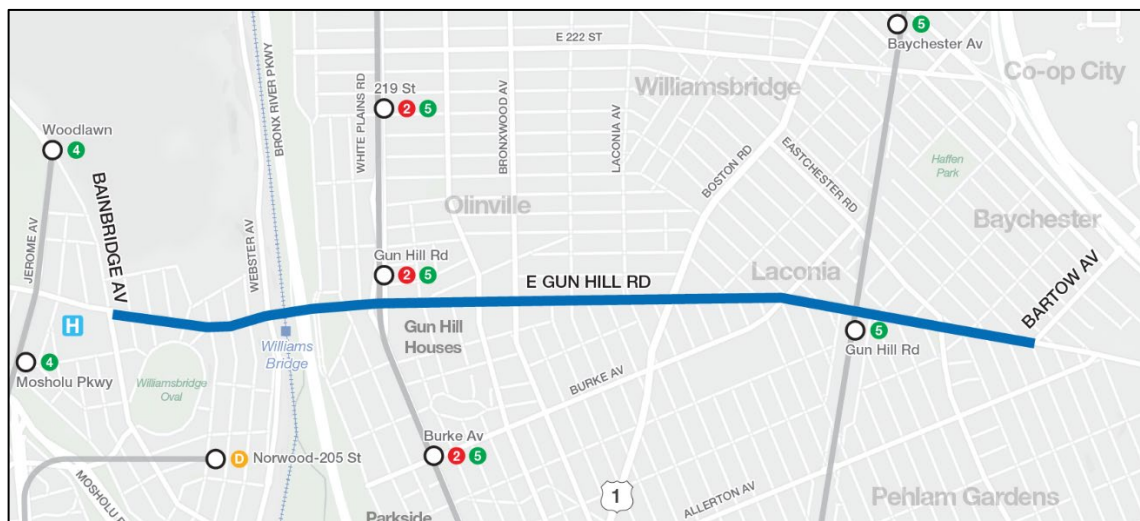
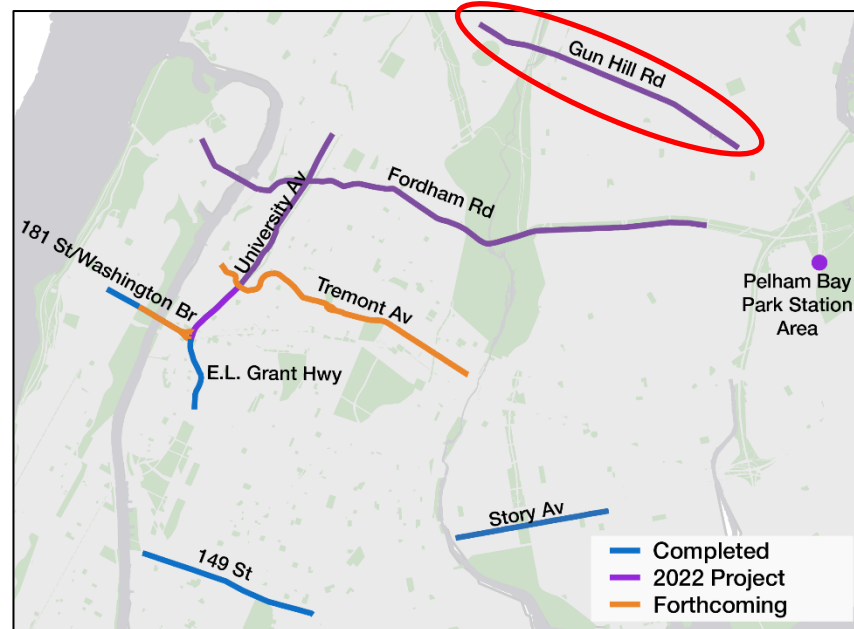




# Why Gun Hill Road?

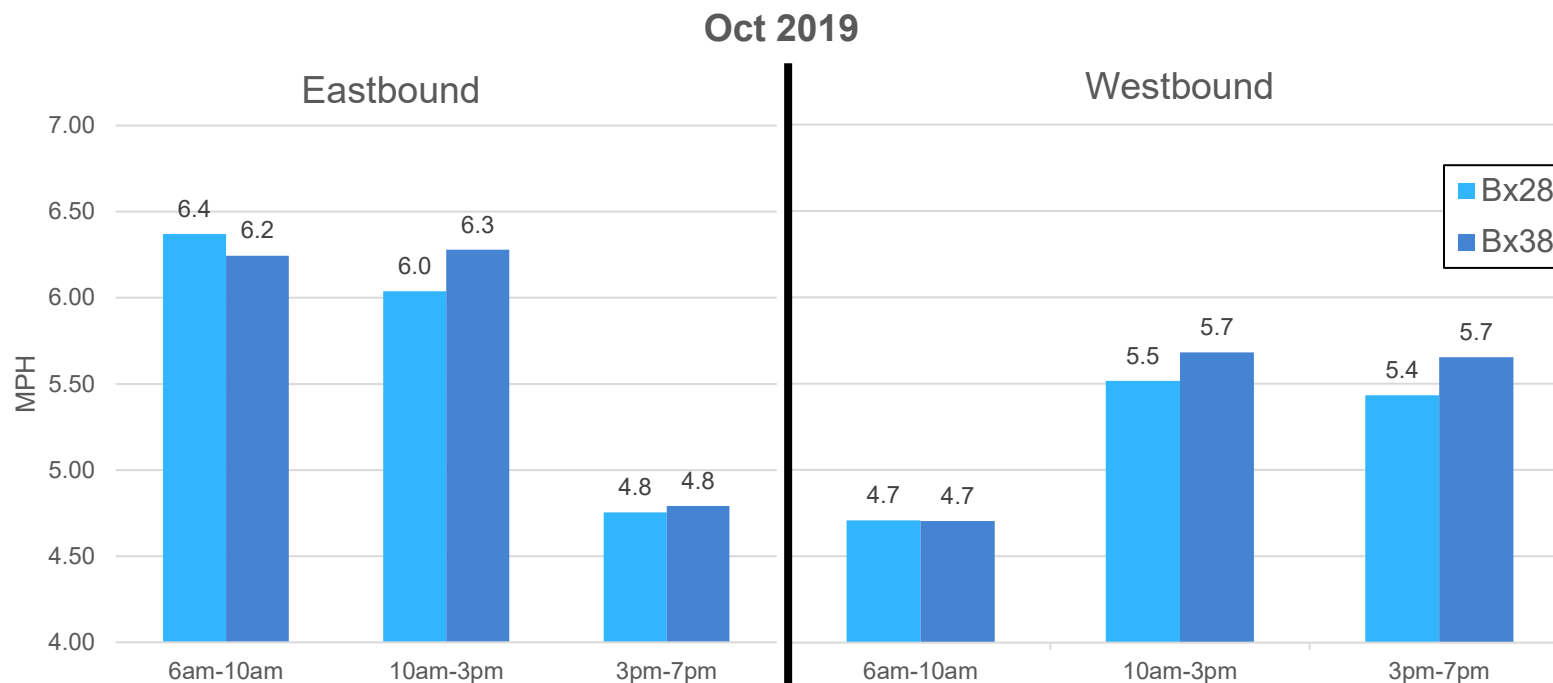
- 40,000 daily bus passengers
- Critical crosstown service with key connections to **2** **5** **D**, many local bus routes, Montefiore Hospital, Co-Op City, Bay Plaza
- MTA Bronx Bus Network Redesign (implemented June 2022)
  - 50+ outreach events
  - Community requests to improve Gun Hill Rd bus service
  - Named 1 of 10 key Bronx corridors for bus priority

## Bronx Bus Priority Corridors



# Gun Hill Rd Bus Speeds

- Slow and unreliable bus service along Gun Hill Rd
- Buses move slow all day and less than 5 mph in the AM westbound, PM eastbound
- Peak-period trips take 15-17 minutes longer than evening/overnight
- Traffic congestion and double-parking cause slowdowns
- Only 65% of Bx28/38 trips completed within 5 min of scheduled time

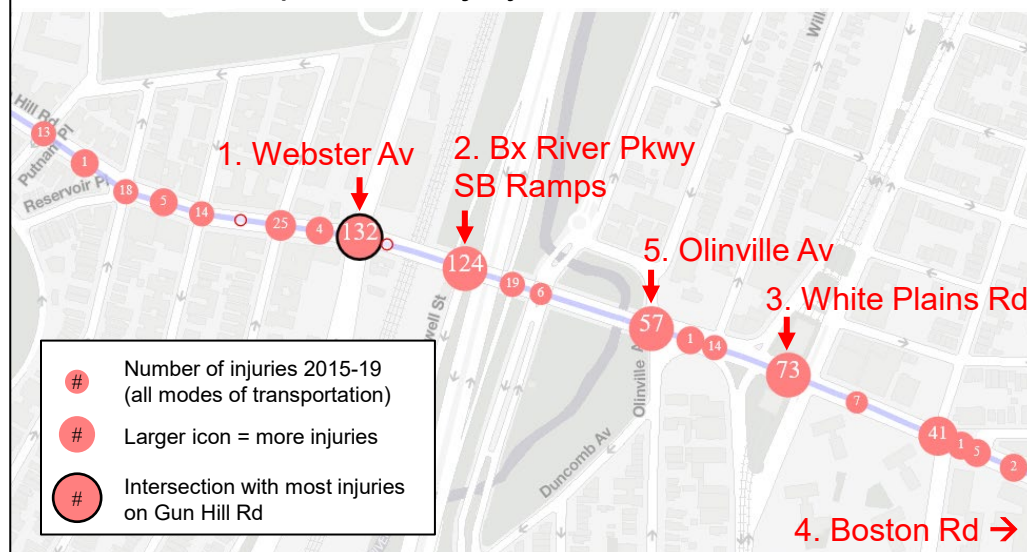


# Crash History

## Injuries & Fatalities 2015-2019

- On average, nearly 5 people every week are injured in crashes on Gun Hill Rd
- In top 10% of most dangerous Bronx streets
- 64 severe injuries + 2 fatalities
- Vision Zero Priority Corridor
- Safety solutions:
  - Fix wide-angle left turns
  - Discourage speeding
  - Improve driver-pedestrian visibility

Gun Hill Rd, Top 5 Most Injury-Prone Intersections, 2015-19



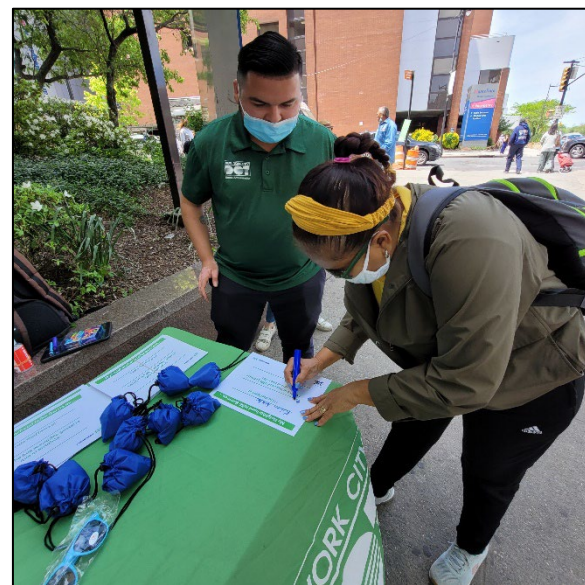
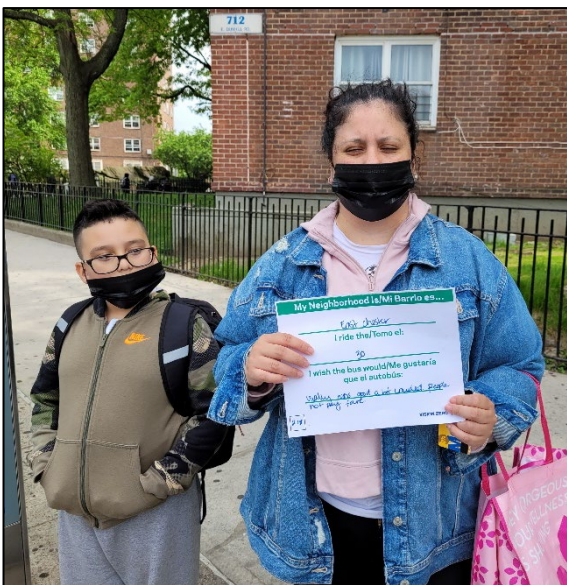
Gun Hill Rd & Boston Rd



# Community Feedback: On-Street Outreach

DOT held public outreach pop-ups and had conversations with **over 100 bus riders & community members**

- Wed, May 18 – Gun Hill Rd & Bainbridge Ave
- Fri, May 20 – Gun Hill Rd & White Plains Rd
- Mon, May 23 – Gun Hill Rd & Knapp St (5 train)



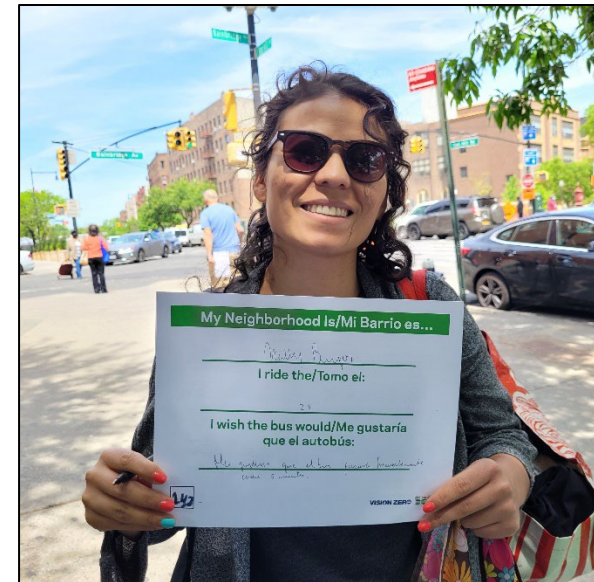
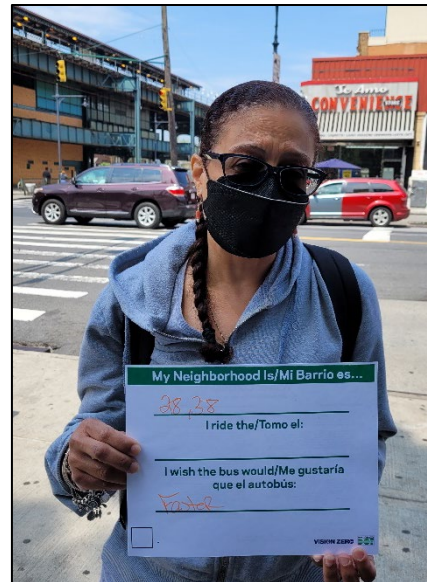
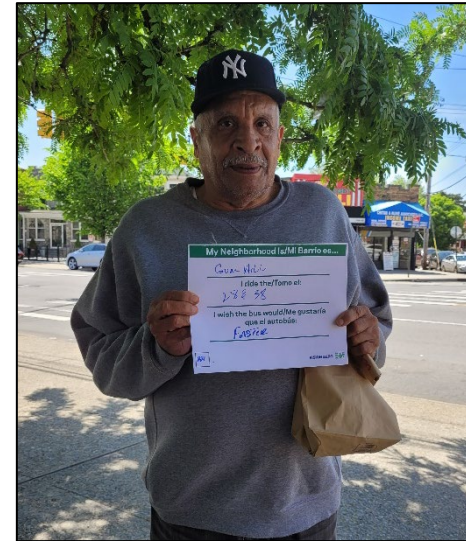
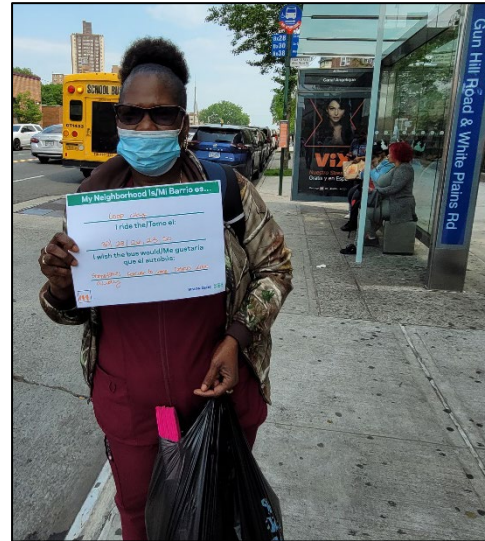


# On-Street Outreach

## Popular requests:

- Faster service
- More frequent, consistent service
- Less crowding on buses

Bus lanes can address all of these



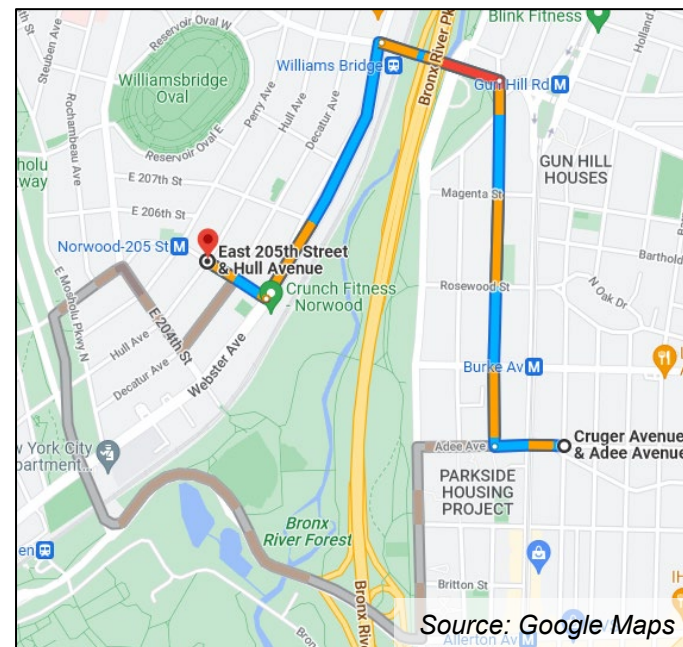
# Goals & Challenges

## Goals:

- Make bus service fast, reliable and on-time
- Reduce crashes, injuries & fatalities
- Organize traffic movements

## Challenges:

- Traffic congestion & double parking
- Broken street grid
- Bronx River Pkwy bottleneck



# Updated Design



# Corridor Segments

## 1. White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

- Offset bus lanes in both directions
- Pedestrian safety improvements at 20+ intersections
- Implementation begins as early as September 2022

## 2. Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

- Westbound center-running bus lane with 2 bus boarding islands
- Eastbound offset bus lane
- Implementation in early 2023

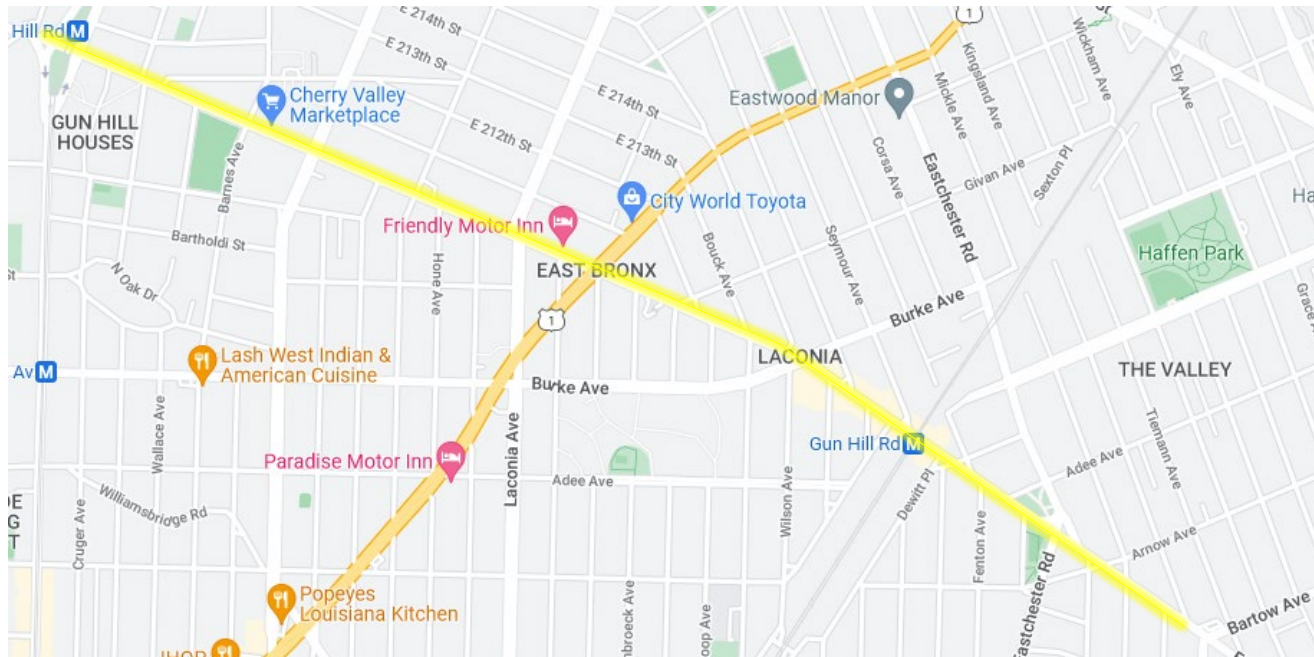
## 3. Webster Av to White Plains Rd (Bronx River Pkwy area)

- Proposal coming soon; implementation in 2023/2024

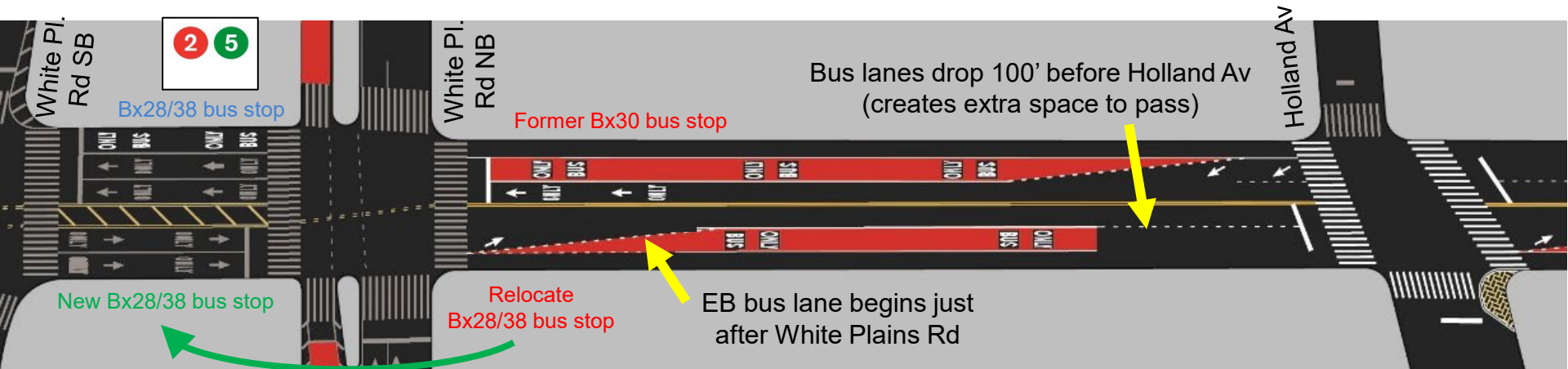


# Segment 1: White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

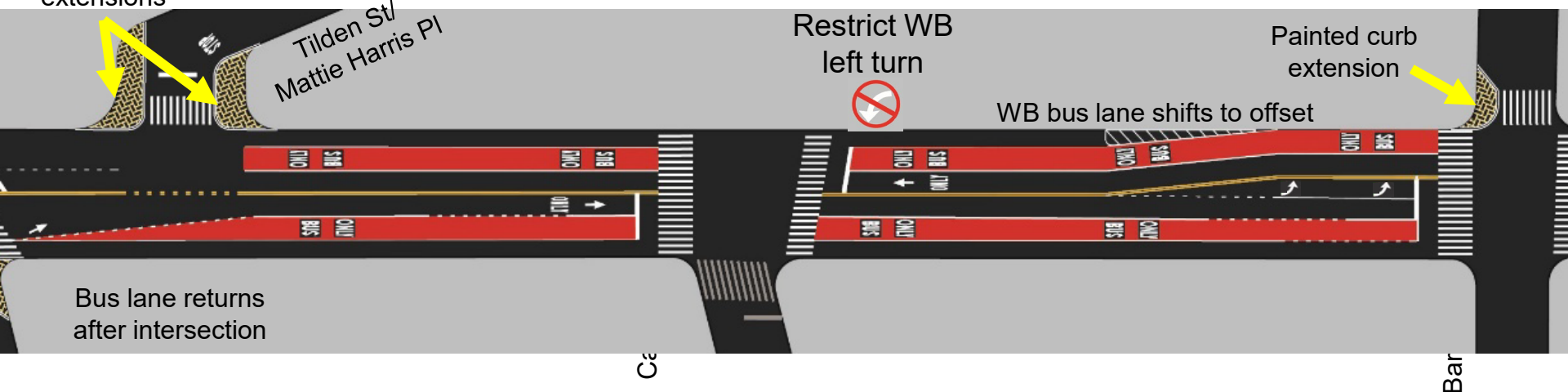
- Offset bus lanes in both directions; some curbside bus lanes
- Pedestrian safety improvements at 20+ intersections
- Curb regulation improvements
- Implementation begins as early as September 2022
  - Slight design changes may arise in implementation



# White Plains Rd to Barnes Av

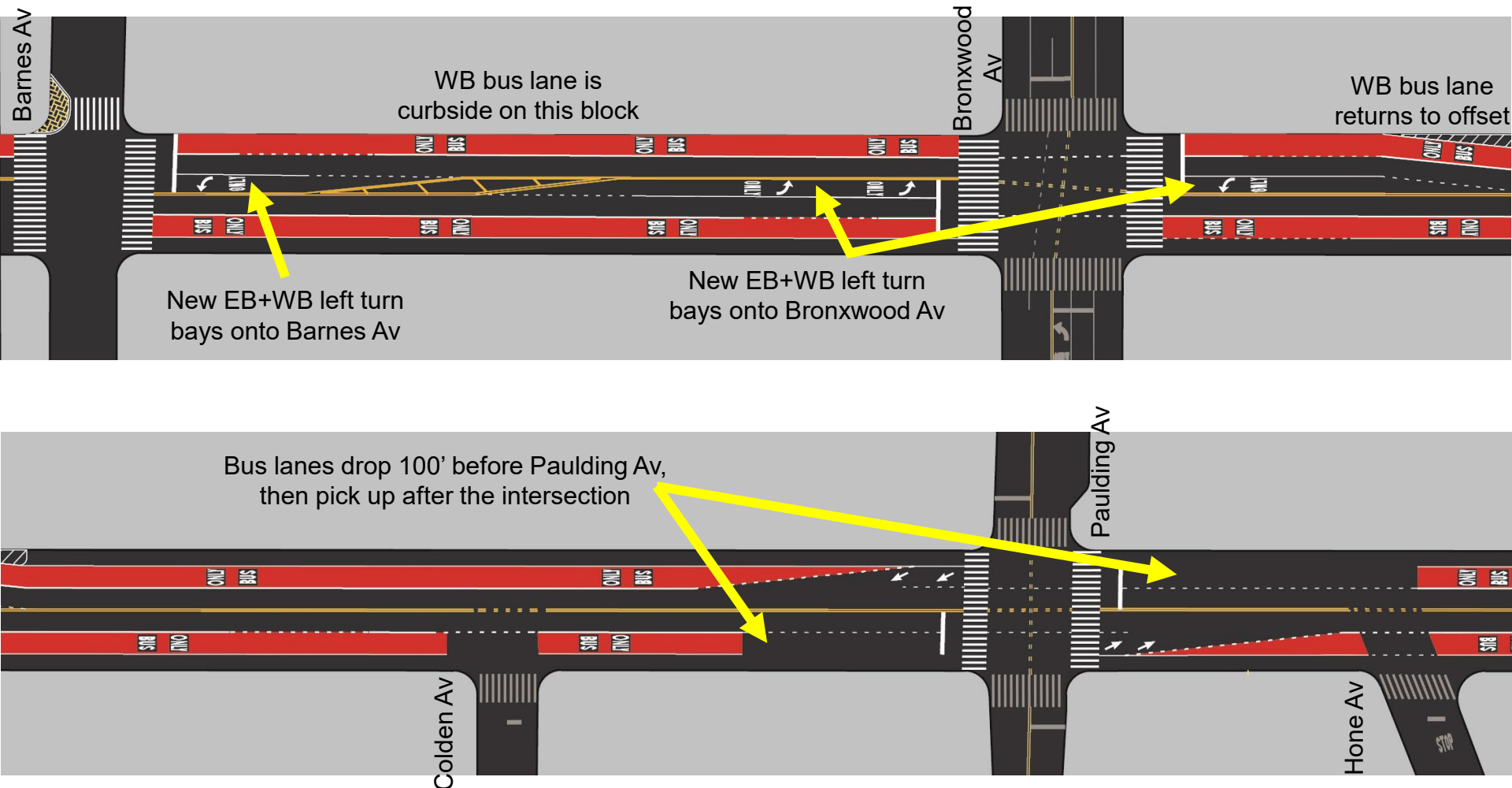


Painted curb extensions

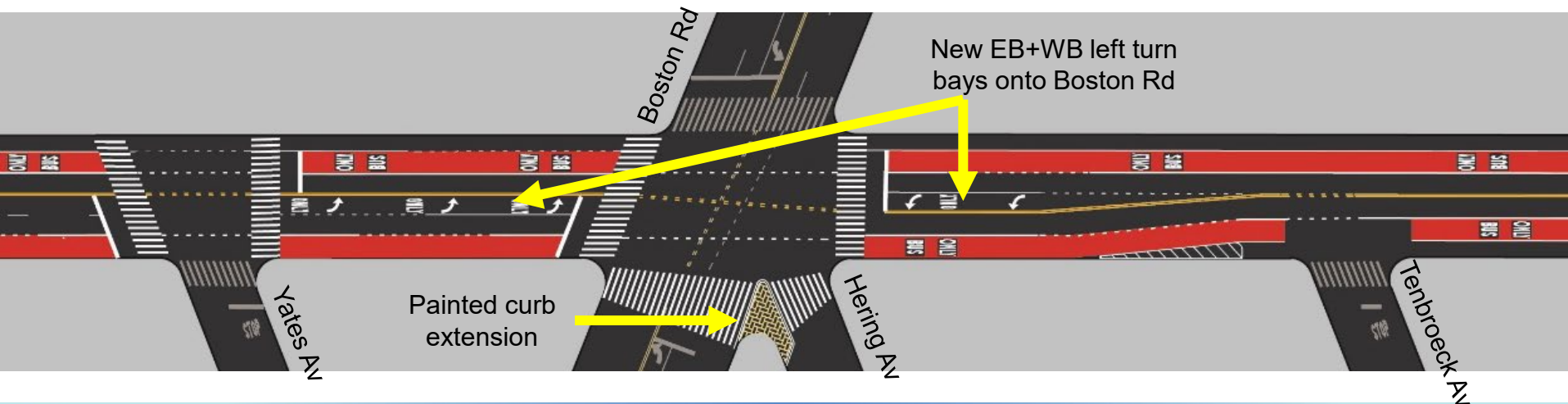
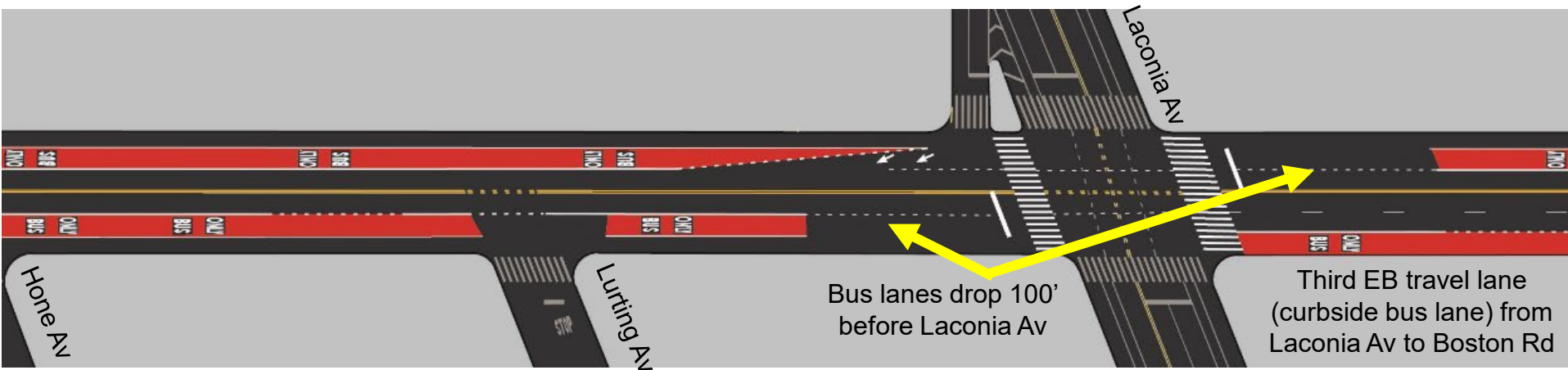




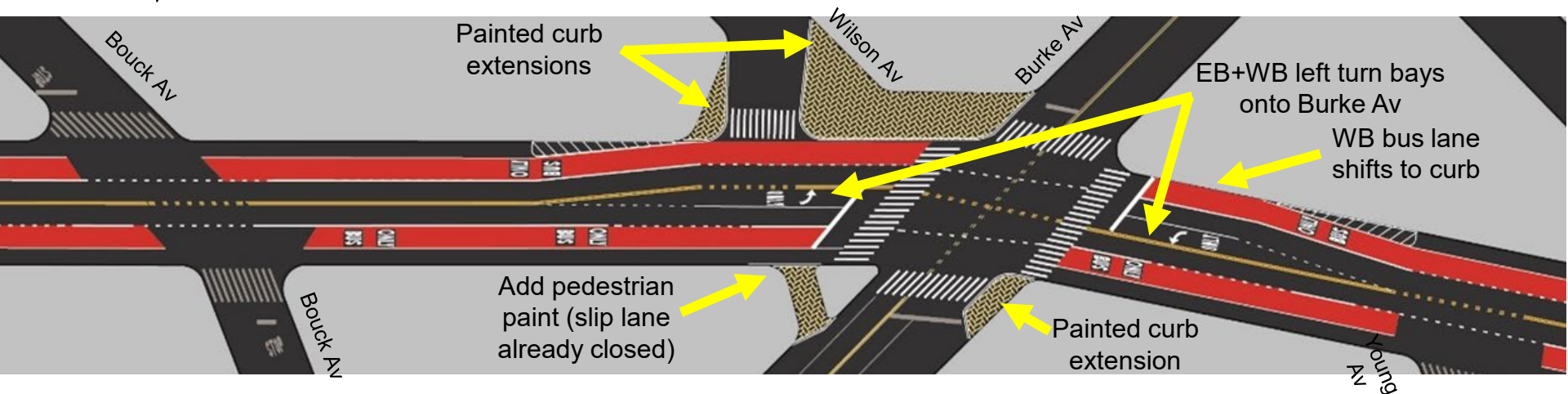
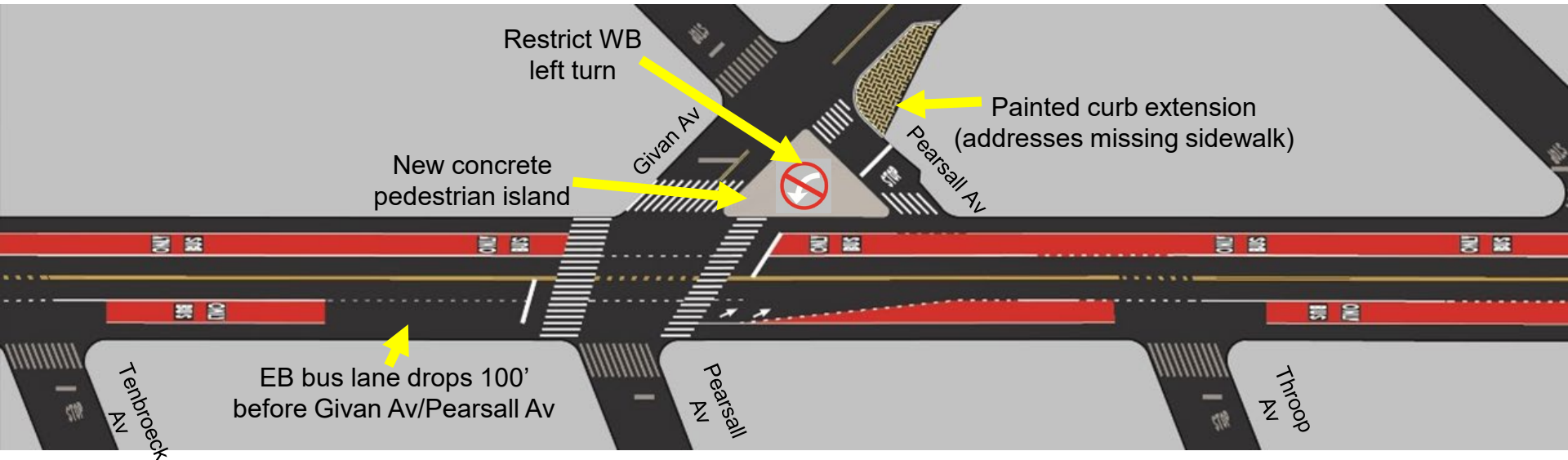
# Barnes Av to Hone Av



# Hone Av to Tenbroeck Av

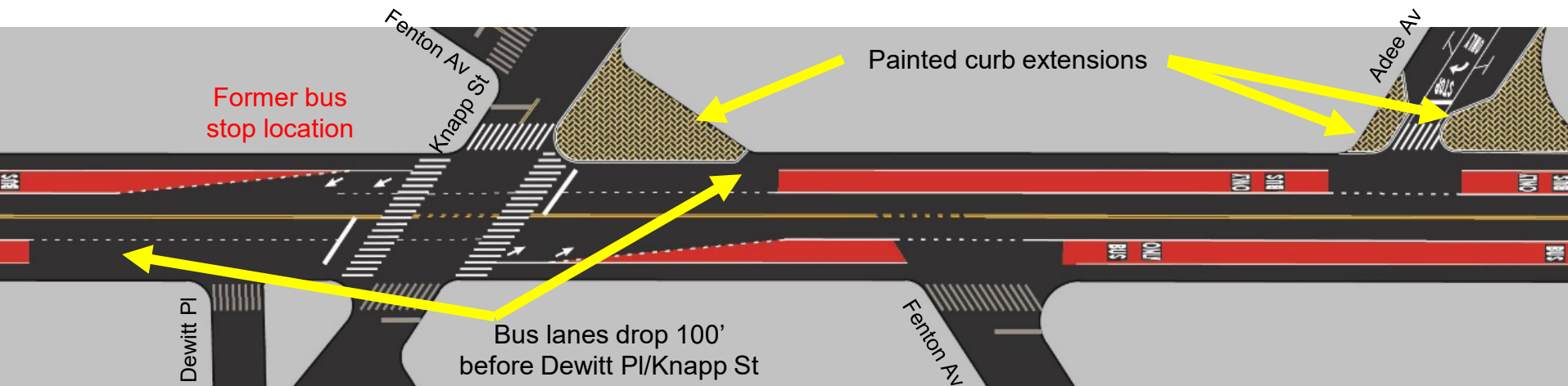
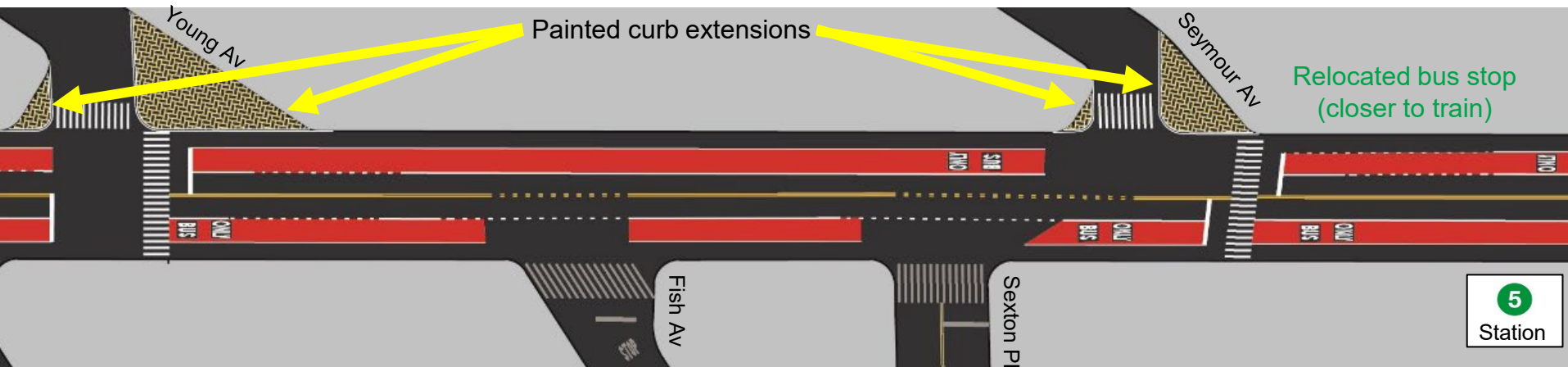


# Tenbroeck Av to Young Av

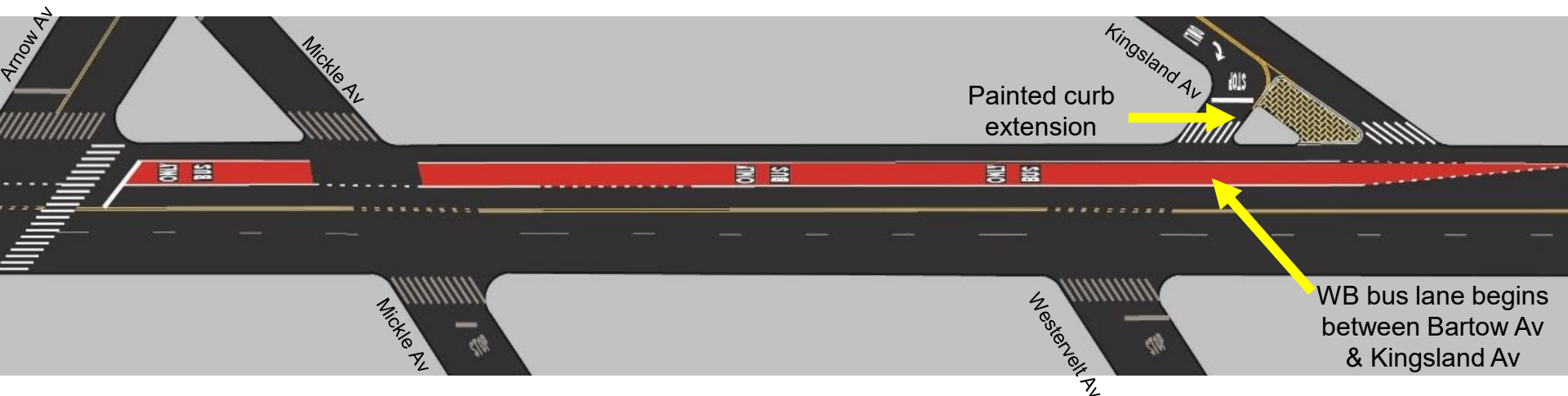
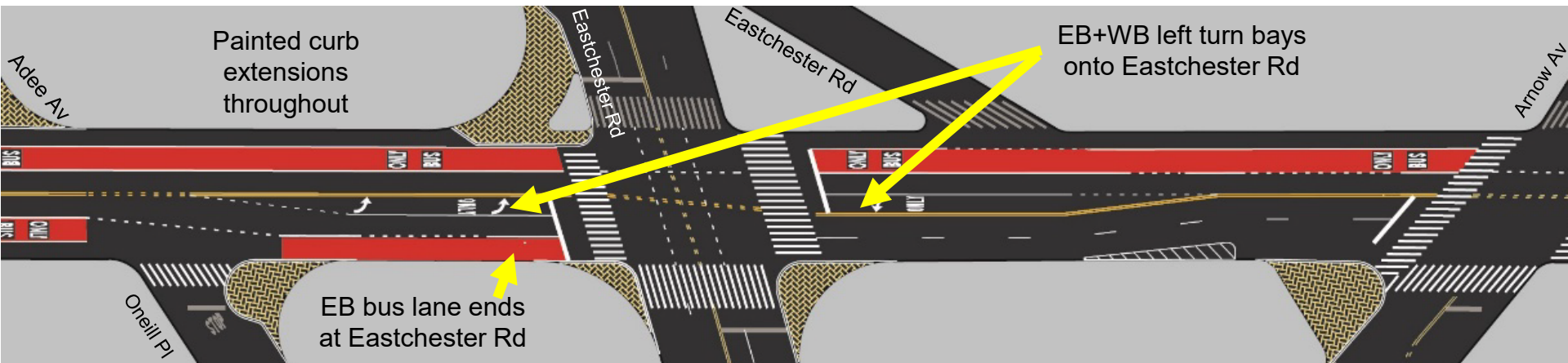




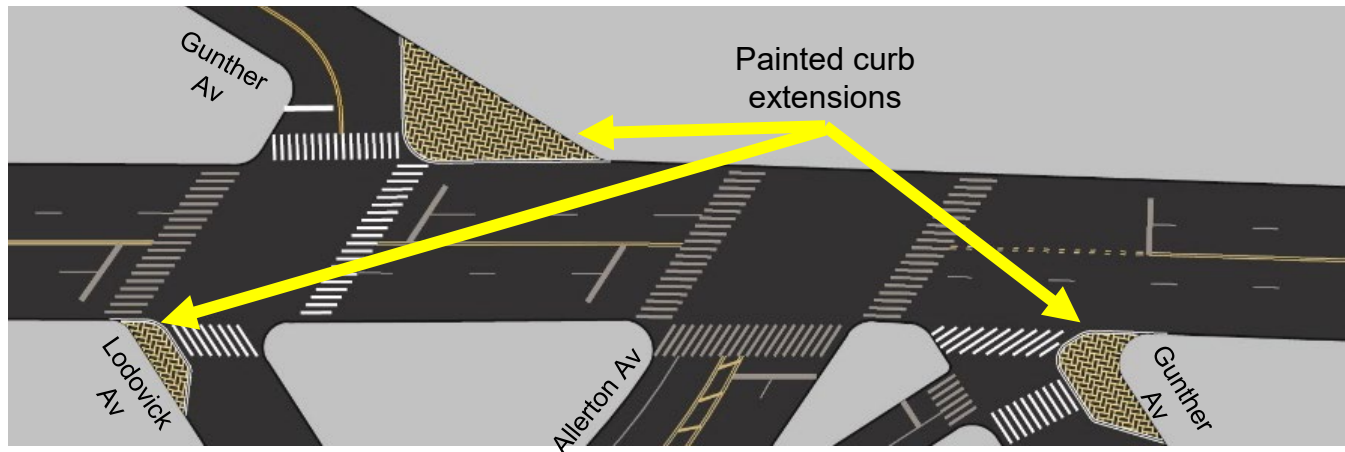
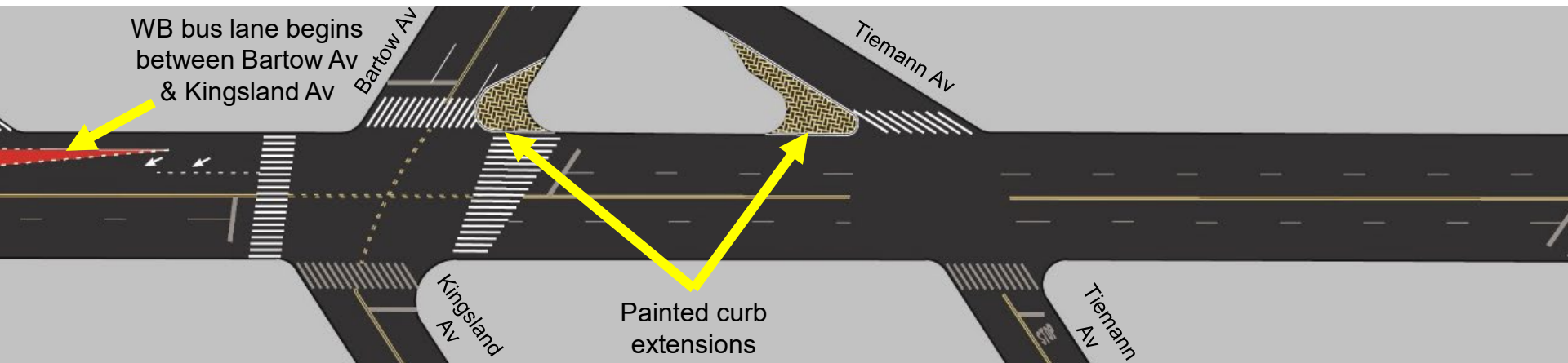
# Young Av to Adee Av



# Adee Av to Kingsland Av



# Kingsland Av to Gunther Av





# Curb Regulations: White Plains Rd to Boston Rd

- Repurpose 41 parking spaces to accommodate curbside bus lanes & a truck loading zone for businesses
- 45 newly metered spaces on blocks with businesses, to ensure parking availability & reduce double parking
- 8 new spaces in former bus stops (5 metered)



# Curb Regulations: Boston Rd to Eastchester Rd

- **Repurpose 24 parking spaces** to accommodate curbside bus lanes & passenger pickup/drop-off in front of the 5 train
- **31 newly metered spaces** on blocks with businesses, to ensure parking availability & reduce double parking
- **6 new spaces** adjacent to new pedestrian space





# Curb Regulations: Eastchester Rd to Gunther Av

- Repurpose 8 parking spaces to accommodate new left turn bay onto Eastchester Rd
- 15 new spaces in former bus stops & adjacent to new pedestrian space





# Traffic Analysis: What to Expect

## White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

- Initially, notable congestion is likely as drivers adjust to Gun Hill Rd's new design
- This is typical for bus lane projects; conditions will improve over time
  - Some drivers will use alternate routes, travel at less busy times of day, or use other means of travel
- **During AM rush hour:**
  - With 10% fewer vehicles, traffic would be comparable to today
  - With 20% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly better than today
- **During PM rush hour:**
  - With 20% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly worse than today
  - With 30% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly better than today
- We will monitor traffic during and after implementation and will consider additional changes as needed

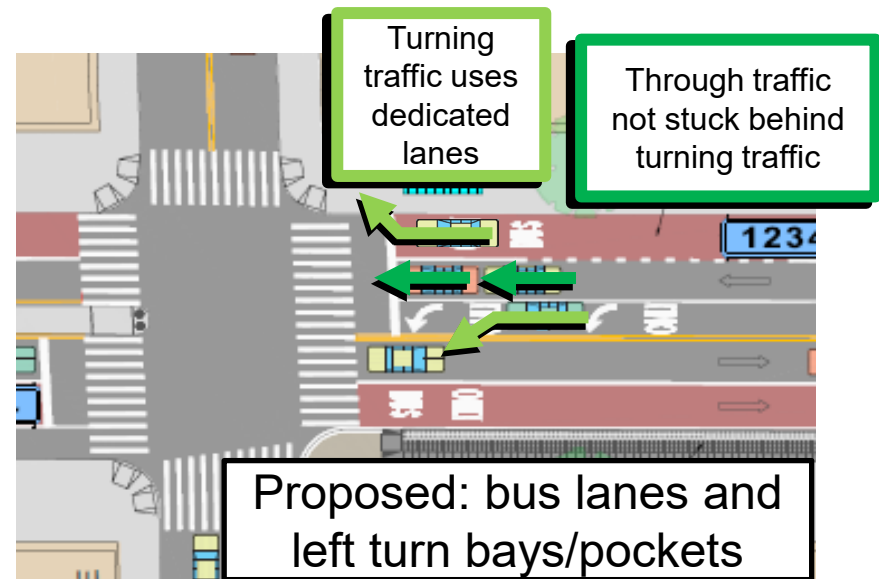
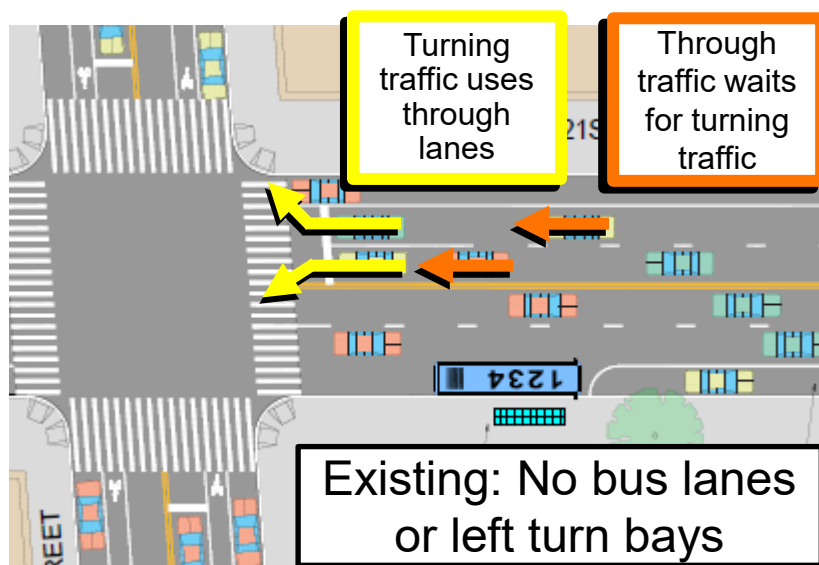
# Traffic Hotspots: White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

- Potential **traffic hotspot locations** for additional monitoring



# Traffic Accommodations: White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

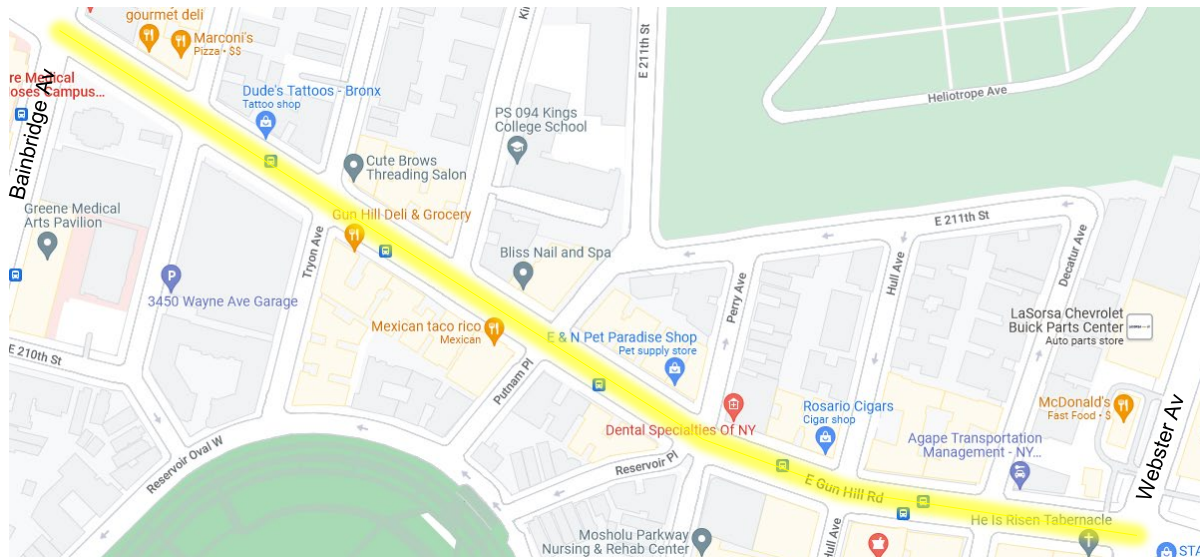
1. Left turn bays at 5 intersections
2. Bus lanes drop 100' before 5 intersections
3. Left turn restrictions at 2 locations
4. Curb regulation improvements to reduce double parking
5. Third EB moving lane (curbside bus lane) from Laconia Av to Boston Rd
6. All vehicles use offset/curbside bus lane to turn right or access a driveway
7. Signal timing improvements



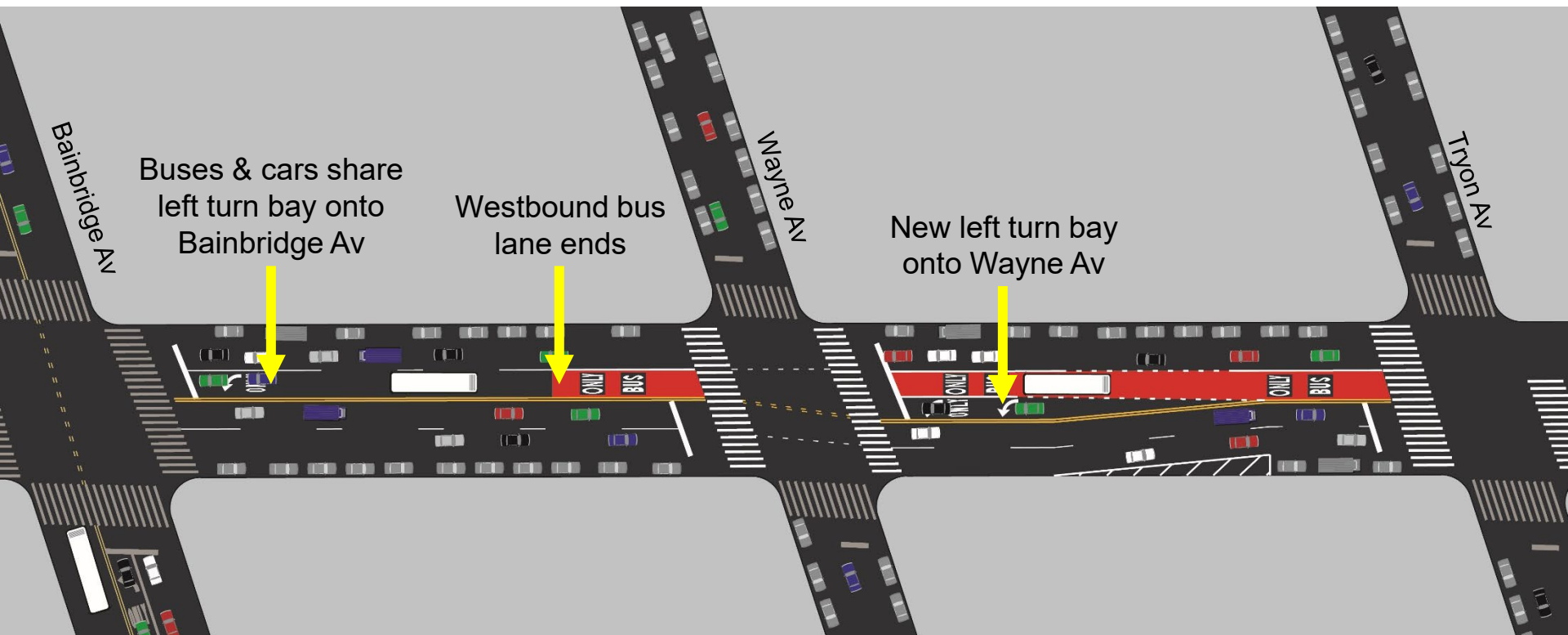


## Segment 2: Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

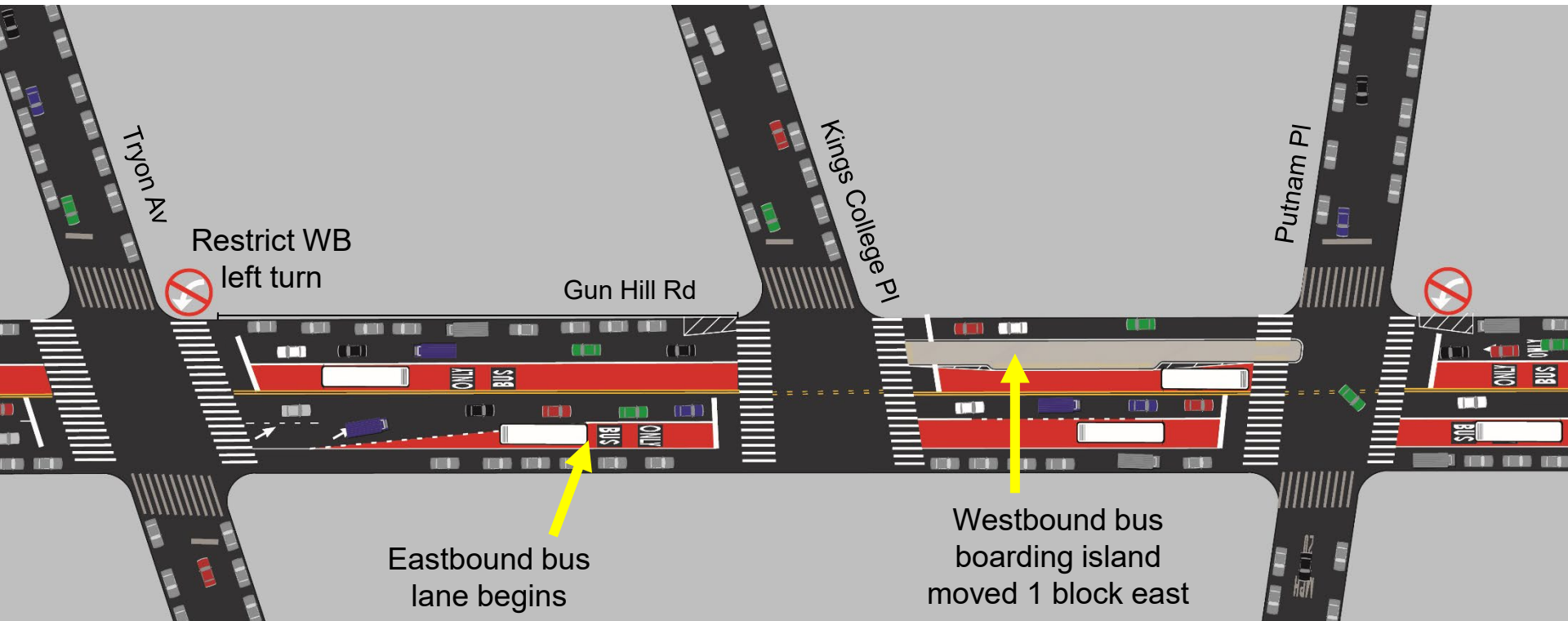
- **Updated draft proposal; traffic analysis & design are still ongoing, preliminary and subject to change**
- Westbound center-running bus lane with 2 bus boarding islands
- Eastbound offset bus lane
- Curb regulation improvements
- Implementation planned for early 2023



# Bainbridge Av to Tryon Av

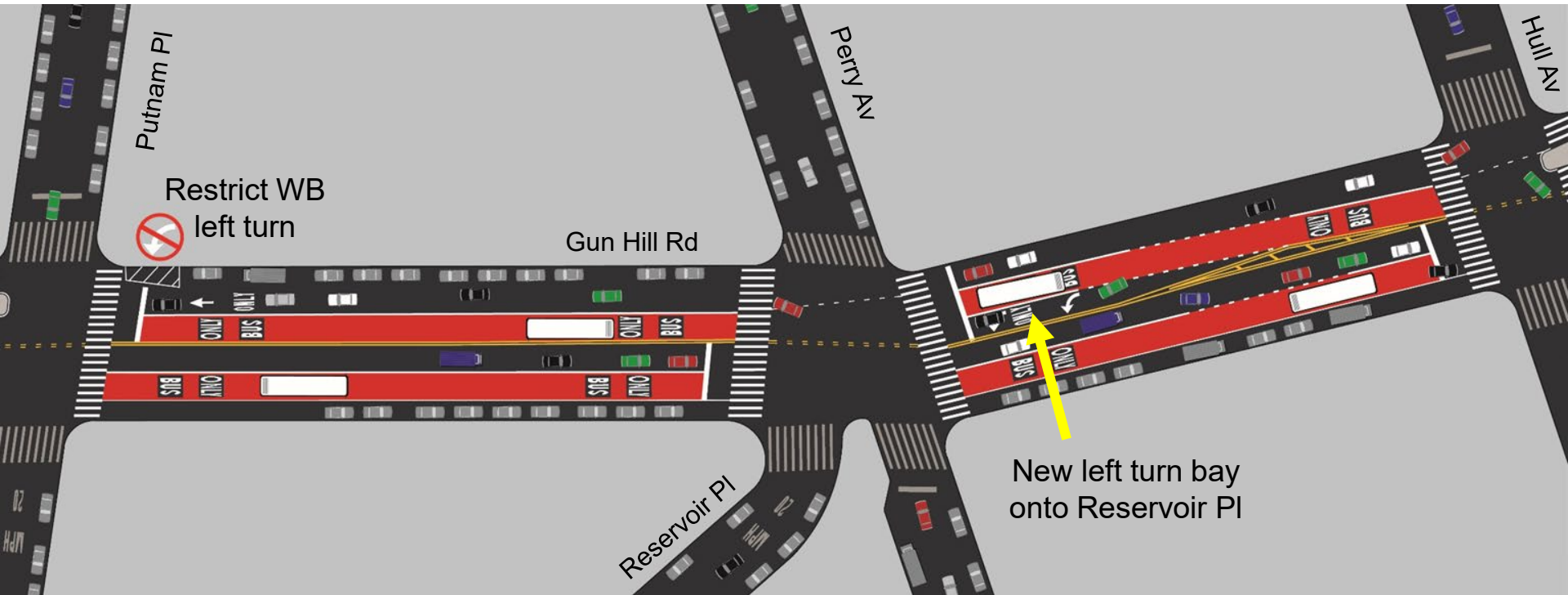


# Tryon Av to Putnam Pl

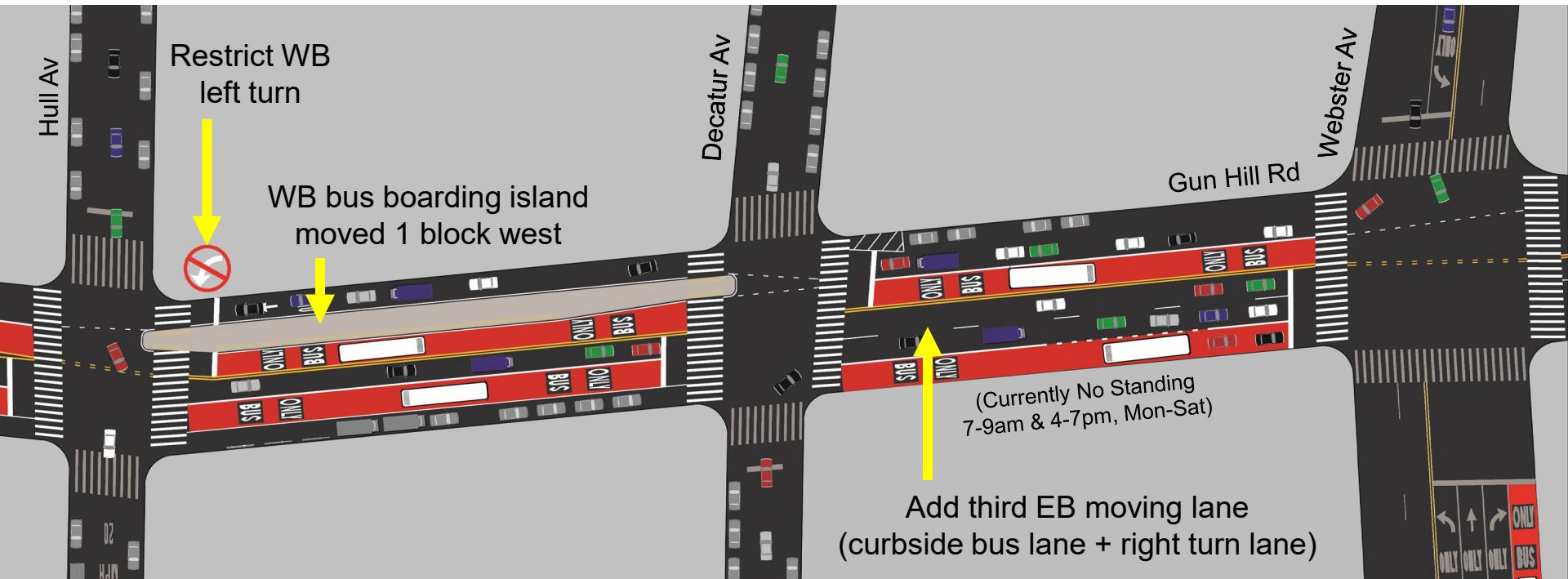




# Putnam Pl to Hull Av

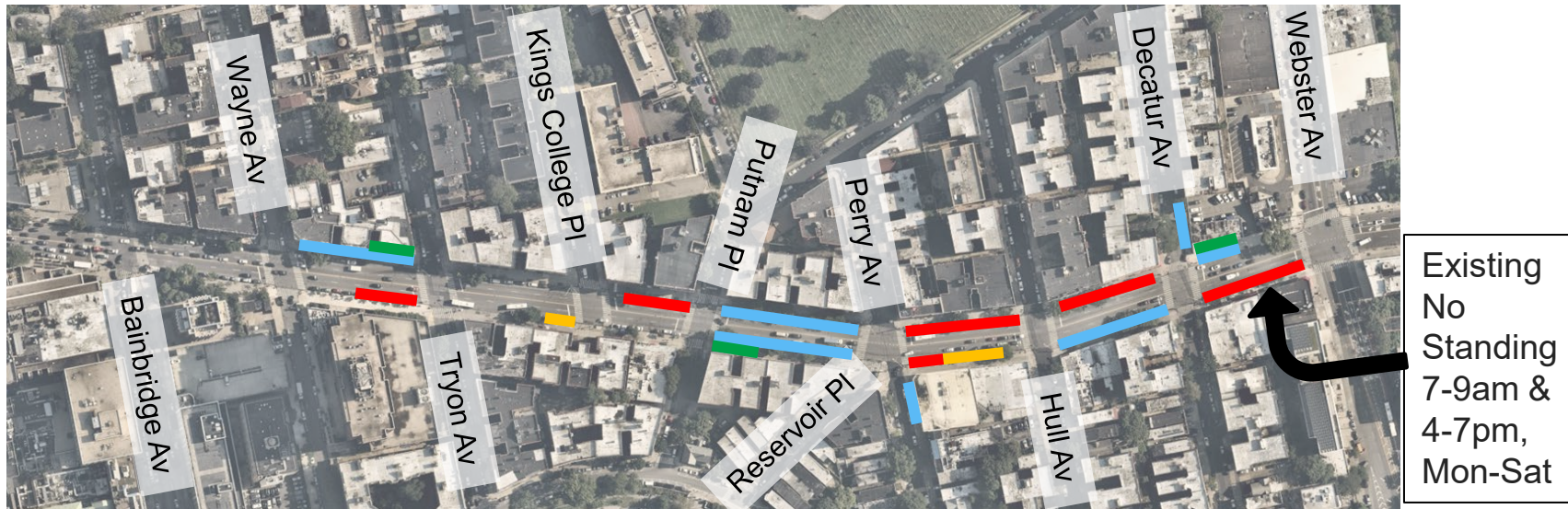


# Hull Av to Webster Av



# Curb Regulations: Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

- Repurpose 35 parking spaces to accommodate bus boarding islands, curbside bus lanes & truck loading zones for businesses
- 54 newly metered spaces on blocks with businesses, to ensure parking availability & reduce double parking
  - Includes 11 new spaces in former bus stops



# Draft Traffic Analysis: What to Expect

## Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

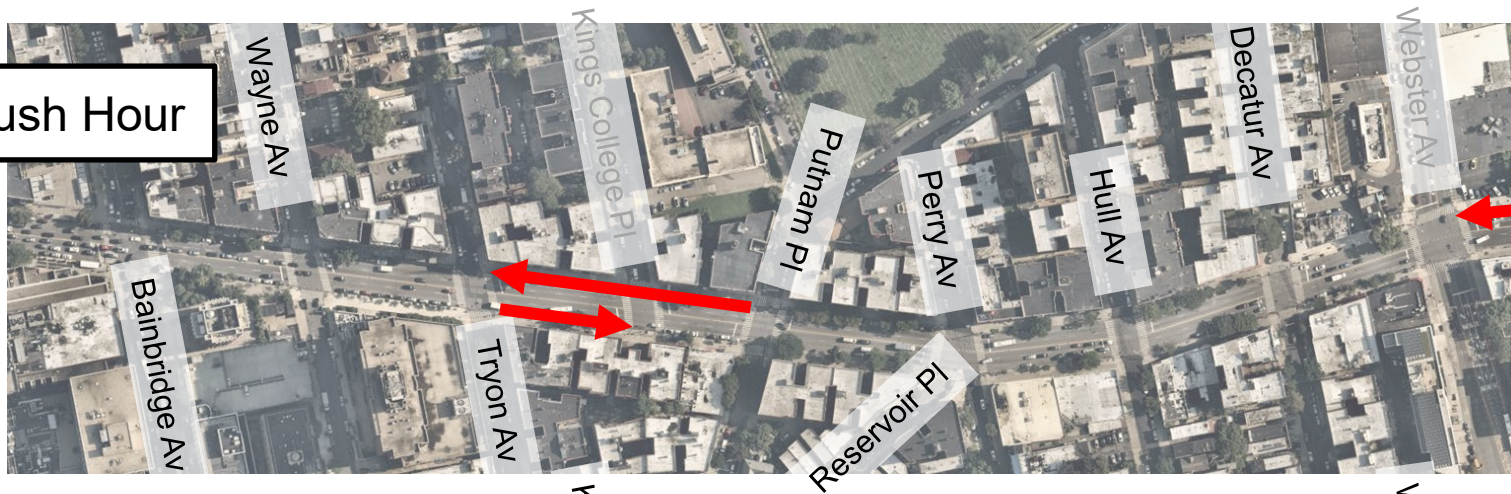
- Initially, notable congestion is likely as drivers adjust to Gun Hill Rd's new design
- This is typical for bus lane projects; conditions will improve over time
  - Some drivers will use alternate routes, travel at less busy times of day, or use other means of travel
- **During AM rush hour:**
  - With 10% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly worse than today
  - With 20% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly better than today
- **During PM rush hour:**
  - With no change in vehicle volumes, traffic would be slightly worse than today
  - With 10% fewer vehicles, traffic would be slightly better than today
- We will monitor traffic during and after implementation and will consider additional changes as needed



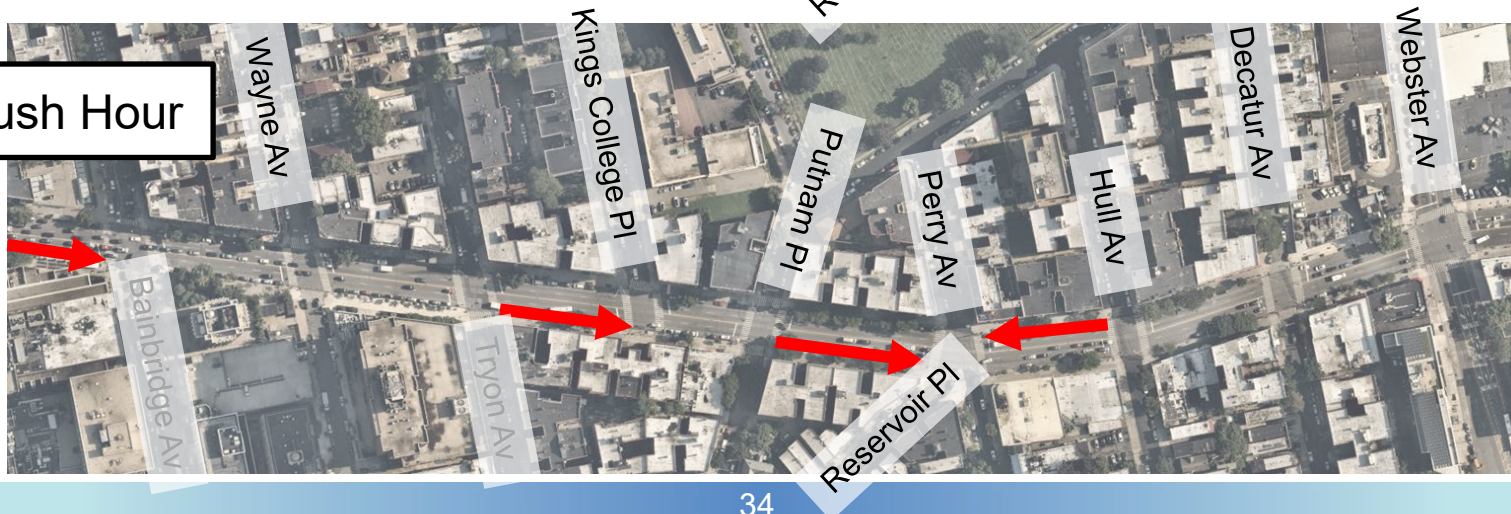
# Traffic Hotspots: Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

- Potential **traffic hotspot locations** for additional monitoring:

AM Rush Hour

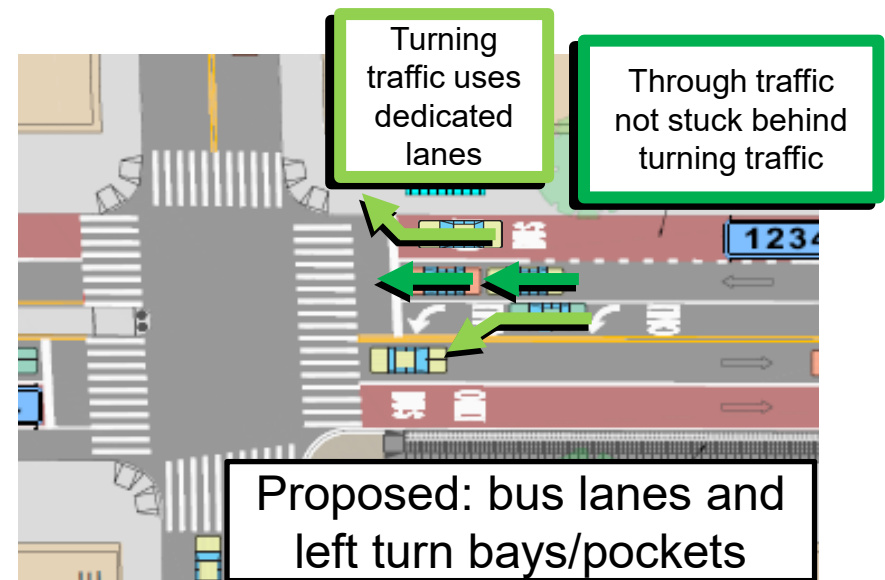
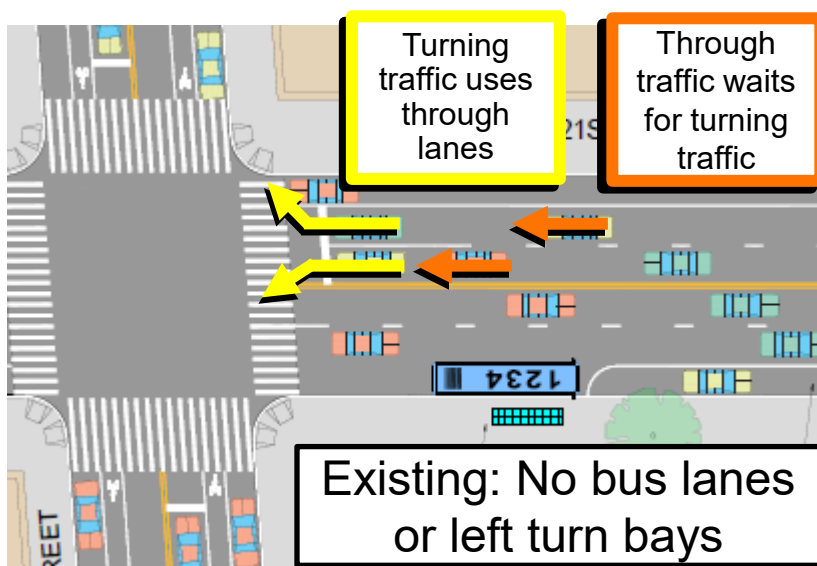


PM Rush Hour



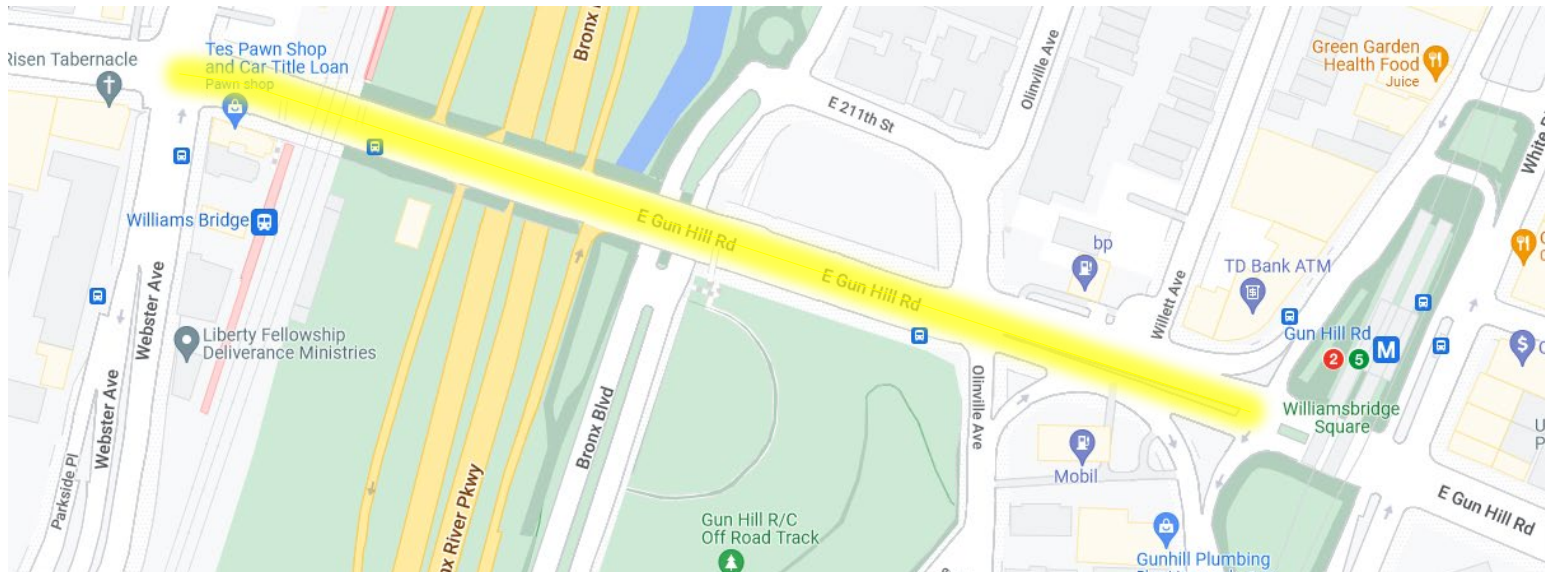
# Draft Traffic Accommodations: Bainbridge Av to Webster Av

1. Left turn bays (Perry Av WB, Wayne Av WB)
2. Left turn restrictions
3. Curb regulation improvements to reduce double parking
4. Third EB moving lane (curbside bus lane) from Decatur Av to Webster Av
5. All vehicles use offset/curbside bus lane to turn right or access a driveway
6. Signal timing improvements



# Segment 3: Webster Av to White Plains Rd

- Separate timeframe from rest of project
- Currently researching potential improvements; proposal coming soon
- Implementation in 2023/2024



# Timeline



# Project Timeline

1. MTA Bronx Bus Network Redesign (implemented June 2022): 50+ public outreach events
2. Merchant survey w/ Jerome Gun Hill BID
3. Field observations & traffic data
4. April 2022: discuss existing conditions & needs with Community Advisory Board (CAB) and Community Boards 7, 11 & 12
5. May/June 2022: present draft proposal to CAB and Community Boards 7, 11 & 12
6. **September 2022: Present updated proposal to CAB; begin implementing**
7. Late 2022 and beyond: Continue working with CAB, Community Boards & other stakeholders for Segments 2 and 3 (Bainbridge Av to White Plains Rd)



# Thank You!

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## Open Discussion & Questions



NYC DOT



NYC DOT



nyc\_dot



NYC DOT

# Appendix

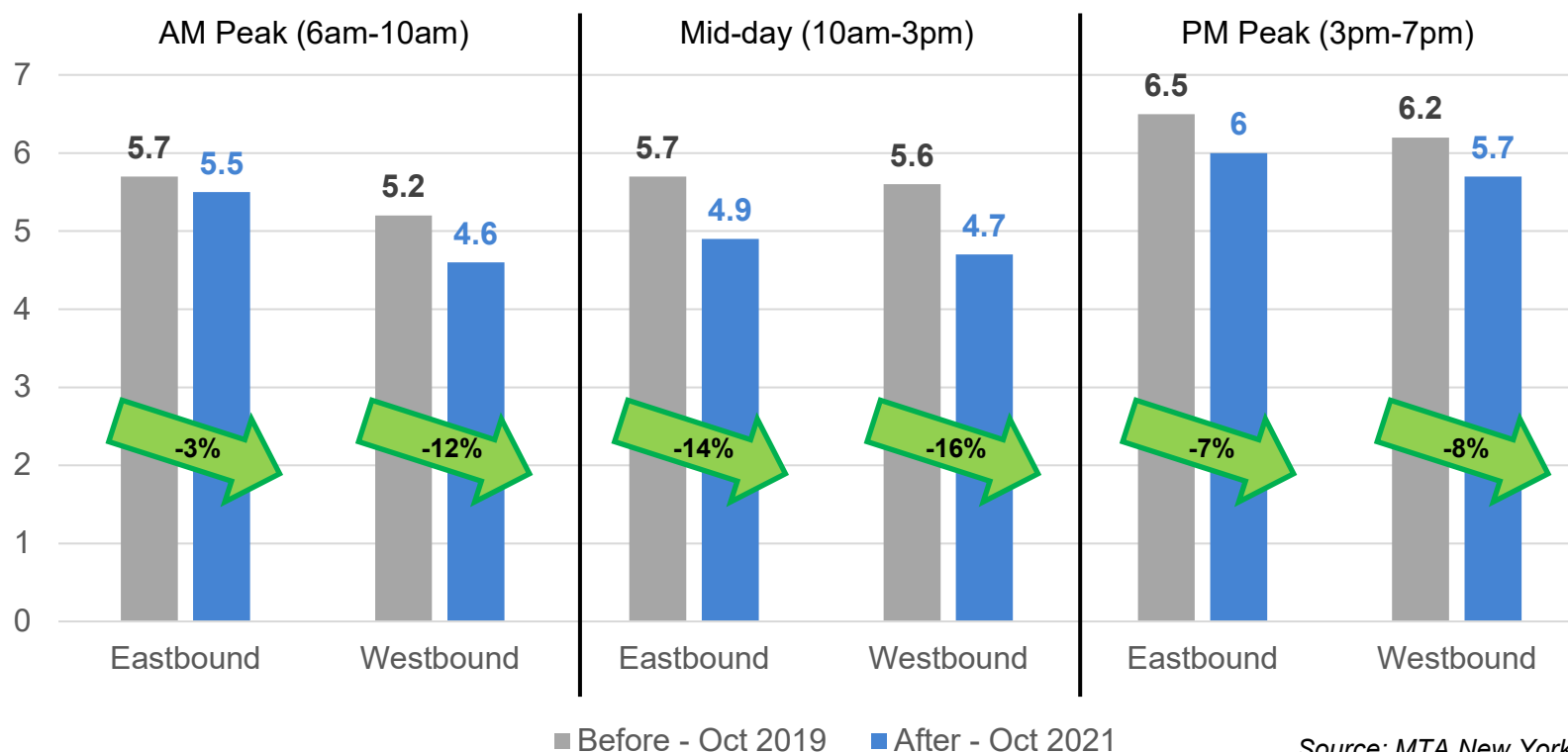


# Past Projects: EL Grant Hwy, Bx

- Center-running bus lanes
- **3-14% faster EB** and **8-16% faster WB**



EL Grant Hwy Travel Time, Jerome Av to University Av (Minutes)



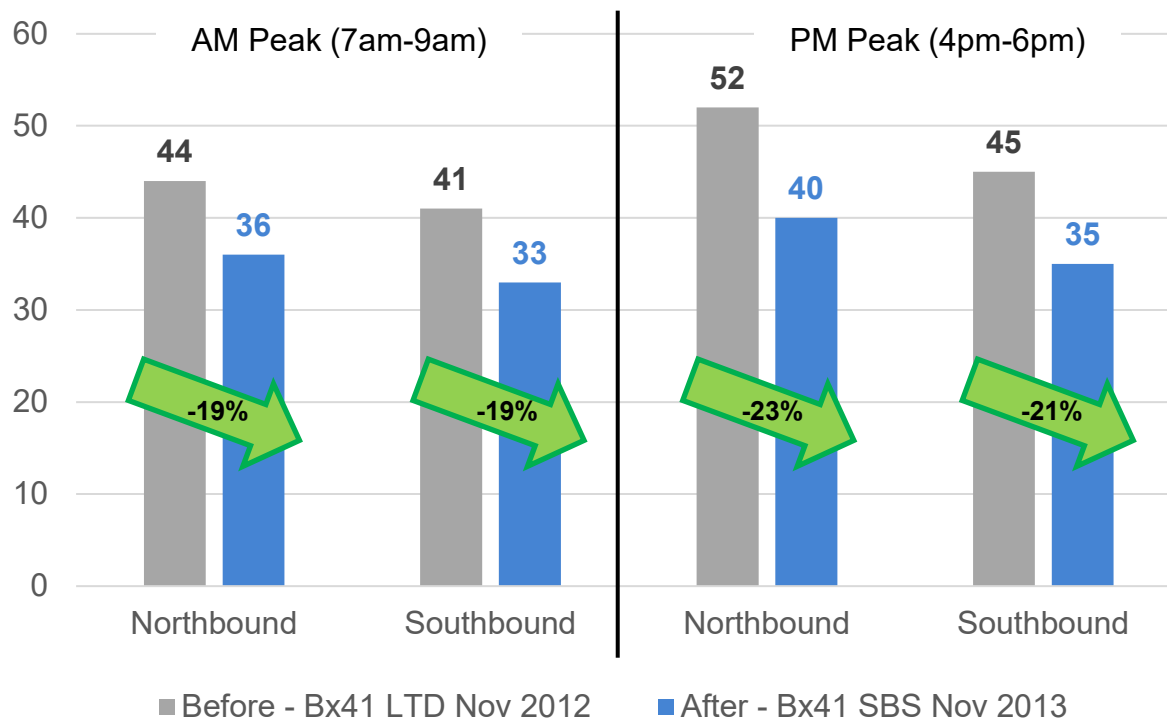
Source: MTA New York City Transit

# Past Projects: Webster Av, Bx

- Select Bus Service with offset bus lanes + offboard fare collection
- **19-23% faster NB and 19-21% faster SB**



Average Bx41 Weekday Travel Time (Mins)



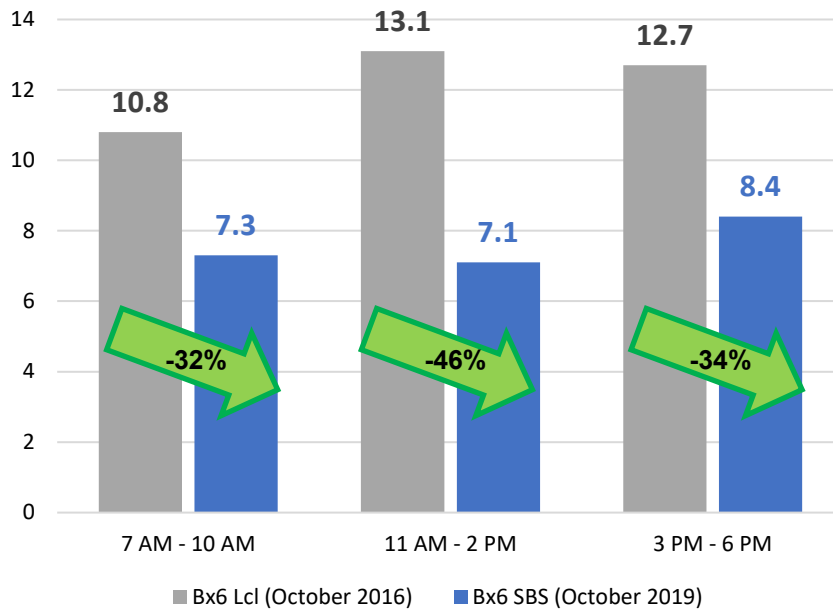
Source: MTA New York City Transit

# Past Projects: 161<sup>st</sup> St, Bx (Jerome Av to Melrose Av)

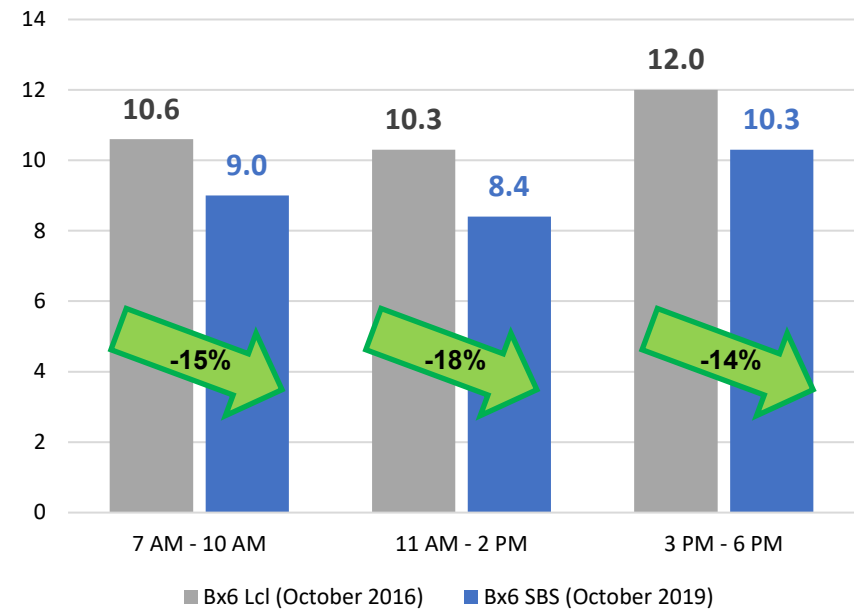
- Select Bus Service with center-running busway, including an EB bus-only tunnel under Grand Conc., + off-board fare collection
- **32-46% faster EB and 14-18% faster WB**



Eastbound Bus Travel Time (Minutes)



Westbound Bus Travel Time (Minutes)



Source: MTA New York City Transit

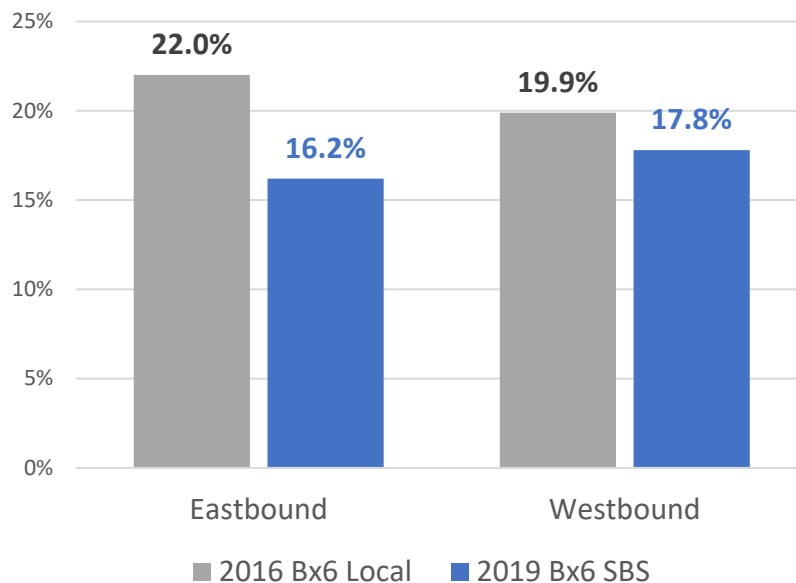


# Past Projects: 161<sup>st</sup>/163<sup>rd</sup> St, Bx (Full Corridor)

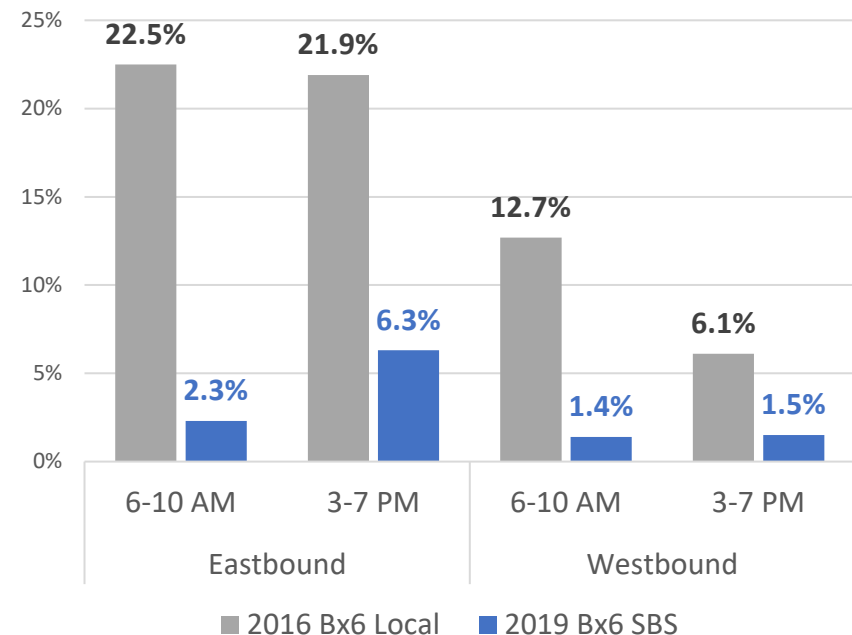
- Improved on-time performance in both directions
- Reduced bus bunching in both directions



% of Buses Arriving Late



% of Buses Arriving Bunched



\*Late defined as arriving 5 minutes or more after scheduled arrival time

\*\*Bunching defined as two or more buses heading in the same direction departing a stop within 90 seconds of each other

Source: MTA NYCT