Gun Hill Rd Bus & Pedestrian Improvements

Bronx Community Board 12 Transportation Committee

June 9, 2022









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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



Bronx Bus Priority Corridors

Why Gun Hill Road?

- 40,000 daily bus passengers on 5 routes
- Critical crosstown service with key connections to 250, many local bus routes, Montefiore Hospital, Co-Op City, Bay Plaza
- MTA Bronx Bus
 Network Redesign
 - 50+ outreach events
 - Community requests to improve Gun Hill Rd bus service
 - Named 1 of 10 key Bronx corridors for bus priority









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



MTA





Pandemic Bus Route Speed Changes

- Bx28 and Bx38 route level speeds are slower than Bronx average
- Speed & reliability gains from 2020 erased as traffic returned; still declining
 - 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











Community Feedback

DOT held public outreach pop-ups and had conversations with over 100 bus riders

- 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)









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Community Feedback

Popular requests:

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

Bus lanes can address all of these



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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









Draft Proposal





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Draft Proposal: Webster Av to White Plains Rd

- Currently researching potential improvements
- Separate timeframe from rest of project
- Draft proposal expected late 2022 or early 2023









Draft Proposal: White Plains Rd to Bartow Av

- Offset bus lanes in both directions
- Pedestrian safety improvements at 20+ intersections
- Curb regulations & turn restrictions under development



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Draft Proposal: White Plains Rd to Barnes Av

Widen sidewalk +

median island





Draft Proposal: Barnes Av to Hone Av



Draft Proposal: Hone Av to Tenbroeck Av



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Draft Proposal: Tenbroeck Av to Young Av



Draft Proposal: Young Av to Adee Av









Draft Proposal: Adee Av to Kingsland Av





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Draft Proposal: Kingsland Av to Gunther Av









Work to Date & Next Steps







Work to Date

- MTA Bronx Bus Network Redesign: 50+ public outreach events
 - On-street and in-station pop-ups
 - Public open houses
 - Community Board presentations
 - Online workshop & surveys
- Merchant survey w/ Jerome Gun Hill BID
- Field observations & traffic data
- April 2022: presented existing conditions & discussed needs with Community Advisory Board (CAB) and Community Boards 7, 11 & 12









Next Steps

(Note: all dates are estimates)

- April:
 - Discuss existing conditions, needs & wants
 - Feedback will help shape DOT's draft proposal
 - Traffic analysis & curb usage analysis
- May/June:
 - Share draft proposal
 - Listen & incorporate feedback
- Summer:
 - Share updated plan
- Implementation planned for late summer-fall
 2022











Open Discussion & Questions









