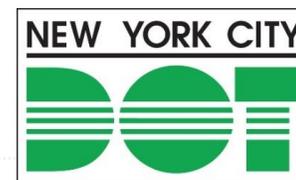




Hudson Square Plaza

Community Board 2 – March 2026



Agenda

- Introduction
- NYC Plaza Program Overview
- Project Overview
 - Community Engagement Recap
 - Existing Conditions Analysis
 - Design Approach & Elements
 - Proposed Furnishing Layout
 - Partner Maintenance Responsibilities
- Project Timeline and Next Steps
- Questions

NYC Plaza Program Overview

NYC DOT pedestrian plazas are reclaimed streets transformed into vibrant, social, public spaces for all to enjoy. These plazas enhance safety, walkability, and access to public transit while supporting community, commerce, and culture.

Plazas may include amenities such as furniture, greenery, public art, lighting, and may offer public programming, markets, and other events for community members throughout the year.

The NYC Plaza Program accepts proposals through an annual application process. Hudson Square BID applied to the program in 2023 and their proposal officially entered the program in 2024.

Program Goals:

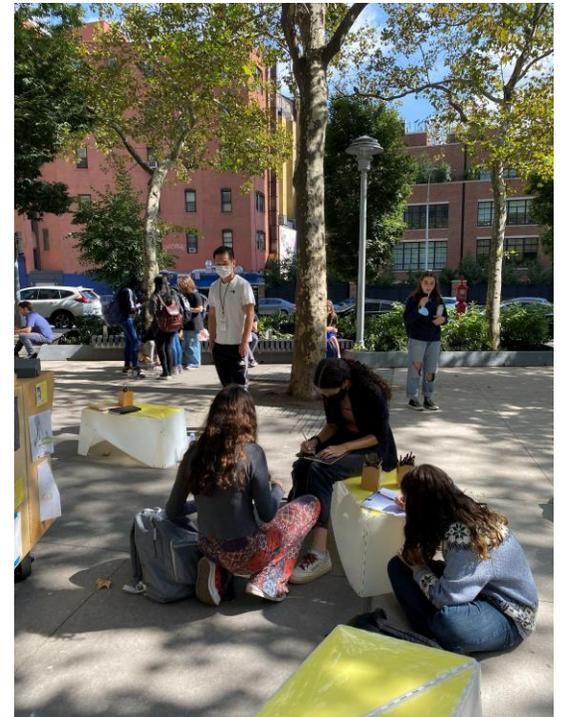
- Create high-quality pedestrian space in underutilized roadway
- Enhance pedestrian mobility and access to public transit
- Bolster civic engagement
- Enhance public safety and traffic safety
- Increase local economic vitality



Programming

Partners are encouraged to program their plazas regularly in collaboration with local civic and cultural organizations.

Any organization can apply for a SAPO permit to program the new plaza.



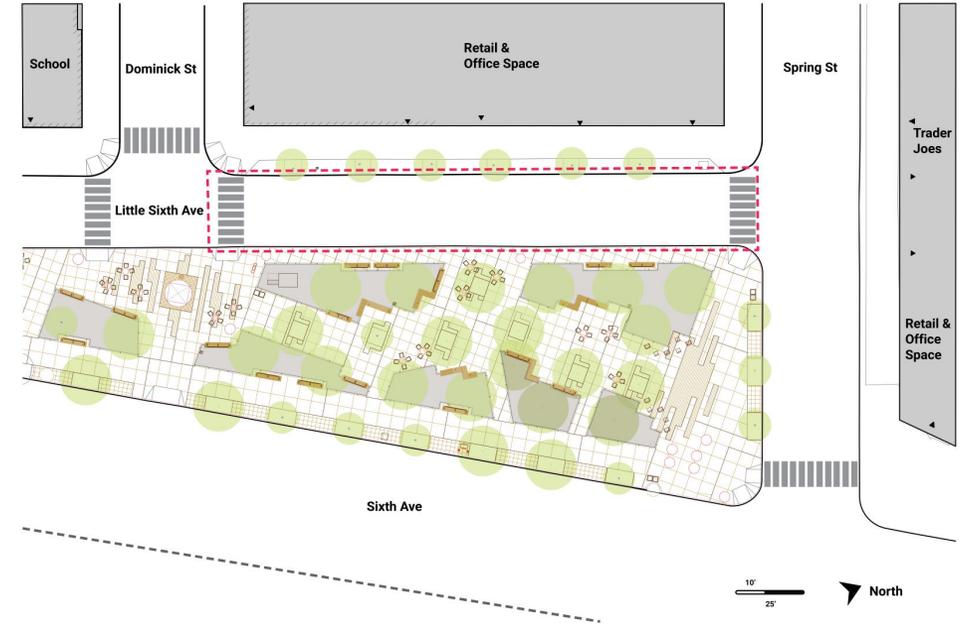
Project Overview

Project History

- Launched 'Open Street' in 2020 with programming
- Accepted into DOT Plaza Program in 2024
- New subway elevator and staircase constructed
- Funded by \$744k NY Forward grant

Project Elements

- "Temporary" plaza build-out
- Closed to vehicular traffic
- Movable furnishings to accommodate emergency vehicle lane



Community Engagement Recap

On Street Pop-up

Oct 28 & 29
160+ participants



Walkthrough

Nov 20
20+ participants

Student Workshop

Nov 19
2 classes,
~50 participants
Chelsea CTE
High School

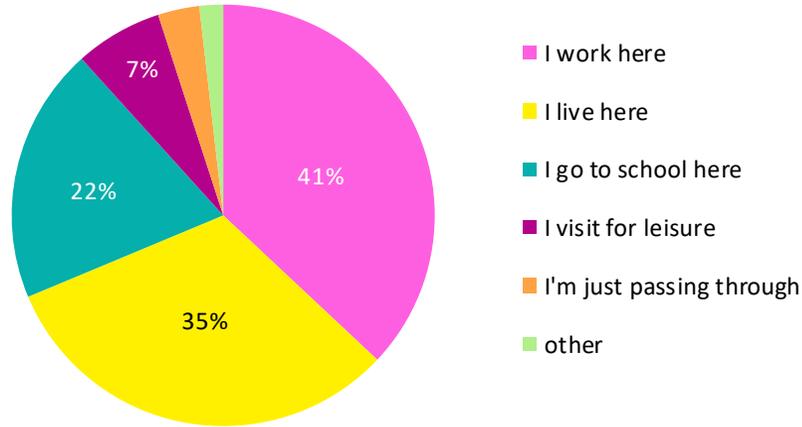


Survey

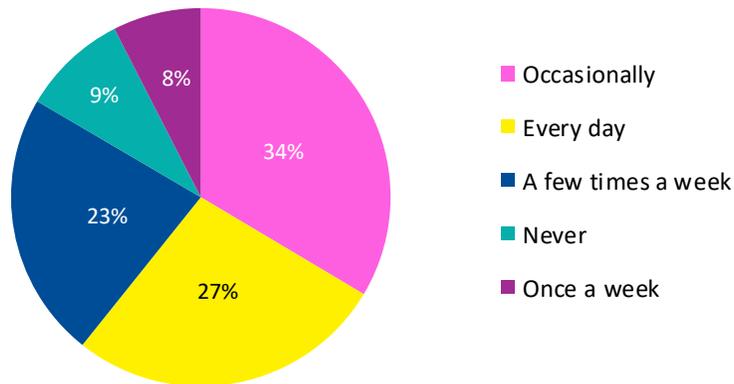
Oct 7 - Jan 15
200+ responses

Survey Results

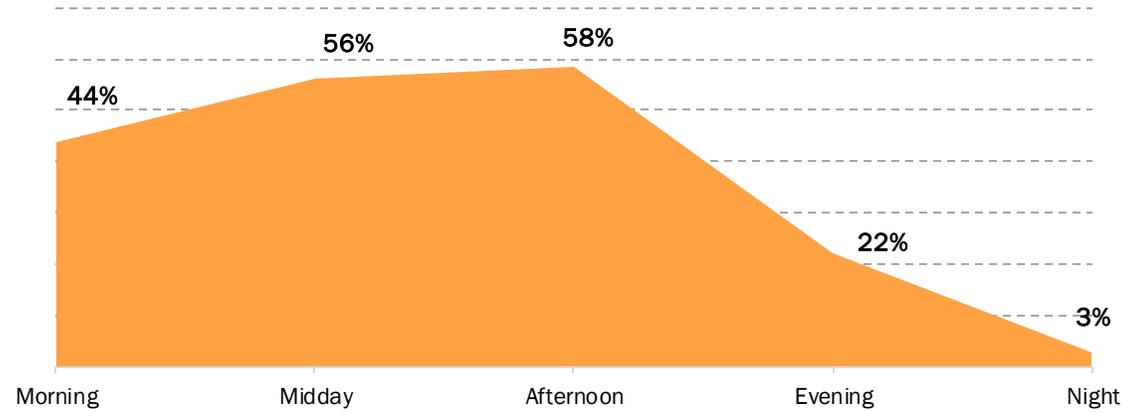
Relationship to the neighborhood & space



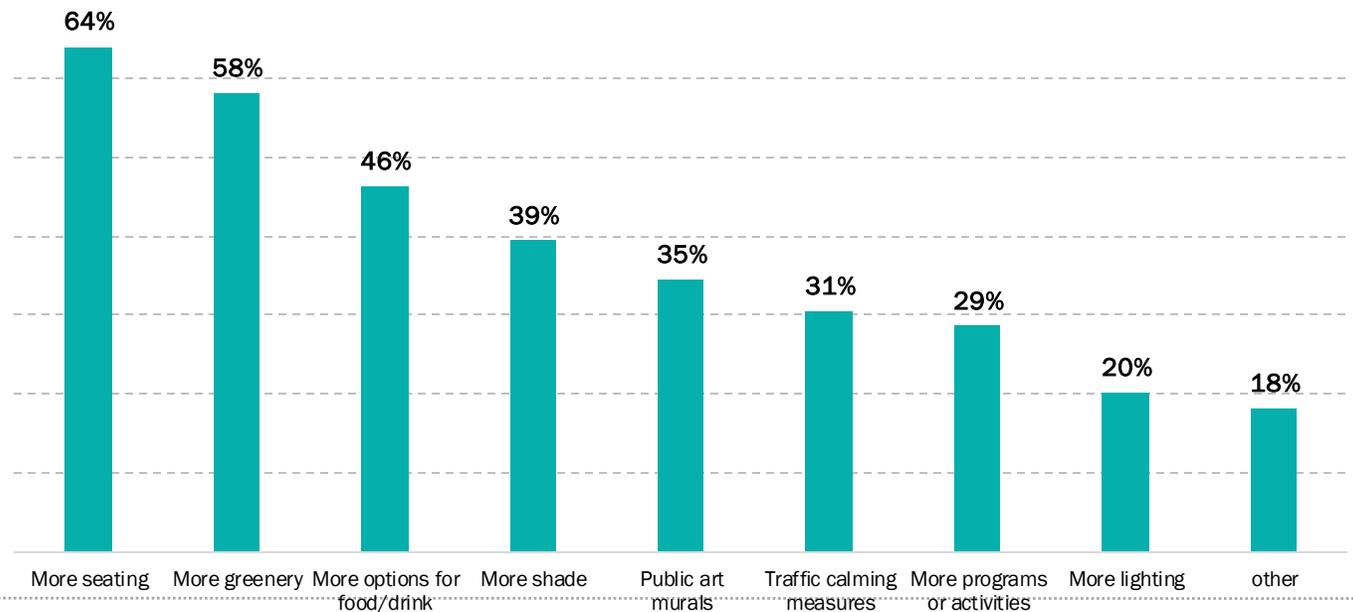
How often do you use the space?



When do you usually visit the space?

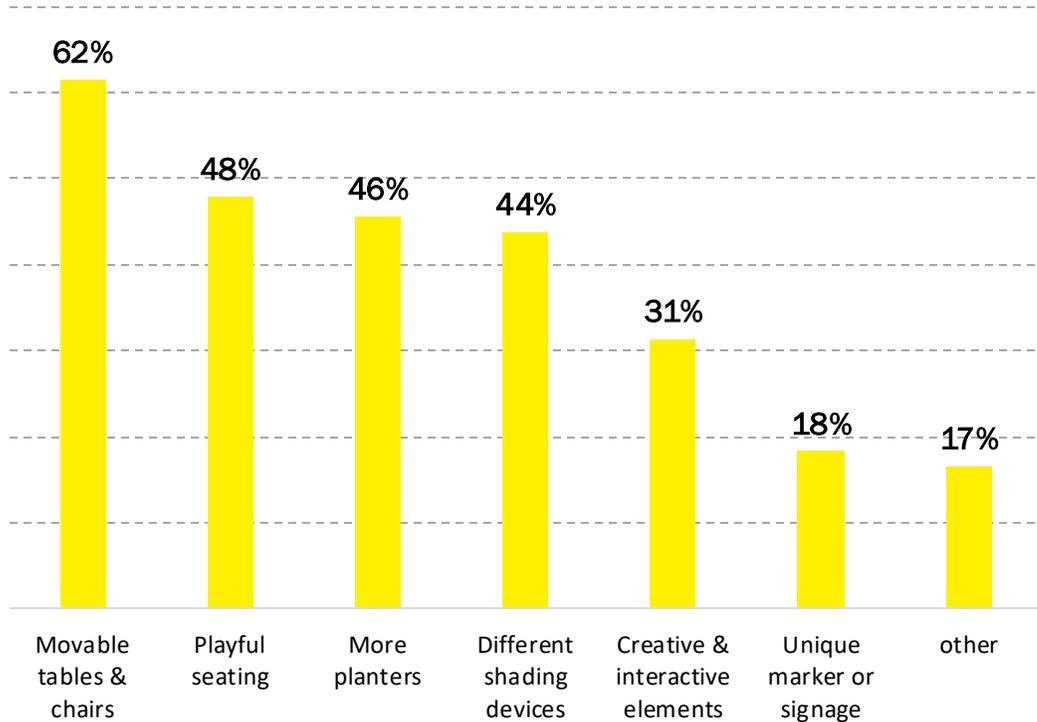


What would you like to see here?

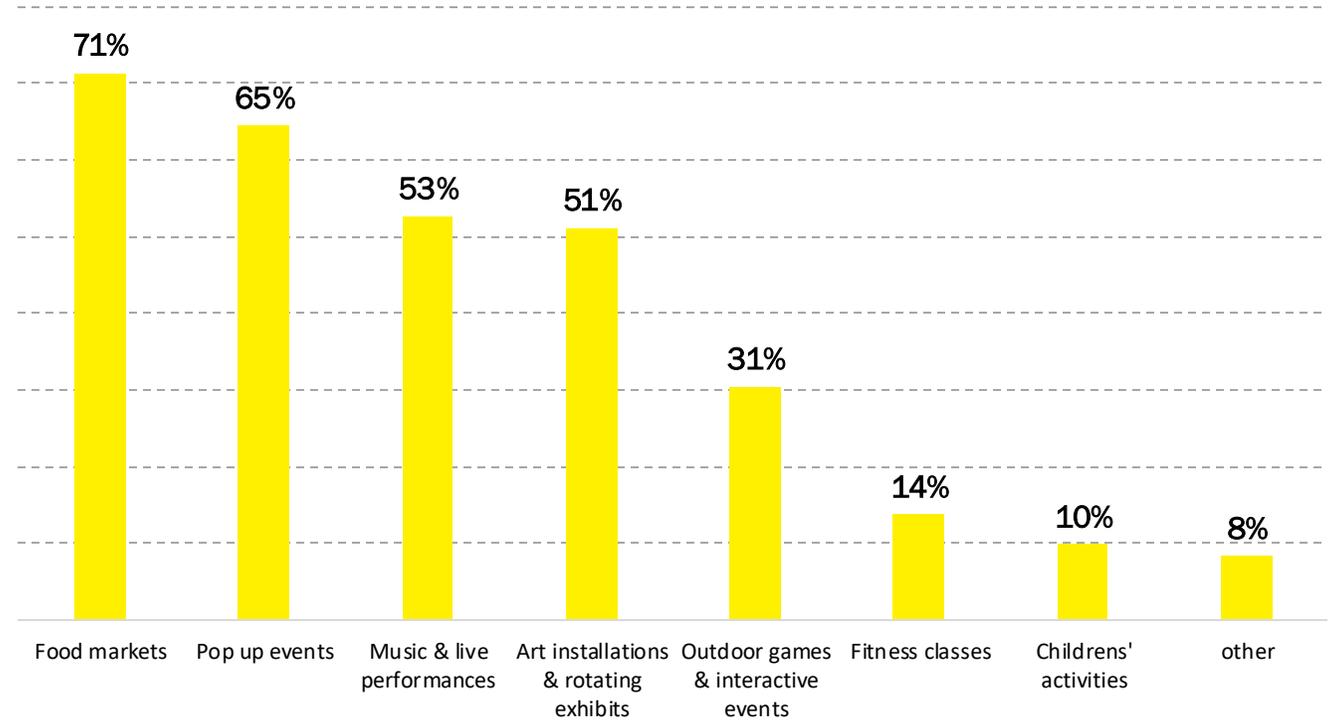


Survey Results

What new furniture would you like to see here?

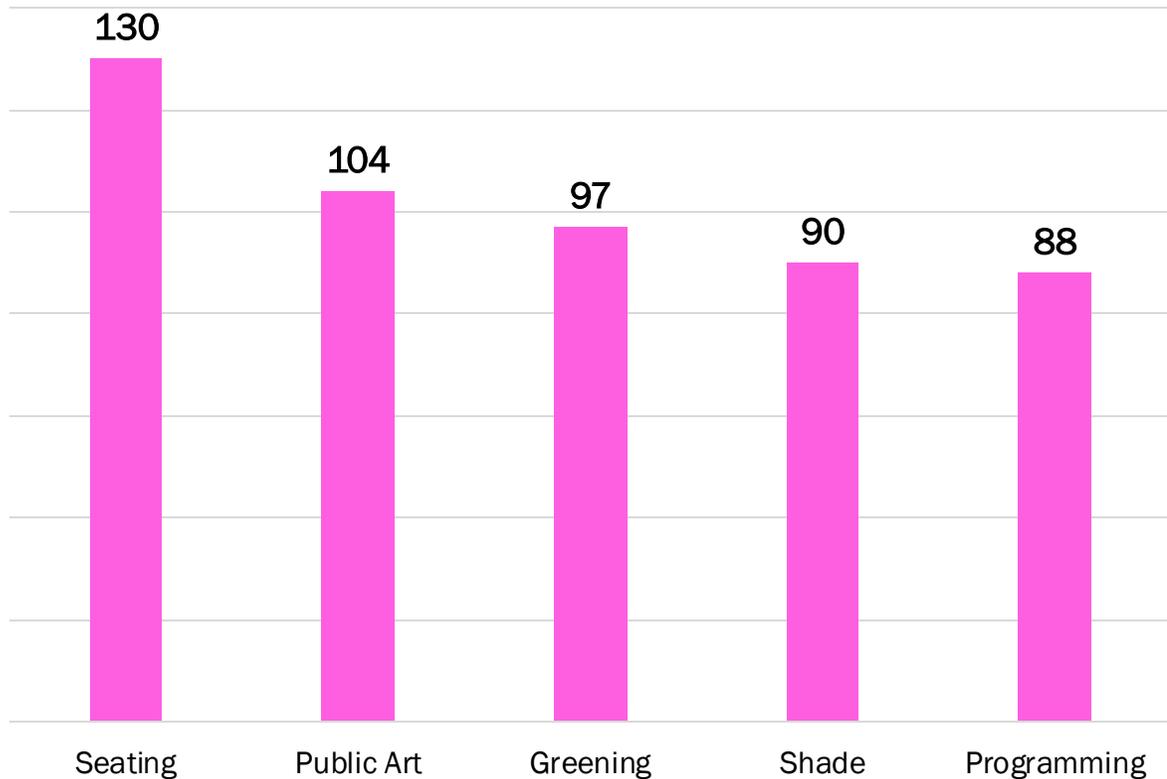


What activities would you want to participate in?



Pop-up Engagement

What would you like to see in the plaza?



Number of votes for each element

~85%

STUDENTS WANTED A SOCIAL SPACE

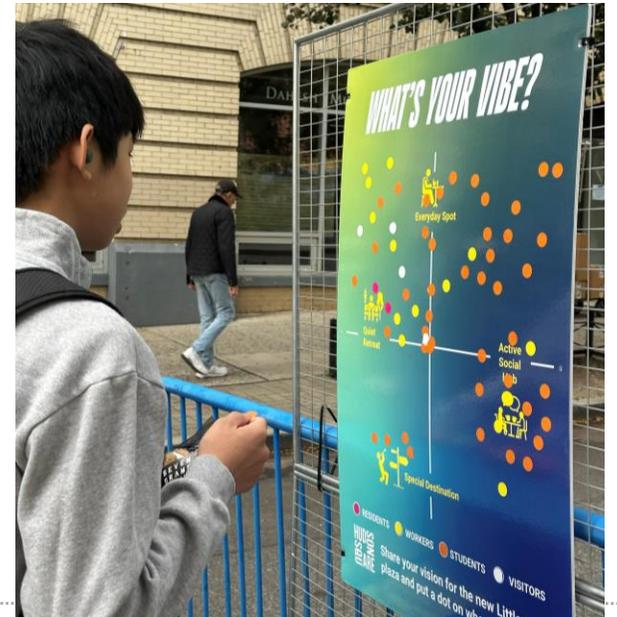
~60%

OF THE WORKERS WANTED A QUIETER EVERYDAY SPACE

~80%

OF RESIDENTS WANTED A QUIETER EVERYDAY SPACE

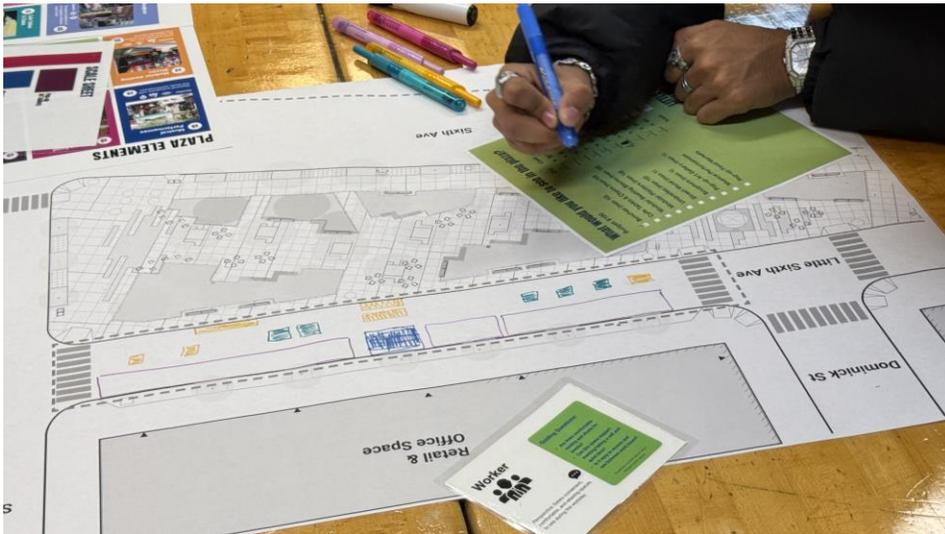
Plaza experience preferences



Student Workshops

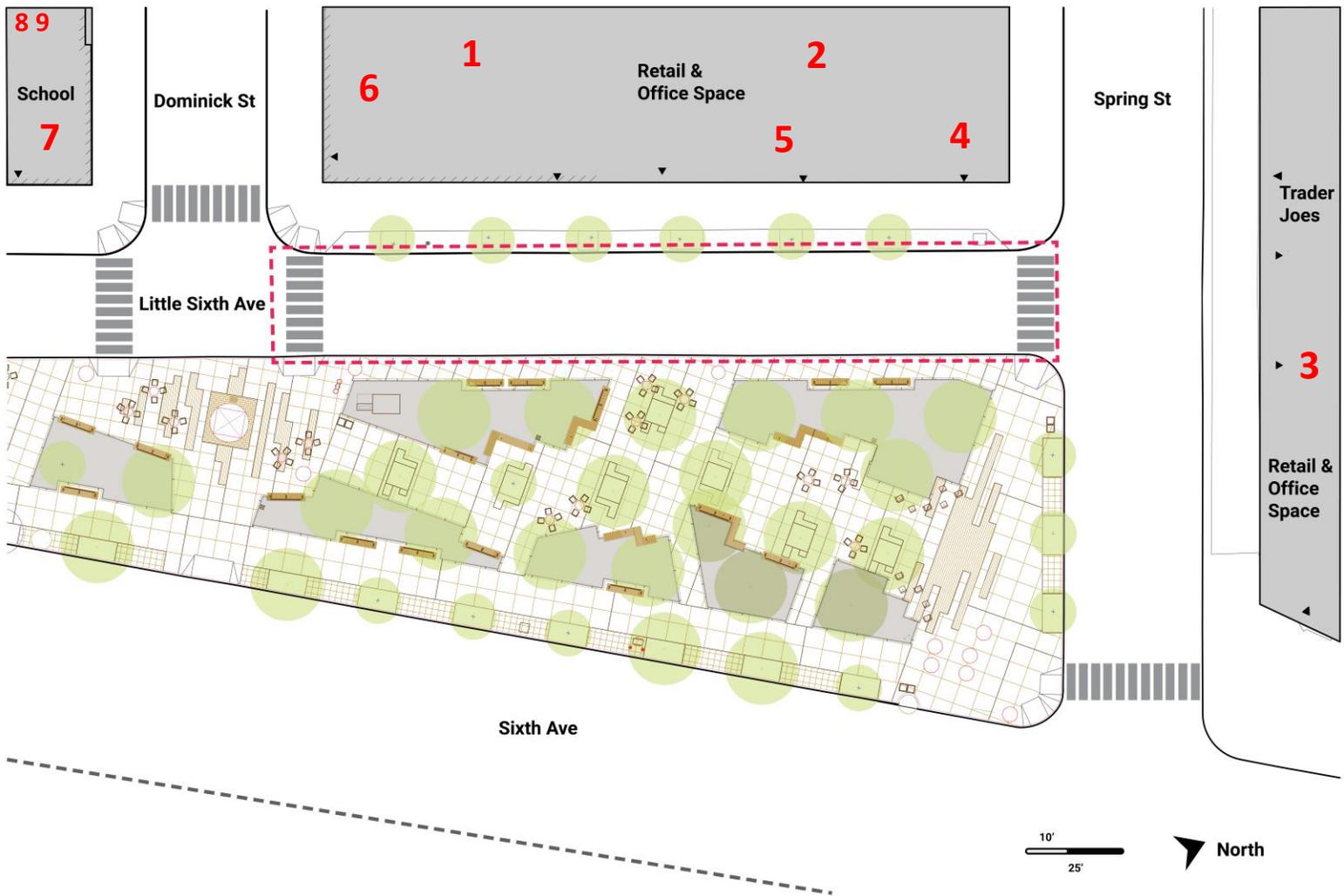
Students wanted a plaza that is:

- **Active:** pop-up market creates an inviting destination
- **Flexible:** movable seating prioritized within the budget
- **Colorful:** asphalt mural as a defining and vibrant feature
- **Local:** food vendors and local artists highlighted through pop-ups
- **Open:** clear circulation and space to relax



Outreach to Neighboring Buildings & Businesses

- 1. 145 Ave of Americas
- 2. 155 Ave of Americas
- 3. 233 Spring St
- 4. Altro Paradiso
- 5. Ducati
- 6. HERE Arts Center
- 7. The Door/Broome Street Academy
- 8. Chelsea CTE High School
- 9. NYC iSchool



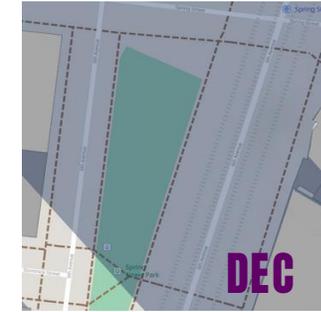
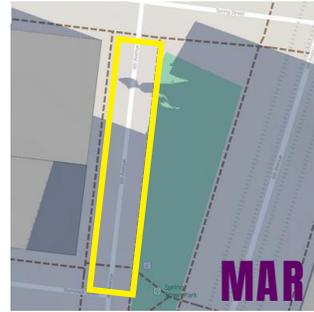
Existing Conditions



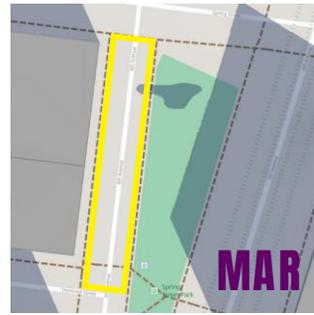
Sun/Shade Analysis

Shade map App

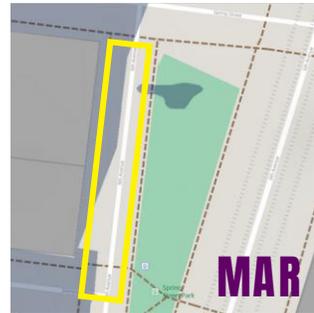
9 AM



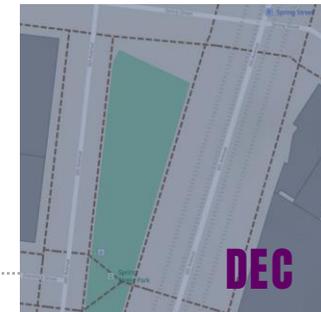
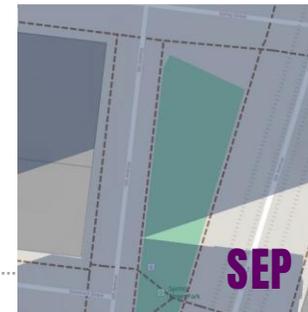
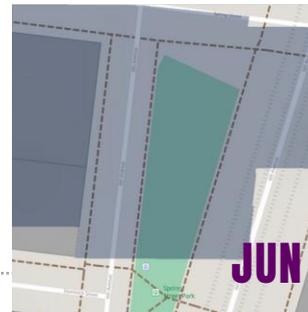
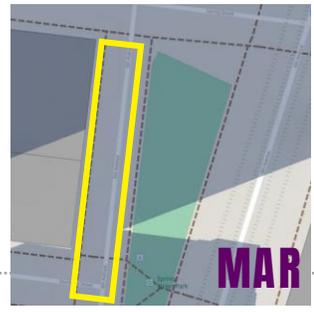
12 PM



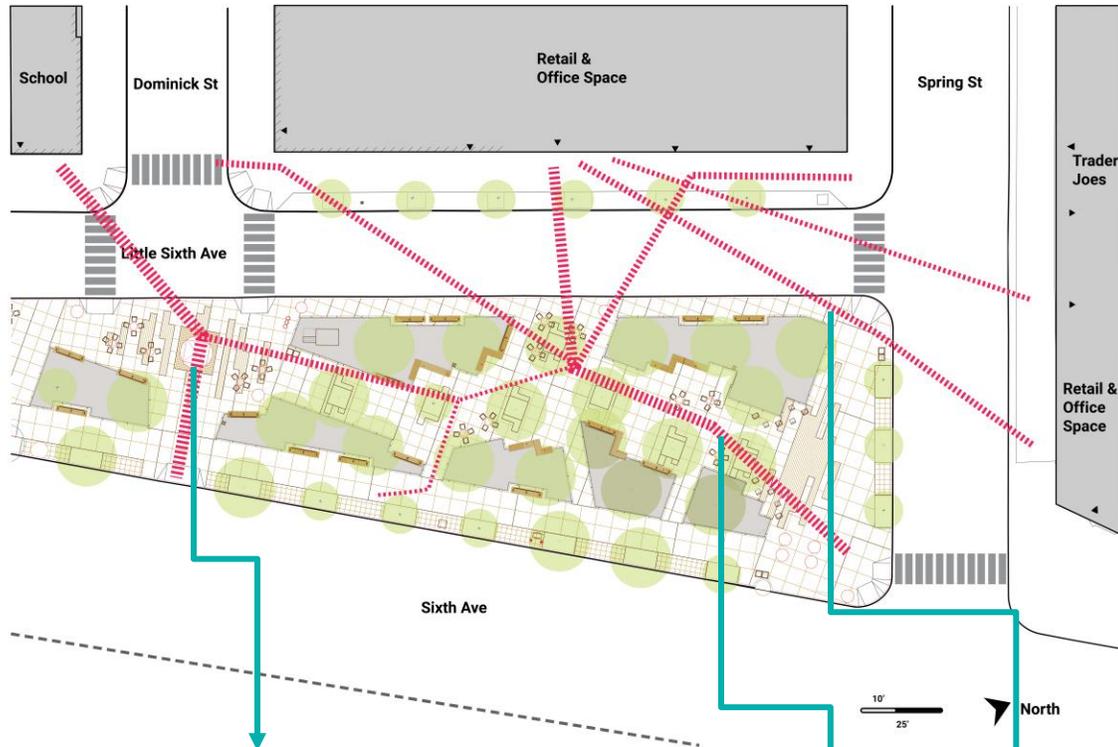
2 PM



5 PM

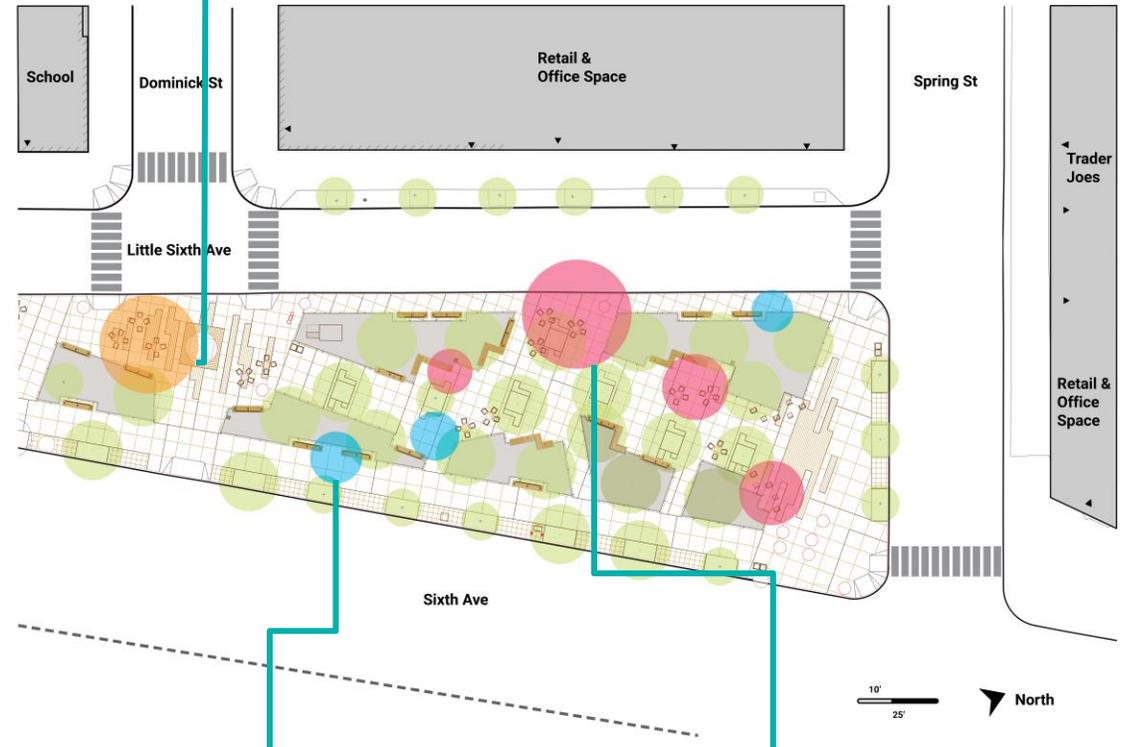


Observational Study



Students before / after school, people using the Citi Bike dock, and people crossing over to Dominick St.

Workers accessing Dominick St and 155 AOA from Spring & 6th Ave and Spring St subway station



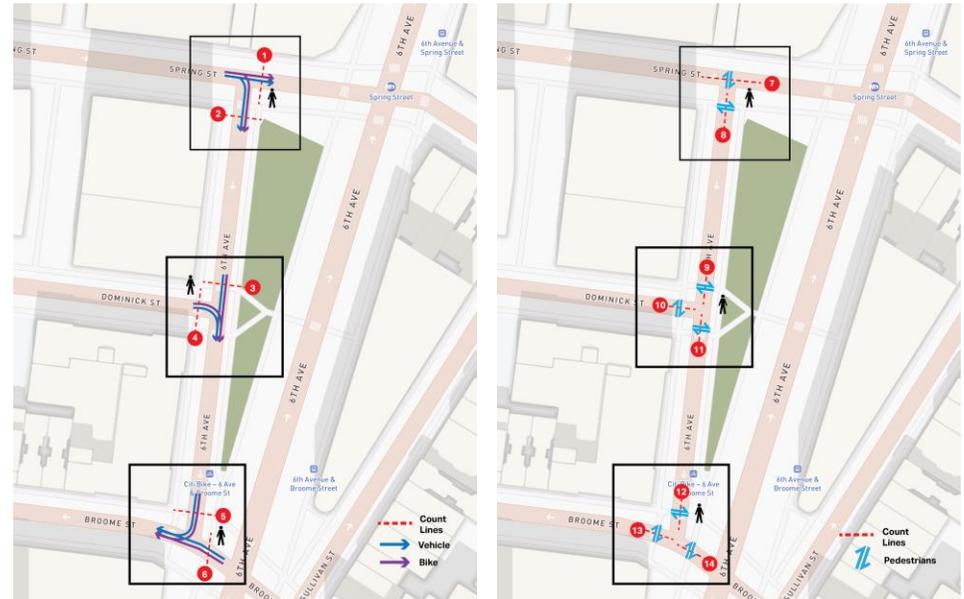
Students gather before and after school, use as social spaces

Breaks / quiet use by workers and students waiting in the neighborhood

Meeting friends / colleagues, more social gathering chance interactions

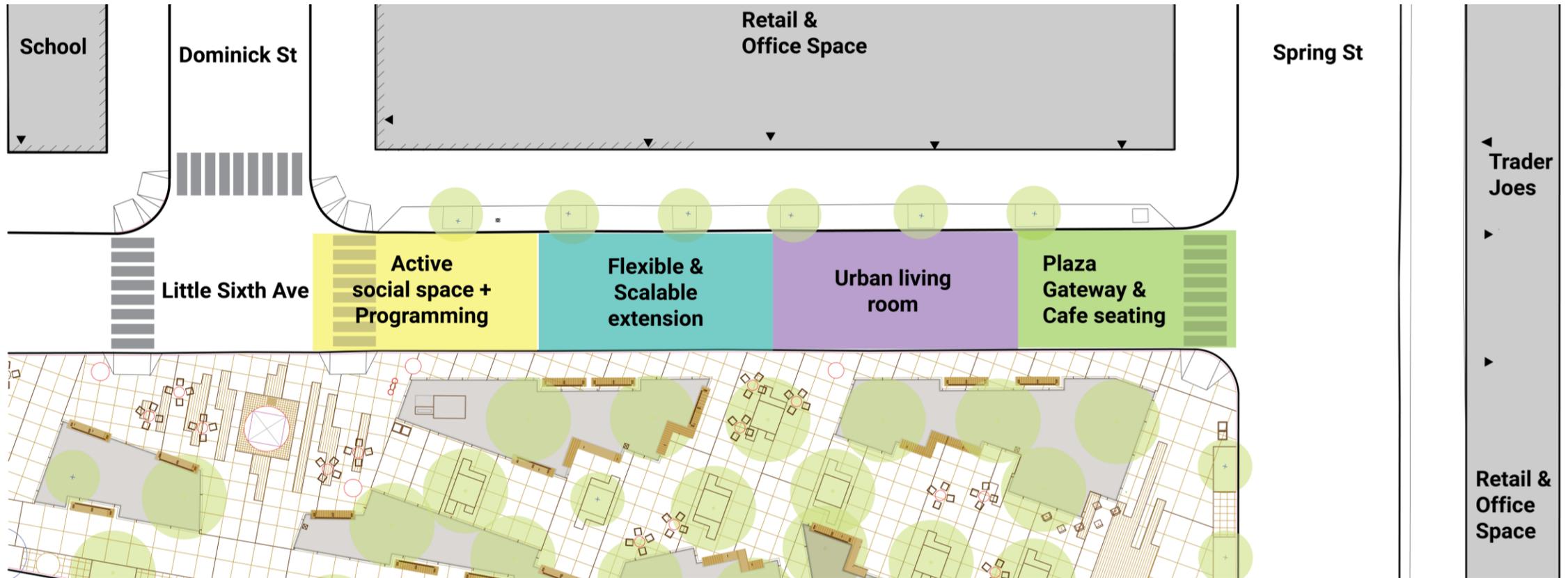
Vehicle Parking & Traffic

- Block closure: The block will be officially closed to vehicular traffic by DOT prior to the start of plaza implementation
- Parking removal: 14 spots
 - Seven 2-hour metered spots on east side of plaza block
 - Seven night and weekend spots on west side of plaza block
- Traffic counts
 - 23x more pedestrians than vehicles crossing the block
 - DOT determination: no significant traffic impact



Fall 2025 traffic counting locations

Design Approach: Functional Zones



Proposed Furnishing Layout



-  Stoop seating
-  Mini Stoop seating
-  Bistro furniture
-  Stone seating (modular)
-  Stoop picnic table
-  Bloc seating on parklets
-  Umbrella
-  Stone planters
-  Planters with screens
-  Programming space (1) & welcome sign (2)
-  Emergency access

-  DOT light pole
-  DOT pedestrian light pole
-  Bigbelly trash bins

Design Elements

FURNISHING PALETTE

Tiered seating



Picnic tables



Modular seating and planters on casters



Integrated screening elements



Decking platform with seating and greening (movable for seasonal adjustments + maintenance)

Bistro tables and chairs

PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

Art exhibits



Pop-up markets

 Not movable on a daily basis; to be placed outside the emergency vehicle access lane

Ground Plane Treatment



Process:

- Artist RFP
- DOT Art review
- Volunteer painting support

Asphalt mural across the entire plaza and curb extension

Visual style: Abstract and rooted in community feedback

Partner Maintenance Responsibilities

Hudson Square BID will be responsible for basic maintenance tasks including litter removal, snow clearance, furniture maintenance, and horticultural care.

NYC DOT works closely with all plaza partners to ensure successful public spaces.



Project Timeline and Next Steps

2026

Early Spring	Block closed to vehicular traffic by DOT
Early Spring	Street surface preparation and plaza demarcation
Late Spring	Installation of asphalt mural & soft opening
Late Spring	Installation of custom furnishings
Early Summer	Plaza completion

Thank You Questions?

