

# Better Buses Restart: Jamaica and Archer Busways

Community Advisory Board | August 25, 2021



# Agenda

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1. Executive Summary
2. 2020-2021 Outreach
3. Potential Design Concepts
4. Local Access Plan & Vehicle Turn Requirements
5. Traffic Monitoring
6. Next Steps and Implementation

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# Executive Summary

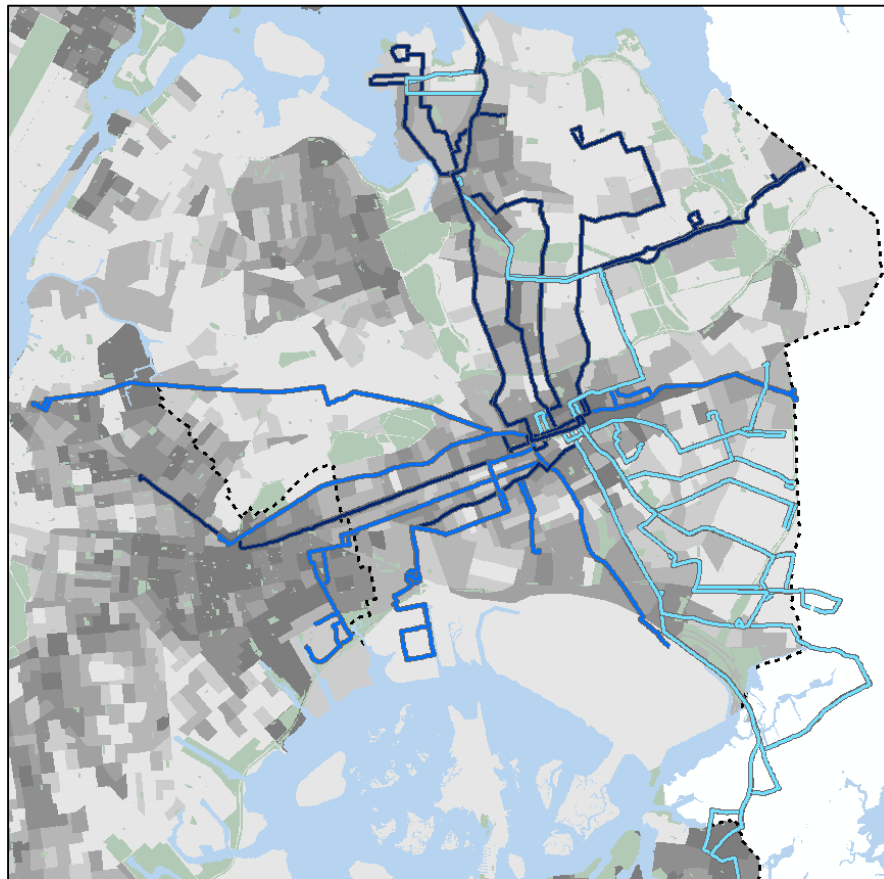
# 1

# Jamaica and Archer Aves Busway Pilots

## Executive Summary

- Transformative project for Downtown Jamaica will improve the lives of 250,000 bus riders per day
- DOT hosted public open houses to answer questions about busways and gather feedback
- Identified several intersections for additional monitoring and design changes to help circulation
- Busway implementation to begin on September 6, 2021 with a launch on October 24, 2021

Jamaica Ave and Archer Ave NYCT and MTA Bus Routes\*



*\*Routes running between Sutphin Blvd & 168 St only*

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2020-2021 Outreach

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# Outreach

- June 16, 2020: Initial CM Briefings
- June 25, 2020: CB 12 TC Meeting
- July 9, 2020: CAB #1
- July 16, 2020: JNLC Meeting
- August 6, 2020: Jamaica BID Meeting
- September 14 & 16, 2020: Merchant Survey with Jamaica Center BID
- October 14, 17, 19, & 21, 2020: Shopper Survey
- April 30, 2021: Walkthrough with Commissioner Gutman and CM Miller
- June 2, 2021: Walkthrough with CM Miller
- June 11, 2021: Walkthrough with CM Miller and the offices of CM Gennaro, AM Hyndman, and SS Comrie
- June 30, 2021: Walkthrough with CB 12 TC
- July 21, 2021: CAB #2
- **July 29, 2021:** Walkthrough with NYPD 103 Precinct
- **August 2021:** Ongoing calls with businesses and property owners
- **August 10, 2021:** ATU Local 1056 Meeting
- **August 19, 2021:** NYS HCR Office of Rent Administration Meeting
- **August 18-19, 2021:** Public Outdoor Open Houses
- **August 25, 2021:** CAB #3



# Public Open Houses

- Staff presented information on busways, turn restrictions, and alternative routes
- Attendees included motorists, bus drivers, transit riders, elected official reps, local stakeholders, residents, business owners, and pedestrians
- Desire for additional merchant surveys post-implementation
- Concerns around bus stop blockages, livery cabs, side street congestion, quality of life issues, and safety
- Requests for additional loading space
- Concerns around congestion on Sutphin Blvd and Parsons Blvd

*August 18 Public Open House,  
Parsons-Archer Pedestrian Plaza*



*August 19 Public Open House,  
King Manor Museum*





# Merchant Survey

- Most businesses reported difficulty loading and unloading goods
- Majority of businesses reported seeing frequent double parking throughout the corridor
- 60% of respondents currently load/unload in a no standing zone or bus stop





# Shopper Survey

- 42% of respondents typically ride the bus to get to Jamaica Ave
- Transit riders reported the longest trip times among various reported modes
- 48% of respondents reported they were on Jamaica Ave to shop
- 31% of respondents work on Jamaica Ave



## Today's trip to Jamaica: Average travel time (min) (Captured on day of survey)

Bus	26 min	(119)	48%	
Walk	15 min	(76)	31%	
Subway	55 min	(26)	10%	
Personal Car	18 min	(17)	7%	
Bike	11 min	(4)	2%	
Access-A-Ride	23 min	(2)	1%	
Dropped Off (Family/Friend)	35 min	(2)	1%	
Taxi/FHV	10 min	(1)	0%	
Commuter Van	15 min	(1)	0%	
LIRR	NA	(1)	0%	

## How do you typically get to Jamaica Ave? (Including mode you used on day of survey)

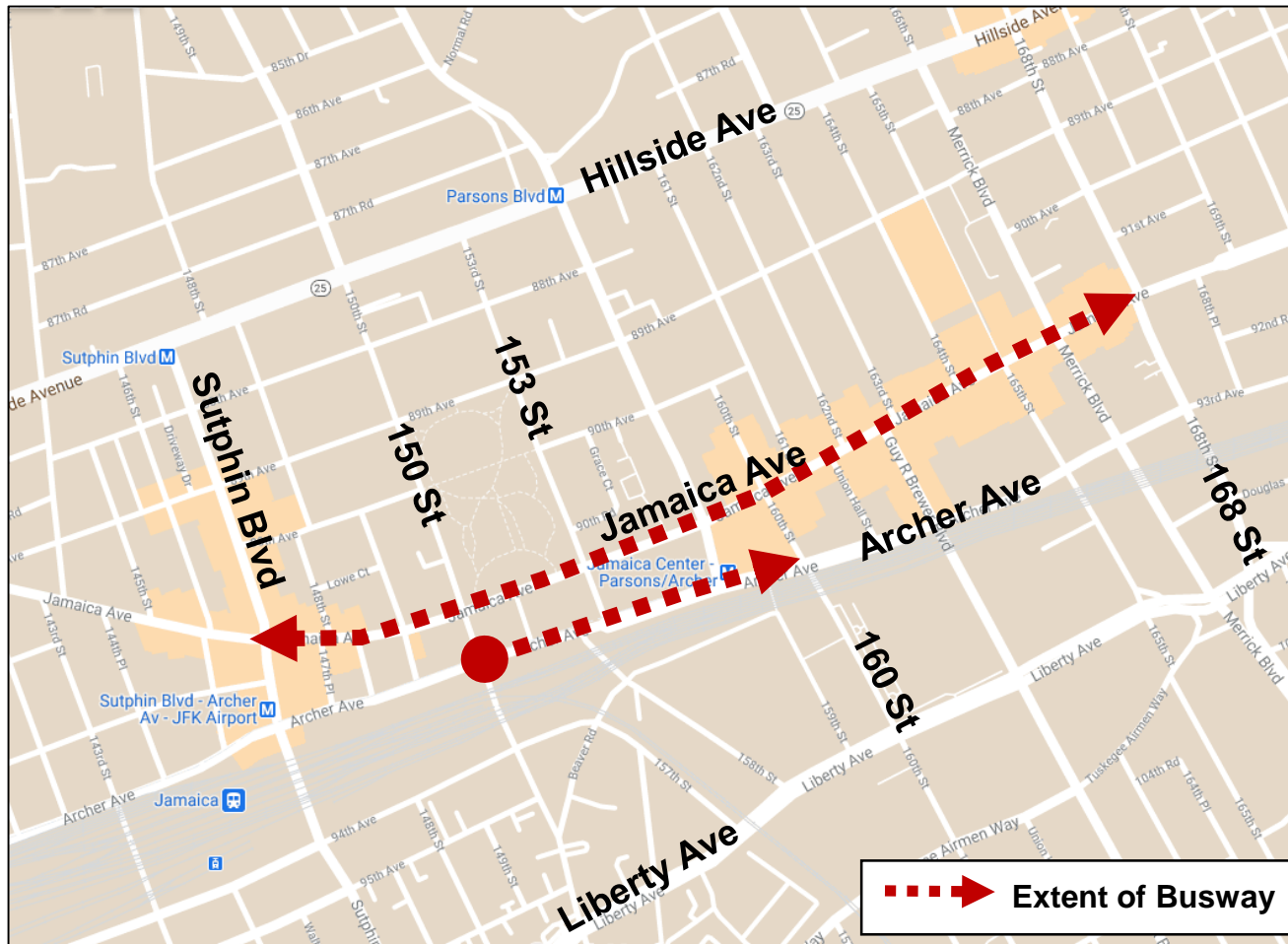
Bus	(196)	42%	
Walk	(114)	25%	
Subway	(86)	19%	
Personal Car	(27)	6%	
Bike	(12)	3%	
Access-A-Ride	(4)	1%	
Dropped Off (Family/Friend)	(5)	1%	
Taxi/FHV	(10)	2%	
Commuter Van	(6)	1%	
LIRR	(2)	0%	
AirTrain	(2)	0%	

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## Potential Design Concepts

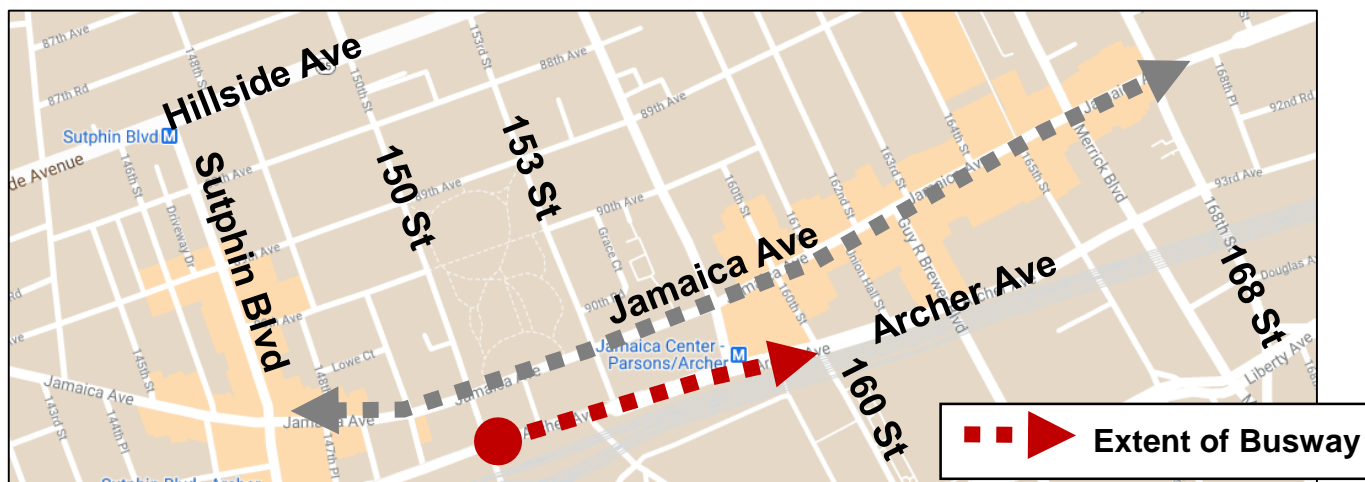
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# Extent of Jamaica Ave and Archer Ave Busway Pilots



# Archer Ave Busway Pilot

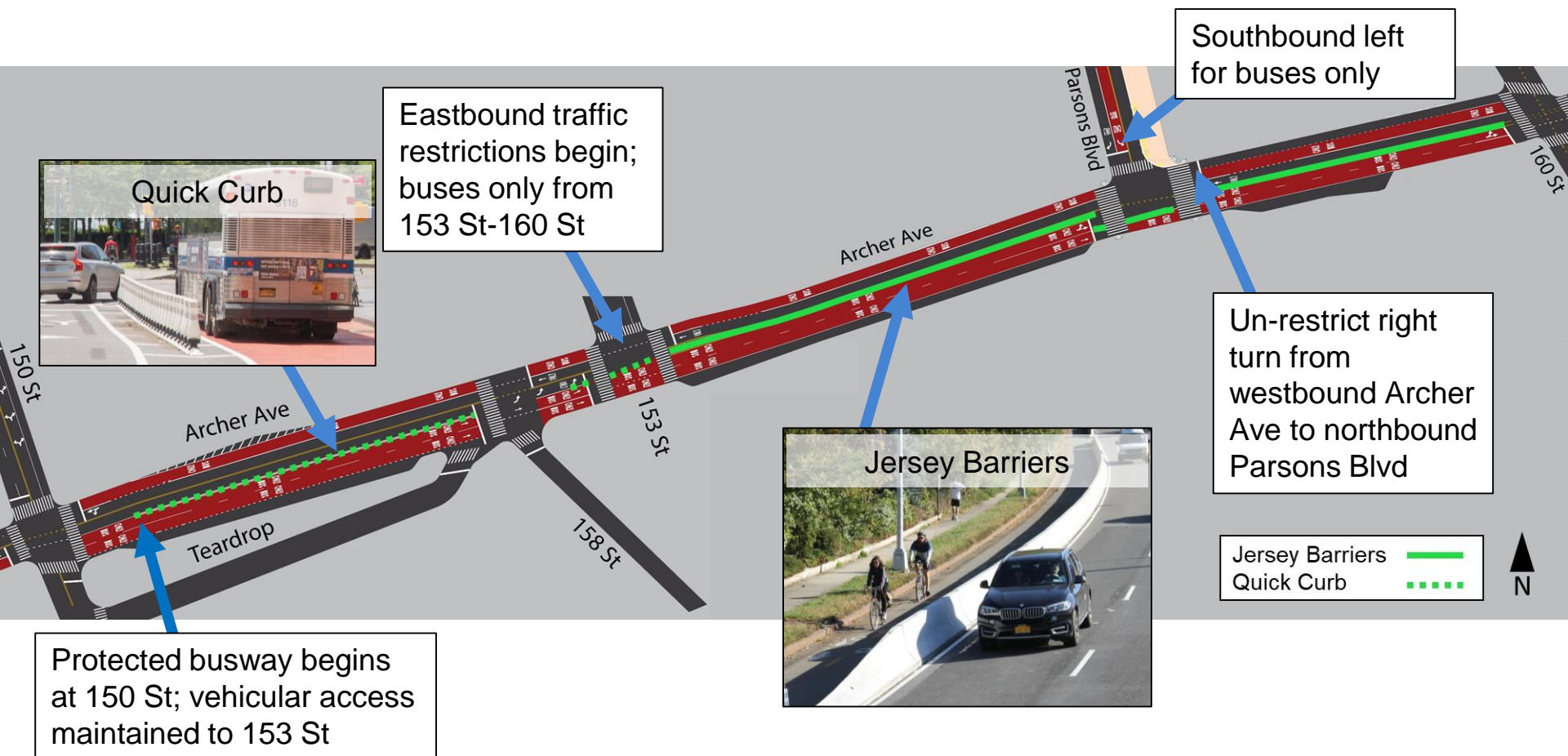
- Eastbound busway will begin at 150 St and extend to 160 St
- Double bus lanes eastbound from 150 St to 160 St; no trucks in bus lanes
- No curbside access between 150 St and 160 St for any vehicle except buses
- Jersey barriers installed to prevent illegal vans from entering busway
- Busway regulations proposed for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week





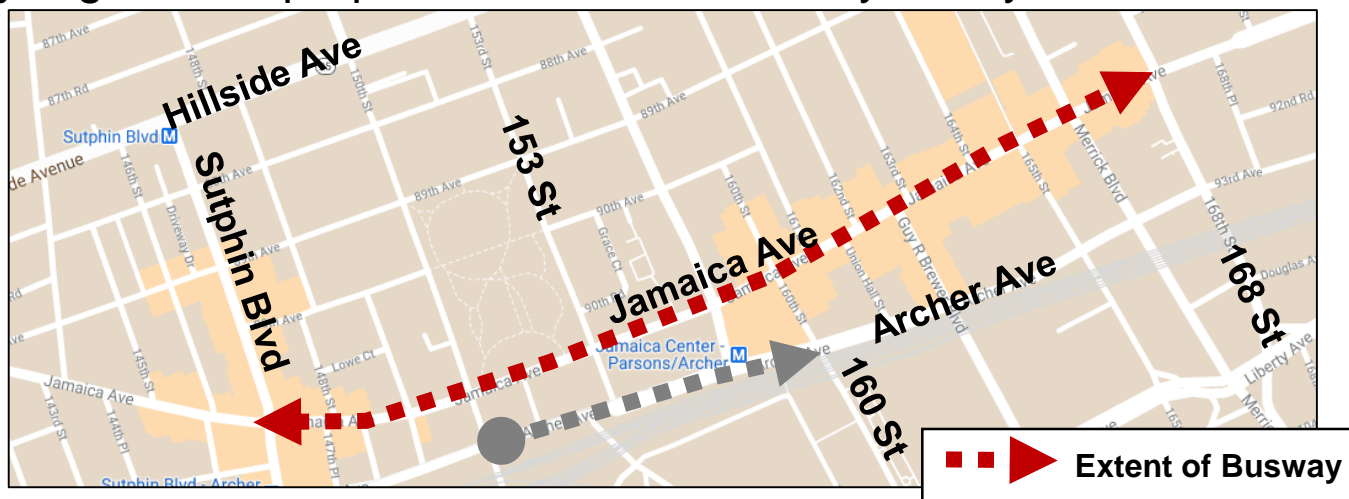
# Archer Ave Busway Pilot

## Proposed Eastbound Busway Configuration on Archer Ave



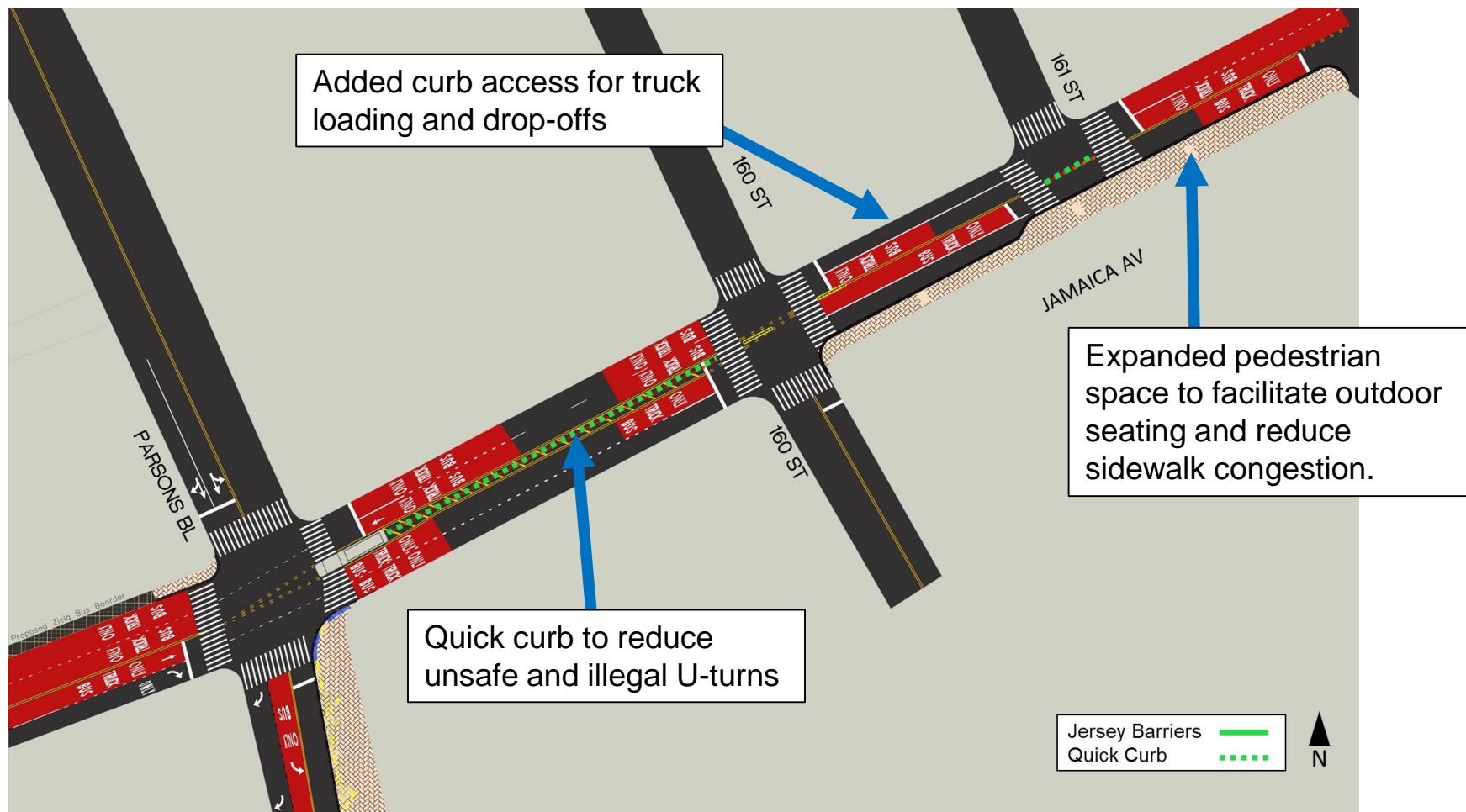
# Jamaica Ave Busway Pilot

- Busway will begin at Sutphin Blvd and extend to 168 St in both directions
- Buses and commercial trucks will have local and thru access
- Passenger vehicles will be able to access most blocks, but would have to make the next right turn
- New parking, loading, and pedestrian space where curbside bus lanes are removed
- Busway regulations proposed for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



# Jamaica Ave Busway Pilot

## Sample of Proposed Busway Configuration on Jamaica Ave



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## Local Access Plan & Vehicle Turn Requirements

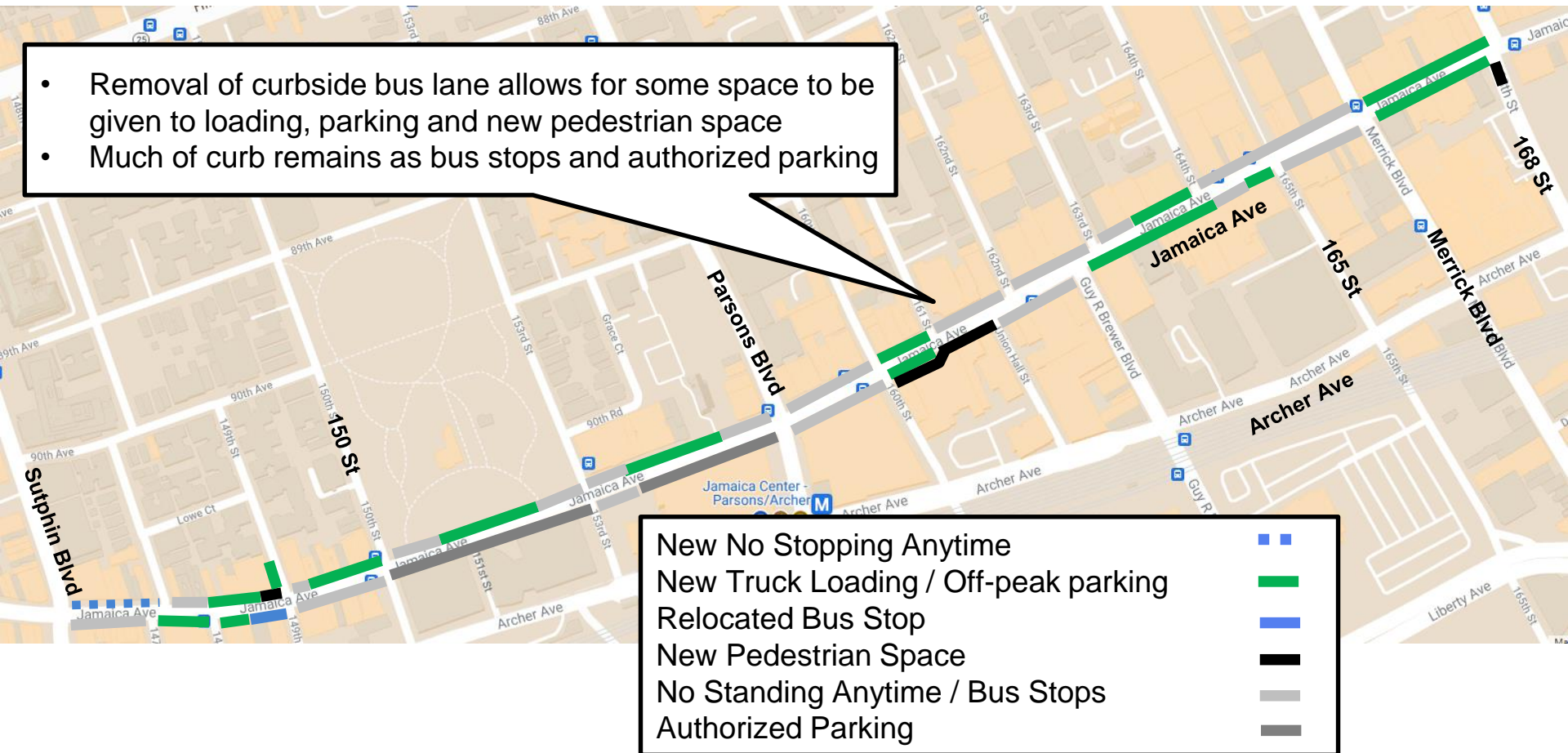
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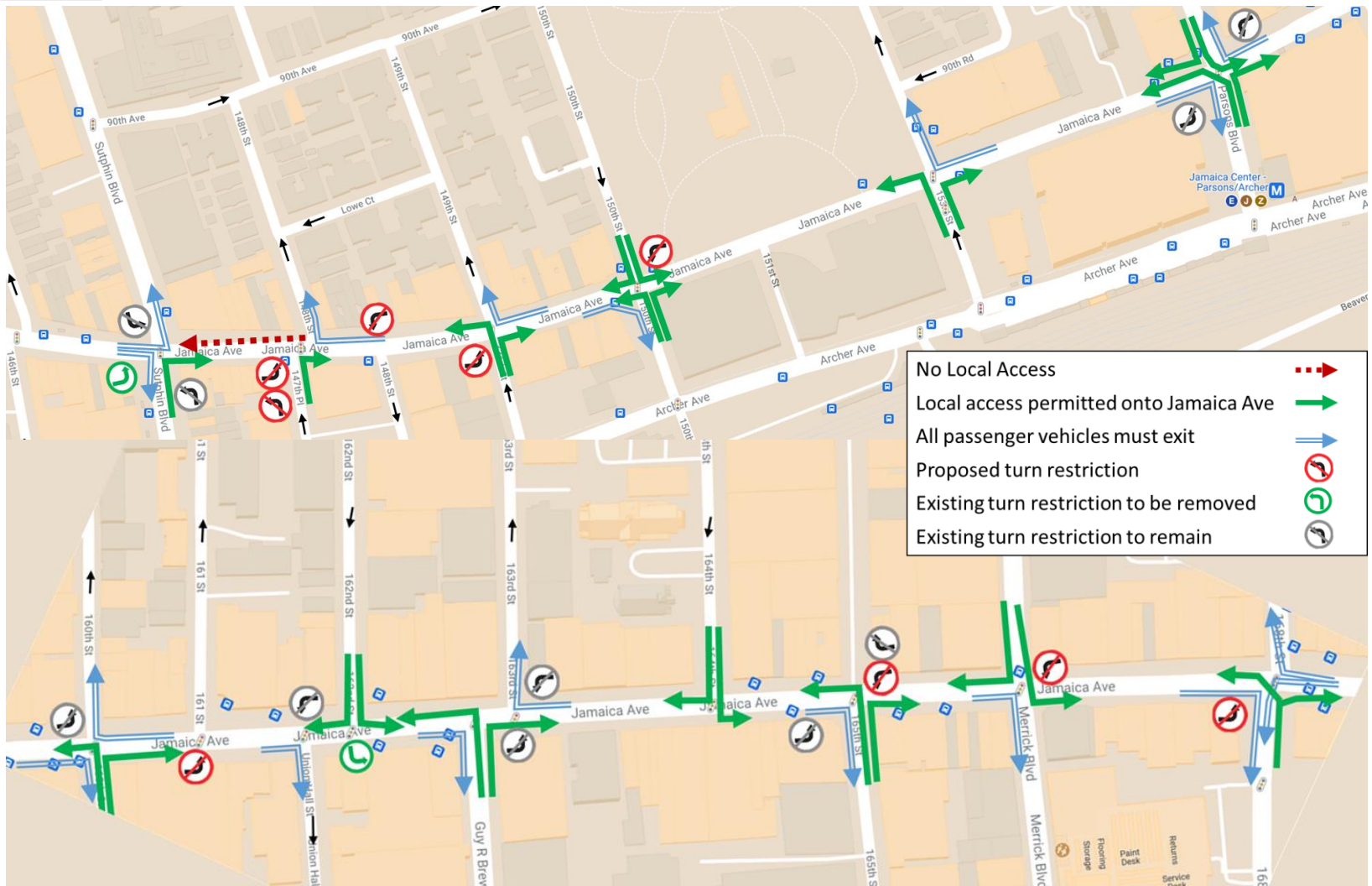
# Jamaica Ave Busway Pilot

## Curb Regulation Proposal

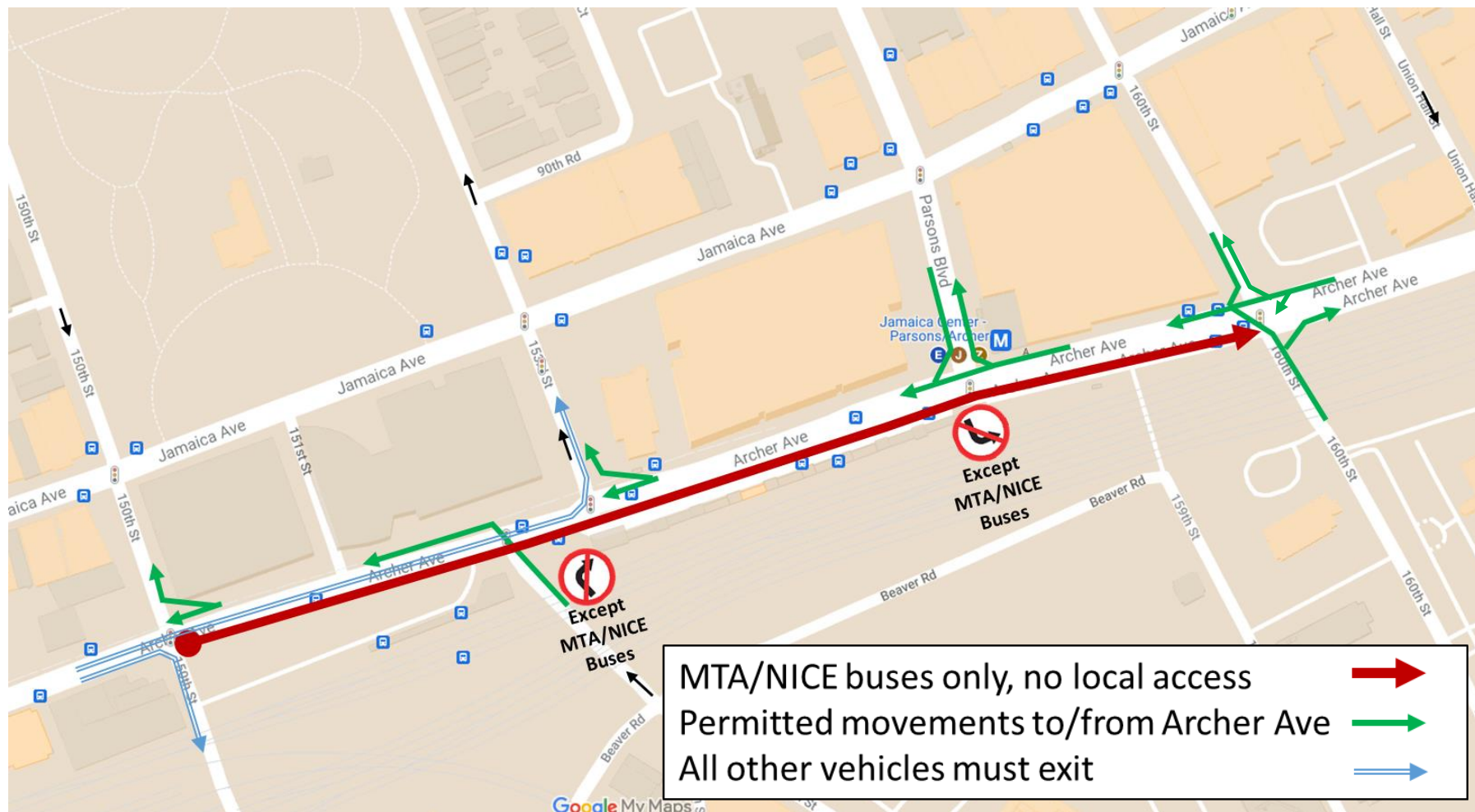
- Removal of curbside bus lane allows for some space to be given to loading, parking and new pedestrian space
- Much of curb remains as bus stops and authorized parking



# Jamaica Ave: Turn Requirements



# Archer Ave: Turn Requirements



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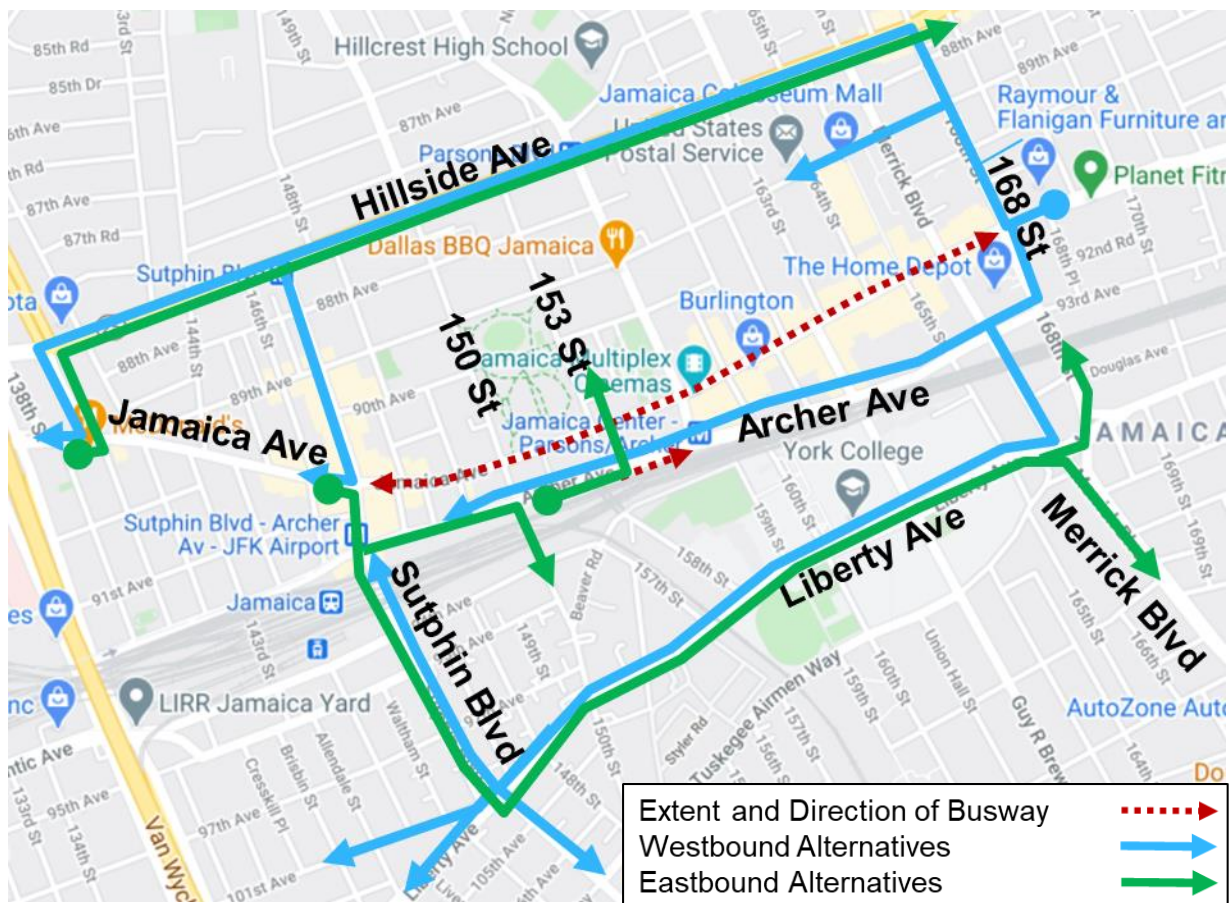
## Traffic Monitoring

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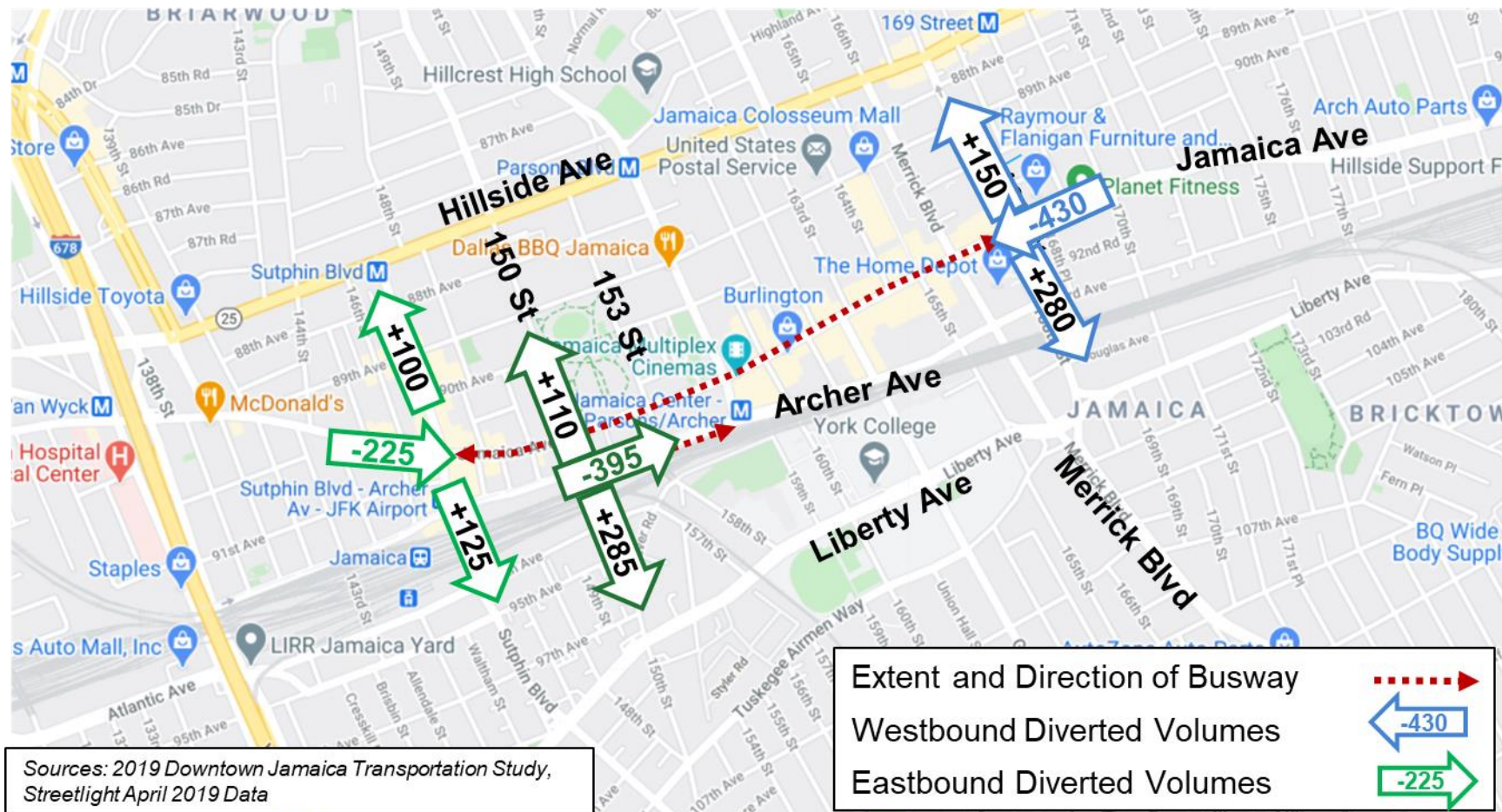


# Alternative Routes for Diverted Vehicles

- Signage in advance of the busways will direct drivers to preferred routes
- DOT will carefully monitor effects on alternative routes



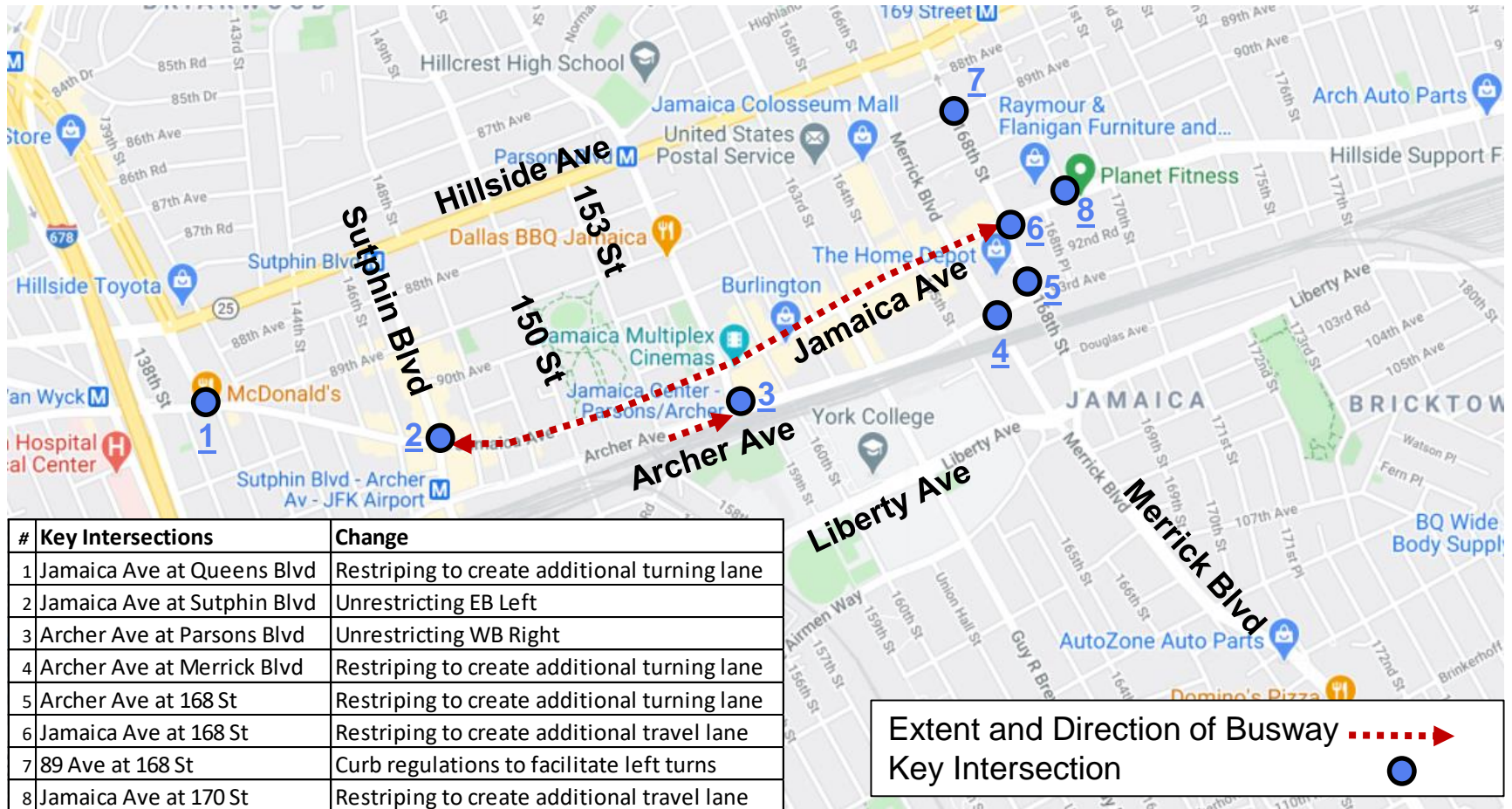
# Passenger Vehicle Diversions





# Design Changes to Improve Traffic Circulation

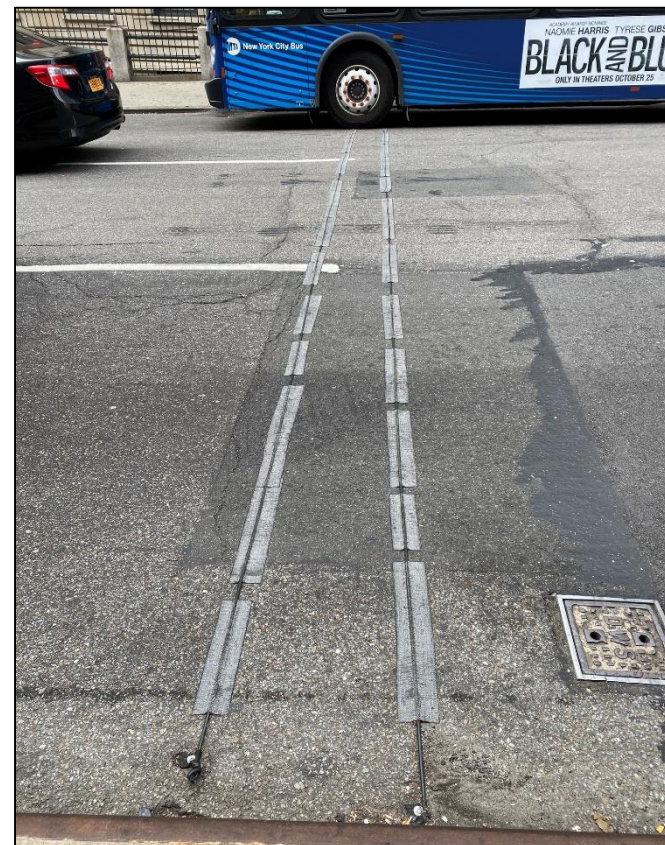
## Key Intersections Identified for Roadway Design / Restriction Changes



# Traffic Monitoring

## Jamaica and Archer Busways Monitoring Plan

- TEAs in place during launch to direct traffic flow
- DOT will monitor traffic volumes and patterns using multiple tools, including:
  - Automated Traffic Recorders (ATRs)
  - Manual and video vehicle counts
  - Streetlight and INRIX
  - MTA BusTime
- As pilots, adjustments can be made to improve traffic circulation as needed, including changes to:
  - Signal timing
  - Design / roadway markings
  - Signage

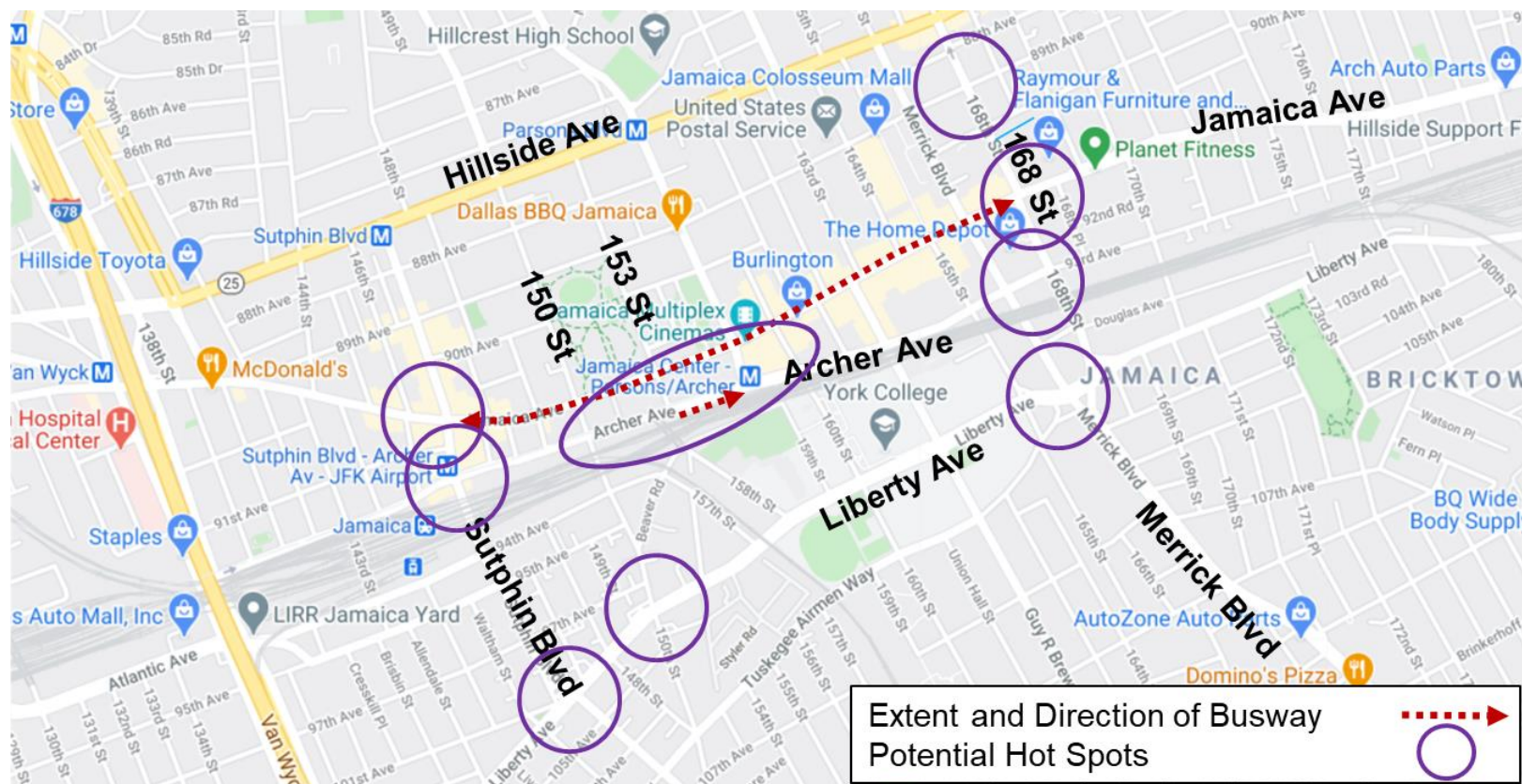


*Automated Traffic Recorder (ATR) on  
179 St, Manhattan*



# Traffic Monitoring

## Potential Hot Spot Locations for Additional Monitoring



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## Next Steps and Implementation

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# Next Steps

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**September 6 – October 23, 2021:** Project implementation

**October 24, 2021:**

- Project launch
- Daily monitoring begins of traffic and bus speeds

**Winter 2022:**

- Monitoring continues
- CAB #4 update

# Thank You!

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## Questions?



NYC DOT



NYC DOT



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NYC DOT



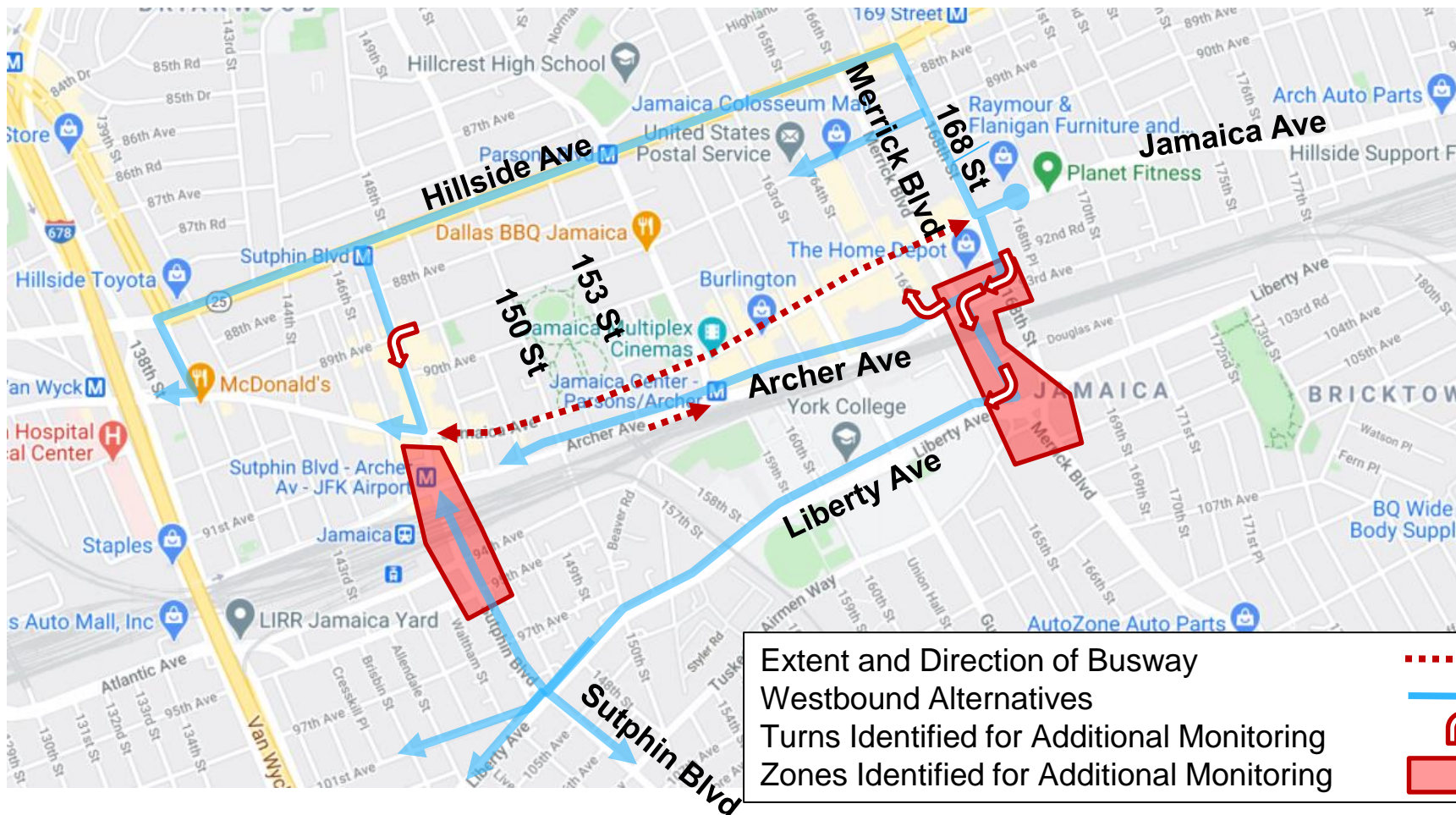
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# Appendix

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# Westbound Diversions Hot Spot Locations

## Areas Identified for Additional Monitoring



# Eastbound Diversions Hot Spot Locations

## Areas Identified for Additional Monitoring

