

Merrick Blvd Bus Lanes

NYC DOT | Better Buses Restart | November 18, 2020

Merrick Blvd, Queens



Better Buses Restart

Recovery Plan

In June, Mayor de Blasio announced a plan for fast, reliable transit service during reopening

- Buses played a vital role during the shutdown and continue to during recovery
- Good bus service needed for essential workers and attract people back to transit



The screenshot shows Mayor de Blasio speaking at a podium with the NYC seal. To his right is a graphic titled 'SAFER TRANSIT' with the following details:

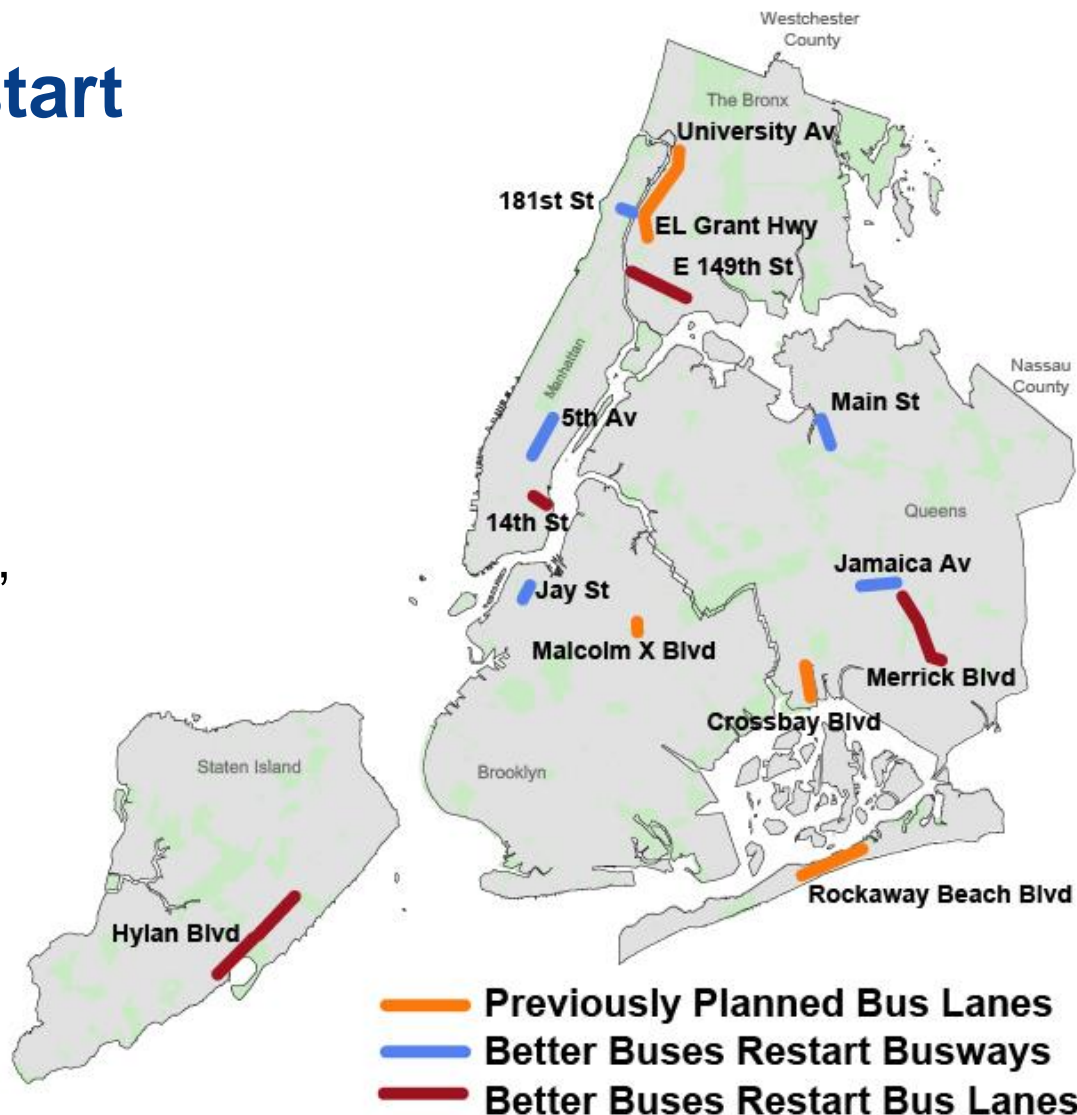
- NYC**
- SAFER TRANSIT**
- City will implement 20 total new miles of busways and bus lanes that will serve nearly 750,000 daily rides
- Faster travel, more frequent buses to increase social distance
- 5 new busways, similar to 14th Street
- 4 new bus lanes with signage and street markings
- 14th Street Busway will be made permanent

Better Buses Restart

Recovery Plan

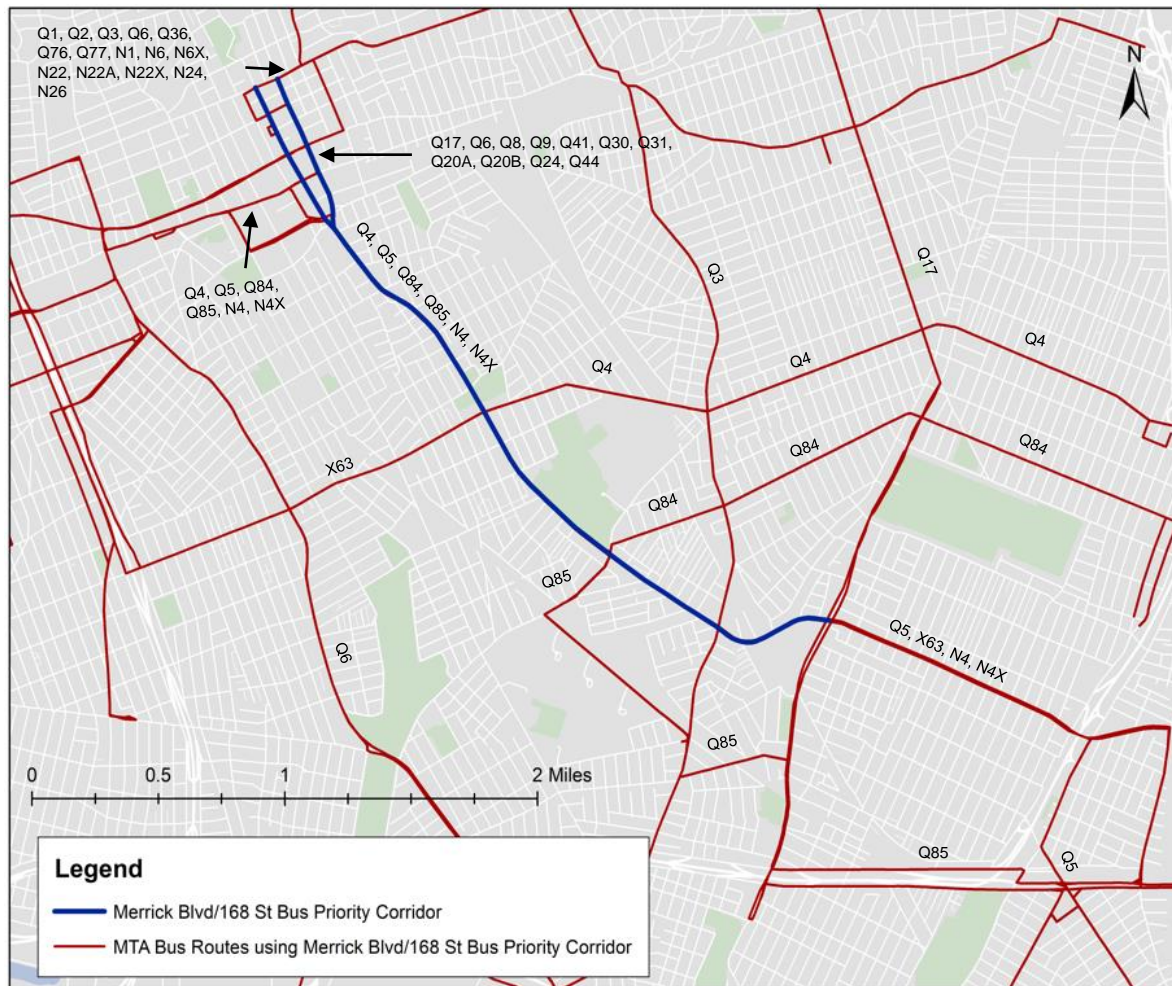
9 busway & bus lane projects announced, focused on:

- Vulnerable populations, essential workers
- Number of bus passengers served
- Potential to implement quickly
- Geographic equity



Corridor Description

- Merrick Blvd and 168 St between Hillside Ave and Springfield Blvd
- 3.2 mile, mostly commercial corridor
- Served by Q4, Q5, Q84, Q85, X63, N4 and N4X routes south of Archer Ave
- Many more routes circulate on Merrick/168 St north of Archer Ave
- Serves 94,000 daily riders



Community/Business Outreach

- Conducted 3 meetings with Community Advisory Board on 8/4, 8/27, 9/24
- Direct in-person outreach to businesses on 8/13, 8/17, 9/3, 9/17
- Walking tour conducted with CB12 on September 17th
- Walking tour conducted with CM Miller, NYPD, MTA, and Allen Cathedral Residence on November 5th
- Scheduling additional outreach effort with Small Business Services



Community Concerns

- Double parking and parking on sidewalk by auto body shop businesses
- Illegal U-turns across the median at Hendrickson Pl
- Need for commercial loading space
- Bus service and bus speeds



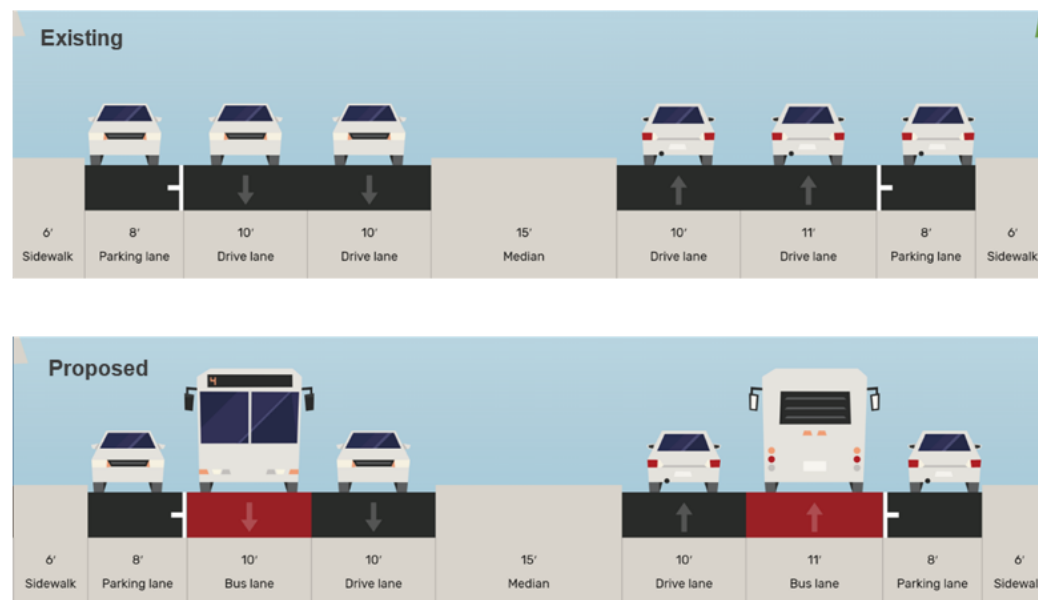
Merrick Blvd Bus Lanes Overview

DOT Bus Lanes

- Offset bus lanes (one lane out from the curb)
- 6.4 miles in total
- Only markings, no red paint in 2020
- Enforcement cameras after implementation
- Pedestrian safety elements at dangerous intersections; closing median cut at Hendrickson Pl

MTA Bus Stop Spacing

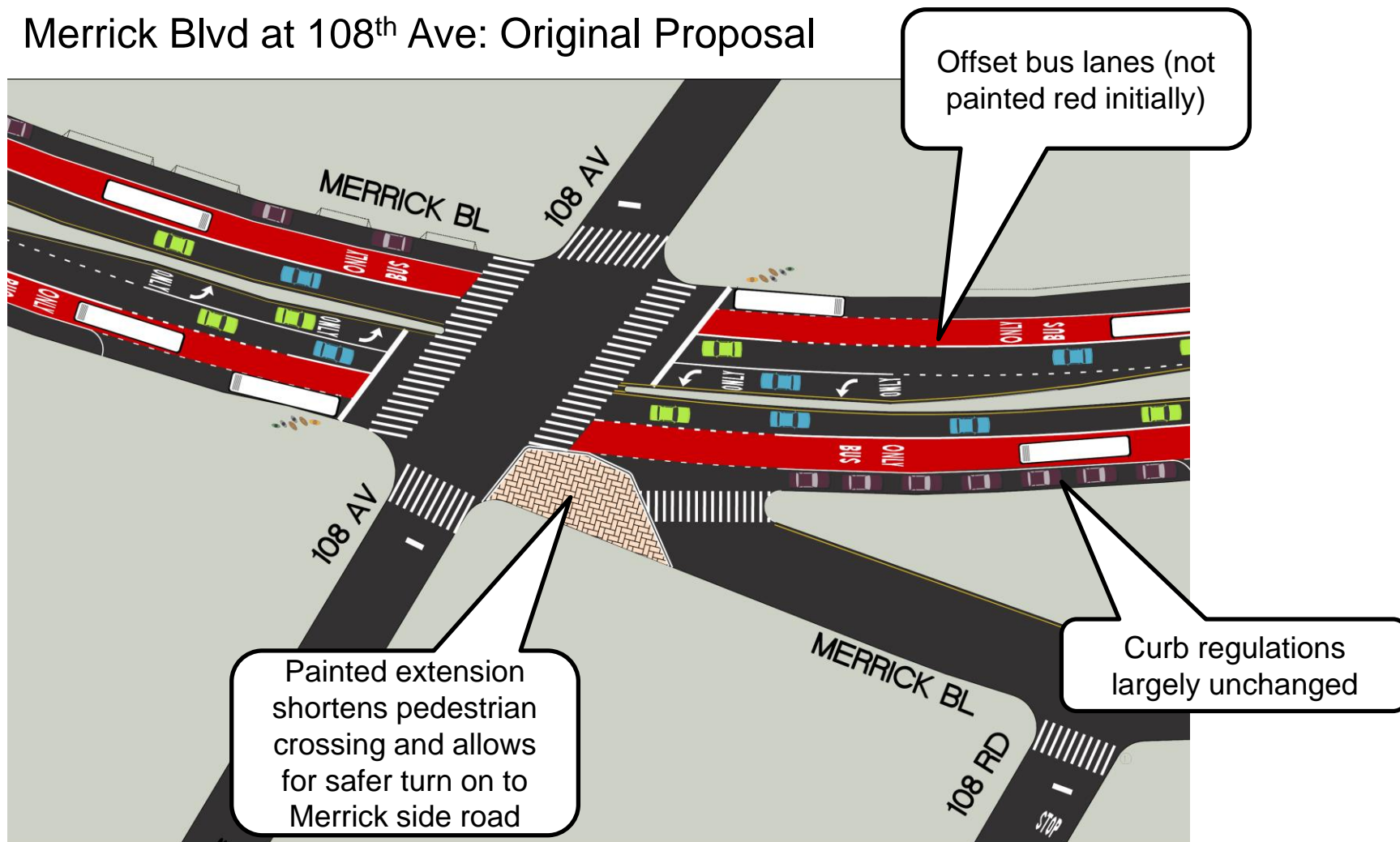
- Proposed revisions to bus stop spacing to improve speed and reliability



Merrick Blvd and 168th St between Springfield Ave and Archer Ave design concept

Merrick Blvd Bus Lanes Plan

Merrick Blvd at 108th Ave: Original Proposal



Implementation Progress

- Bus lane markings are mostly finished on corridor
- Bus lane signs will begin next week
- Commercial loading zones to be implemented this winter
- Red paint and bus lane cameras are planned for implementation in 2021
- Curb cut at Hendrickson PI closed off



Implementation Progress

- After consultation with CAB, DOT will be reevaluating the design of the northbound lane between 109th Ave and Liberty Ave
- This is a particularly difficult stretch where DOT must work with businesses and the community to address parking concerns
- Implementation on this section will commence in Spring 2021

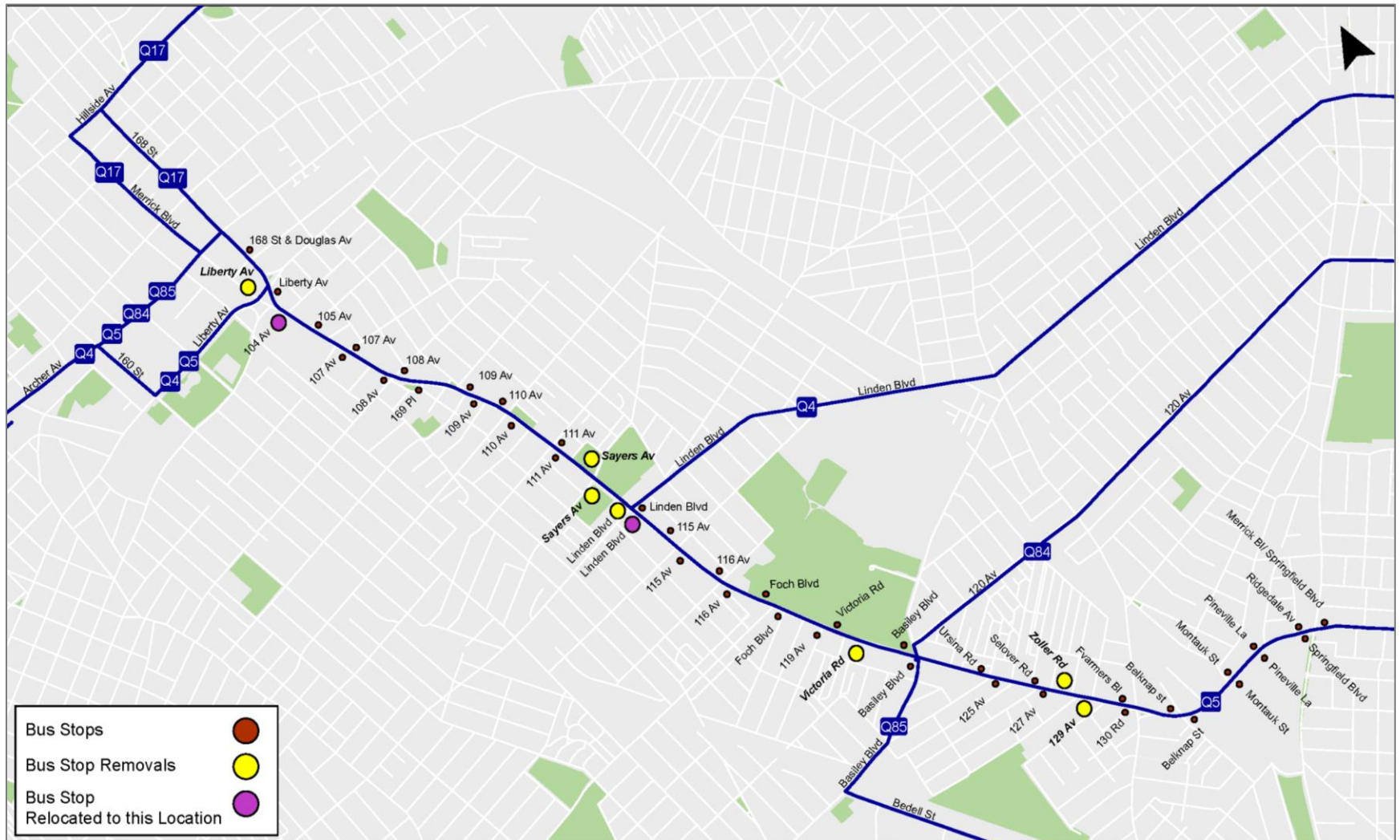


Improved Bus Stop Spacing

- Better, more consistent stop spacing can improve speed and reliability
- Adjusting stop locations at critical intersections can improve bus reliability and bus speed



Improved Bus Stop Spacing - Overview



Enforcement

Following walkthrough of Merrick Blvd with NYPD, DOT is committed to working with our enforcement partners on:

- Keeping bus lanes clear
- Monitoring bus lane compliance
- Regular enforcement on illegal parking and double parking
- Ongoing educational outreach to local businesses
- DOT also looking to place bus lane cameras on this corridor in 2021



Next Steps

- DOT will finish outstanding markings
- DOT will add bus lane signs
- Curb regulations changes to take place over fall and winter
- Following bus lane implementation DOT will monitor the corridor for:
 - Vehicle speeds and travel times
 - Bus speeds
 - Bus reliability
 - Parking and enforcement issues
- Additional CAB meetings will be scheduled after implementation is complete
- DOT to continue outreach with local businesses
- DOT will return next year to add red paint and bus lane cameras

Thank You!

Questions?



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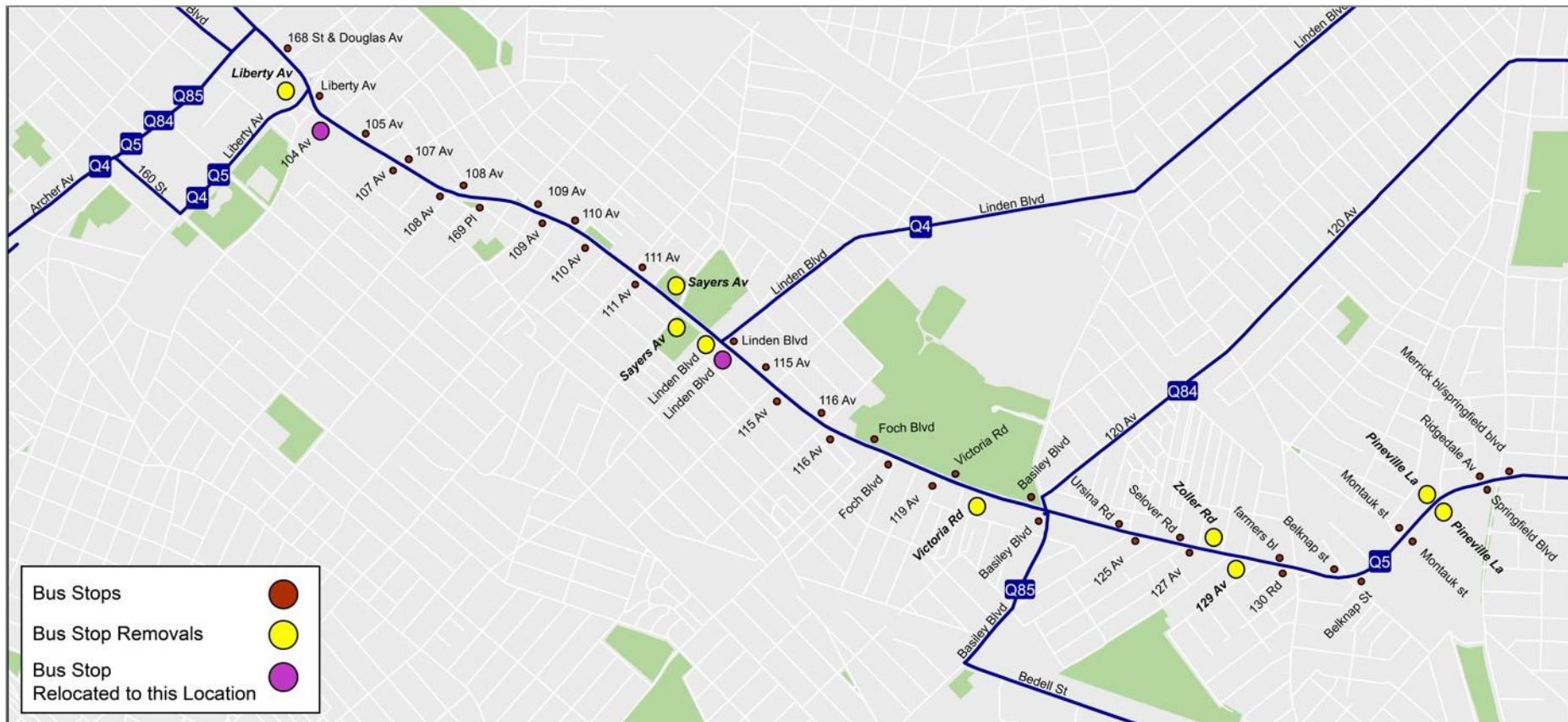


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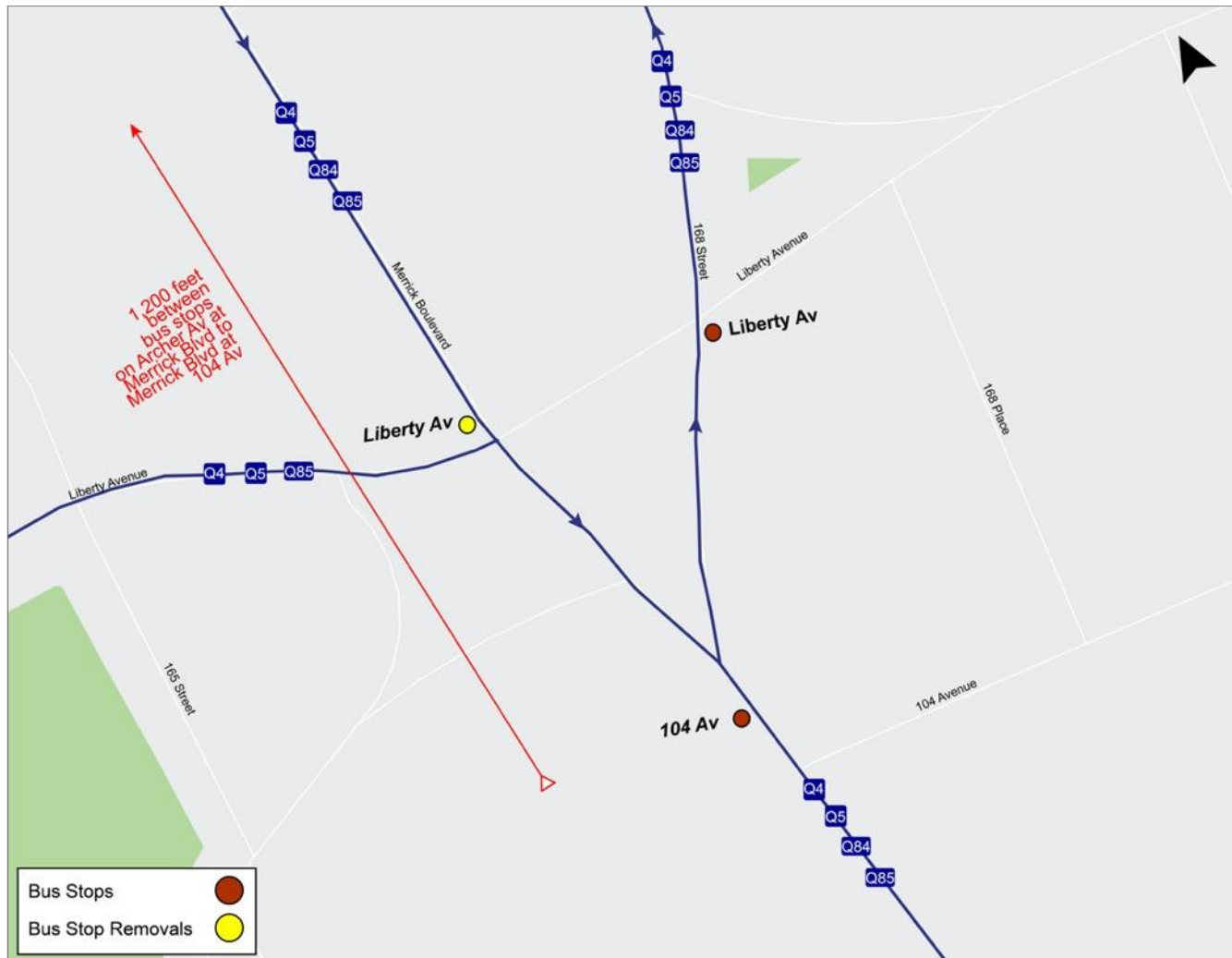


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Improved Bus Stop Spacing - Overview



Improved Bus Stop Spacing – Liberty Av



Improved Bus Stop Spacing – Sayres Av



Improved Bus Stop Spacing – Victoria & Zoller Rds

