

MYRTLE AVENUE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Queens Community Board 5 Transportation Committee

April 23, 2019





PROJECT LOCATION

- Myrtle Ave, St Nicholas Ave to Central Ave
- Busy commercial corridor within Ridgewood
- Myrtle Ave is a through truck route
- Major east/west corridor through central Queens



SAFETY DATA

Vision Zero

- Myrtle Ave is a Vision Zero Priority Corridor and is within a Vision Zero Priority Area
- There have been 148 injuries and 14 people killed or severely injured on this one mile stretch of Myrtle Ave between 2013 and 2017
- Within NYC DOT's Ridgewood Glendale Senior Pedestrian Focus Area

| | | Severe | Fatalities | KSI |
|------------------------|----------|----------|------------|-----|
| | Injuries | Injuries | | |
| Pedestrian | 51 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Bicyclist | 24 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Motor Vehicle Occupant | 73 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Total | 148 | 12 | 2 | 14 |



EXISTING CONDITIONS

Multi-legged Intersections

- Multiple streets intersect with Myrtle Ave at once creating atypical, large intersections
- Missing crosswalks along pedestrian desire lines reduce pedestrian safety at intersections
- Multiple movements possible for vehicles leading to more potential vehicle-pedestrian conflicts



Multi-legged intersection of Myrtle Ave, St Nicholas Ave, and Madison $\ensuremath{\mathsf{St}}$

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Angled Intersections

- Most streets intersect Myrtle Ave at atypical angles
- Vehicular turns have low visibility and can be taken at high speed
- Angled intersections result in elongated pedestrian crossings



Onderdonk Ave and Centre St intersect Myrtle Ave at a sharp angle

St Nicholas Ave / Madison St



- New crosswalk along pedestrian desire line on west side of Madison St
- Peg-a-track through intersection to guide vehicles
- No loss of parking

Putnam Ave



- Painted curb extension on the southeast corner of Myrtle Ave and Putnam Ave
- Loss of 1 parking space on Putnam Ave, gain of 1 space on Myrtle Ave

Seneca Ave / Hancock St



- New crosswalk along pedestrian desire line on west side of Seneca Ave
- Peg-a-track through intersection to guide vehicles
- No loss of parking





Similar double crossing exists at Myrtle Ave, Forest Ave, and George St

Onderdonk Ave / Centre St



- Painted curb extension on the southeast corner of Myrtle Ave and Centre St
- Painted curb extension on the northeast corner of Myrtle Ave and Onderdonk Ave
- Loss of 4 parking spaces required

Summerfield St



• Painted curb extension on the southeast corner of Myrtle Ave and Summerfield St

Loss of 1 parking space required

Central Ave



- Left turn traffic calming to create a safer turn from eastbound Myrtle Ave to northeast bound Central Ave
- No loss of parking





Examples of left turn traffic calming at 80th Rd and Park Lane, QN and at W Burnside Ave and Grand Ave, BX

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Myrtle Ave

- St Nicholas Ave/Madison St
 - New crosswalk along pedestrian desire line
- Putnam Ave
 - Curb extension on southeast corner
- Seneca Ave/Hancock St
 - New crosswalk along pedestrian desire line
- Onderdonk Ave/Centre St
 - Two curb extensions on northeast/southeast corners
- Summerfield St
 - Curb extension on southeast corner
- Central Ave
 - Left turn traffic calming from eastbound
 Myrtle Ave to northeast bound Central
 Ave



• Net loss of 5 parking spaces

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

- Realigns intersections to standardize and improve vehicle movements
- Encourages slower, safer turns onto and off of Myrtle Ave to reduce vehicle/pedestrian conflicts
- Provides additional pedestrian space on crowded commercial corridor and shortens pedestrian crossing distances
- Provides clarity and improves vehicle and pedestrian predictability



THANK YOU!

Questions?





nyc.gov/visionzero