

Queens Waterfront Greenway: Existing Conditions

Bowery Bay to Willets Point (Flushing Meadows Corona Park & Downtown Flushing)

October 16, 2024



Agenda

- 6:00 6:15 PM: Introduction
- 6:15 6:50 PM: Presentation
- 6:50 7:40 PM: Group Discussion
- 7:40 7:50 PM: Report Back
- 7:50-8:00 PM: Next Steps/Announcements



Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Project Team





Consultant Support
Sam Schwartz

Project Background



What is a Greenway?

- Increase access and mobility
- Provide opportunities for active transportation
- Improve connections to neighborhood amenities such as parks and waterfront
- Encourage economic development



Greenways are continuous, multi-use corridors for human-powered or electric-assist transportation and recreation, defined and named by the City and communitydriven planning processes

> →Greenway segment

> > →Greenway connector

Astoria Park

BUMP

Shore Front Pkwy

Project Goal

Work with community members to **develop a comprehensive plan for a continuous, safe, and accessible path** that serves the diverse neighborhoods of Queens.

RAISE Grant

- NYC DOT, EDC, and Parks awarded \$7.25M in federal planning funds in 2022
- Selected five "Early Action corridors" across the outer boroughs prioritizing low- and moderate-income communities outside of Manhattan





Why Queens?

- Many neighborhoods are disconnected from the Queens waterfront by highways, airports, and industrial uses.
- This portion of Queens contains 22 miles of shoreline and 20 public parks, many which have recently received public investment.



Powell's Cove Park

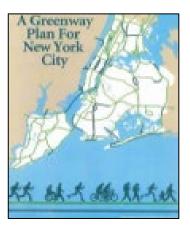


Francis Lewis Park



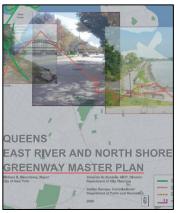
Little Bay Park

Past Planning Studies



A Greenway Plan for New York City, **1993**

Key objective: Vision for a greenway system of over 350 mi of bicycle and pedestrian paths.



Queens East River and North Shore Greenway Master Plan, **2006**

Key objective: Proposes 10.6-mile shared-use trail along Queens waterfront

Action Plan Street 2014

Vision Zero Action Plan, **2014**

Key objective: Multiagency effort to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through engineering, enforcement, education, and legislation.

Flushing Brownfield Opportunity Area Nomination Study Community of Flushing, Queens County, NY Flushing Brownfield Opportunity Area Nomination Study, **2017**

Key objective:

Spur the revitalization and redevelopment of underutilized and environmentallychallenged areas near the Flushing waterfront



NYC Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, **2020**

Key objective: Identify opportunities to expand waterfront public access zoning



Destination Greenways Queens Update, **2022**

Key objective: Provide updates on status of various Queens greenwaysrelated projects

Implementation Strategy

Street Improvement Projects (SIPs) use DOT's in-house resources such as paint and delineators to make street design changes **quickly**



39th Ave DOT In-house SIP, 2021

Capital Projects are longer-term, major street reconstruction projects that modify the geometry of the street and are often coordinated with sewer and water upgrades



Kent Ave DOT/DDC Capital Project, 2021

Project Timeline

Milestones:

• Spring 2024 Project Kick-off **Fall 2024** Workshop Round 1: Existing Conditions • **Spring/Summer 2025** Workshop Round 2: Route Alternatives

• Summer/Fall 2026

Workshop Round 3: Preferred Routes, Final Implementation Plan

Outreach Throughout Process:

- Greenways Community Working Group meetings
- Public engagement at community events
- Elected Officials, Community Boards, stakeholders
- Data collection & Analysis

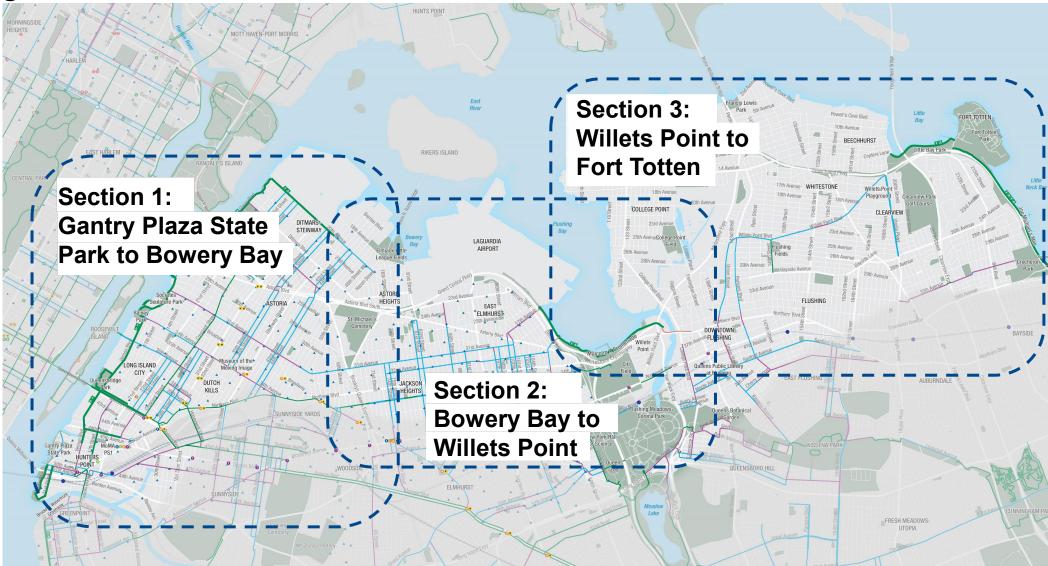
Stay in touch:

- Project Website/feedback portal
- Newsletters, group e-mails
- Social Media
- Flyer Distribution

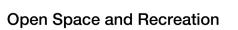
Study Area

nyc.gov/dot

Project Area



Key Destinations: Parks, Open Space, and Recreation

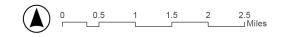


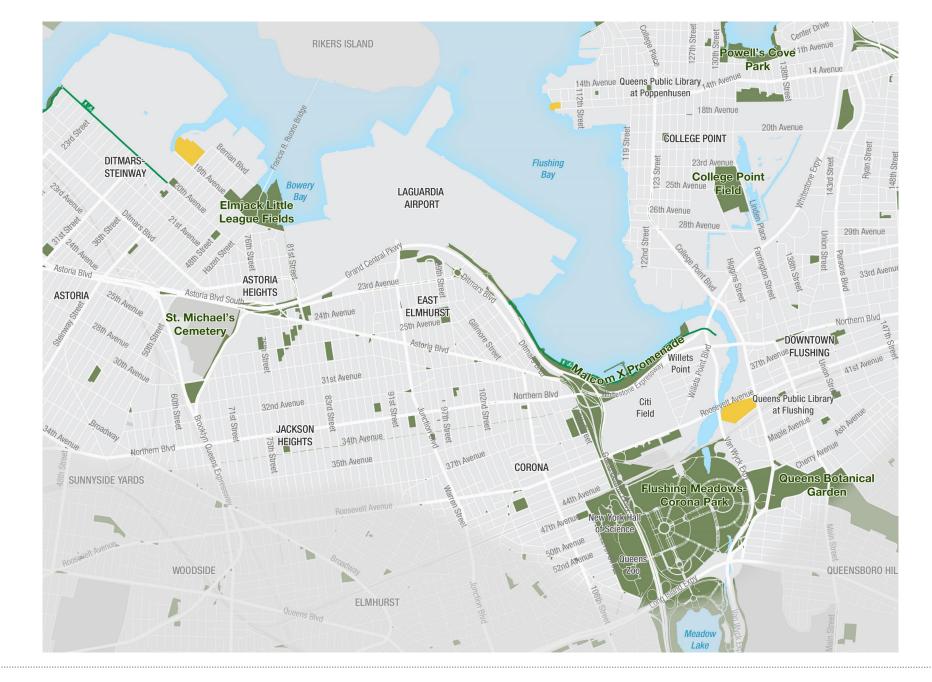
Parks

Privately-Owned Waterfront Lots with Variable Public Access

Cemeteries

Existing Greenway

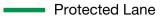




nyc.gov/dot

Key Destinations: Existing Bicycle Infrastructure





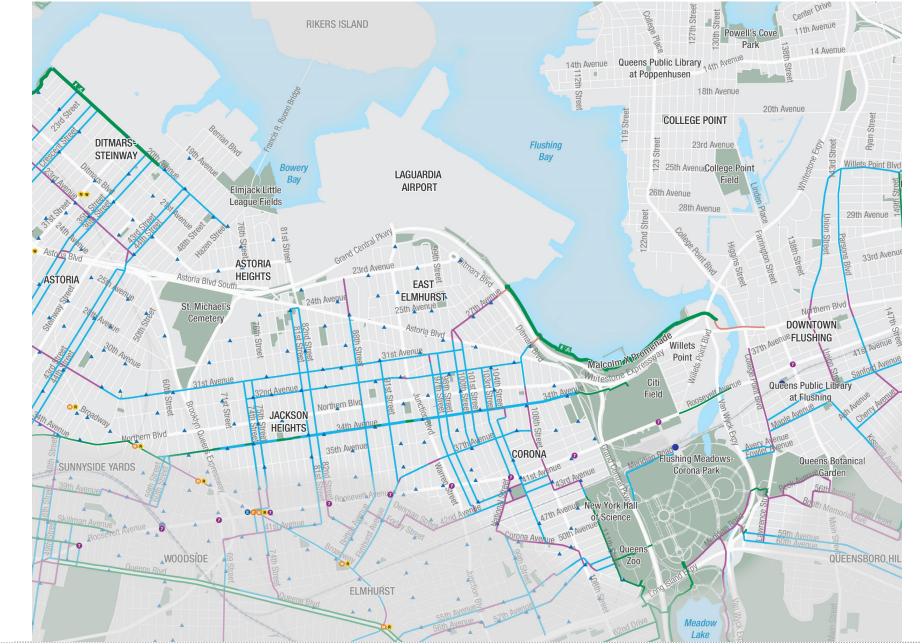
- Conventional Lane
- Shared Lane
- Signed Route
- Citi Bike Docks

Public Transportation

••••• MTA Subway

Hong Island Rail Road





Key Destinations: Community Assets & Places of Interest

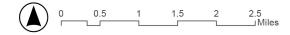
Community Asset & Places of Interest

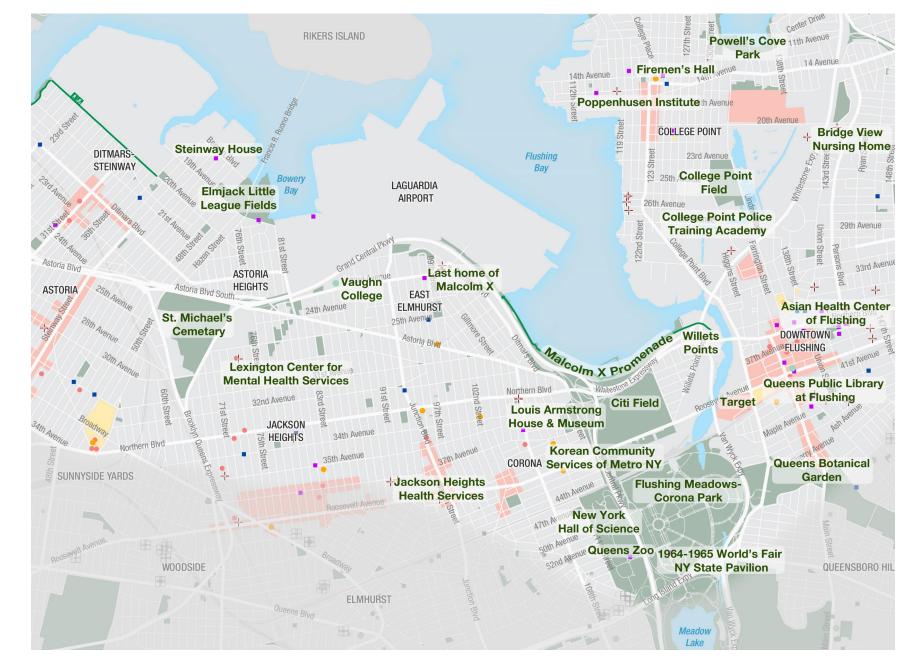
- Hospitals
- Senior Centers
- + Healthcare Facilities
- Higher Education
- Historic Places



NYCHA Housing

Existing Greenway

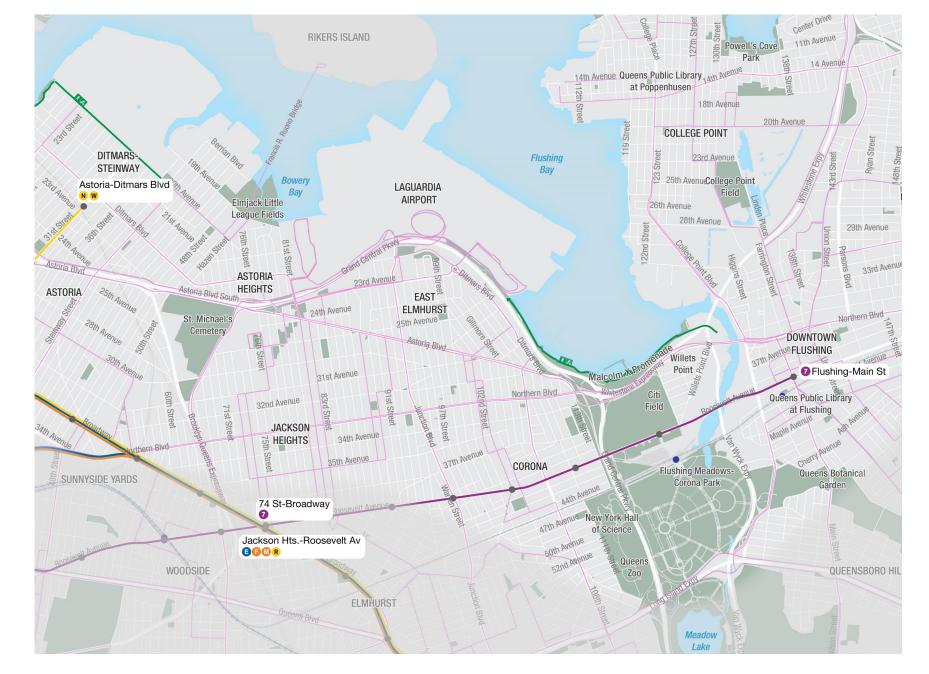




Key Destinations: Transit Network and Hubs



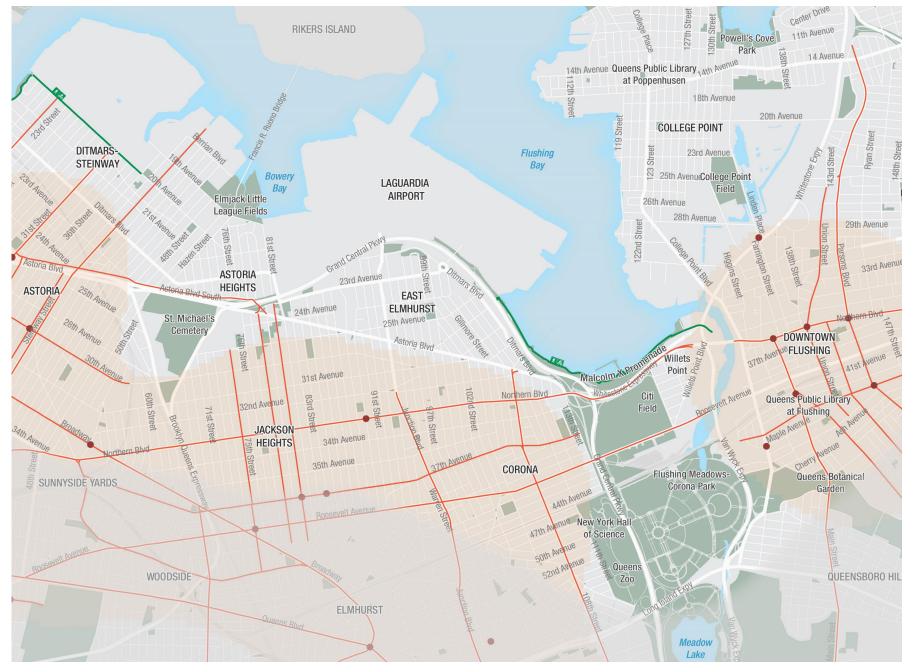




Key Destinations: Safety – Vision Zero Priority Areas



2.5 ___Miles

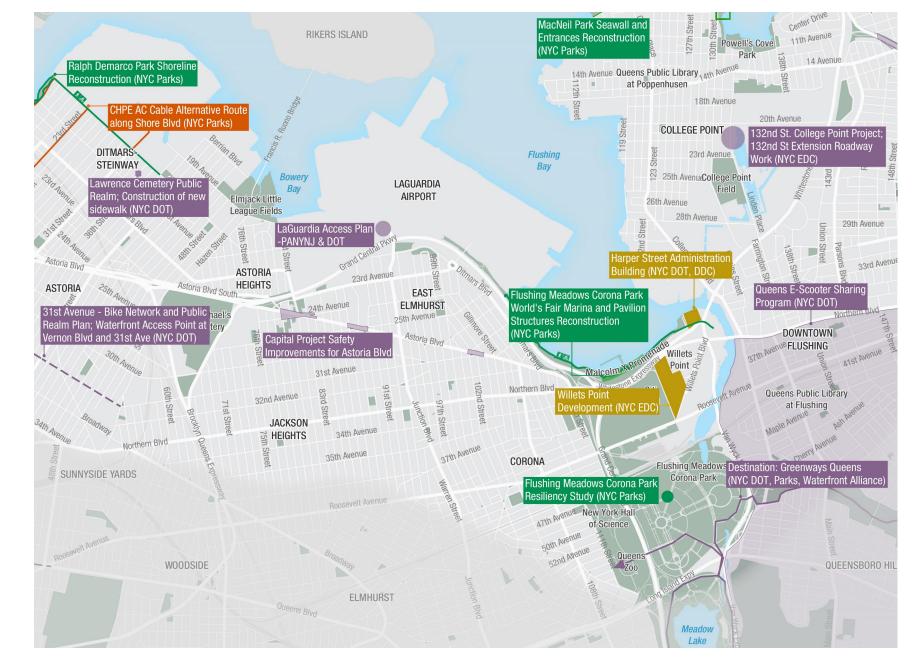


Planned Projects

Selected Planned and Ongoing Projects







Challenges and Opportunities



Short Term Opportunities



Greenways Paths

Shared Paths

Bike Boulevards



Intersection Crossings



Wayfinding



Pedestrian Space



Street Furniture & Greenery



Public Art



Community Programming

Long Term Opportunities



Raised Paths



Improved Waterfront Access



Pedestrian Plazas



Comprehensive Street Redesign



Parks and Landscape



Ped + Bike Bridge

Astoria Heights/ Bowery Bay



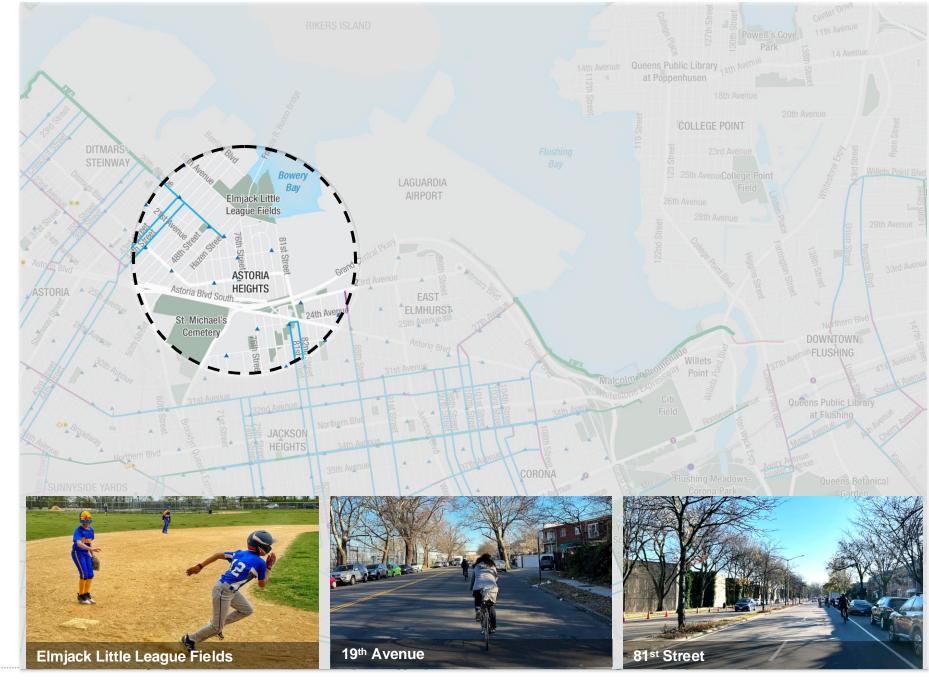


- Signed Route
- Citi Bike Docks

Public Transportation

- MTA Subway
- Long Island Rail Road

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles



Astoria Heights/ Bowery Bay

Bike Infrastructure

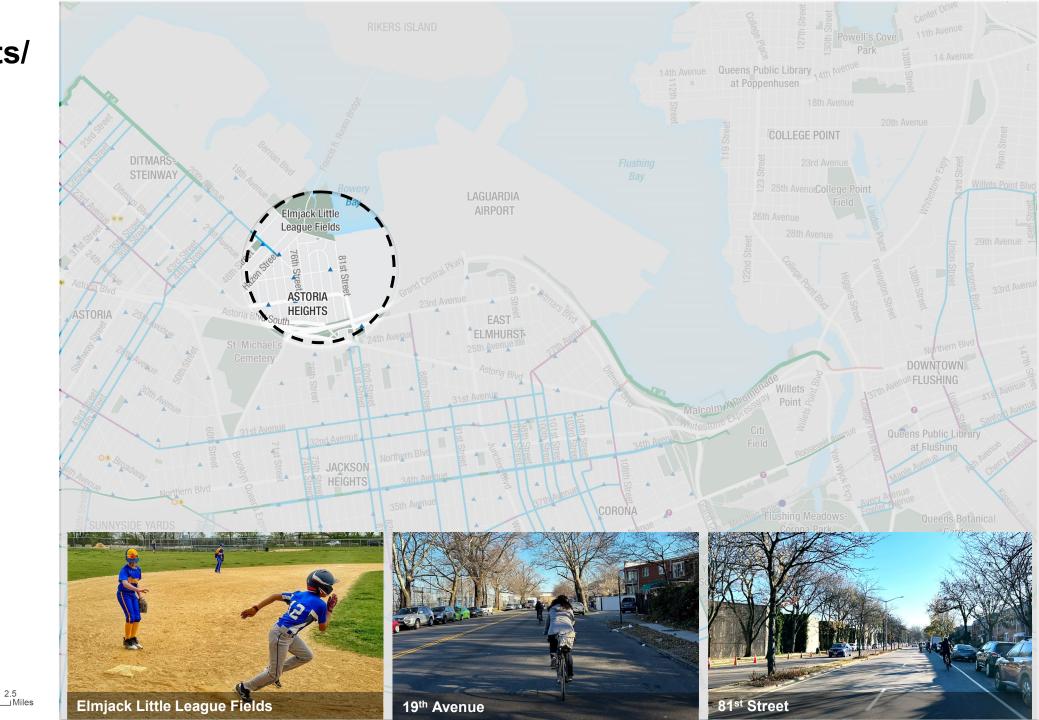
- Protected Lane
- Conventional Lane
- Shared Lane
- Signed Route
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Public Transportation

••••• MTA Subway

0.5

Long Island Rail Road



East Elmhurst/ LaGuardia Airport

DITMARS **STEINWAY** ASTORIA 23rd Avenu HEIGHTS EAST ELMHURST 24th Avenu 25th Avenue Astoria Blvd 0 Queens Public Librar JACKSON HEIGHTS 35th Aven CORONA Ø 2.5 I Miles Ditmars & 102nd (LaGuardia Airport) 23rd Ave & 90th St. **Planeview Park**

Bike Infrastructure

- Protected Lane
- Conventional Lane
- Shared Lane
- Signed Route
- Citi Bike Docks

Public Transportation

- MTA Subway
- Long Island Rail Road

Flushing Bay, Malcom X Promenade



Bike Infrastructure

- Protected Lane
- Conventional Lane
- Shared Lane
- Signed Route
- Citi Bike Docks

Public Transportation

1.5

••••• MTA Subway

0.5

Long Island Rail Road

Willets Point, **Downtown Flushing**

Bike Infrastructure

Conventional Lane

Protected Lane

Shared Lane

Signed Route Citi Bike Docks

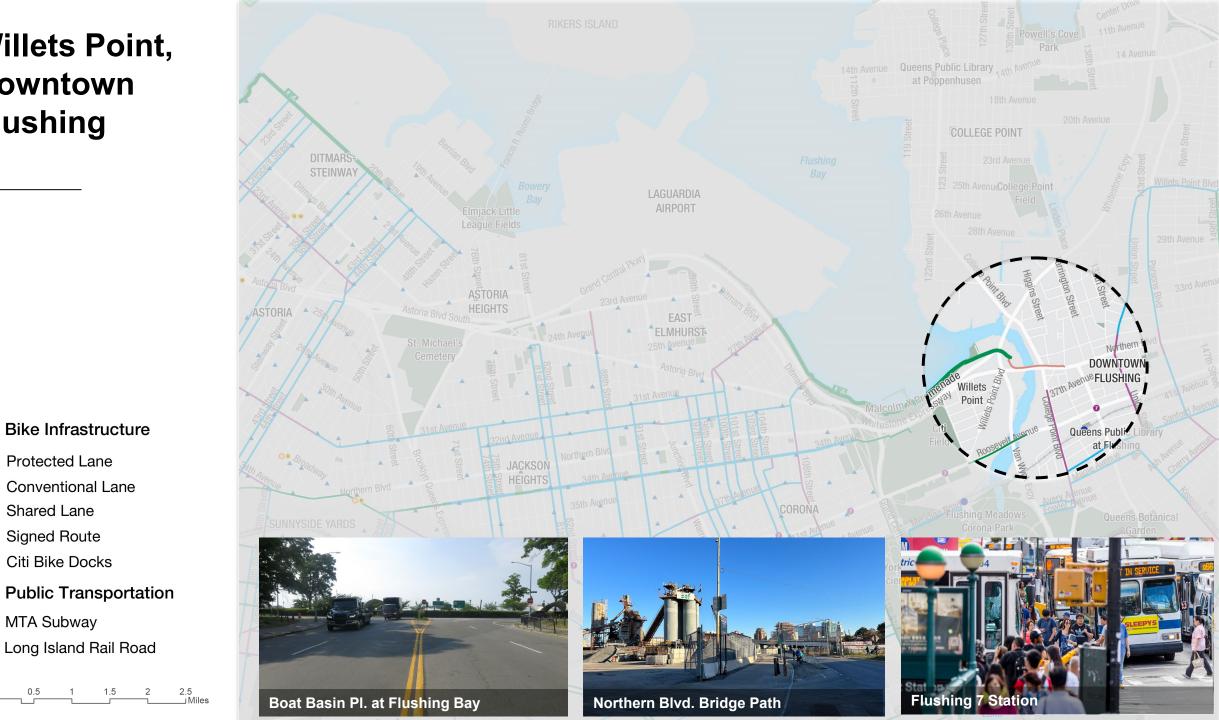
MTA Subway

0.5

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Long Island Rail Road

1.5



Tell Us What You Think!

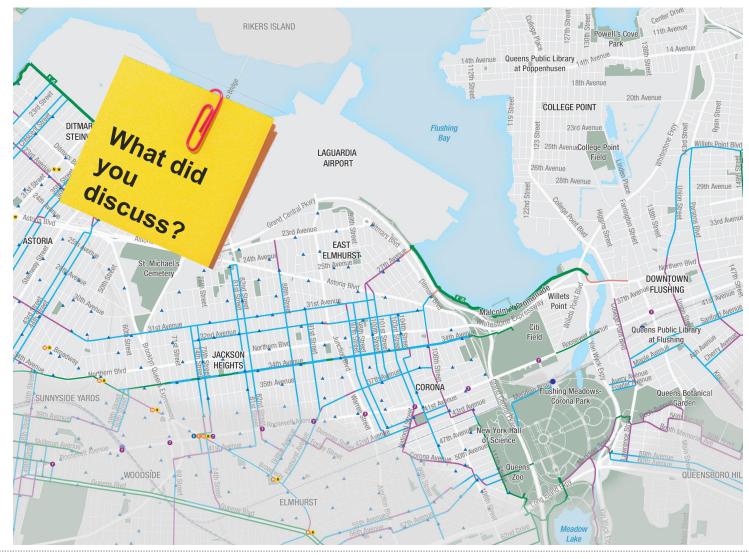


Break-out Groups (50 minutes)

Tell us what you think!



Report Back

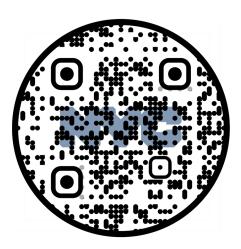


Stay Informed

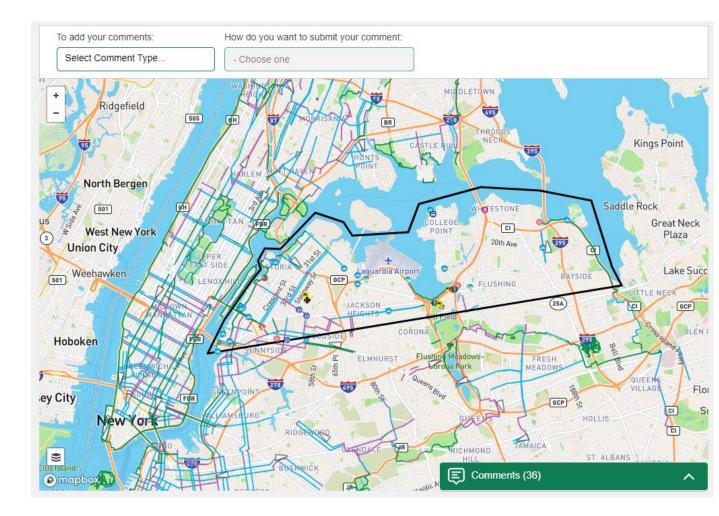
How to provide additional feedback:

You can provide additional comments at the feedback portal

• To learn more, visit the project website using the QR code below



To stay informed about the Bike Unit's work more broadly, sign up for NYCycles.



Next Steps

Ongoing public engagement

Community Workshop series:

- 1. Tuesday, October 6, 6-8pm
- 2. Wednesday, October 16, 6-8pm
- 3. Thursday, October 24, 6-8pm
- 4. Tuesday, October 29, 6-8pm (Virtual)

Spring/Summer 2025:

 Identify potential routes and project ideas based on community input



Vernon Boulevard

Thank You!

