

# Bus Forward

## Webster Avenue, E 176 St – E 174 St Improvements

Bronx Community Boards 5 Municipal Services Committee | May 7, 2019



# BETTER BUSES ACTION PLAN

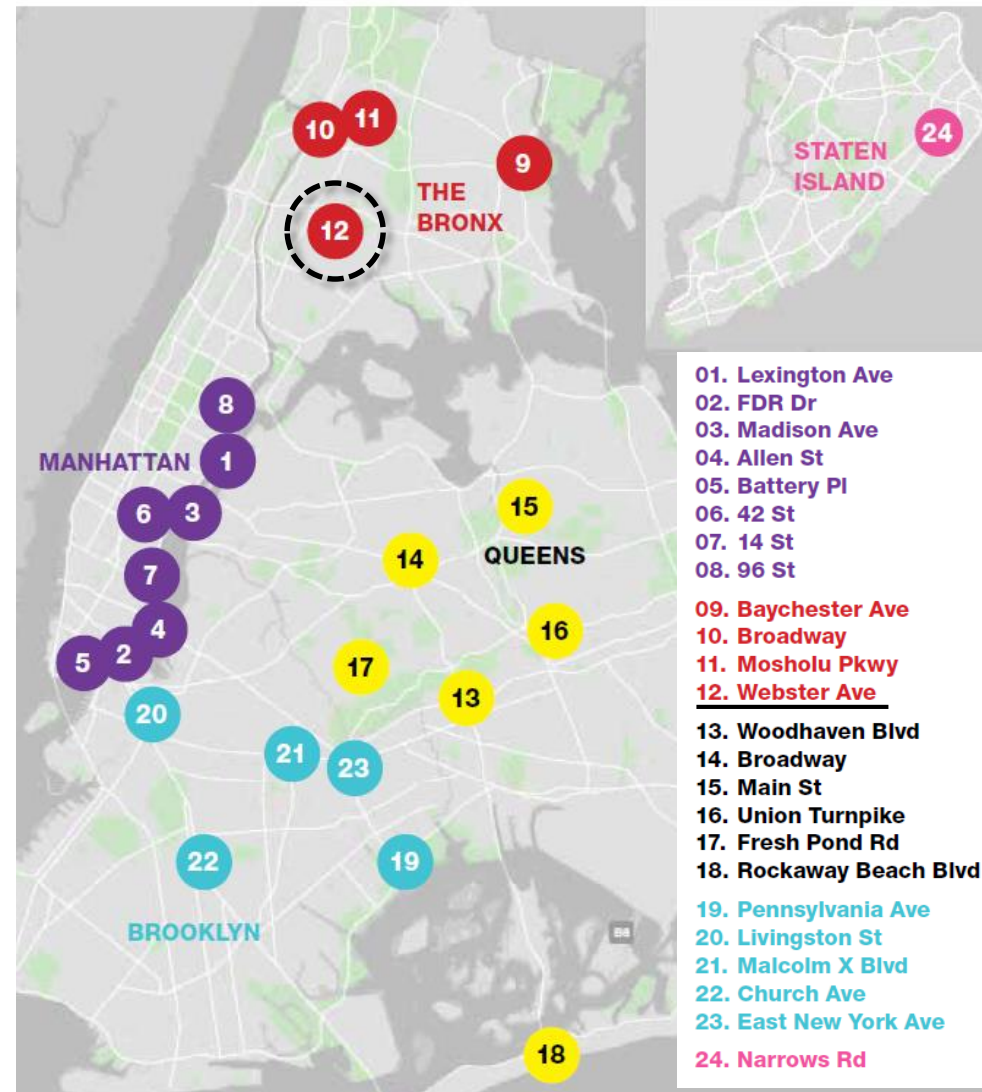
- Mayor's 2019 State of the City
  - Improve bus speeds 25% by 2020
- Better Buses Action Plan released April 2019
  - 24 priority projects announced for 2019 to increase bus speeds across all 5 boroughs





# BETTER BUSES ACTION PLAN

- Webster Avenue between E 176 St and E 174 St identified as priority 2019 project due to:
  - Declining bus speeds
  - Unreliable bus travel times
  - Numerous traffic injuries, particularly at the intersection of the Cross Bronx Expressway



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# Background

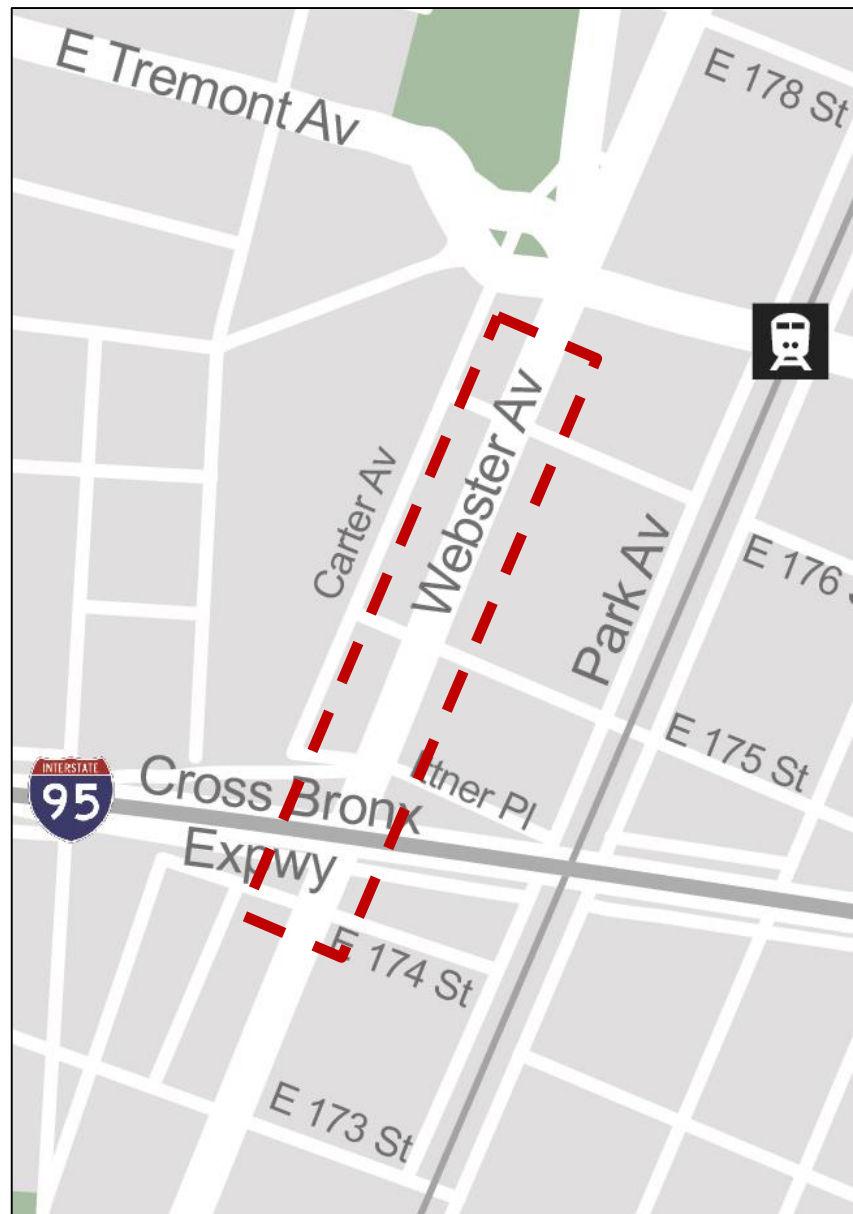
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# SAFETY

- Webster Avenue near the Cross Bronx Expressway is a heavily trafficked corridor, creating numerous conflicts between all roadway users
- Vision Zero Priority Area
- 195 traffic injuries, including 3 pedestrian fatalities (2013-2017)
- April 2018 cyclist fatality

Webster Avenue, E 176 St – E 174 St  
Injury Summary, 2013-2017 (5 years)

	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	12	2	3	5
Bicyclists	6	1	0	1
Motor Vehicle Occupant	177	10	0	10
Total	195	13	3	16

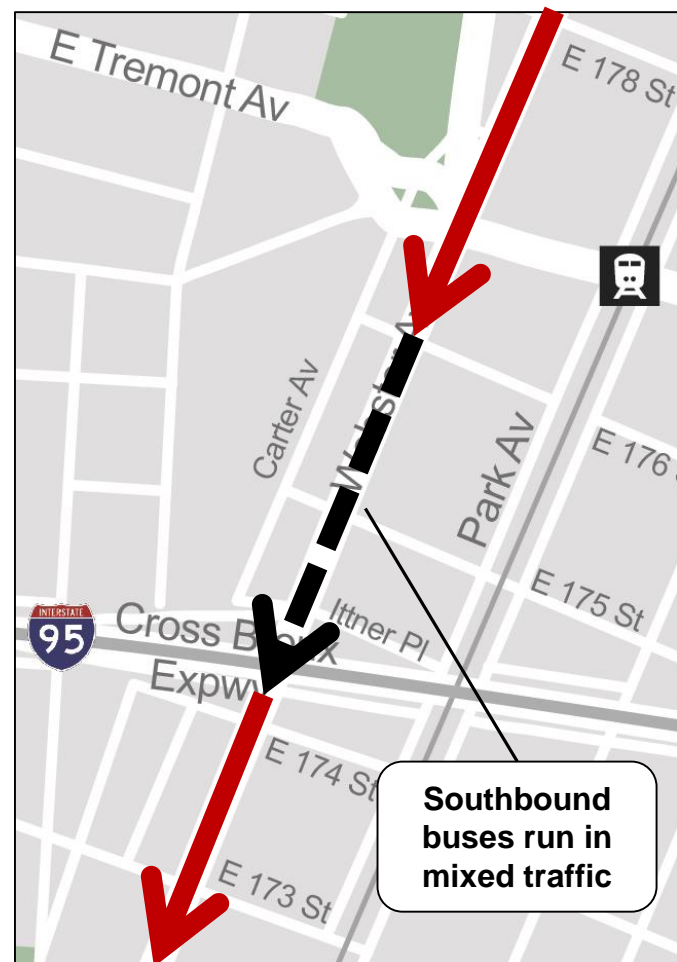


# BUS SPEEDS

- Bx41 Select Bus Service (SBS) launched in June 2013
- After initial speed improvements due to SBS implementation, southbound Bx41 travel times have slowed ~11% along this stretch of Webster Avenue
- Current southbound bus lane stops at E 176 St and does not resume until E 174 St. Buses run in mixed traffic causing slowdowns



Webster Av and E 176 St, looking North



Bx41 SBS – Southbound Speeds

	Project Segment Average (MPH)	Route Average (MPH)	Difference
7-10am	8.64	9.4	-9.2%
4-7pm	7.32	8.7	-19.3%

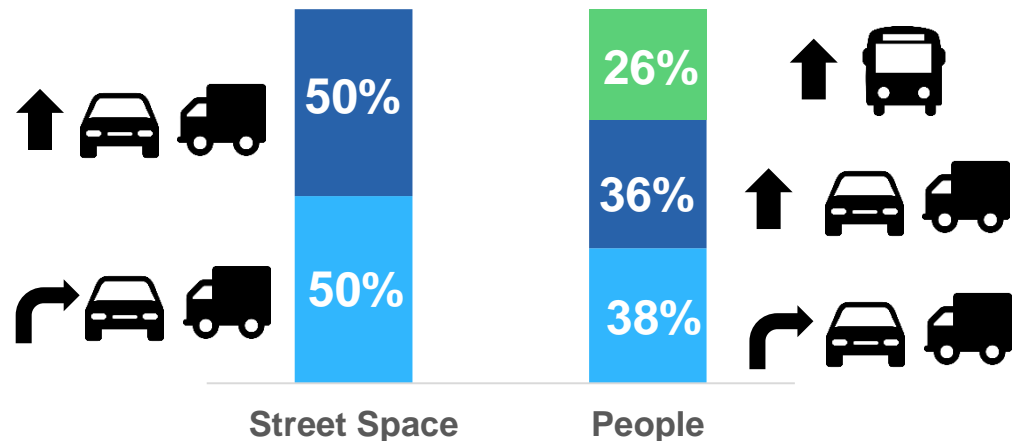


# TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

- On/off ramps for the Cross Bronx Expressway create traffic pinchpoint
- Unclear lane designations lead to sideswipes and rear-ends (51.6% of vehicle crashes on this stretch of Webster Av)
- In southbound direction, similar amount of vehicles turning right onto the Cross Bronx Expressway and going straight on Webster Av
- On average 26% of people traveling southbound are on transit vehicles (33% in AM Peak hour)



## Southbound Traffic\*



\*Source: Oct 2013 traffic counts balanced with Feb 2019 ATRs. MTA Ridership Data. Occupancy factors: 16.8 persons/non-MTA bus, 1.3 persons/other

# PROJECT GOALS

- Improve safety for all roadway users
- Enhance bus priority to improve bus speeds and reliability
- Improve traffic flow



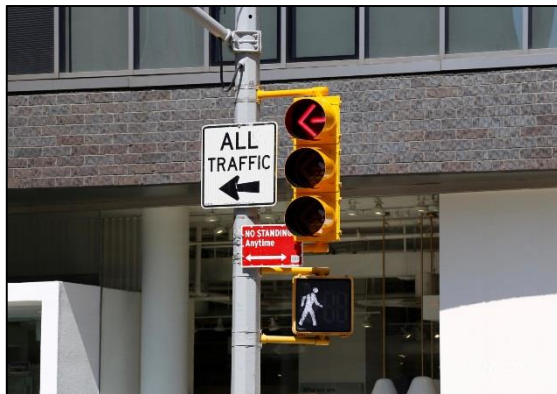


# TOOLBOX

## Qwik Kurb



## Signal Timing Changes



## Pedestrian Islands



## Painted Curb Extensions with Delineators



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Proposal

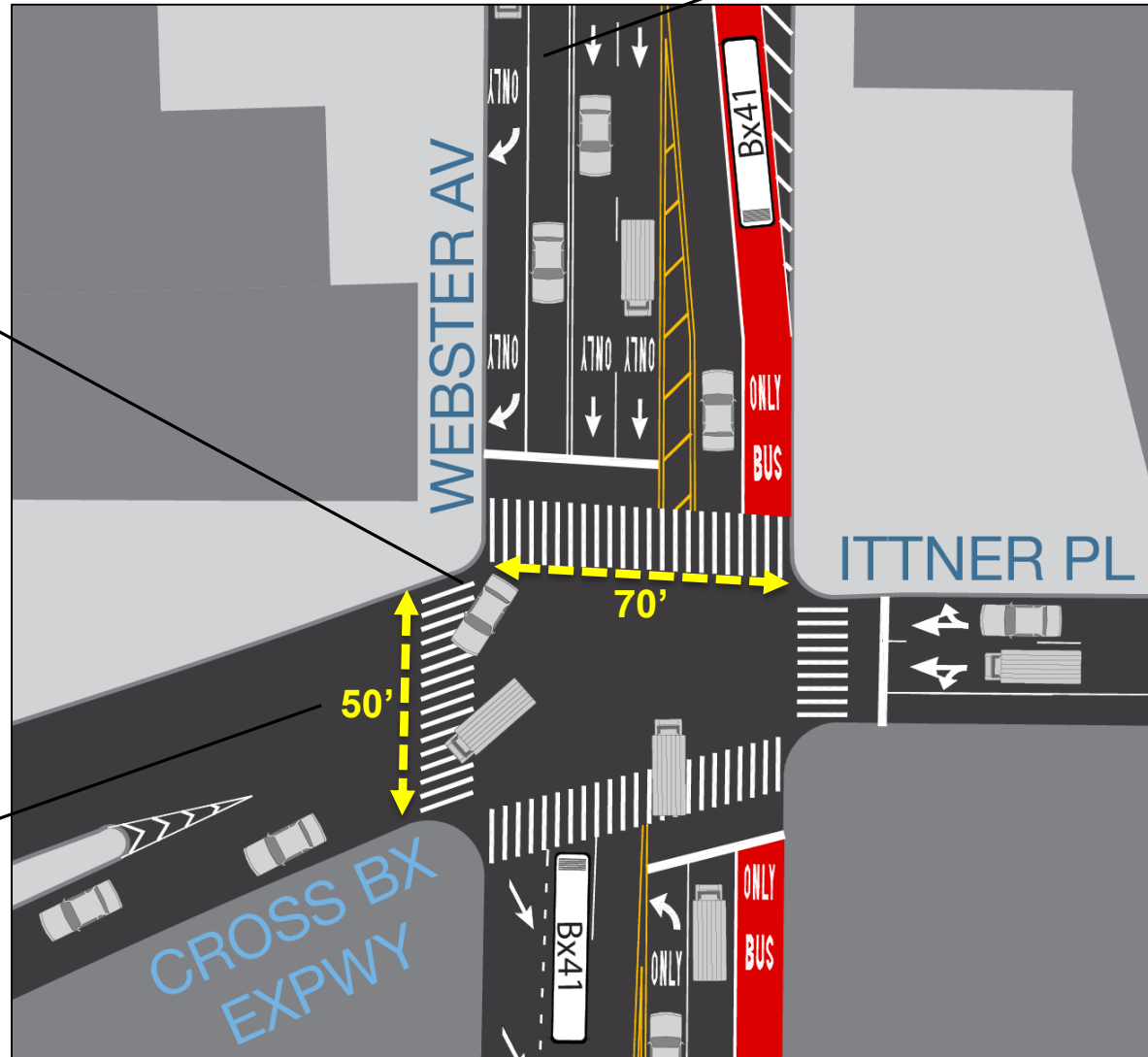
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# EXISTING ISSUES

Unclear travel  
lane alignment

Double  
southbound  
right turns onto  
Cross Bronx  
Expressway

Long  
pedestrian  
crossing  
distances



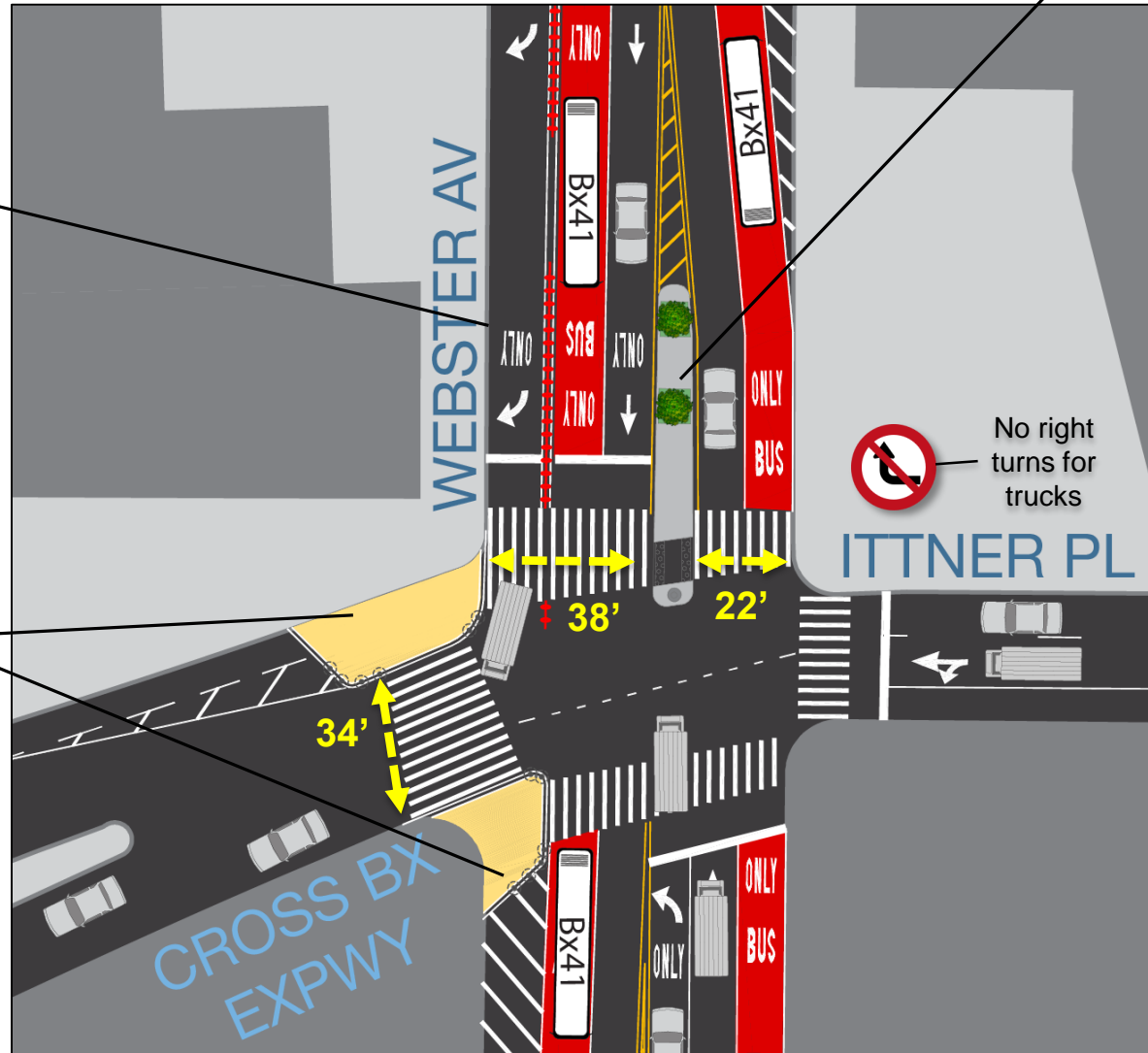


# PROPOSAL

Create single right turn lane lined with quik kurb

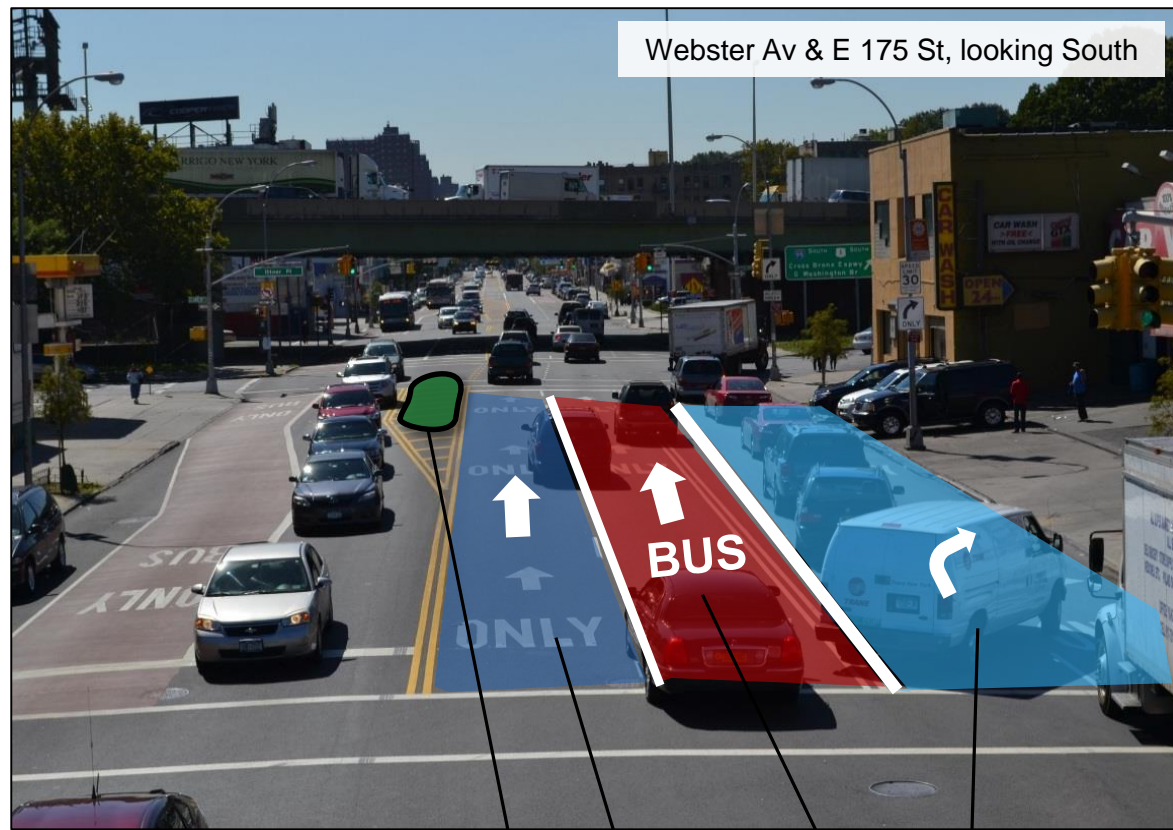
Add painted curb extensions

Add pedestrian island



# BUS LANES

- Re-allocate existing lanes to better manage thru traffic and improve transit service
- Heavy southbound right turning traffic will be separated from thru traffic



		7:30-8:30am	1-2pm	4:30-5:30pm
Southbound Vehicle Volumes	Right Turn	545	500	455
	Straight	495	500	495
Southbound Bx41 / Bx41 SBS Passengers		530	330	340

Thru Lane

Bus Lane

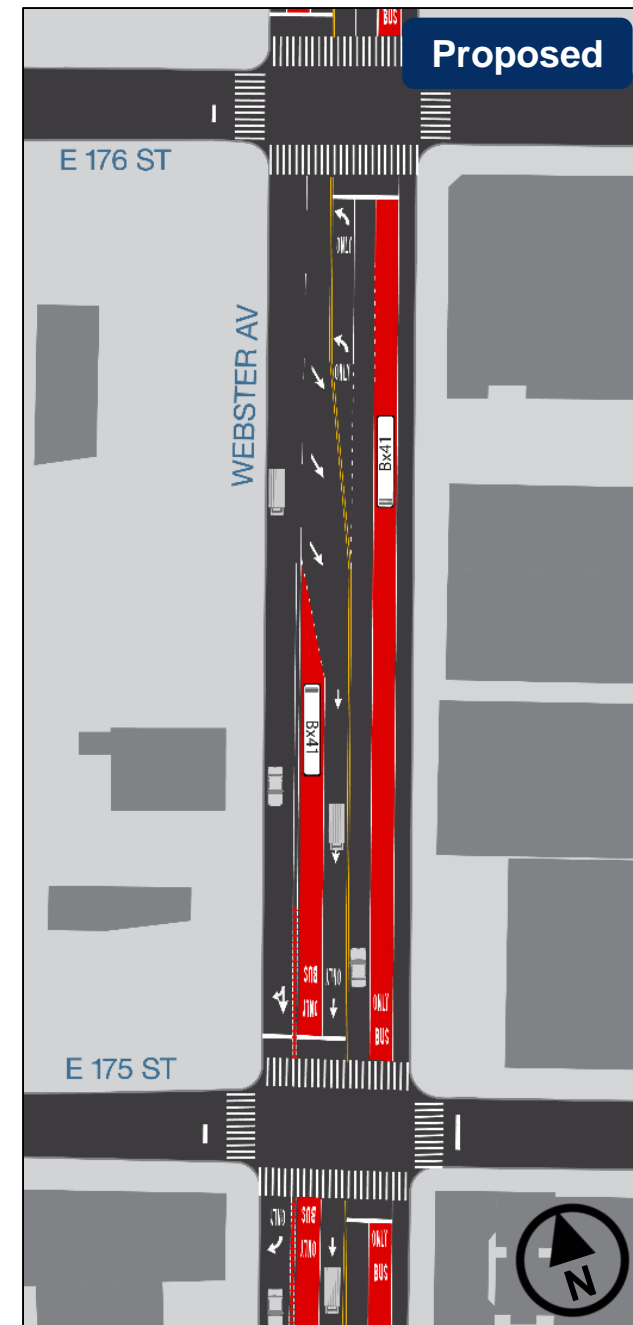
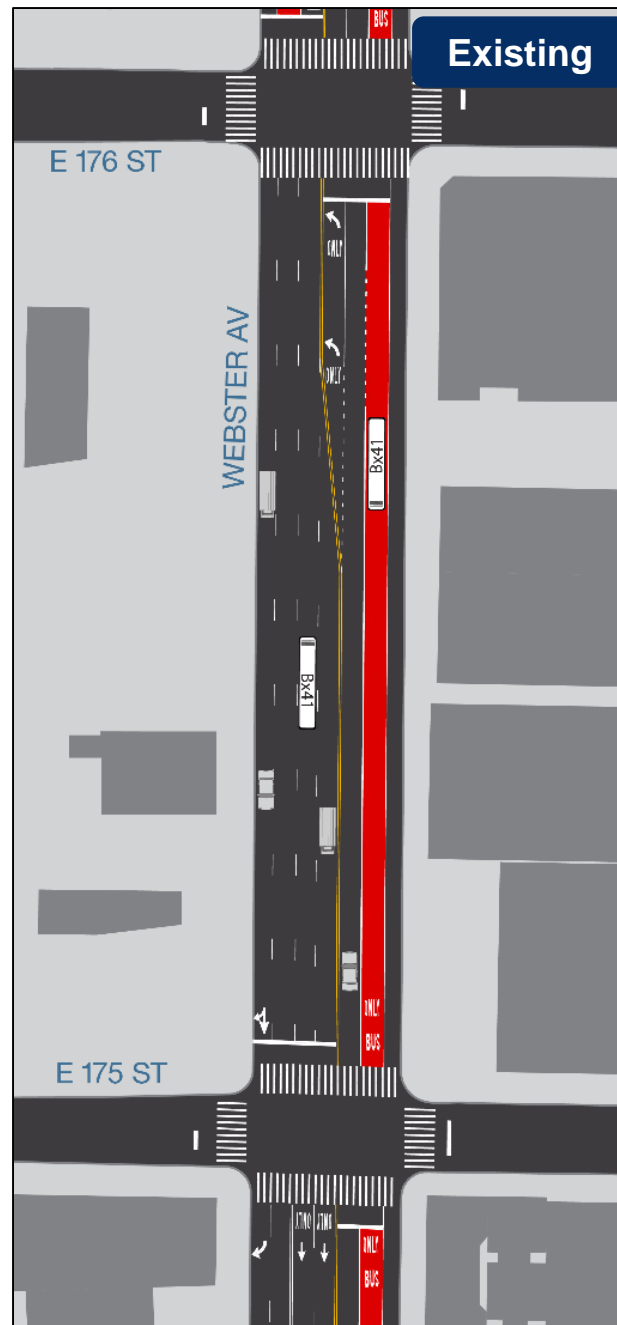
Pedestrian island

Right turn lane lined with qwik kurb

# BUS LANES

## E 176 ST – E 175 ST

- Fill in southbound bus lane gap between E 176 St and E 174 St
- Re-allocate existing roadway space to allow thru southbound vehicles to get around vehicles turning right at the Cross Bronx Expressway

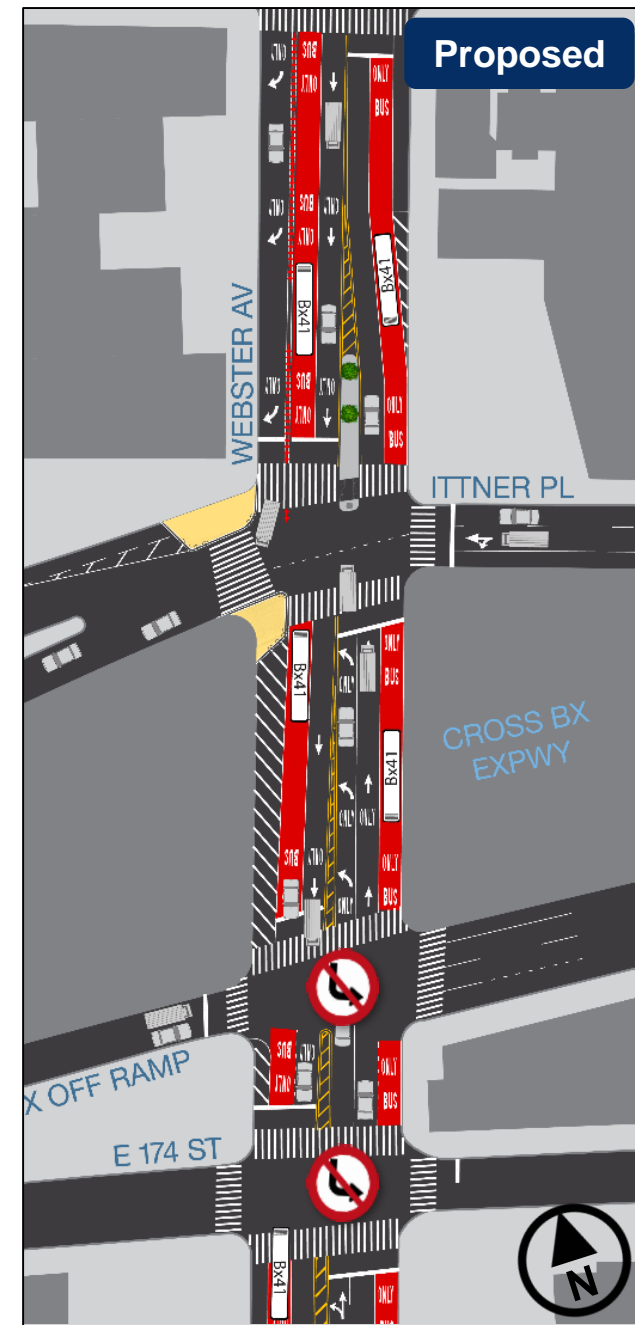
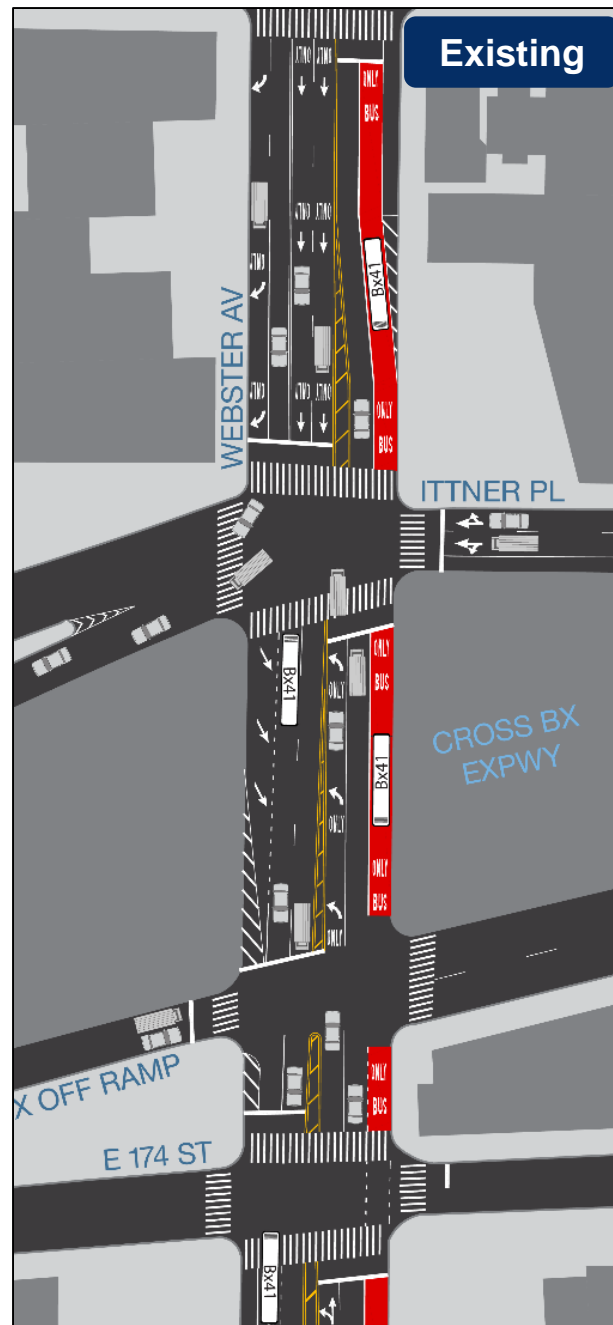




# BUS LANES

## E 175 ST – E 174 ST

- Fill in southbound bus lane gap between E 176 St and E 174 St
- New southbound left turn restrictions at Cross Bronx Off Ramp and E 174 St keep traffic moving (impacts <5 vehicles per hour)



# TRAFFIC FLOW IMPROVEMENTS

- Add signage to encourage use of Park Ave for Cross Bronx Access
- Investigating signal timing adjustments at Park Ave and Tremont Ave to ease left turn
- Reduces southbound right turn volume at Webster Avenue and Ittner Place and improves traffic





# SUMMARY



- Add pedestrian island and two painted curb extensions at Webster Ave / Ittner Pl
- Add southbound bus lane between E 176 St and E 174 St
- Clarify southbound traffic lanes approaching Ittner Pl
- Provide alternate route for southbound traffic accessing the Cross Bronx Expressway



# THANK YOU!

## Questions?



NYC DOT



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