





NORTHWEST BRONX SCHOOL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

WEST 254TH STREET/VAN CORTLANDT PARK EAST

PROJECT ID: HWX406
RIVERDALE AND WOODLAWN
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 8, THE BRONX - TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

CONTENTS

BACKGROUND

TEMPORARY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

CHALLENGES

SCHEDULE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

STREET ACQUISITION







BACKGROUND

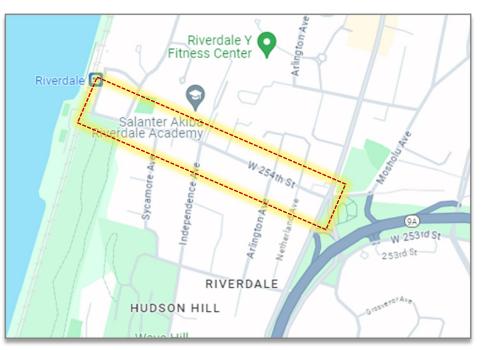
A DOT School Safety Capital Project

- Improve pedestrian safety and accessibility near two schools and Metro-North.
 - Salanter Akiba Riverdale (SAR) Academy on West 254th Street
 - Judith K. Weiss Woodlawn School (P.S. 19) on East 237th Street
- Project Locations
 - Location 1 West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue
 - Location 2 Van Cortlandt Park East and East 238th Street

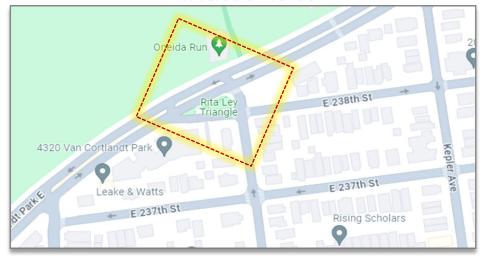








Location 1 – West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue



Location 2 - Van Cortlandt Park East and East 238th Street

BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Existing Street Conditions

- West 254th Street is used by SAR Academy students to access school
- West 254th Street also leads into the Metro-North Riverdale Train Station
- Missing sidewalks and curbs
- Poor roadway surfaces
- Lack of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- Poor visibility















TEMPORARY IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Interim Improvements in 2023

- Temporary pedestrian path along north curb to provide safer access for students and local residents
- Flexible delineators to add protection for pedestrians
- Pavement markings to organize traffic flow
- All-way stop controlled intersections and new crosswalks on West 254 Street at Sycamore Avenue and at Independence Avenue











BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to **Riverdale Avenue**

Existing Sewer and Watermain Conditions

- Water main installed in the 1920s showing signs of aging
- Existing sewers exhibit cracks and defects
- Undersized sewers on West 254th Street from Independence Avenue to Palisades Avenue
- Undersized sewer on Palisade Avenue between West 254th Street and West 255th Street











PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Capital Project Improvements

- Streetscape Amenities street trees, planting strip (street tree removals and plantings)
- Upgraded infrastructure street lighting, signage
- No reduction in traffic flow capacity







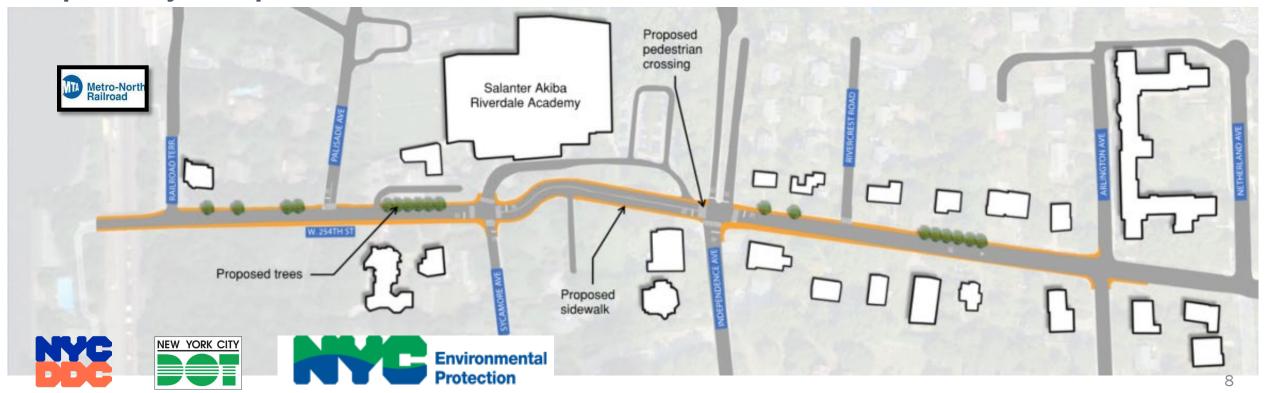


PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Capital Project Improvements

- Full roadway reconstruction with one 12 ft travel lane in each direction
- Continuous 5' to 8' sidewalks on both roadway sides
- ADA compliant pedestrian ramps and crosswalks

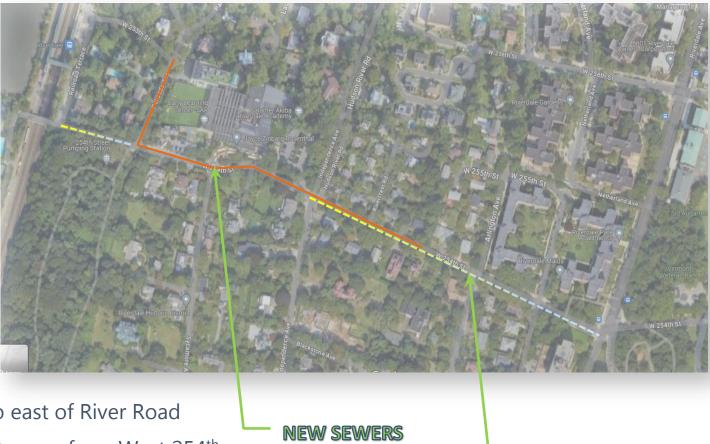


PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue

Sewer and Water Main Improvements

- Water main replacement and upsize for 1875 LF from
 - Railroad Terrace to Palisade Avenue
 - Independence Avenue to Riverdale Avenue
- New sewers spanning 1235 LF from Palisade Avenue to east of River Road
- Sewer replacement and upsize for 350 LF on Palisade Avenue from West 254th Street to West 255th Street
- New catch basins and green infrastructure practices for capturing stormwater











CHALLENGES

Design Challenges

NYCDEP

- Design changes mid-project for sewer upgrades
- DEP Unified Stormwater Rule West 254th Street project triggers the rule because it disturbs more than one acre of soil

DEP USWR requires Post Construction Stormwater Mitigation Practices, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Plan

Private utility coordination

• (Con Edison, ECS, AlticeUSA) – Required underground and overhead utility relocation per sidewalk construction and DEP sewer / water main upgrades

MTA coordination

• Metro-North Hudson Line and the Riverdale Metro-North Station adjacent to project area.







CHALLENGES

Design Challenges

NYCDOT

- Street Lighting Requires relocation of light poles
- OCMC Maintain roadway open, school and property access during construction
- Pedestrian Geometry constraints for installation of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- Highway Design Steep roadway alignment
- Street Parking Restrictions to parking during and after construction

Landmarks Preservation Commission

Protect Riverdale Historic District

Community

- Minimize land acquisition
- Minimize impacts to encroachments on both sides of West 254th Street
- Ensure smooth transition to driveways, pathways, walkways, and entrances
- Tree mitigation Plans are pending







TENTATIVE PROJECT MILESTONES

Estimated timelines are subject to change as project is still in design.

- March/April 2024 CB8 &12 Project Design Presentations, as well as other stakeholder presentations planned.
- May 2024 40% Design Plans Complete
- September 2024 75% Design Plans Complete
 - > Fall 2024 Project and Acquisition Community Outreach
- December 2024 100% Design Plans Approval
- January 2025 Advertise Bid
- February 2025 Bid Opening
- August 2025 Award Contract
- Late Fall 2025 Start Construction







COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- DDC's Office of Community Outreach + Notification (OCON) works with CB's, BID's, local businesses, and other community stakeholders impacted by construction.
- DDC will assign a dedicated on-site Community Construction Liaison (CCL).
 The CCL information will be provided at the pre-Construction phase:

Email:

Phone:

Field Office Location:

Field Office Hours: 7AM to 3:30PM



COMMUNITY OUTREACH (continued)

Community Construction Liaison (CCL) responsibilities are as follows:

- First point of contact, maintain on-site presence and communications
- Identify, resolve and/or proactively address issues and inquiries
- Distribute advisories and weekly construction activities newsletter
- Provide 72-hour and 24-hour (confirmation or cancellation) advisories for work impacts by email and door to door
- Attend community board monthly DSC meetings

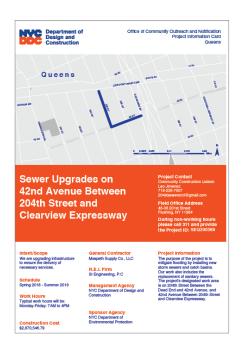


How we communicate with you

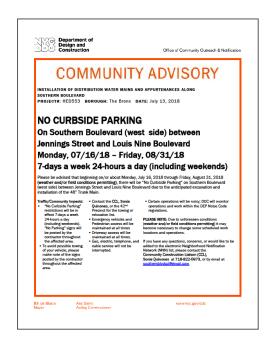


Besides having an on site CCL, we also have printed materials that are updated continuously, including:

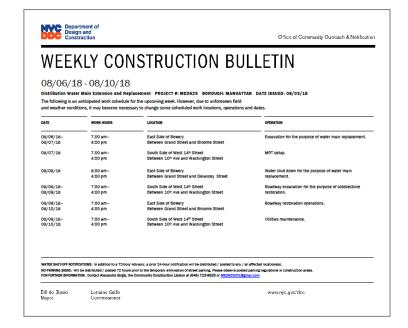
PROJECT INFORMATION CARD



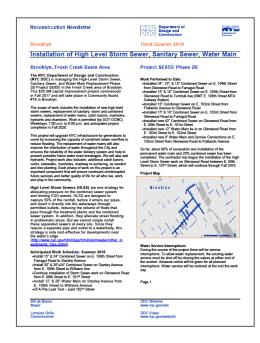
ADVISORY



LOOK AHEAD WEEKLY BULLETIN



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS

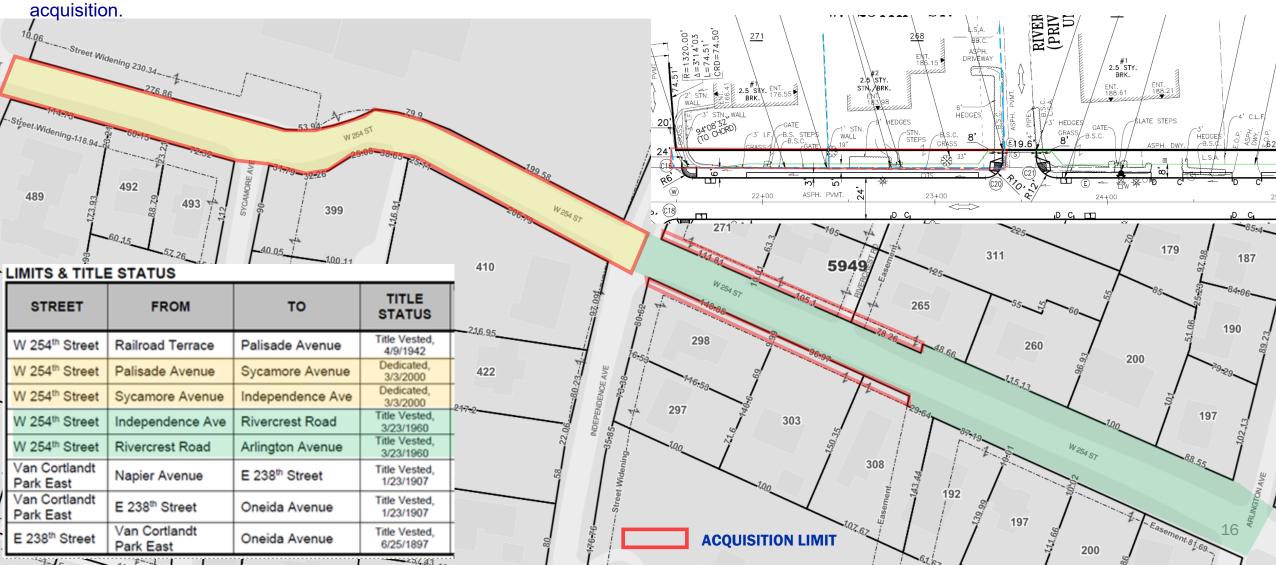


STREET ACQUISITION





Street bed acquisition is needed to construct new street alignment beyond the existing roadway, curbs and sidewalks. Portion of lots and private improvements (a.k.a. encroachments) within the City mapped street right-or-way may be impacted by the City's street



ACQUISITION MILESTONES



Acquisition process milestones and projected schedule, which is subject to change.



ACQUISITION PROCESS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Will the City condemn the property or lot?

The City will need to acquire portions of lots consisting of roadway, curb, sidewalk and grass areas that extend into the mapped street in some areas of the project.

2. How does the acquisition process affect the certain properties?

Certain lots where portion of lot taking occurred will have their tax lot dimensions adjusted. Other remaining lots adjacent to the streets will not be affected by the acquisition of the streets.

3. How does street reconstruction and street acquisition affect the property improvements or fixtures?

Property improvements or fixtures like fences, walls or moveable structures that are outside of the property lot line become "encroachments" when the City takes ownership of the streets. Affected property owners will be notified to remove encroachments prior to street work.

4. How will property owners be compensated for portion of lot taking or removed encroachments?

Portion of lot taking will be justly compensated as land value. Depending on the location and type of the fixtures, on a case-by-case basis a license fixture appraiser will appraise the encroached fixtures at their depreciated value. NYC Law will issue a notice of award amount for the encroachments. Property owners will clear title to ensure rightful ownership prior to obtaining payment.

5. Contact to DDC Property Acquisition Unit and Acquisition Events Website?

Mian Faisal, Project Acquisition Coordinator at phone: (718) 391-1367, email: FaisalMi@ddc.nyc.gov, website: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ddc/projects/acquisition-events.page







Q&A

THANK YOU