

Location: Flatbush Avenue and Avenue H



Intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Avenue H

Description of Existing Conditions

Flatbush Avenue is approximately 65 ft wide in this area. It has two travel lanes in each direction of traffic. The sidewalks are 14 to 17ft wide.

Avenue H is 40 ft wide. The sidewalks are 17 - 18 ft wide. This street is a two-way street with one travel lane in each direction of traffic.

Vehicle volumes at this intersection are moderate and can get heavy at times. Pedestrian volumes observed in this part of the study area are in general light, however the construction of a Target store will generate in the future additional pedestrian traffic at this intersection once completed and opened to the public.

The Target store is a three story retail project with 250,000 sq. ft. of retail space and an attached five story parking garage which contains 532 spaces. The 449,570 sq. ft of development project was under construction in 2007. It is now completed and opened to the public as of March 2008.

There is only one sign at this intersection related to pedestrian traffic. It is a “Stop” sign which requires drivers to come to a complete stop and to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. It is located at the northwest corner in the service/side road for southbound traffic making a right turn onto Avenue H.

Pedestrian Accident Data 2004 -2006

5 Pedestrian Accidents

Table: C-27 – Summary of Pedestrian Accidents

<u>Accident Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Pedestrian Action</u>	<u>Pedestrian Location</u>	<u>Vehicle Action</u>
Avenue H	12/28/2004	night, wet surface	crossing- no signal; no crosswalks	at intersection	going straight ahead
Avenue H	12/13/2004	night, rain	crossing with signal	at intersection	making a left turn
Avenue H	3/11/2005	dusk	crossing with signal	at intersection	making a left turn
Avenue H	4/27/2005	daylight, wet	crossing with signal	at intersection	making a right turn
Avenue H	12/8/2006	not reported	not reported	at intersection	making a right turn

Problems and Opportunities

- **Pedestrian/ Vehicle Conflicts**
Conflicts with vehicles making a turn at this intersection and pedestrians crossing with the green light often occur. Based on observation, most of the turning movements are made from Avenue H onto Flatbush Avenue.
- **Streetscape Improvemnet**
There is a traffic island indicated with markings between Flatbush Avenue and the service/side road leading to Avenue H. Pedestrians waiting at the traffic island to cross Flatbush Avenue or

Avenue H have no protection or buffer from vehicles going southbound (vehicles often pick up speed after passing Nostrand Avenue).

- With the opening of the Target store at the southwest corner and an increase in the number of pedestrians at this intersection, a new pattern of pedestrian crossing movements is observed. During the second week of March many pedestrians were observed crossing Avenue H from/to the south sidewalk in front of the Target Store instead of using the traffic island where the crosswalk is located.



Pedestrians often cross Avenue H from south sidewalk instead of from the southwest corner

Recommendations

- **Signage**
It is recommended to install the following warning sign “Attention Drivers Yield to Pedestrians” at all corners. This warning sign can help modify motorists’ turns and improve safety for pedestrians crossing at the intersection.
- **Streetscape Improvement**
Build a raised concrete refuge island for pedestrians at the marked traffic island location. This can provide pedestrians with additional protection or buffer from vehicles traveling on Flatbush Avenue. In addition include greenstreets elements at the traffic island to improve the appearance of the intersection.
- **Add a New Crosswalk**
Place another crosswalk approximately 60 feet west of the existing west crosswalk and parallel to it. This creates an additional designated crossing facility which is convenient and safe for pedestrians who choose to cross Avenue H at this location. A queuing space at the northwest street corner for pedestrians waiting for the signal to change is provided instead of the traffic island which is limited in terms of space for pedestrian queuing. An overloaded traffic island can affect vehicular traffic.

This new facility would evidently require at this intersection the installation of a new pedestrian signal and a “Stop Bar” for eastbound vehicular traffic.

LEGEND



Existing Tree



Existing Bus Shelter



Existing Sign

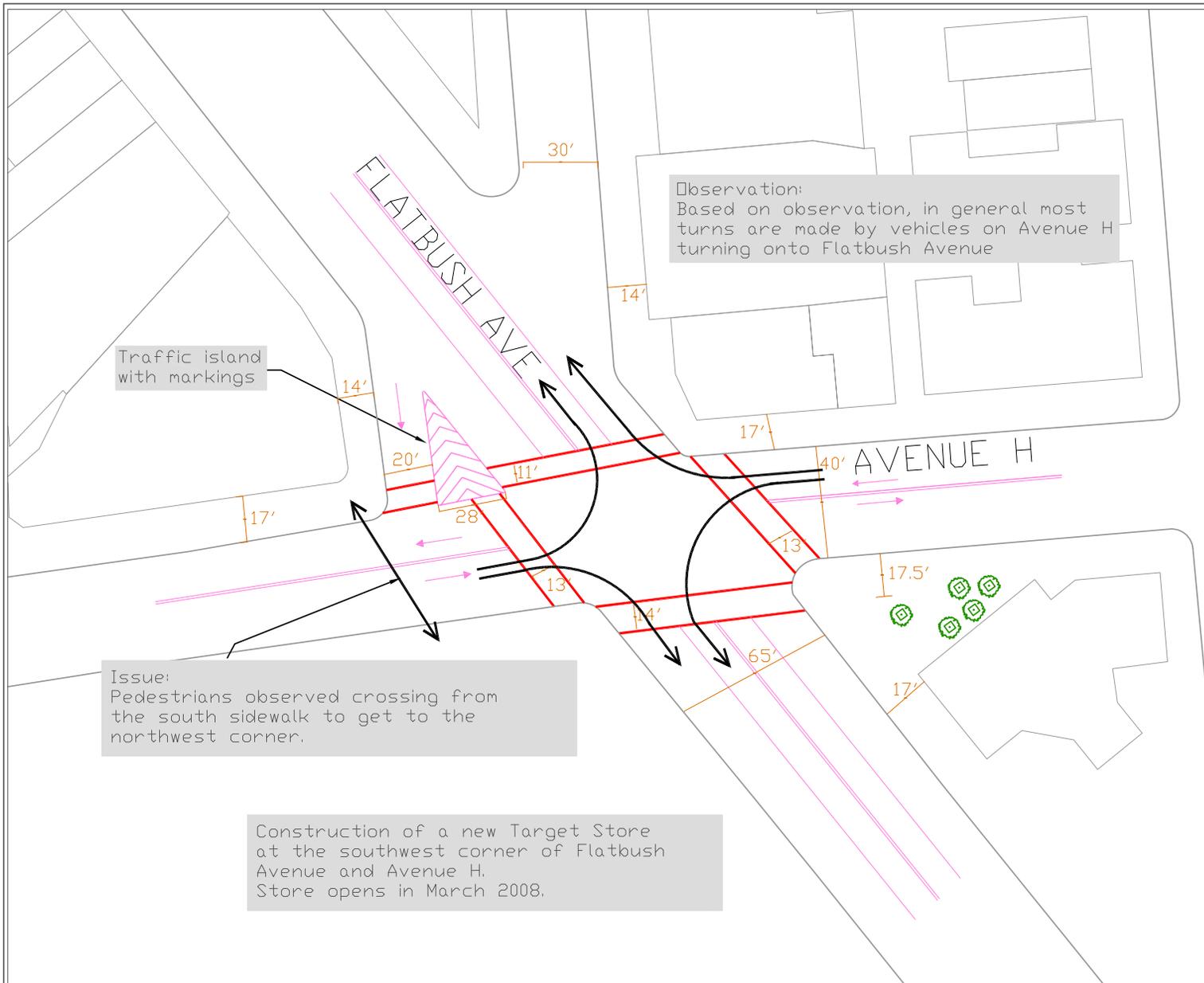


Existing Pavement Marking

NOT TO SCALE



N



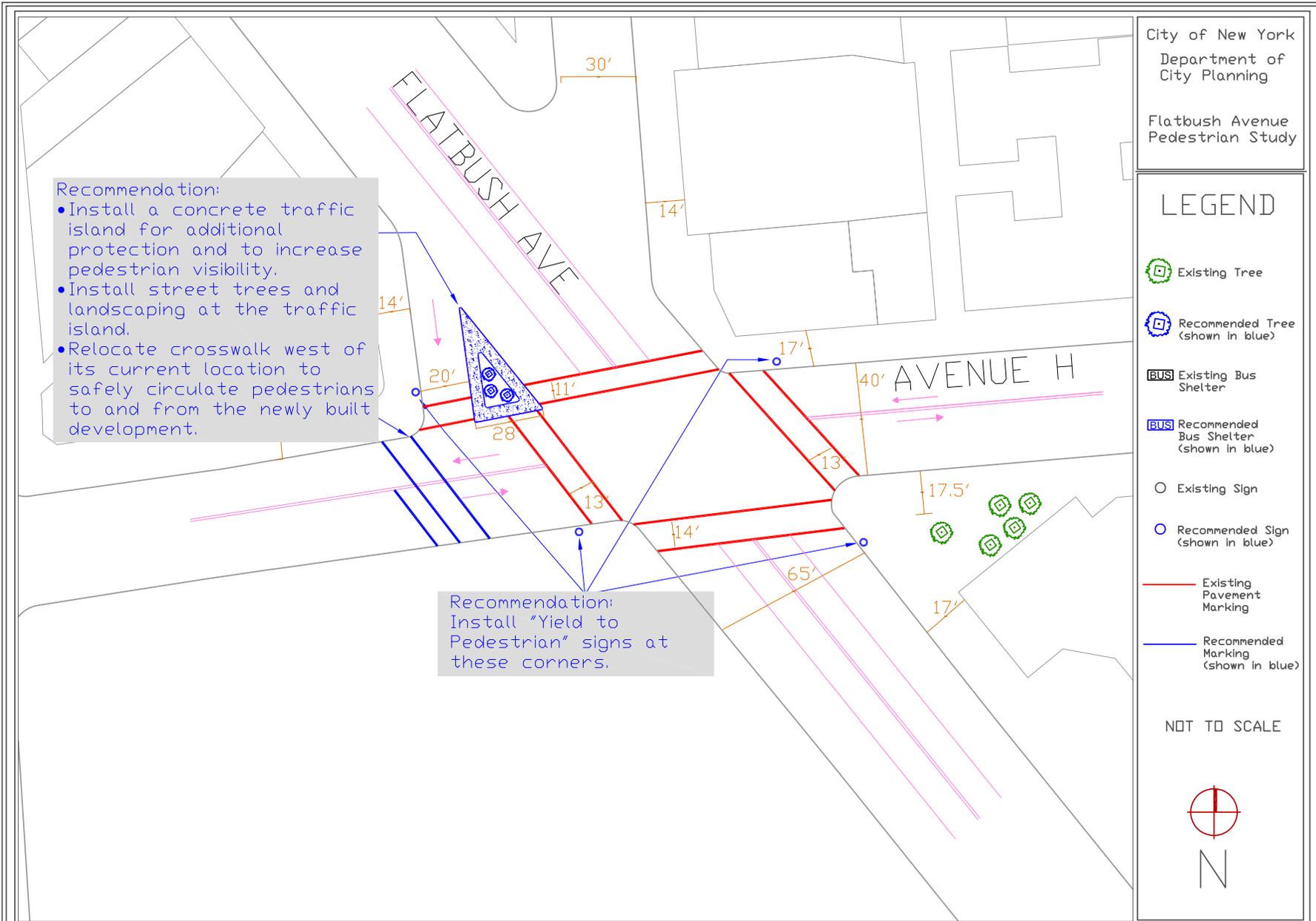
Observation:
 Based on observation, in general most turns are made by vehicles on Avenue H turning onto Flatbush Avenue

Traffic island with markings

Issue:
 Pedestrians observed crossing from the south sidewalk to get to the northwest corner.

Construction of a new Target Store at the southwest corner of Flatbush Avenue and Avenue H. Store opens in March 2008.

Flatbush Avenue and Avenue H
 Existing Conditions - Figure: C-15a



Flatbush Avenue and Avenue H
Recommendations - Figure: C-15b