

# Transportation: How did we get here?

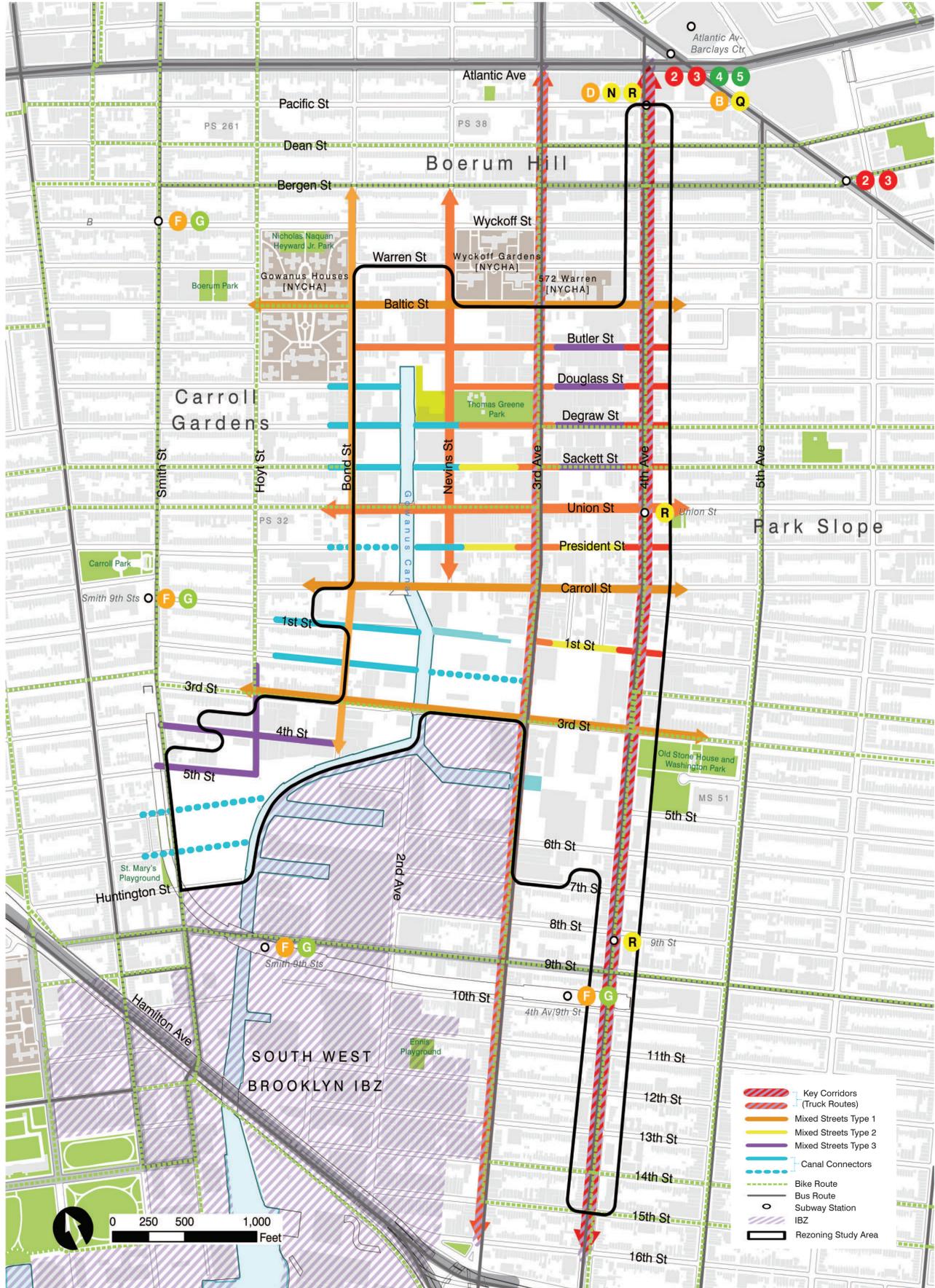
A key goal of the neighborhood planning study includes addressing transportation issues and looking into opportunities that can enhance safety, mobility, circulation and safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. The study area is an important crossroad due to its connection to local and regional arterials as well as the emerging diversity of land uses. The Transportation section presents a series of goals and strategies to develop a safer and more walkable neighborhood, while supporting changes in land use and growth.

Gowanus is well served by public transportation with service from New York City Transit's F and G subway lines on Smith Street and the R train on 4th Avenue. The Atlantic Avenue/Barclays Center and Hoyt-Schmerhorn subway stations are within walking distance of the northern boundaries of the northern portion of the neighborhood, providing access to the 2, 3, 4, 5, N, Q, B, D, A, C and G trains, as well as the Long Island Rail Road.

There are four buses that run north-south along Smith Street, 3rd Avenue, 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue, and one bus that runs east-west along 9th Street. Since the Union Street bus (B71) was eliminated in 2010 due to low ridership, there are no buses running the one mile east-west between 9th Street and Bergen Street.

Connections across the Canal are limited, with only four bridges traversing the waterbody, including two (3rd Street and 9th Street) that allow west bound traffic.

To learn more about how the City plans to address transportation issues in the neighborhood please visit the next board focused on goals and strategies!



# Transportation Framework Goals and Strategies

## Goal 1: Improve Neighborhood Mobility, Connectivity, and Transportation Infrastructure

- Improve pedestrian safety and access
- Enhance mobility for roadway users and connectivity
- Improve access to public transit

The Union Street bridge reconstruction is currently in the City's capital plan. The NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) has **initiated a navigational impact study**, expected to be completed in 2018 and will be followed by additional public hearings by the United States Coast Guard. **DOT is developing a benefit cost analysis process** to evaluate requests for new bridges, both vehicular and pedestrian. Any additional connectors across the Canal would be evaluated through this process.



Union Street Bridge

## Goal 2: Promote quality public spaces and wayfinding throughout the neighborhood

- Support community gathering spaces that are open to the public
- Incorporate public art, historic interpretation, and improved wayfinding and signage by encouraging opportunities in the neighborhood's open spaces, while working with the community to identify short-term opportunities for temporary art installations.

Incorporate public spaces at waterfront street ends, which can improve the pedestrian experience and expand access to the waterfront, while designing them to withstand the impacts caused by climate change: Proposed street end locations identified include Douglass, Degraw, Sackett, 1st and 2nd streets.



Existing public space along Canal

The 4th Avenue corridor is one of the city's four **Vision Zero Great Streets**. The Great Streets program redesigns major corridors to prevent crashes, enhance mobility, increase accessibility and bolster neighborhood vitality. In the case of 4th Avenue, the project will provide pedestrian refuge islands at intersections, shortening pedestrian crossings and improving visibility between pedestrians and motorists. The project incorporates curbside parking, protected bike lanes and beautification of the streetscape by adding space for public art and City Benches and landscaping space along the sidewalk.



Existing condition - 4th Avenue



Vision sketch of 4th Avenue

Coordinate with relevant City agencies to reduce the impact of truck operations is essential: Gowanus is a good focus area to investigate freight mobility initiatives and loading innovations to be explored in **NYC DOT's Smart Truck Management Plan**, expected in summer 2018.



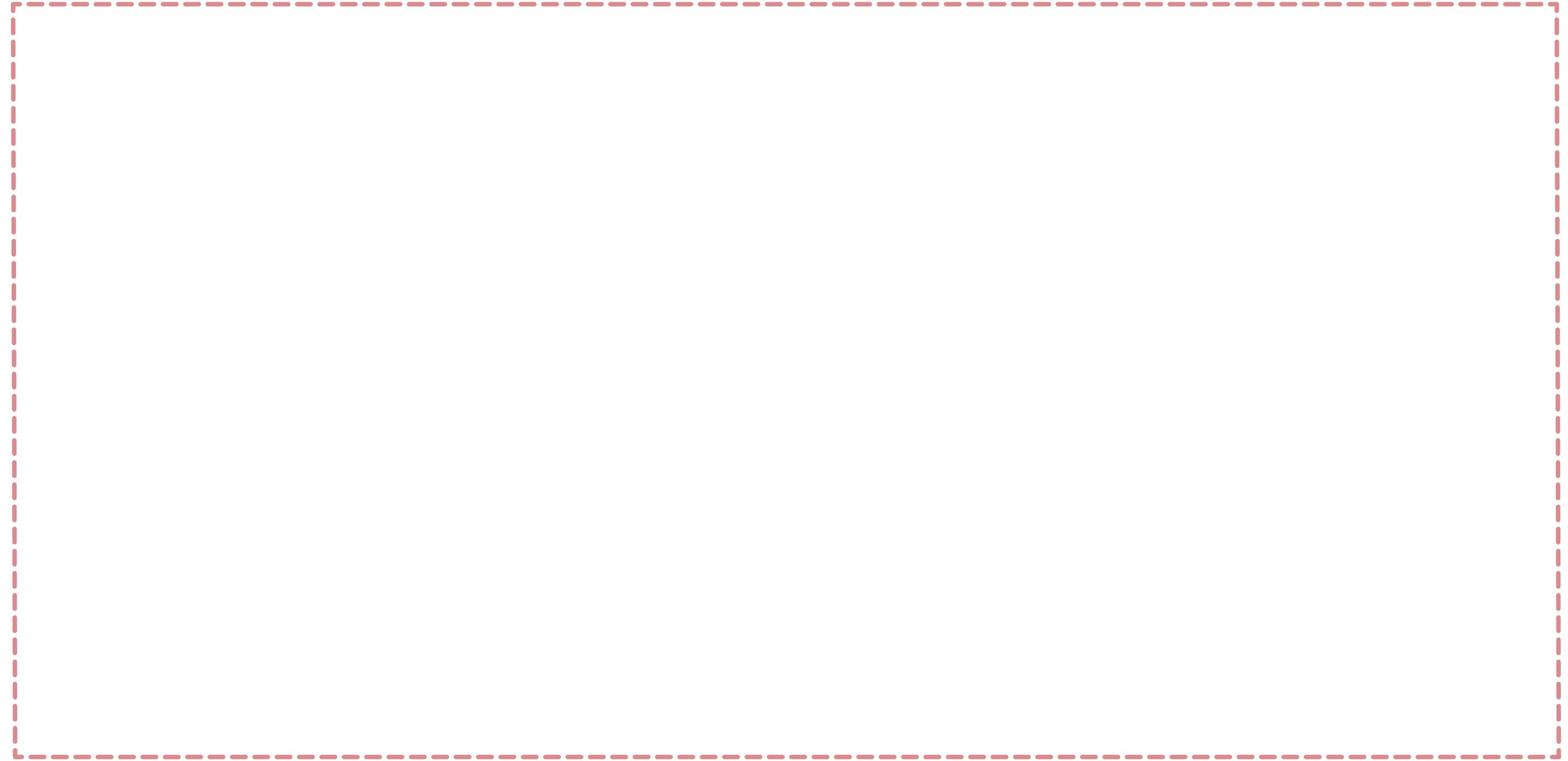
Trucks loading in IBZ

# Help us take it to the next step!

Your participation and input will help in the development of the **Gowanus Neighborhood Plan**

Questions to help you get started:

- Are you part of an organization or do you know any partners that could help advance some of these strategies?
- What ideas do you have that can help advance a particular goal or strategy?
- Which strategy or goal is a priority for you and why?



**Please visit [PlanGowanus.com](http://PlanGowanus.com) to continue to provide feedback and input**

**Stay Involved! Sign up for our mailing list at [www.nyc.gov/gowanus](http://www.nyc.gov/gowanus)**