

# Utica Avenue

Community Advisory Committee Meeting #2 | February 4, 2015



# Meeting Objectives

1. Provide an update about the project to date
2. Present draft service plan for B46 SBS and B46 local
3. Discuss service plan and identify key comments and issues

# Agenda

## **Introductions**

## **Presentation**

1. Project Background
2. Initial Data Analysis Results
3. Proposed Service Plan
4. Next Steps

## **Group Discussion**

# Select Bus Service in New York City

Select Bus Service (SBS) is New York City's brand name for Bus Rapid Transit: an improved bus service that offers fast, frequent, and reliable service on high-ridership bus routes.

## SBS has brought:

- 15-23% faster bus speeds
- About 10% increase in ridership
- More reliable service
- Customer satisfaction of 95%
- Safer streets / reduction in crashes

There are 7 Select Bus Service routes serving all 5 boroughs.



# Select Bus Service Features



Improved fare collection



Bus lanes



Transit signal priority



Passenger information



Improved station amenities

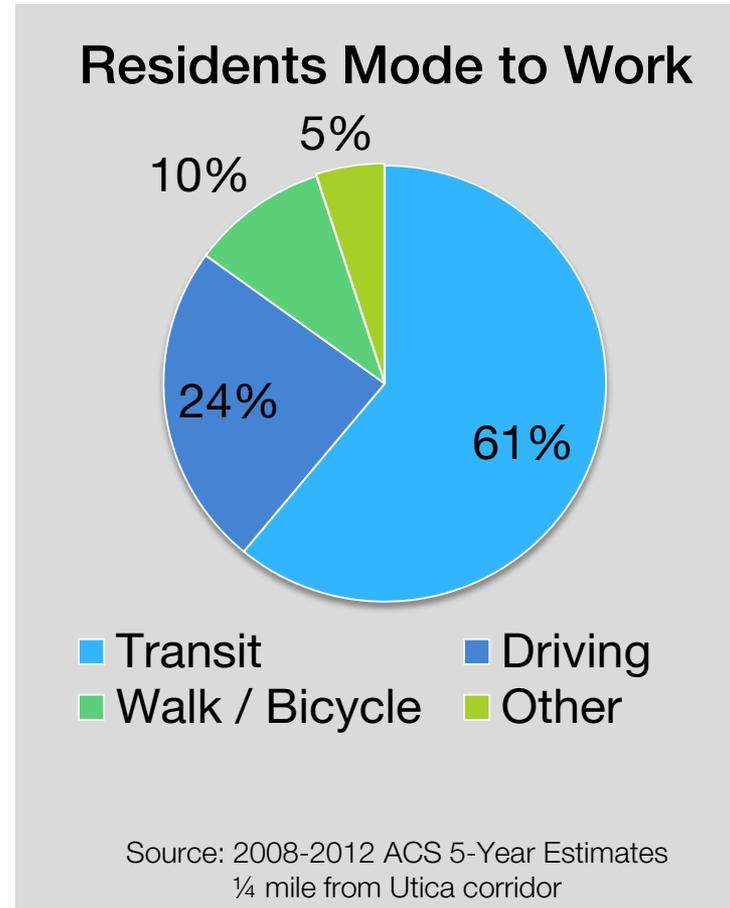


Pedestrian safety improvements

# Project Background

The Utica Avenue B46 corridor was identified as a potential candidate for Select Bus Service in the 2009 Bus Rapid Transit Phase II Study.

- Ranked by community as one of two corridors most in need of improvements
- Characterized by slow and crowded trips
- Second-busiest bus route in NYC, carrying nearly 50,000 passengers per day
- Crucial connection to **3** **4** **A** **C** trains and 30 bus routes
- Bus lanes implemented in 2014 in portion of corridor, improving bus and vehicle travel times



# 2014 Bus Priority and Safety Improvements



Left Turn Bay

Offset Bus Lane

Curbside Bus Lane

# 2014 Bus Priority and Safety Improvements

## Sections where bus lane was installed

- B46 Limited and local travel times decreased 8% to 15%\*
- Vehicle travel times decreased 20% to 25% in peak direction\*

\*AM and PM peak



# Project Background

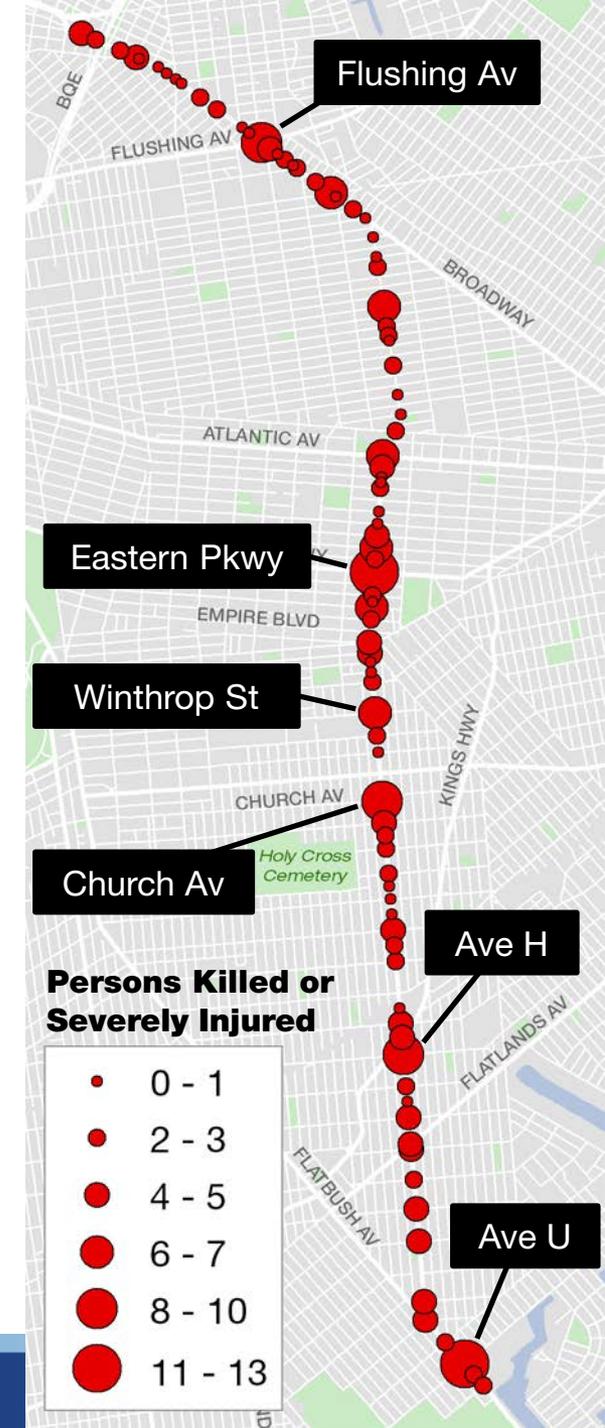
## Safety Concerns

Corridor has among the highest rates of injury from motor vehicle crashes in Brooklyn.

- 18 fatalities and 250 severe injuries between 2009 and 2013
- 60% of vehicles travel above the speed limit (30 mph at time of observation)

### High Crash Intersections (2009-2013)

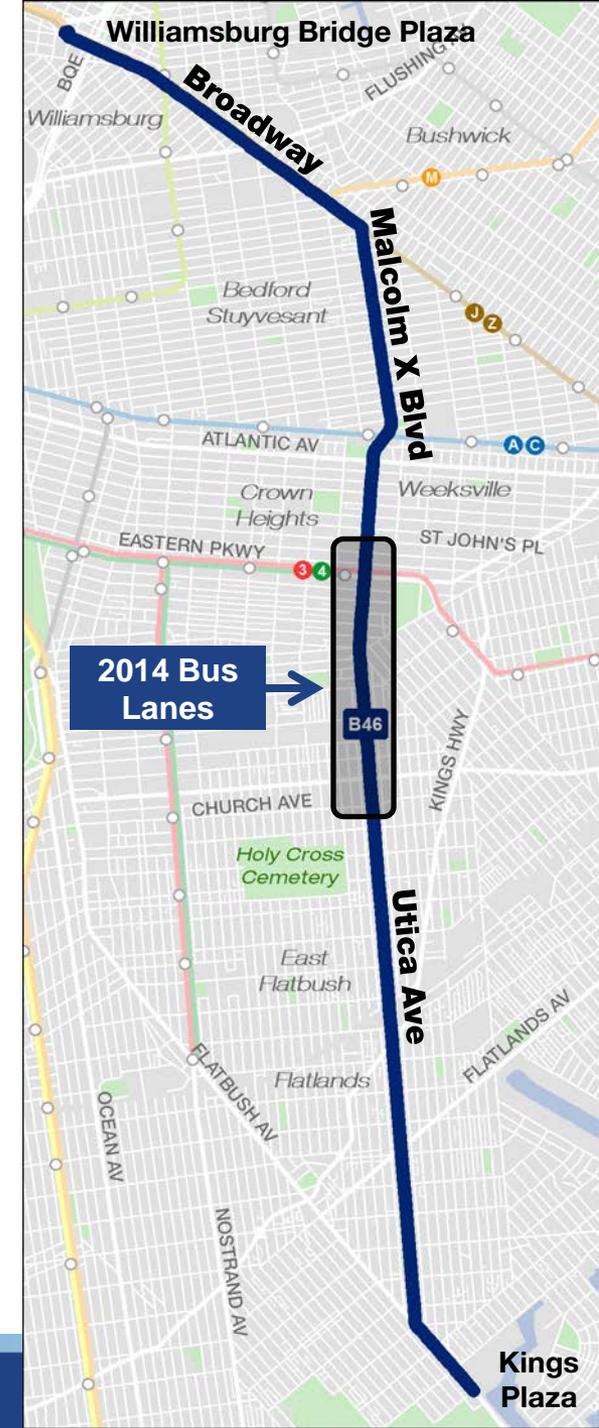
Intersection	Fatalities	Severe Injuries
Eastern Pkwy	2	11
Avenue U	1	10
Church Av	1	10
Flushing St	0	9
Avenue H	0	8
Winthrop St	2	5



# Utica Avenue Select Bus Service

**B46 Limited to be upgraded to B46 SBS, which will include:**

- Off-board fare collection
- Dedicated bus lanes (possible extension south of Church Avenue)
- Transit signal priority
- Service changes to improve reliability
- Capital improvements at SBS stations
  - Real-time passenger information
  - Bus bulbs (sidewalk extensions at bus stops)
  - Pedestrian safety enhancements at complex intersections
  - New shelters, plantings, benches, etc.



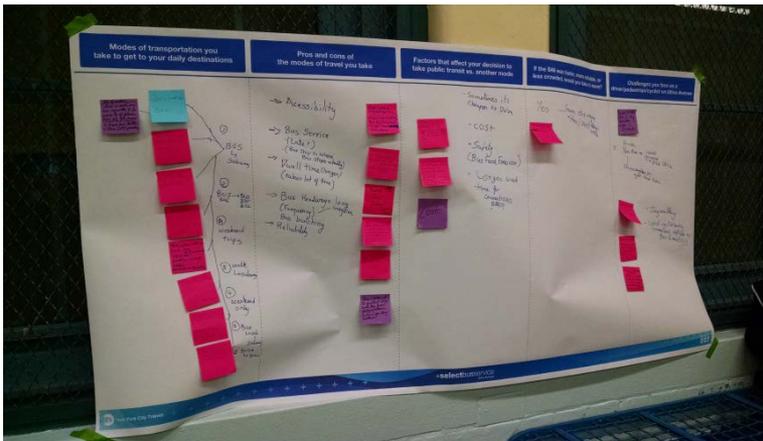
# Utica Avenue Outreach

## Outreach for the 2014 Bus Improvement Project (2013-2014)

- Meetings with Community Boards, local businesses, and elected officials

## Outreach for Select Bus Service

- Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1 (September 2014)
- Public Workshop #1 (November 2014)
- Presentation to CB8 - Transportation Committee (November 2014)
- Community Advisory Committee Meeting #2 (February 2015)



# Public Workshop #1

## What We Heard

### Transit Concerns

- Crowding (especially during rush hour)
- Bus bunching / reliability
- Amount of service to Williamsburg
- Lack of real-time information

### Traffic Concerns

- Double parking
- Congestion / slow bus trips
- Bus lane being blocked / lack of enforcement

### Safety Concerns

- Pedestrian safety at complex intersections
- Dangerous driver behavior / speeding
- Lighting at night



# Data Collection

**Collected and analyzed a large amount of data in order to:**

- Understand how the corridor works as a whole
- Guide discussion about specific areas
- Inform street design and service pattern decisions

**Types of data collected:**

- Bus speeds
- Bus delay
- Bus ridership per stop
- Traffic volumes
- Parking activity
- Crash data

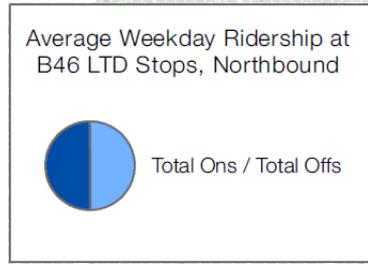
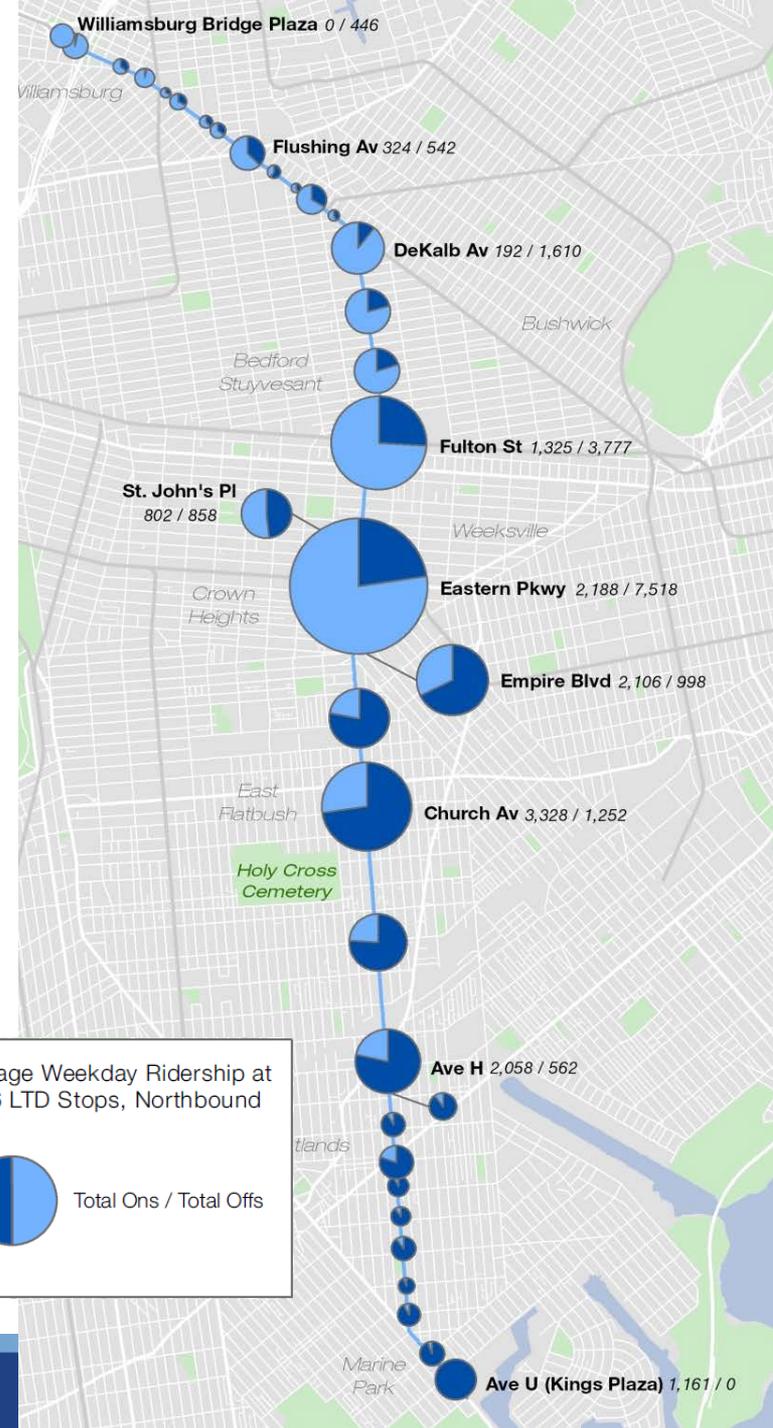


# Ridership

## Northbound

- High ridership at many existing B46 Limited stops, particularly those with subway/bus transfers
- Largest percentage of riders are traveling north to or south from **3** **4** at Eastern Pkwy or **A** **C** at Fulton St
- Only 9% of riders travel between Broadway and the rest of the route

Top 5 Busiest Stops	Top 5 Least Busy Stops
Eastern Pkwy	Broadway & Arion Pl
Fulton St	Broadway & Boerum St
Church Ave	Broadway & Willoughby
Empire Blvd	Broadway & Malcolm X
Ave H	Broadway & Hooper St



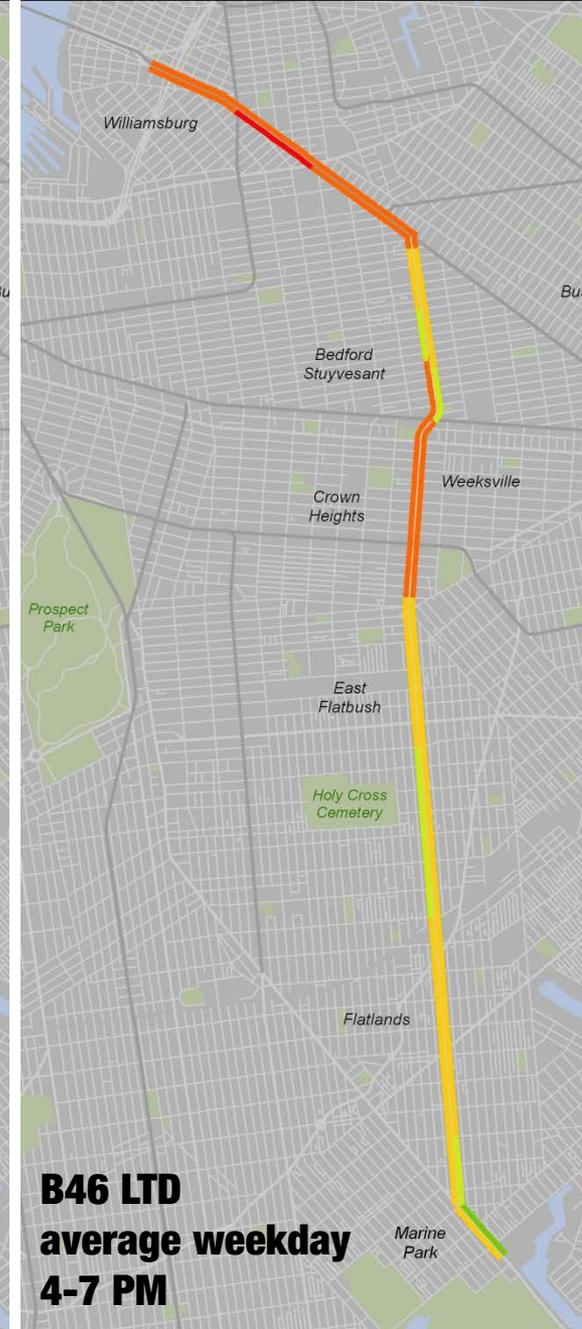
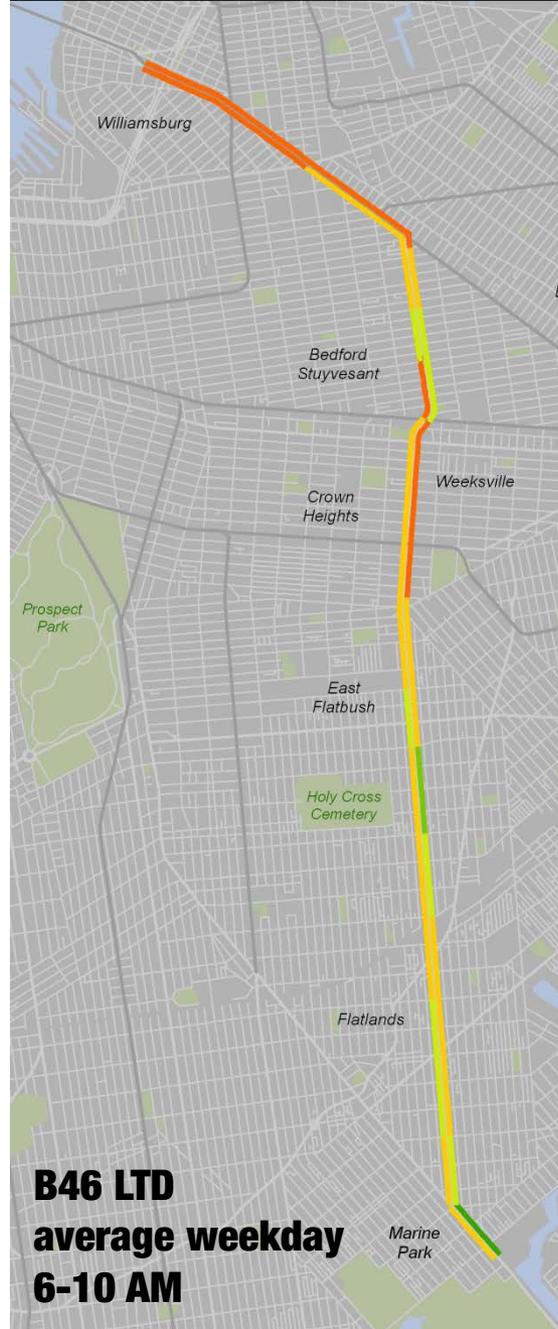
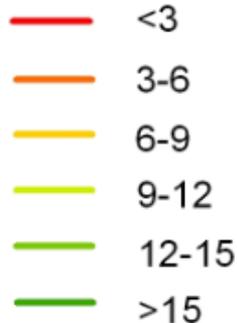
# Bus Speeds

On average, the B46 LTD runs at 7.5 mph during the AM peak and 6.5 mph during the PM peak

Causes of slow speeds are:

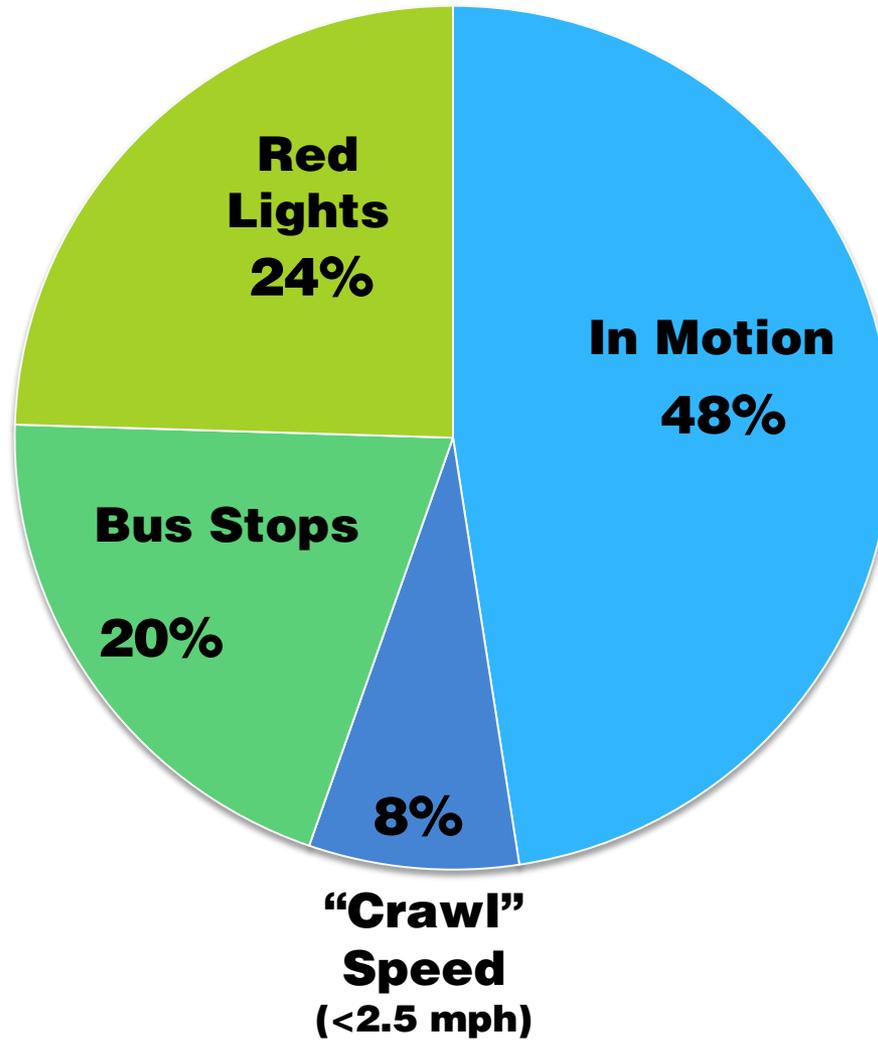
- Busy stops
- Delay due to double-parking, turning vehicles, etc.
- Congestion
- Red lights

Bus Speeds (mph)



# Bus Delay

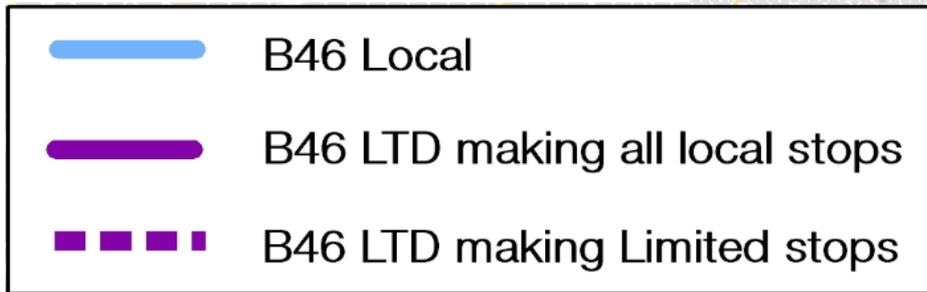
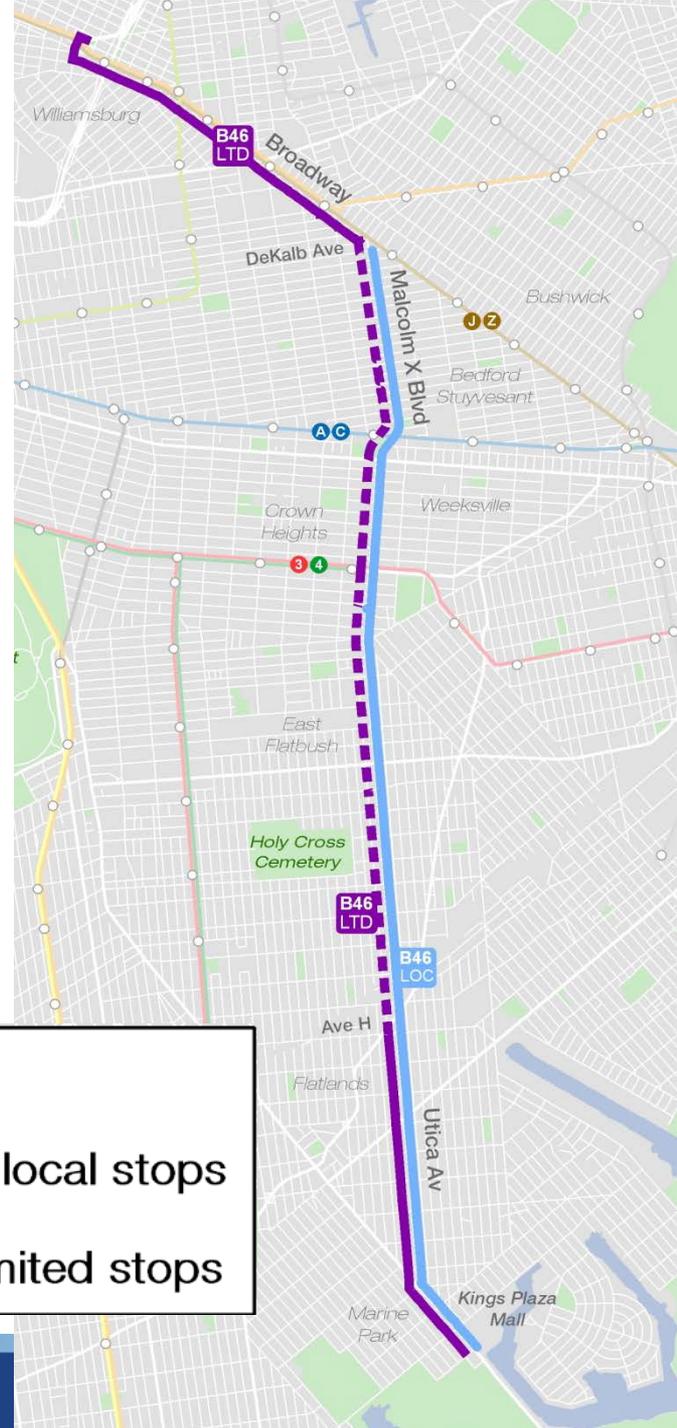
B46 LTD, 4-7 PM



Source: IVN data, 10/28/14 – 11/20/14 T/W/Th

# Current B46 Local and LTD Service Pattern

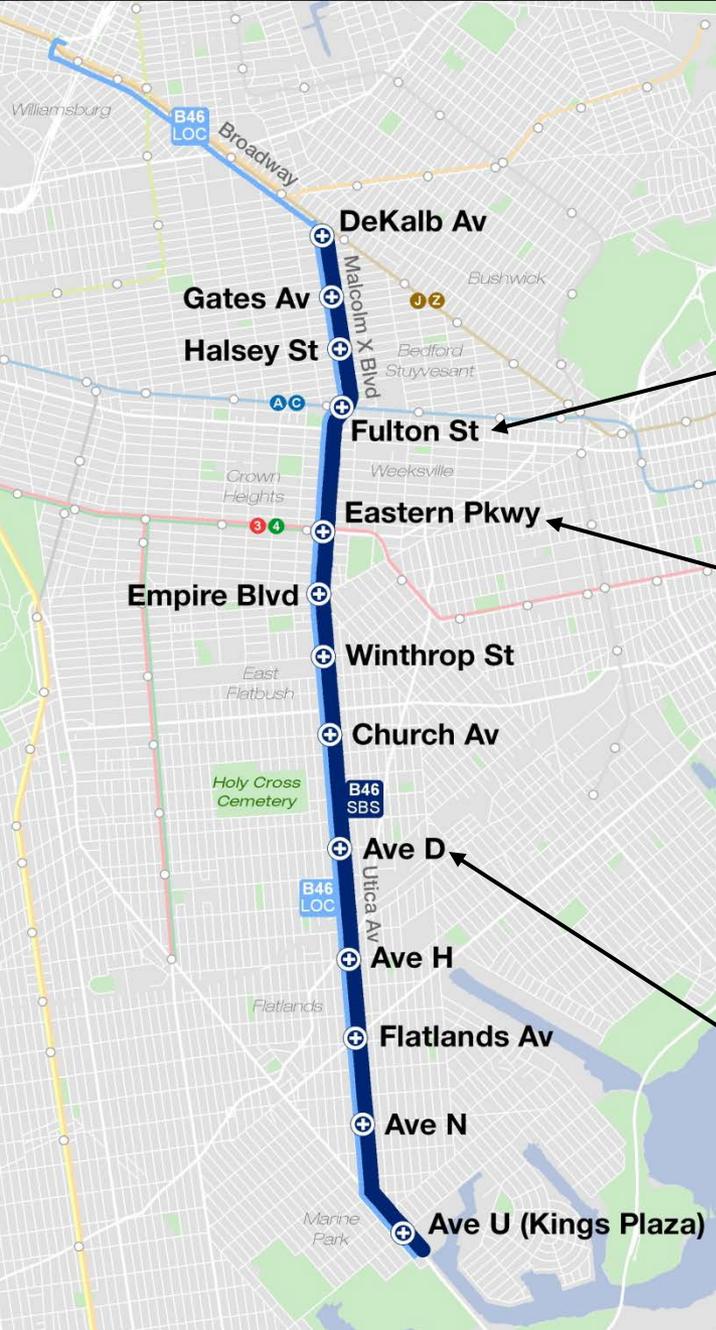
- B46 LTD generally travels between Kings Plaza and Williamsburg Bridge Plaza
- B46 LTD makes all local stops north of DeKalb Ave and south of Ave H
- B46 Local generally travels between Kings Plaza and DeKalb Ave



# Proposed B46 SBS Stations and Service Pattern

- Maintain high-ridership Limited stops and key transfers
- SBS will make Limited stops south of Avenue H, as it will elsewhere
- Extend local service to full corridor, 24 hours per day
- Northern terminal of SBS will be DeKalb Ave to increase reliability and better serve busiest portion of route
  - Only 9% of riders travel between Broadway and the rest of the route, yet Broadway section is 24% of route miles and has the slowest speeds

# Proposed B46 SBS Stations



# Next Steps

## Winter 2015

- Finalize service plan for B46 SBS and B46 local
- Develop conceptual street design changes south of Church Avenue and north of St John's Place (if any)
- Present service and design plans to Community Boards
- CAC: Nostrand Ave SBS Tour

## Spring 2015

- Public Open House
- Develop corridor plan
- Develop implementation plan

# Station Locations and Service Planning Discussion



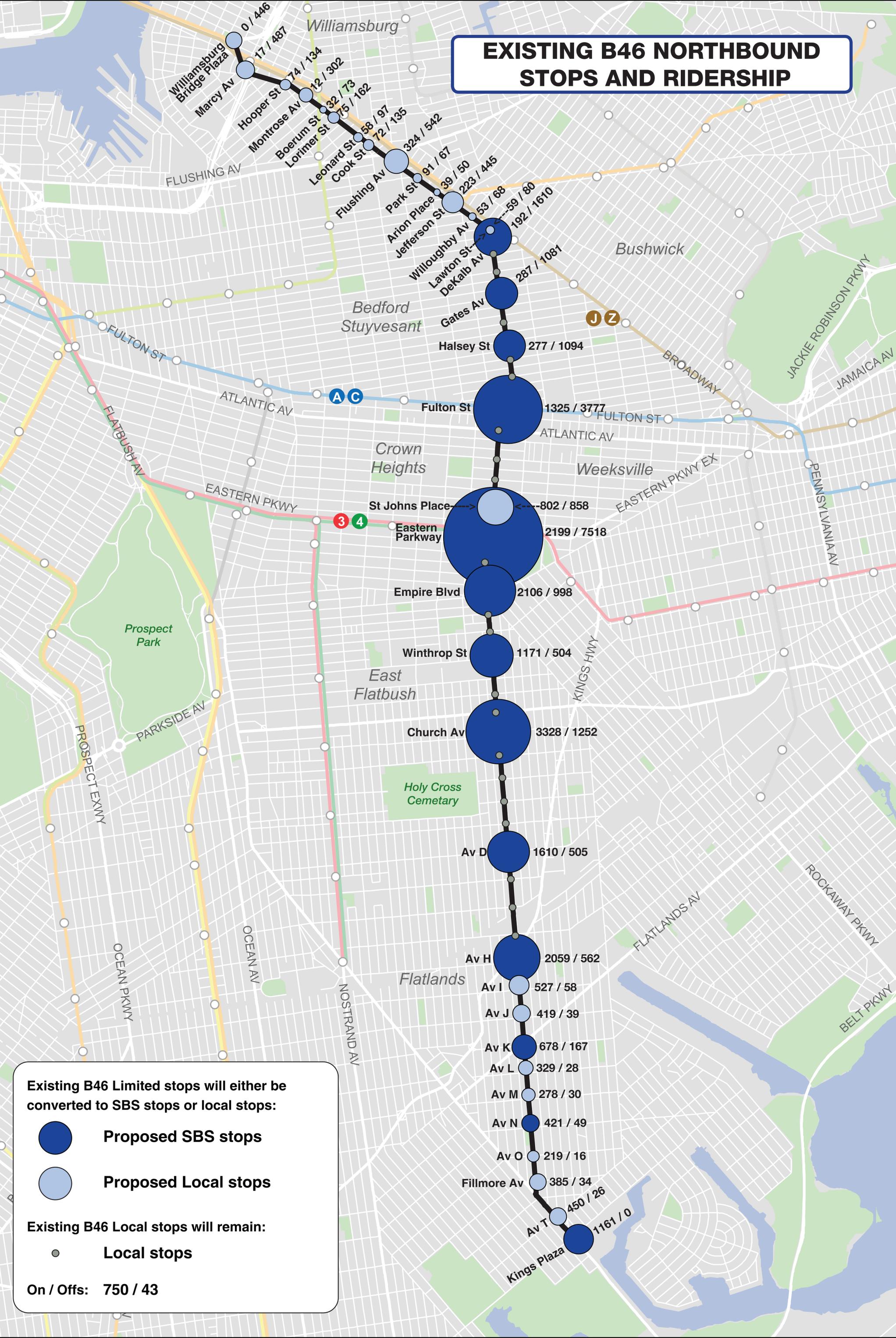
# Ridership Southbound



Average Weekday Ridership at B46 LTD Stops, Southbound

Total On / Total Off

# EXISTING B46 NORTHBOUND STOPS AND RIDERSHIP



Existing B46 Limited stops will either be converted to SBS stops or local stops:



**Proposed SBS stops**



**Proposed Local stops**



Existing B46 Local stops will remain:

**Local stops**

**On / Offs: 750 / 43**

Stop Name	On / Offs	Stop Type
Williamsburg Bridge Plaza	0 / 446	Existing Local
Marcy Av	17 / 487	Existing Local
Hooper St	74 / 134	Existing Local
Montrose Av	12 / 302	Existing Local
Boerum St	32 / 73	Existing Local
Lorimer St	75 / 162	Existing Local
Leonard St	58 / 97	Existing Local
Cook St	72 / 135	Existing Local
Flushing Av	324 / 542	Existing Local
Park St	91 / 67	Existing Local
Arion Place	39 / 50	Existing Local
Jefferson St	223 / 445	Existing Local
Willoughby Av	53 / 68	Existing Local
Lawton St	59 / 80	Existing Local
DeKalb Av	192 / 1610	Existing Local
Gates Av	287 / 1081	Existing Local
Halsey St	277 / 1094	Existing Local
Fulton St	1325 / 3777	Proposed SBS
St Johns Place	802 / 858	Proposed Local
Eastern Parkway	2199 / 7518	Proposed SBS
Empire Blvd	2106 / 998	Proposed SBS
Winthrop St	1171 / 504	Proposed SBS
Church Av	3328 / 1252	Proposed SBS
Av D	1610 / 505	Proposed SBS
Av H	2059 / 562	Proposed SBS
Av I	527 / 58	Proposed Local
Av J	419 / 39	Proposed Local
Av K	678 / 167	Proposed Local
Av L	329 / 28	Proposed Local
Av M	278 / 30	Proposed Local
Av N	421 / 49	Proposed Local
Av O	219 / 16	Proposed Local
Fillmore Av	385 / 34	Proposed Local
Av T	450 / 26	Proposed Local
Kings Plaza	1161 / 0	Proposed SBS

# PROPOSED SBS STOP LOCATIONS

The B46 Local will be extended to Williamsburg Bridge Plaza, making all stops along Broadway 24 hours per day.

The northern terminal of the B46 SBS will be at DeKalb Av.

The B46 Local will continue to make all local stops from DeKalb Av to Avenue U (Kings Plaza).

The B46 SBS will make SBS stops from DeKalb Av to Avenue U (Kings Plaza).

The B46 SBS will not make local stops south of Avenue H.

