

111th Street Transportation Improvements

Project Update

2016



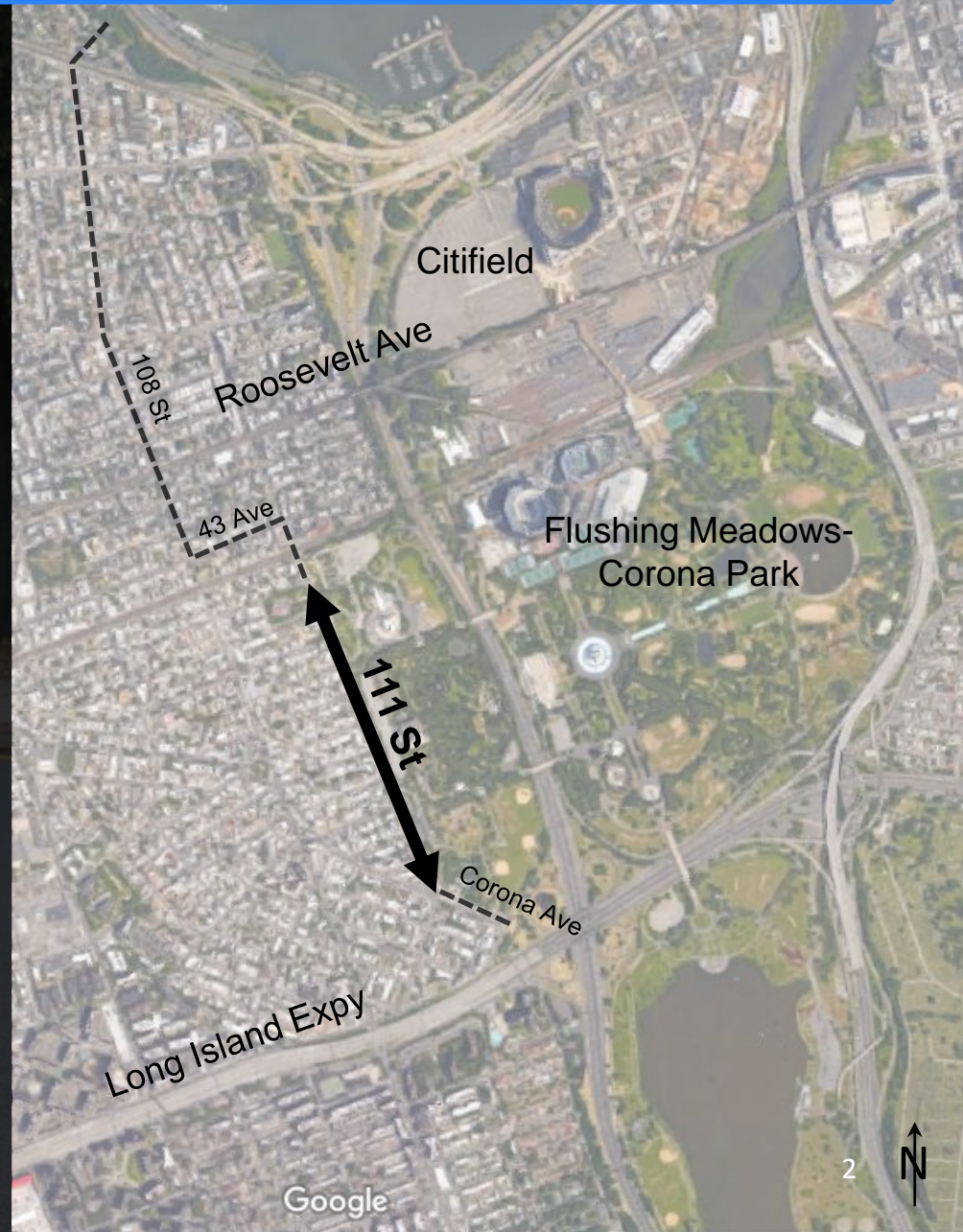
Background

2014

- **Fall:** CM Ferreras-Copeland requested safety enhancements to 111 St adjacent to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park

2015

- **Winter:** 111 St identified as Priority corridor in Vision Zero Action Plan
- **Spring:** Proposed project presented to Community Board 4
- **Spring-Fall:** Additional traffic analysis conducted during special events
- **Summer:** Two community workshops held
- **Summer:** Street surveys conducted



111 Street: Existing Conditions



111 Street: Existing Conditions

70% of bicycle riders using sidewalk

No Bike Facilities
70% of bicycle riders using sidewalk

Wide Street is Barrier to Park
94' wide street is over designed

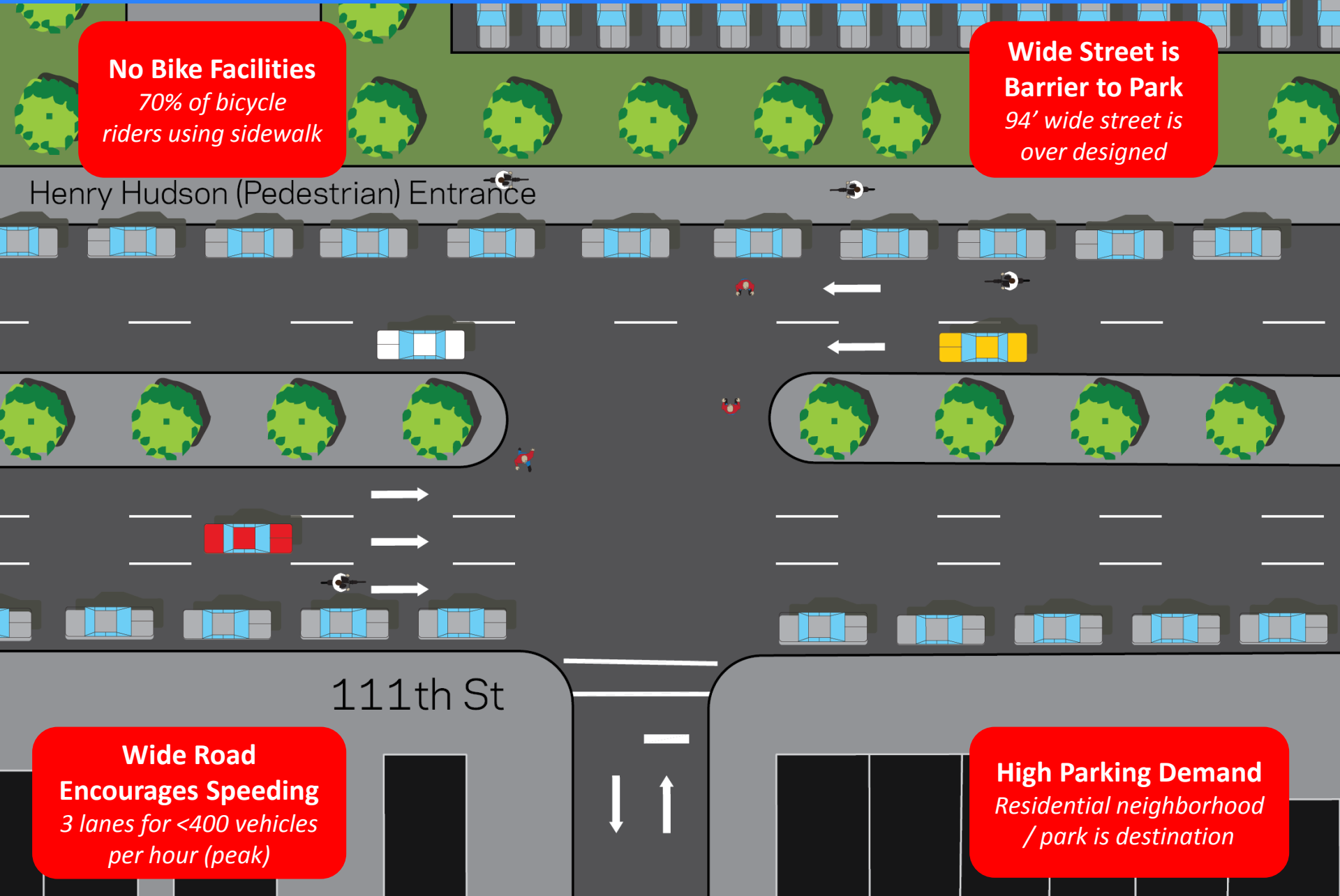
Henry Hudson (Pedestrian) Entrance 

111th St

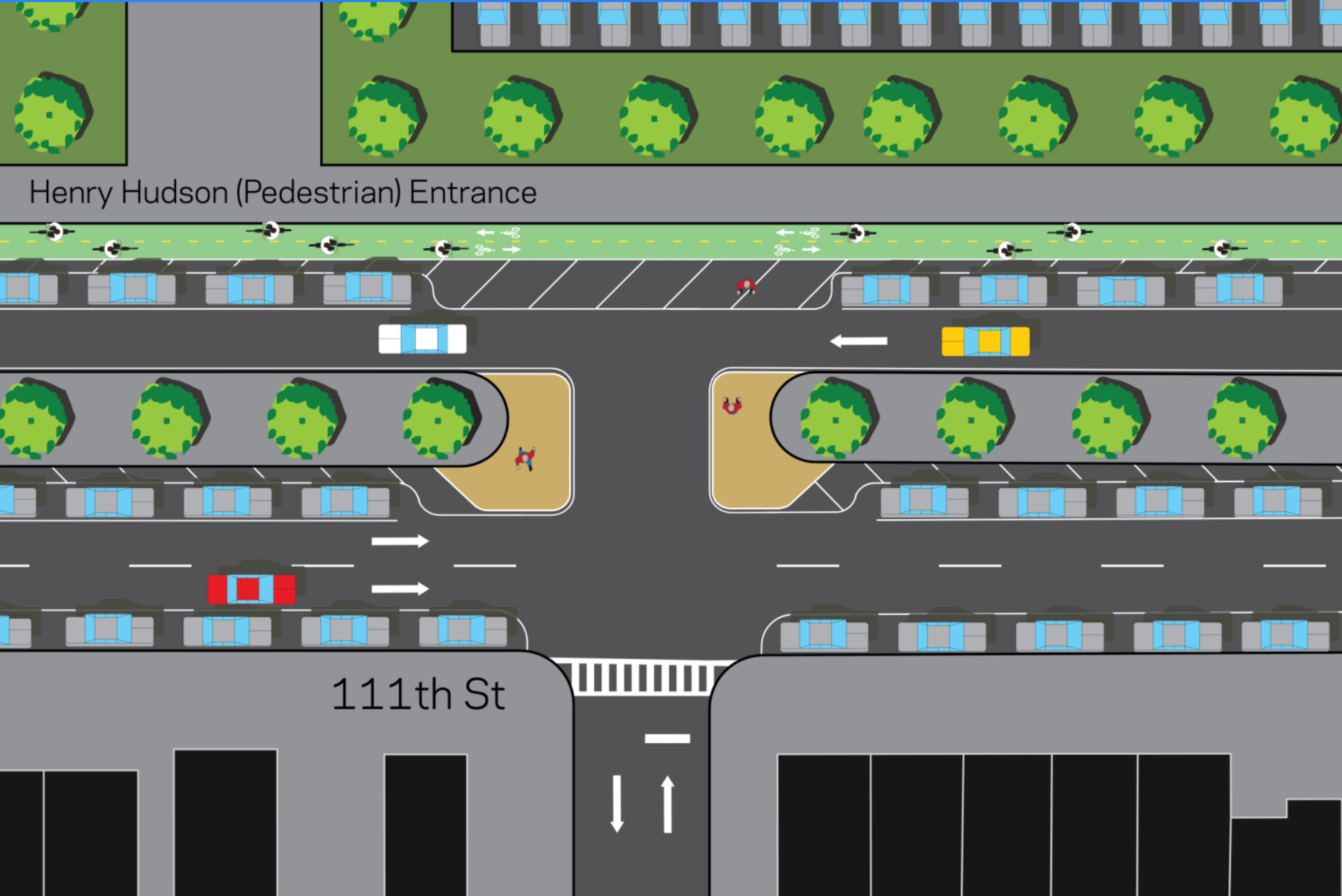
Wide Road
Encourages Speeding
3 lanes for <400 vehicles per hour (peak)

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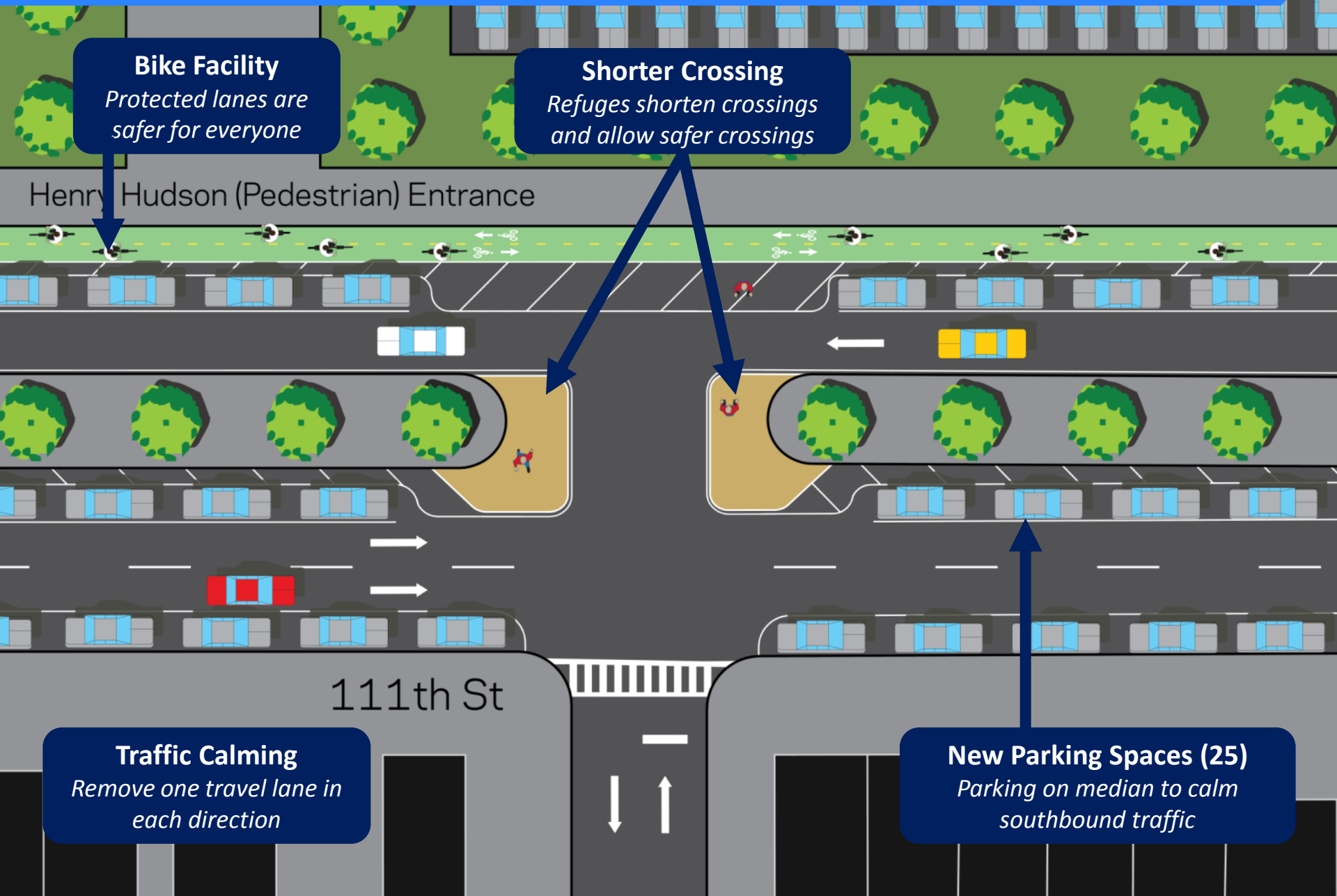
High Parking Demand
*Residential neighborhood
/ park is destination*



111 Street: Proposed Conditions



111 Street: Proposed Conditions



Traffic Analysis During Special Events

Traffic Volumes

Volumes collected at 4 locations, during 84 days (5 separate periods)
April to November 2015

Volumes exceeded capacity of 1 lane on 5 occasions

- 1st and 2nd Queens International Night Market
- One out of 37 Mets Games
- Two days of Maker Faire

Time Lapse Camera

Images of traffic captured every 10 min at 3 locations for 40 days
Aug 2-Sept 28, 2015

**Congestion documented on two occasions,
only at northern camera location**

- Two days of Maker Faire

Field Observations

NYC DOT staff observed traffic conditions during select special events on 9 occasions during 2015

Congestion observed during 1 event

- Two days of Maker Faire

Special Events Covered:

- 37 Mets Games, including
 - World Series
 - Games during evening peak
 - Games overlapping with other major events
- 8 Queens International Night Markets
- US Open Tennis Championship
- Maker Faire
- Start of school at PS 28
- Many other parks events

Summary of Community Outreach

Public outreach conducted in 2015 regarding the redesign of 111 St:

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETINGS

- March 31: CB 4 Transportation Committee
- May 11: CB 3 Transportation Committee
- May 21: CB 3 *Approved bike lanes and shared lanes on 108 St/31 Dr from Flushing Bay Promenade to Roosevelt Ave*
- June 1: CB 4 Transportation Committee
- June 9: CB 4 Full Board

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH

- June 30 and July 29: Community workshop hosted by CM Ferreras-Copeland
- August 27 and 28: 111 St street user surveys

Community Workshops

111 St community workshops were held on June 30th and July 29th, 2015

- Approximately 85 attendees (total for both workshops)

RESULTS

- Strong support for:
 - **shorter crossings**, expanded medians
 - **additional parking** spaces
 - **bicycle path**
- Key concerns raised:
 - **traffic congestion** during special events
 - **loading access** to the Playground for All Children
 - **parking availability** for Rego Park Health Care employees



Community members reviewing plan (July 2015)

Street Surveys

Bilingual survey of street users, August 2015

49th Ave-50th Ave (August 27), 54th Ave-55th Ave (August 28)

249 responses collected, including 194 Queens residents and 84 Corona residents

TRANSPORTATION MODE

- 88% of Corona residents **walked or biked** to 111 St (including those who came by transit)

DESTINATIONS

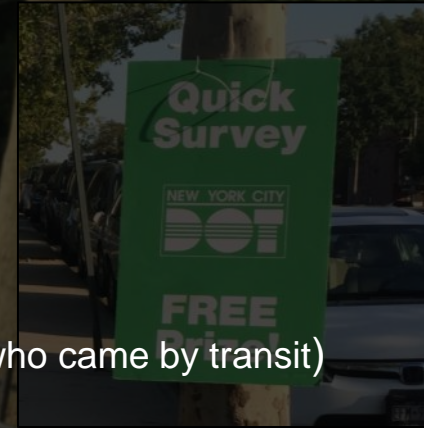
- **Playgrounds** were most popular destinations for Corona residents
- **Museums/zoo** were most popular destinations overall

111 ST SAFETY/ACCESS CONCERNS

- **Speeding was most cited** by Corona residents and overall
- **Traffic congestion was least cited** by Corona residents and overall

DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS on 111 St

- Corona residents/all surveyed street users overwhelmingly supported:
 - **more crosswalks** (92% / 91%),
 - **a protected bike lane** (92% / 87%),
 - **additional parking spaces** (76% / 79%)

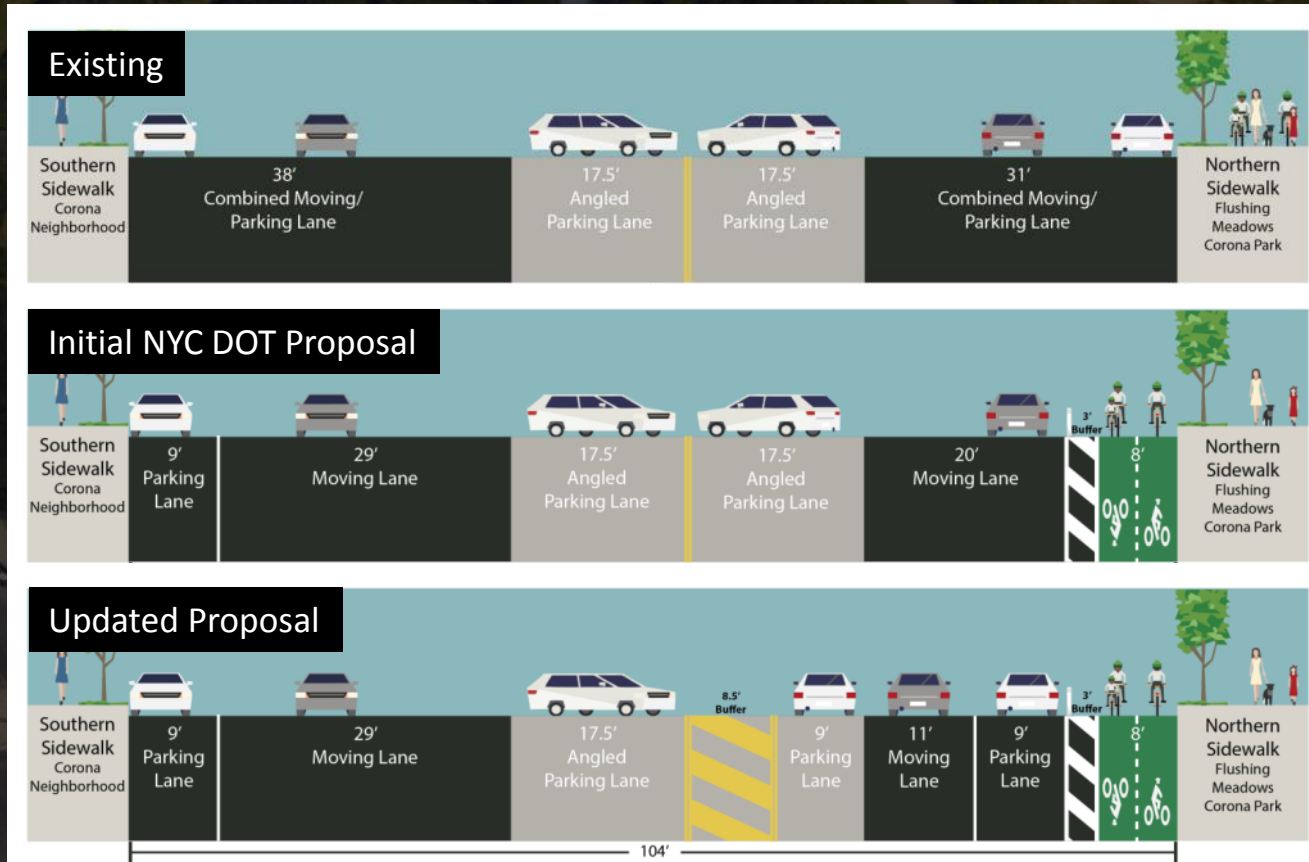


Response to Community Concerns on Corona Ave

- Workshop participants expressed concern regarding:
 - On-street parking loss for Rego Park Health Care employees
 - Loss of loading for the Playground For All Children



Response to Community Concerns on Corona Ave

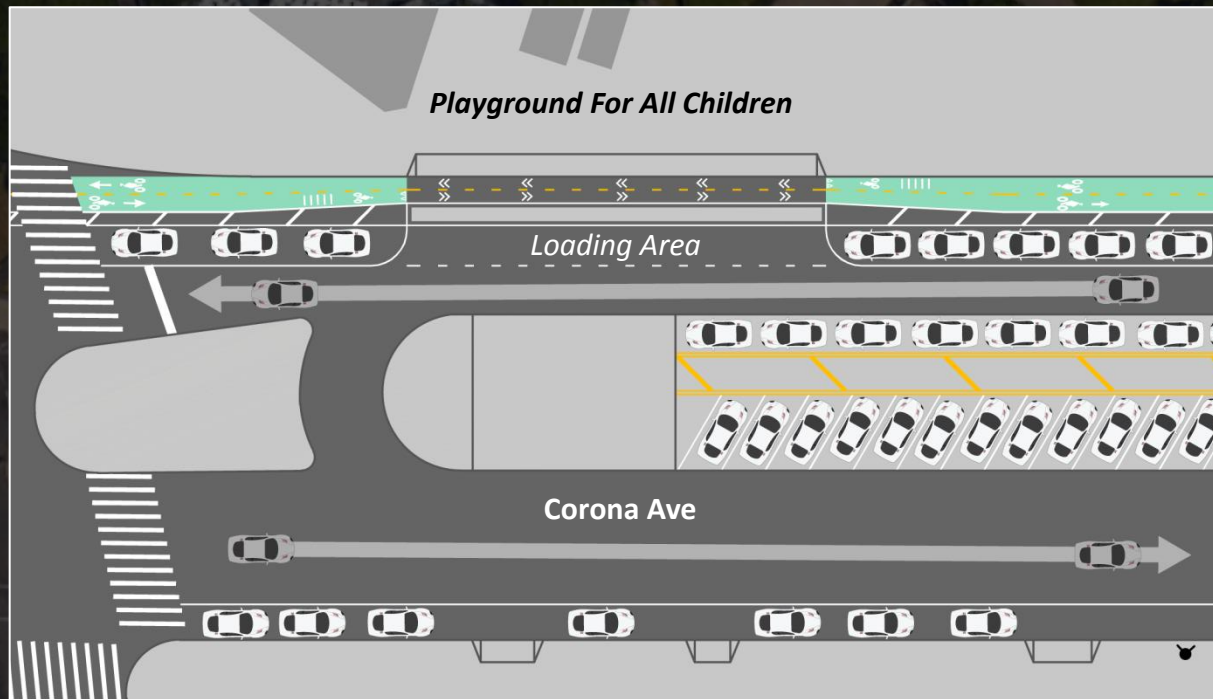


- Remove parallel parking along north curb
- Net gain of 10 parking spaces across project area
- Convert angled parking on north side of median to parallel parking
- Parallel parking on north curb maintained
- Preserves 6 parking spaces on Corona Ave

- Updated net parking gain for the project is **25 spaces**

Response to Community Concerns on Corona Ave

- Proposed changes to the Corona Ave design:
 - Painted pedestrian space with shared bicycle markings for the length of the loading zone in front of the Playground For All Children
 - Wheelchair accessible loading to the Playground For All Children is maintained



Summary

PROJECT UPDATE

- Traffic impacts limited to minor increase in vehicular delay, only during the annual Maker Faire event
- Additional outreach found strong community support for benefits of proposed project
- Proposal revised in response to community concerns

PROJECT BENEFITS

- **Pedestrian Safety Improvements**
 - Crossing distance reduced by 50%
 - Median tip extensions provide refuge for crossing pedestrians
 - Parking regulations improve pedestrian visibility and access
 - Reduced sidewalk riding
- **Protected Bike Lane**
- **Increased Parking** - net gain of 25 spaces
- **Maintaining 2 southbound travel lanes** allows drivers pulling into driveways and turning vehicles to move out of the way of through traffic

Improved access to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park for all

Questions?

Thank
You

111th Street Transportation Improvements

Appendix



Crash Statistics

Crashes along 111 St, 2009-2013



Vision Zero Priority Corridor (2009-2013 data):

- Averaged 6 traffic-related serious injuries per mile ranking in the worst third of Queens corridors
- 17 pedestrian crashes, 22 bicycle crashes, 93 motor vehicle crashes between 43 Ave and Corona Ave

Traffic Volumes

Traffic volume data was collected at 4 locations on 111 St to determine when the traffic volume exceeded what can typically fit in one travel lane per direction.

Data collection dates:

- April 22nd to May 6th, 2015
- July 10th to August 21st, 2015
- August 31st to September 13th, 2015
- September 21st to September 27th, 2015
- October 30th to November 1st, 2015

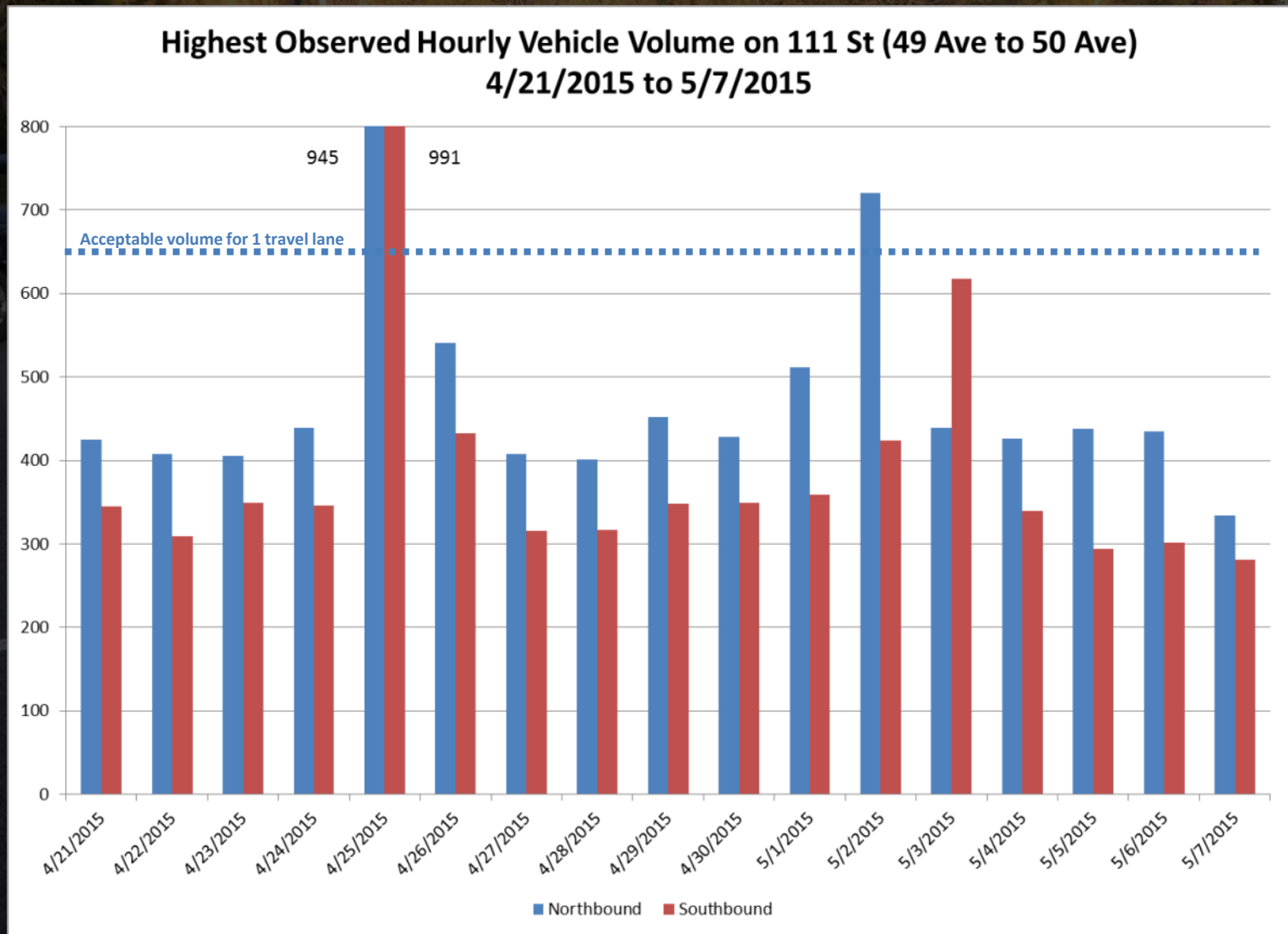
Special events covered:

- 37 Mets games
- 8 Queens International Night Markets
- US Open Tennis Championship
- Maker Faire
- Many other parks events

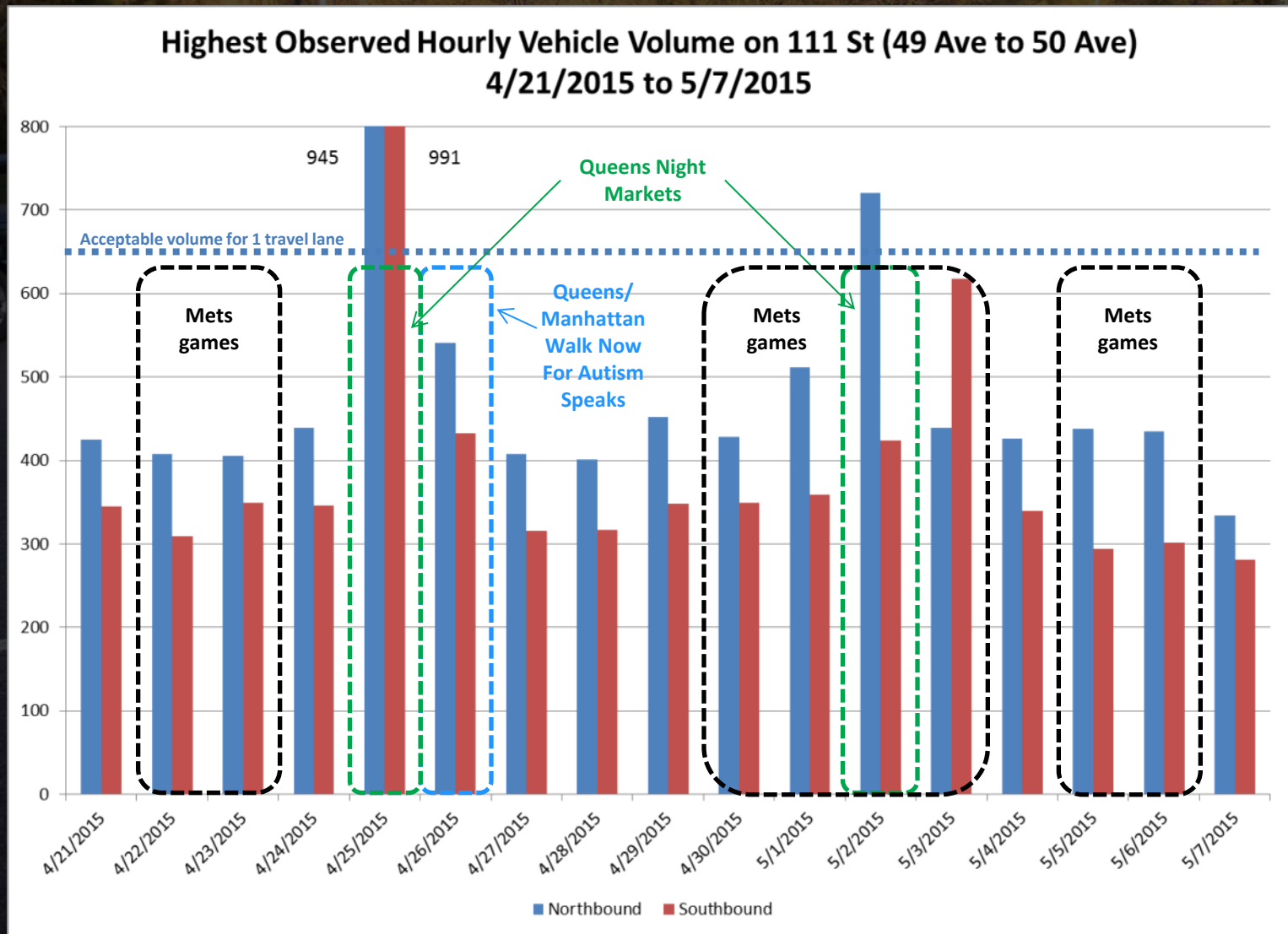


Vehicle Volume Data Collection Locations

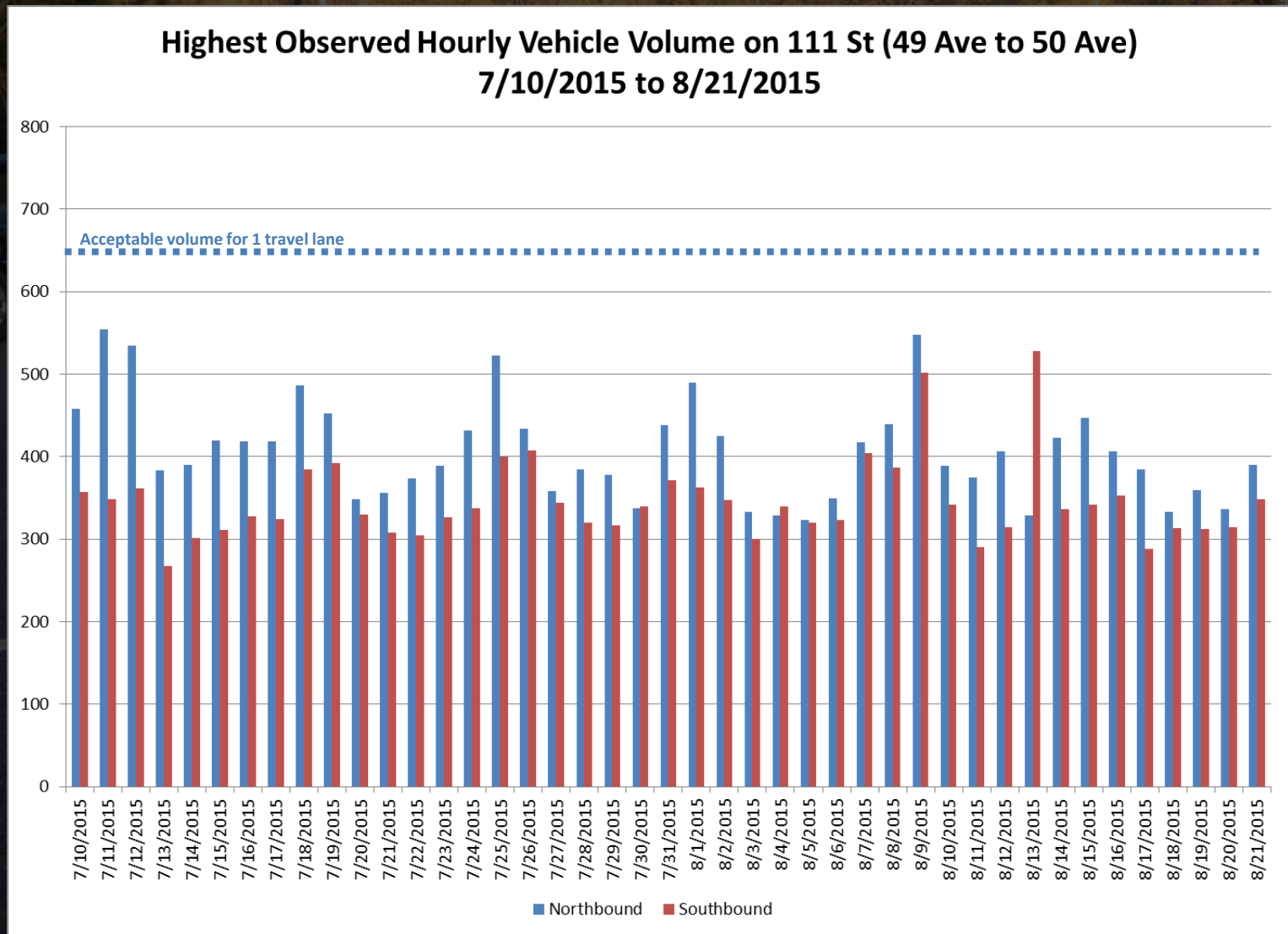
Traffic Volumes Results – 49 Ave to 50 Ave



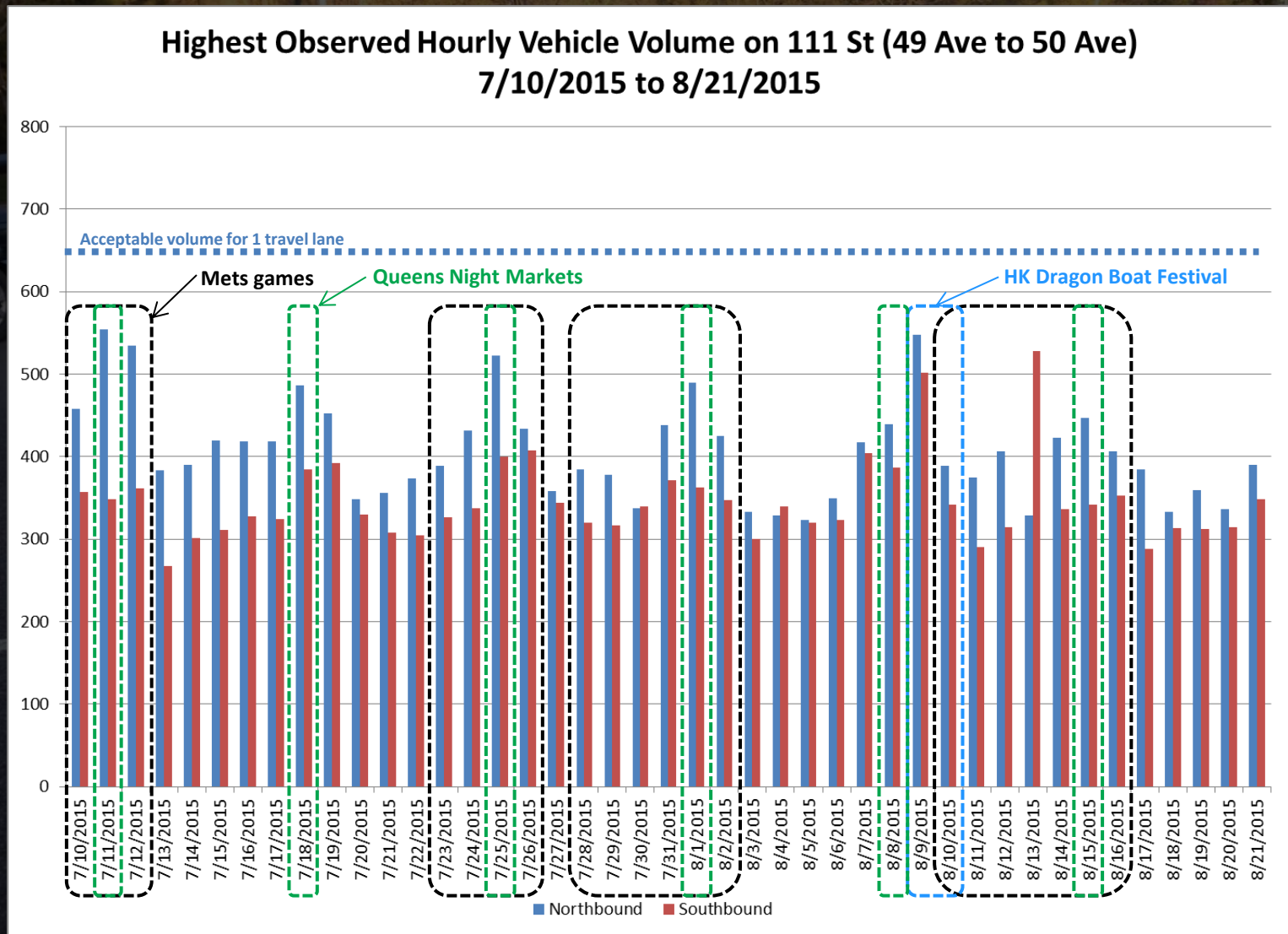
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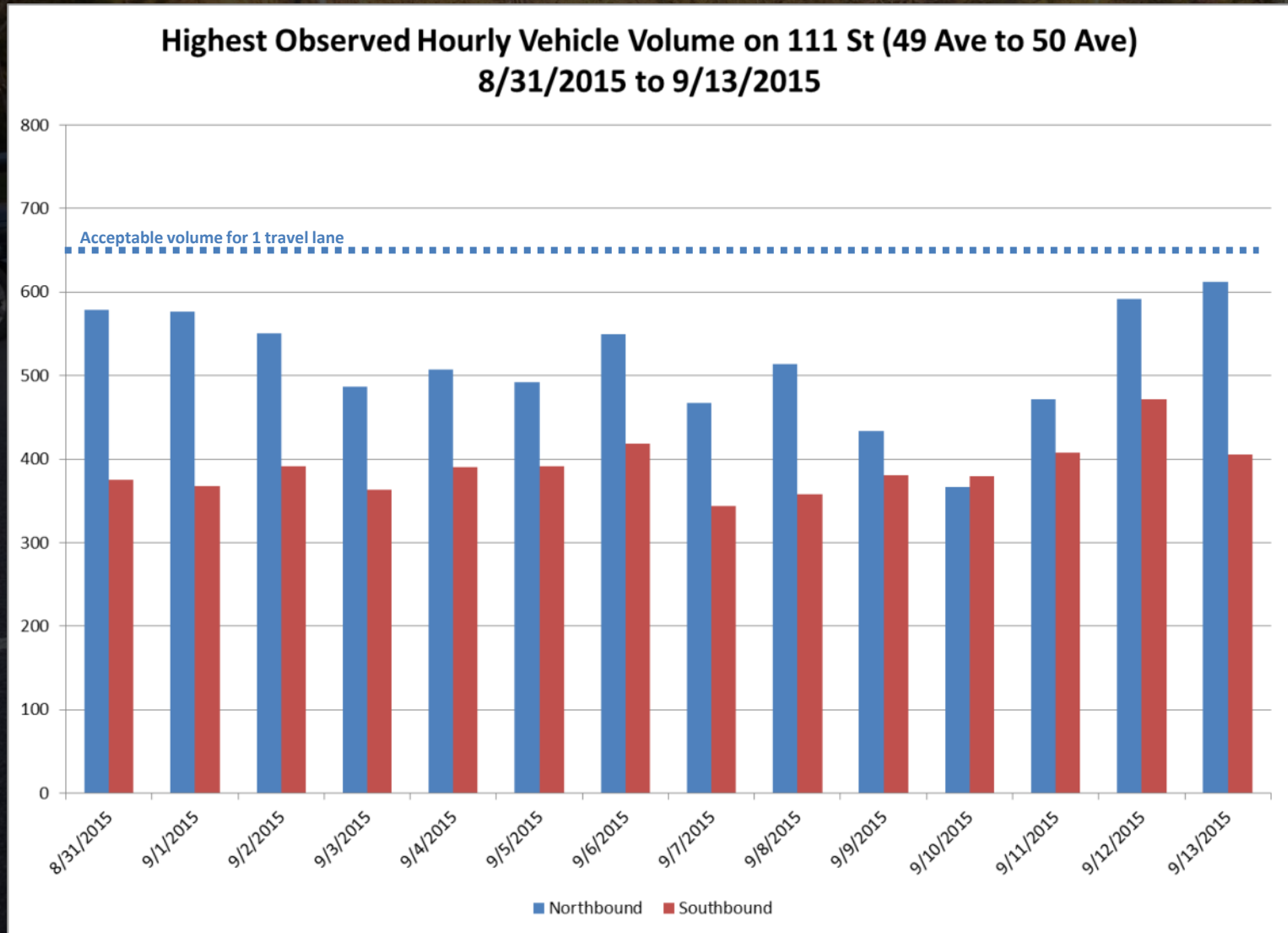
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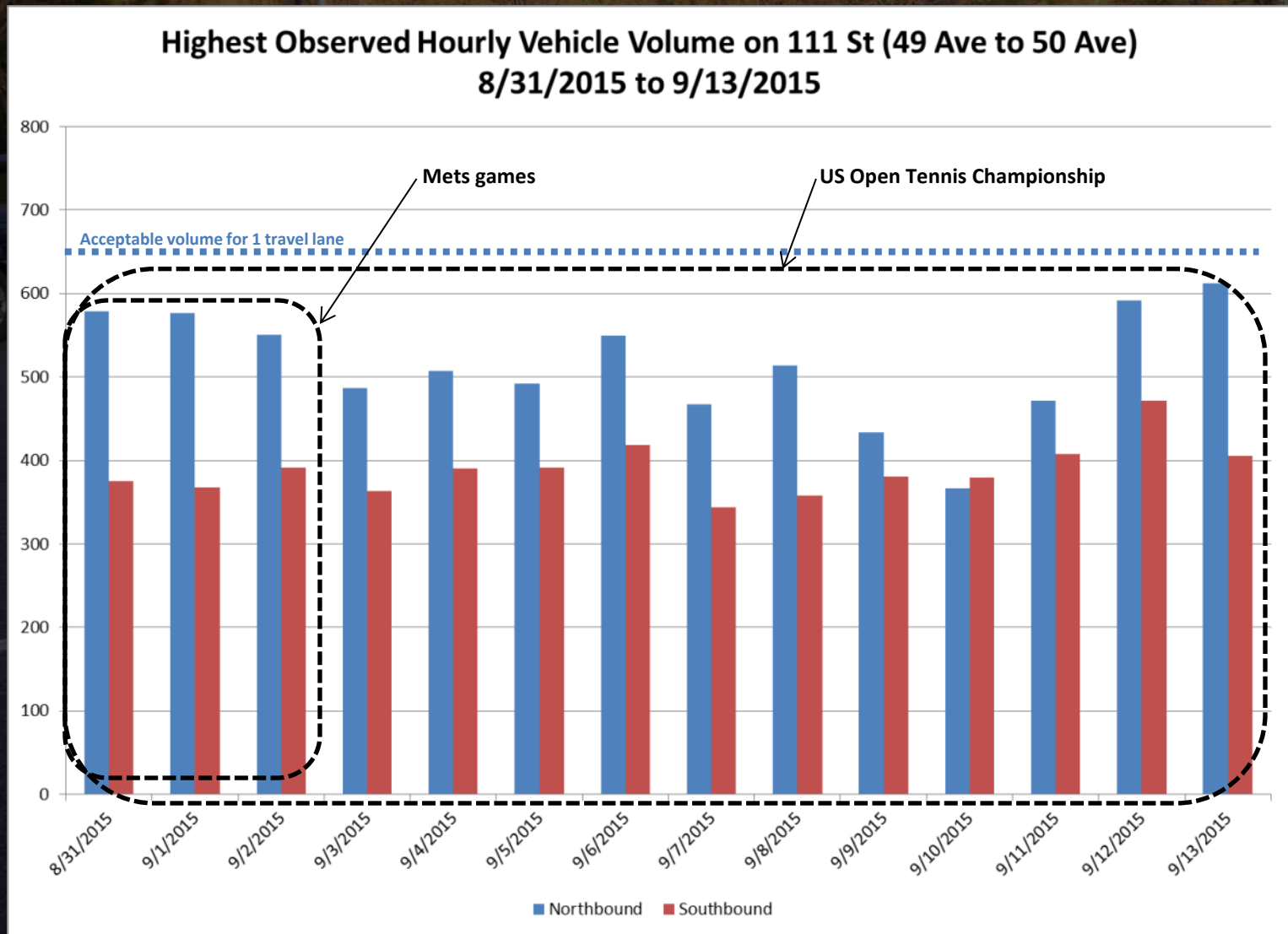
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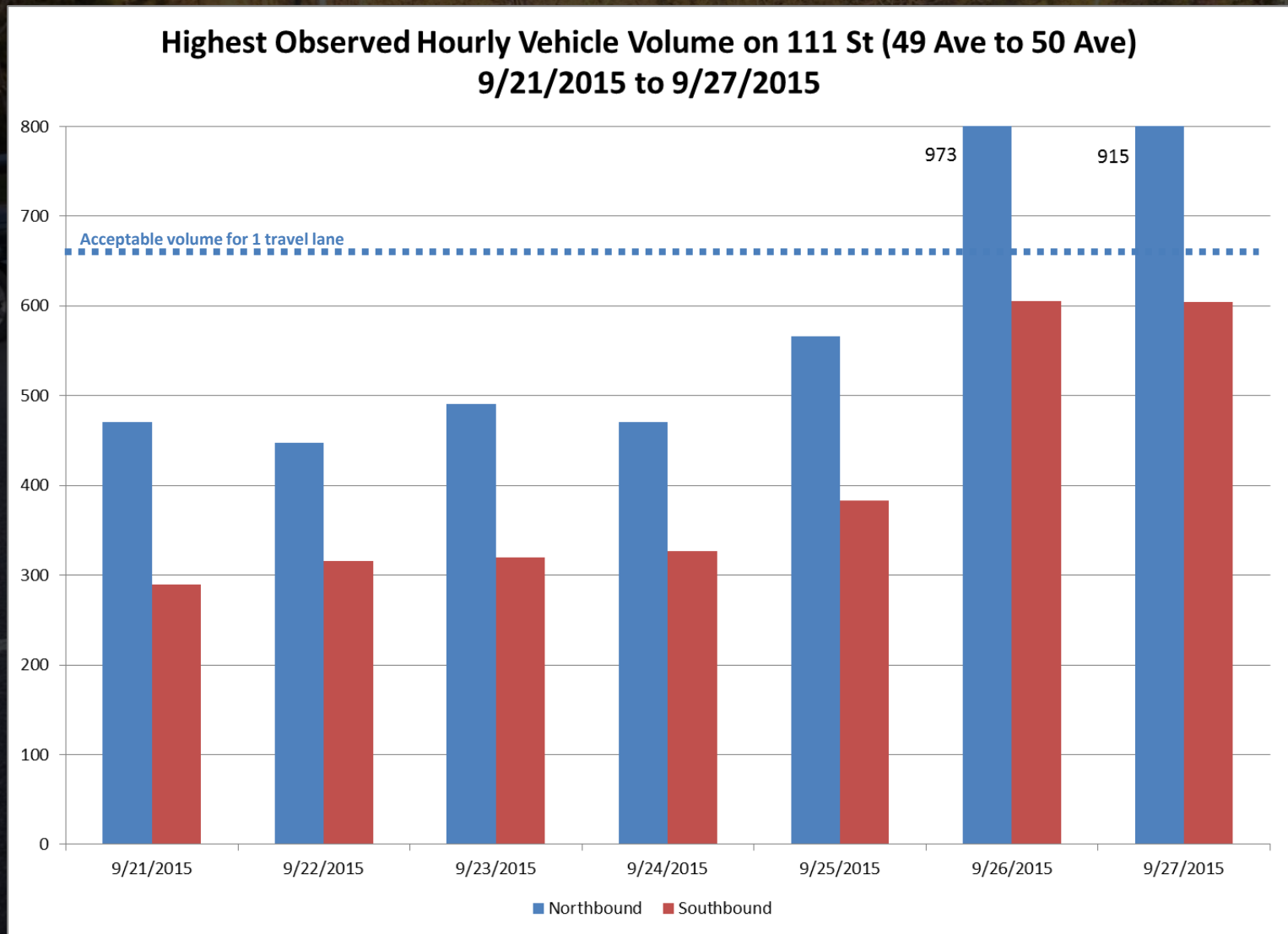
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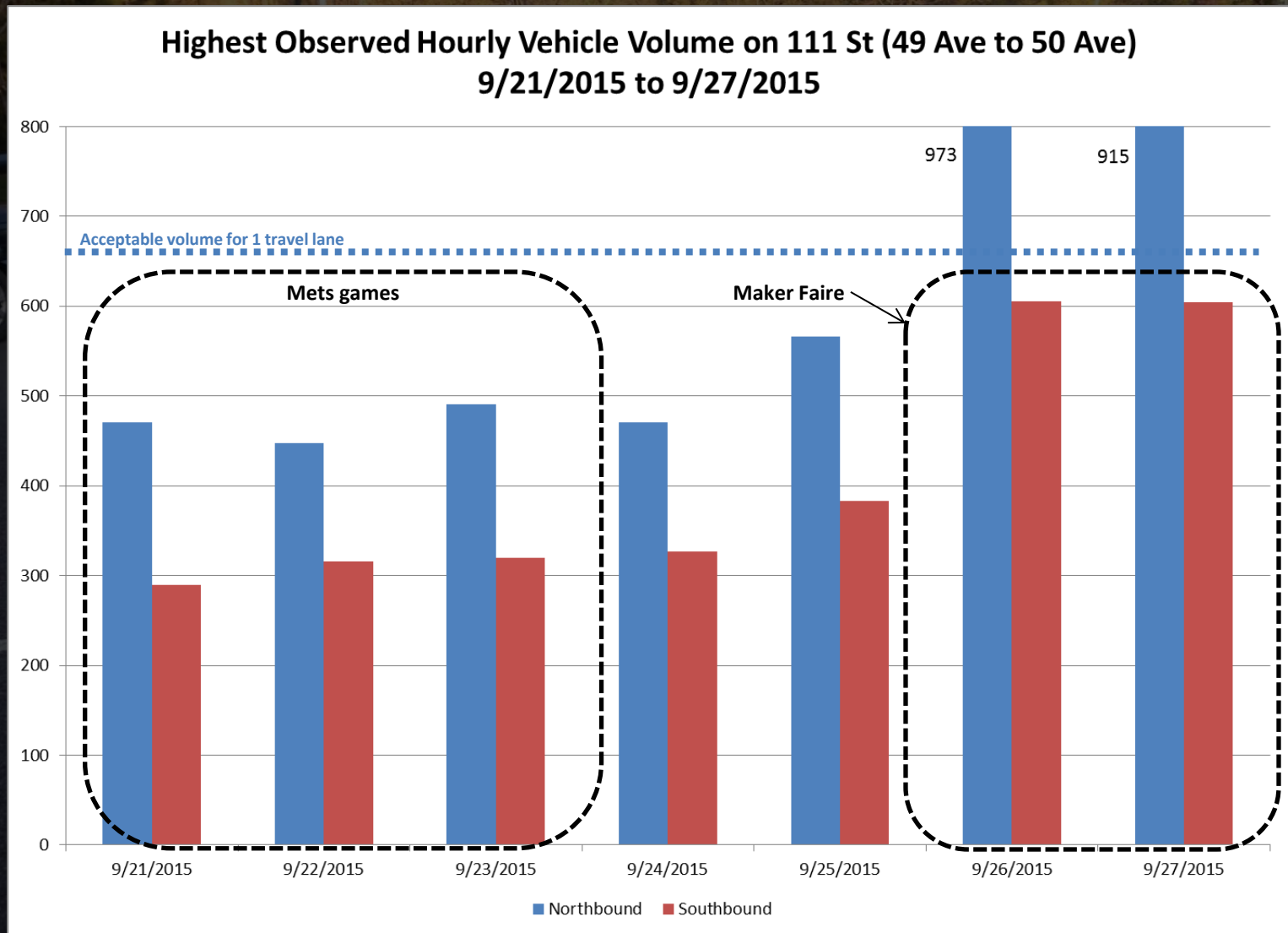
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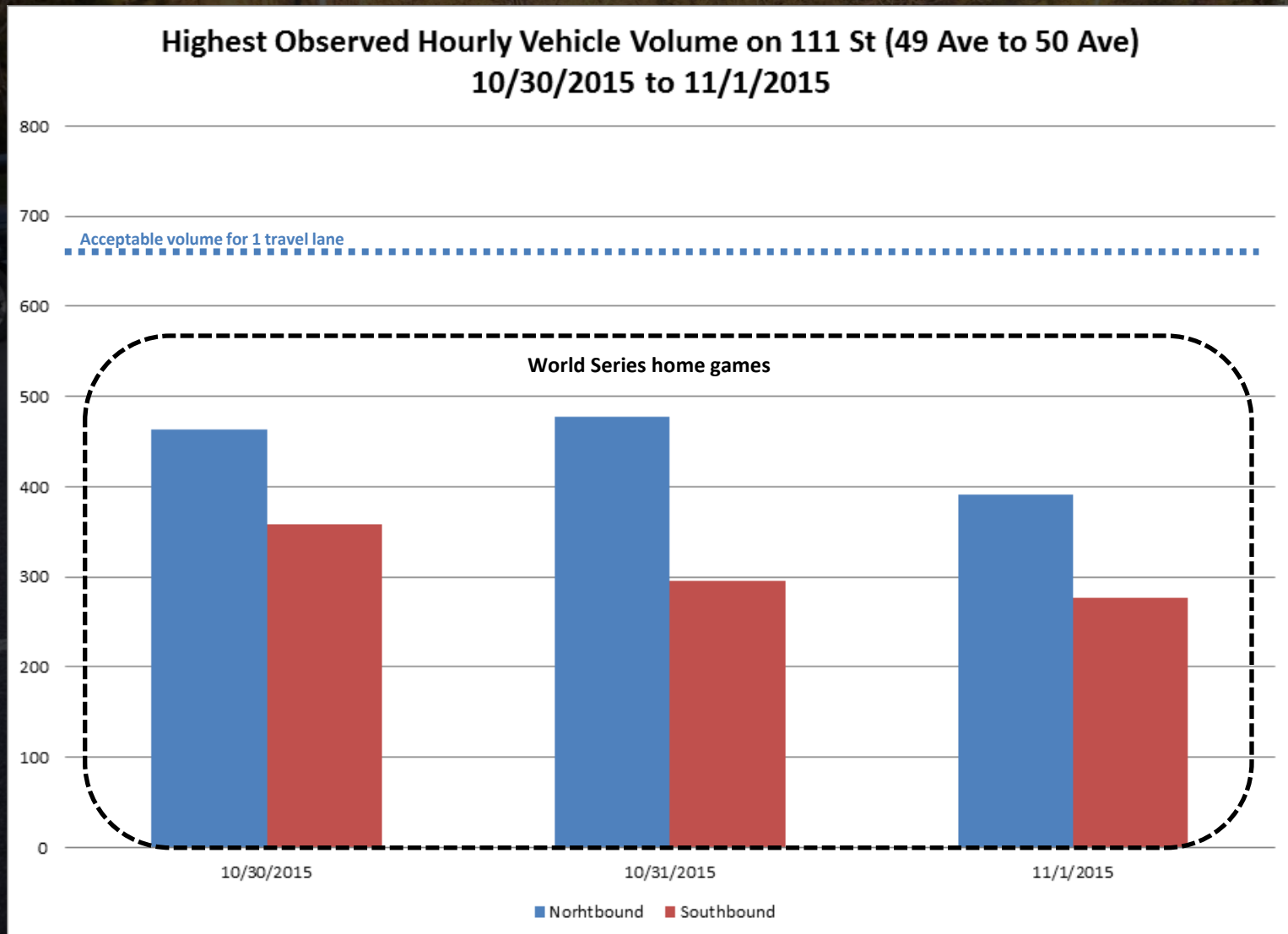
Traffic Volumes Results – 49 Ave to 50 Ave



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Traffic Volumes Results – 49 Ave to 50 Ave



Time Lapse Photography

Captured images of traffic on 111 St every 10 min to assess congestion

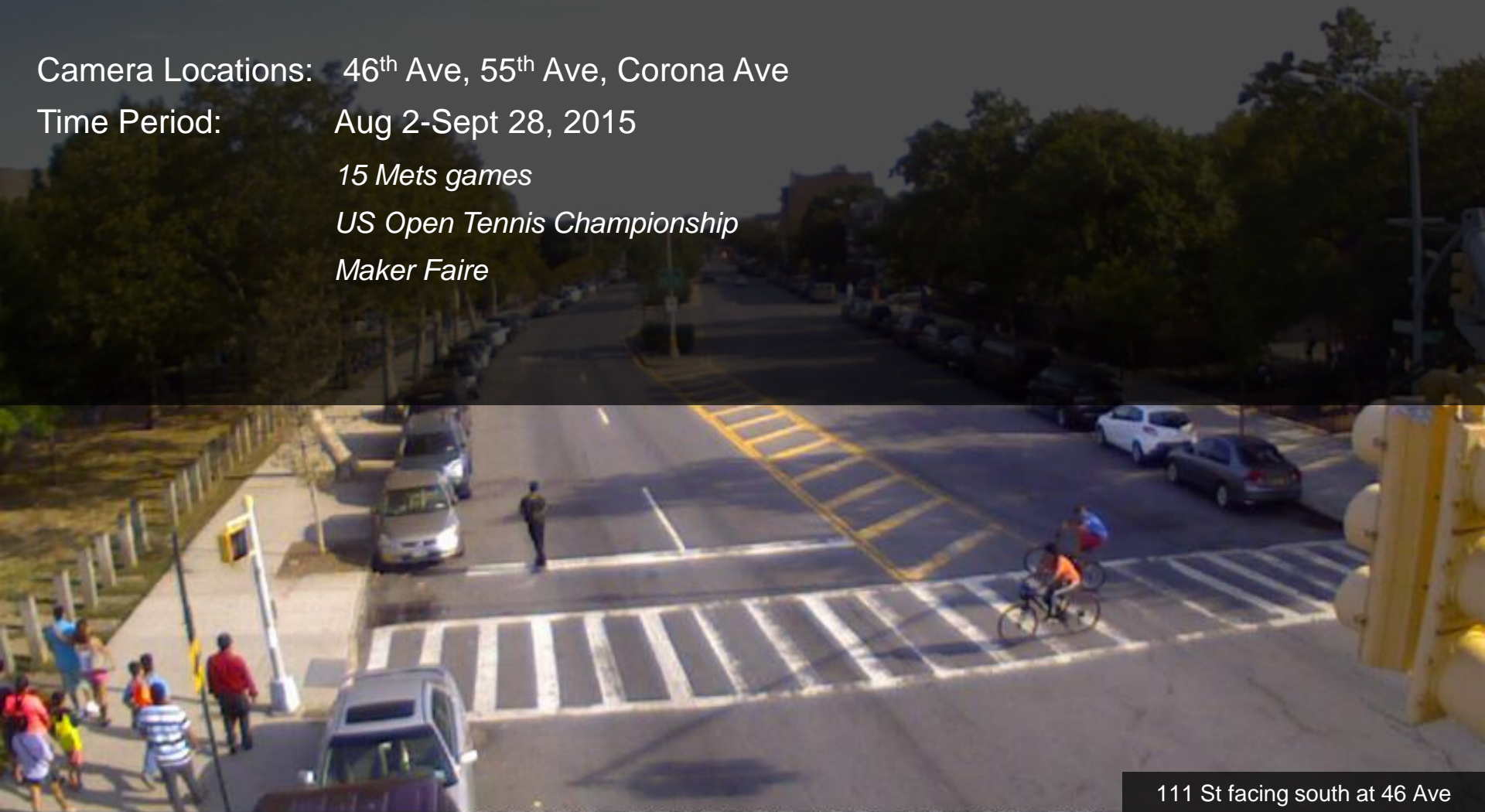
Camera Locations: 46th Ave, 55th Ave, Corona Ave

Time Period: Aug 2-Sept 28, 2015

15 Mets games

US Open Tennis Championship

Maker Faire



111 St facing south at 46 Ave

TLC200 2015/09/06 16:45:53

Time Lapse Photography Results

Congestion observed only 2 times in 40 days, during Maker Faire:

- September 26, 10am—8pm
- September 27, 10am—6pm

This congestion was only captured on the cameras installed at 111 St and 46 Ave and was not visible at the other time lapse camera locations, indicating that the congestion is concentrated at the northern end of the study area.



111 St facing south at 55 Ave

TLC200 2015/09/26 12:41:23

Field Observations

NYC DOT staff spent time on 111 St observing traffic conditions during select special events in 2015:

- Monday, April 13th: Mets opening home game and weekday evening peak period
- Friday, April 17th: Mets game and weekday evening peak period
- Saturday, May 2nd: Mets game and Queens International Night Market
- Thursday, May 7th: Non-game day peak hours and start of school at PS28
- Sunday, May 10th: Cinco de Mayo celebration
- Saturday, June 20th: Louis Armstrong Wonderful World Festival
- Tuesday, September 1st: US Open Tennis Tournament and Mets game
- Thursday, September 3rd: US Open Tennis Tournament
- Saturday, September 26th: Maker Faire
- Sunday, September 27th: Maker Faire

Field Observations Results

Example: September 3rd, 2015, day 4 of US Open Tennis Championship

- While the entrance to the US Open was very crowded, 111 St was quiet



111 St facing south at 46 Ave, 11:20 a.m.



US Open Tennis Championship Entrance, 11:43 a.m.

Field Observations Results

Example: Mets games

- No congestion witnessed within study area (111 St, 46 Ave to Corona Ave)

111 St facing north at 47 Ave, April 17, 2015 4:56 p.m.

Friday game day and evening peak period



111 St facing south at 46 Ave, September 1, 2015 6:39 p.m.

US Open evening round began at 7 p.m.

Mets vs. Phillies game began at 7:10 p.m.



Summary of Results of Study of Traffic During Special Events

- The proposed design for 111 St would have a minor negative effect on northbound traffic during the annual 2-day Maker Faire
- For the remaining 99.4% of the year, no additional congestion would occur as a result of the proposed project, and street users would enjoy many benefits:
 - Median tip extensions
 - 25 additional on-street parking spaces
 - Parking-protected 2-way bicycle path
- Outside of the study area, NYC DOT is planning to make other improvements to ease congestion:
 - Signal timing changes to 111 St and 43 Ave
 - Improve signage on area highways to direct Citifield-bound traffic directly to the parking lot on Roosevelt Ave and away from local streets in Corona

Why Are Vehicle Volumes So Low on 111 Street?

1-way north of
Roosevelt Ave

Variation in
street widths

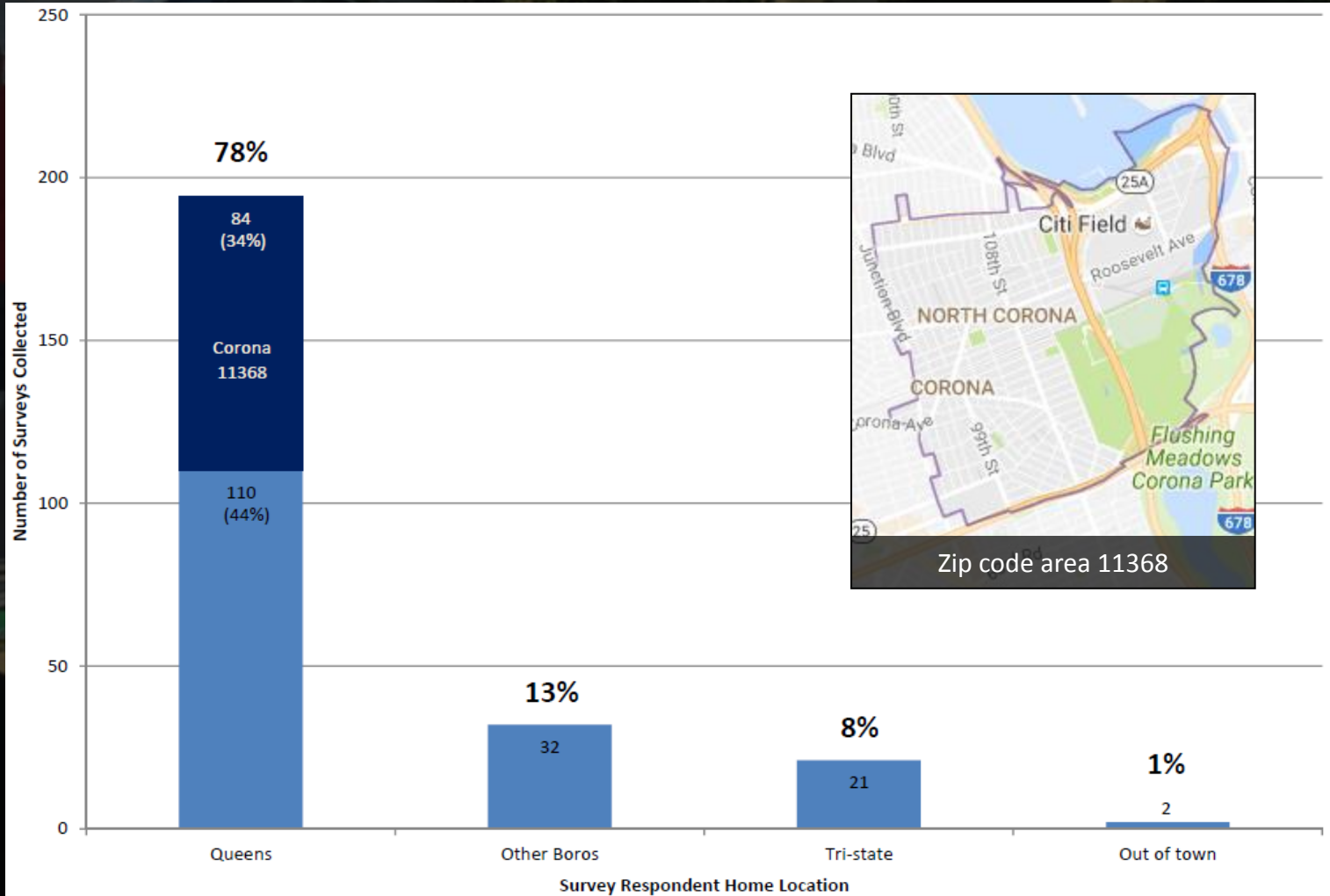


Multiple alternative routes
with better connectivity

Sautell Ave and Corona Ave both
terminate at LIE service road

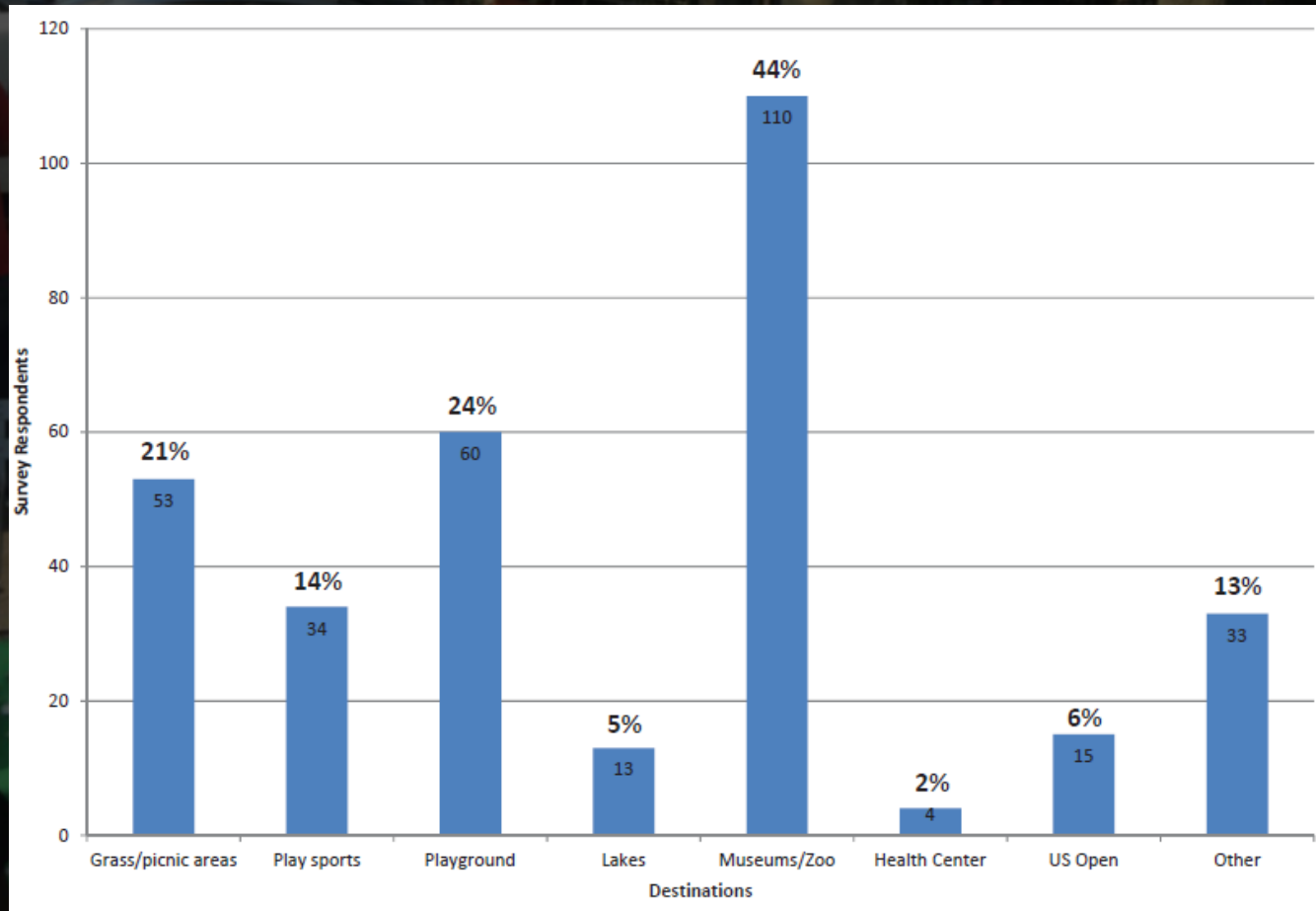
Street Survey: Home Zip Code

- Of the 249 responses received, 194 were made by Queens residents and 84 were made by Corona residents (zip code 11368)



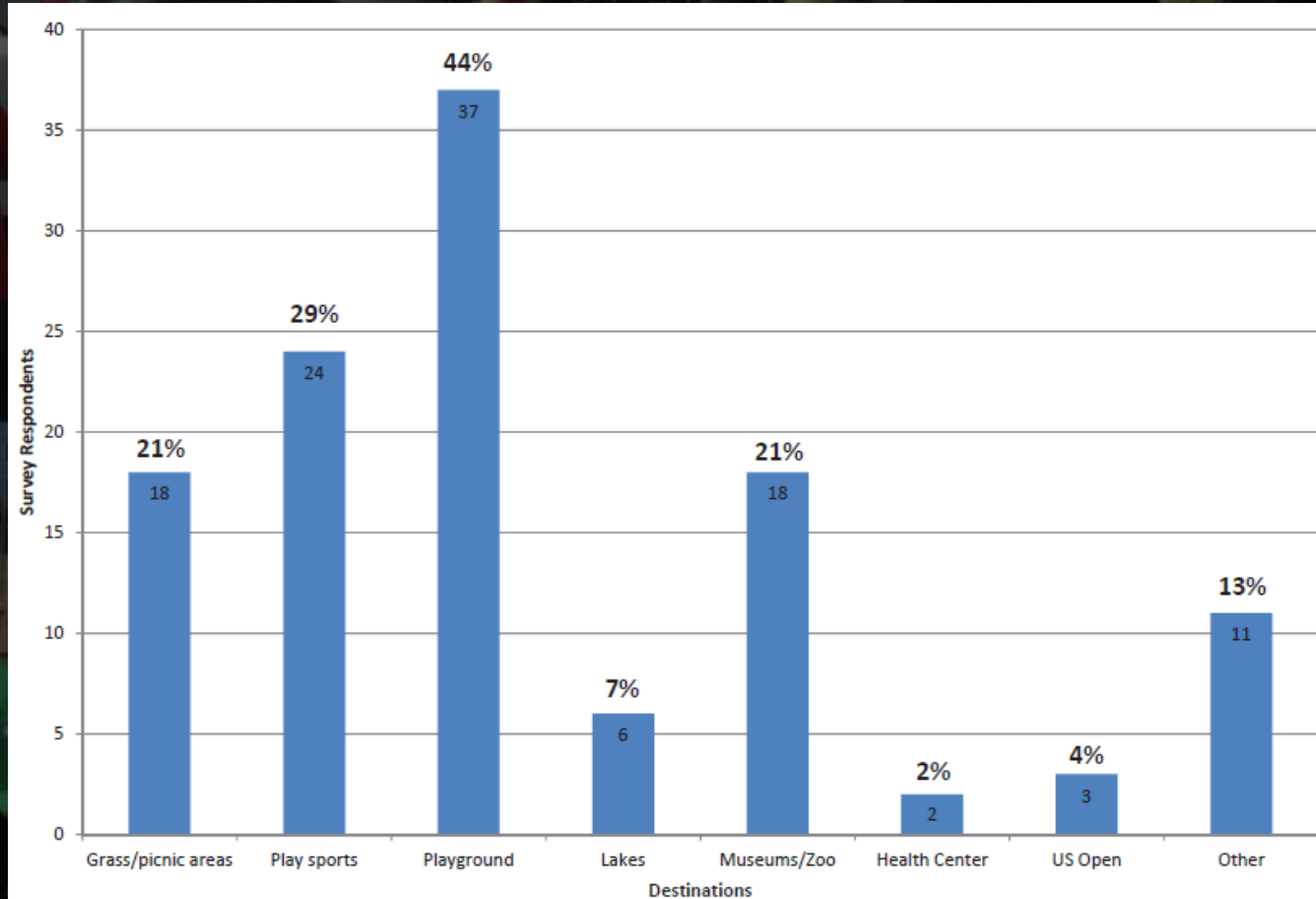
Street Survey: Travel Destination

- The most popular destination for surveyed streets users was museums and/or the Queens Zoo



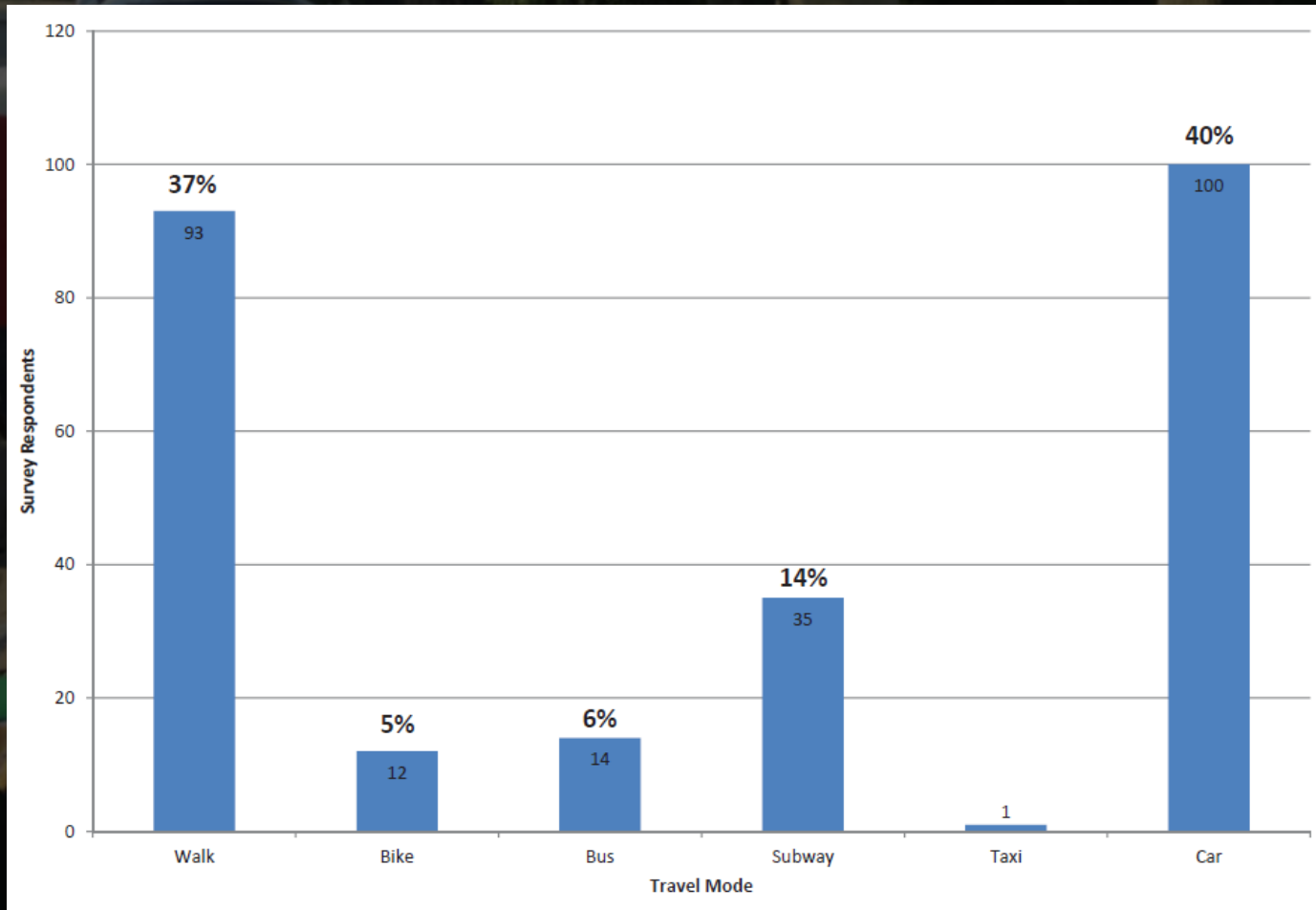
Street Survey: Travel Destination (Corona Residents)

- The most popular destination for surveyed Corona residents (zip code 11368) was playgrounds



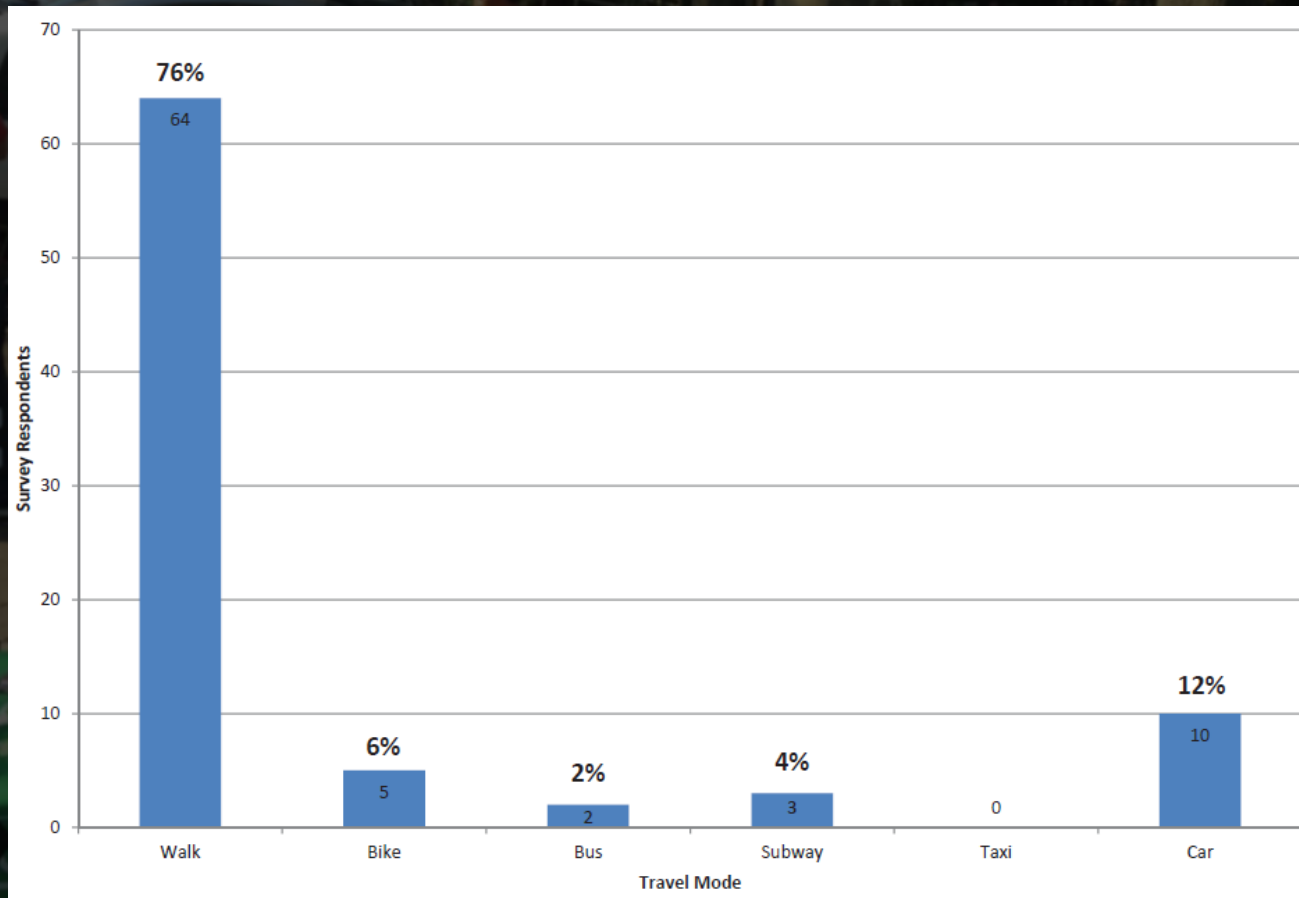
Street Survey: Travel Mode

- A nearly equal number of surveyed streets users came to 111 St by car and on foot



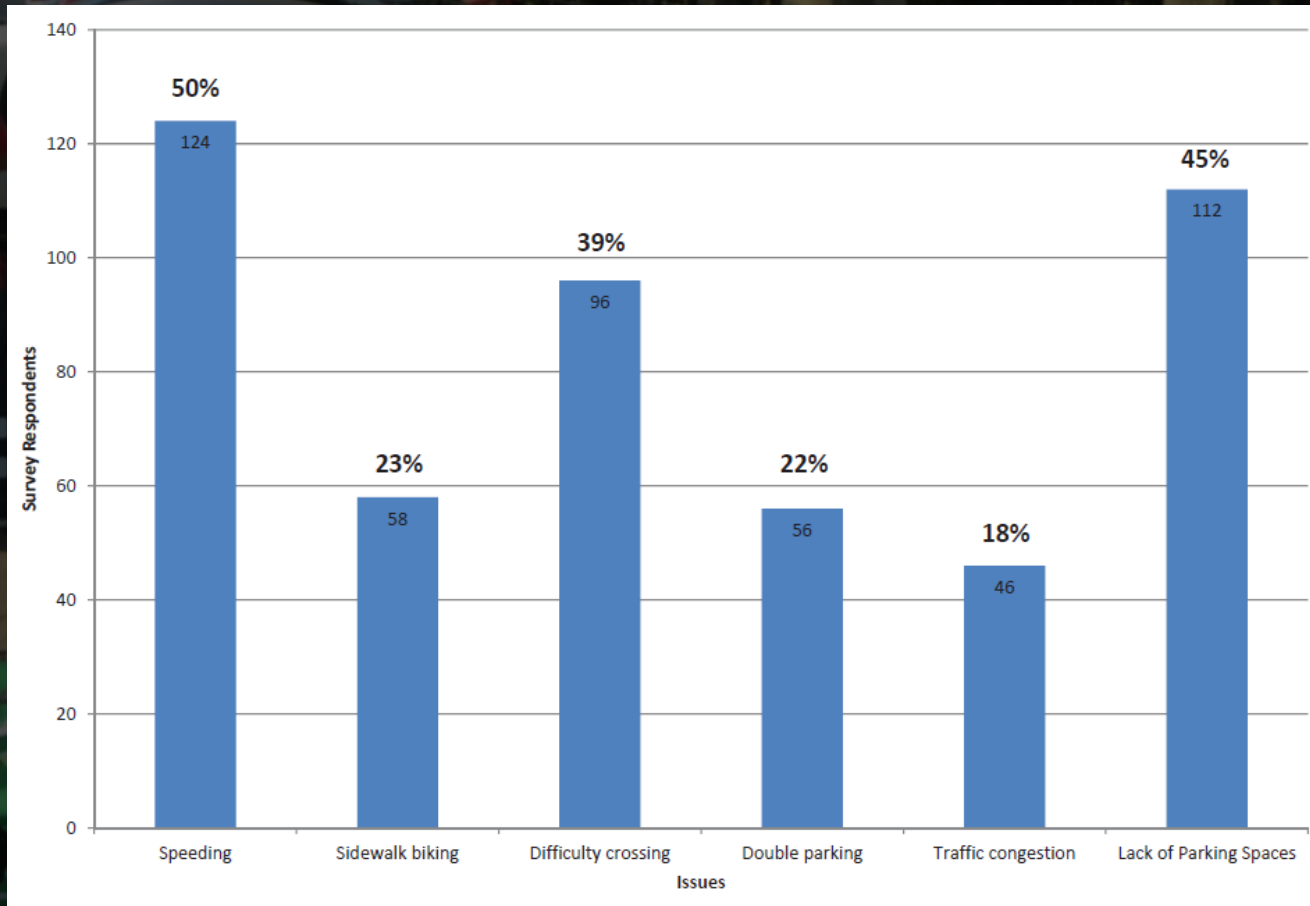
Street Survey: Travel Mode (Corona Residents)

- Surveyed Corona residents (zip code 11368) overwhelmingly came to 111 St on foot



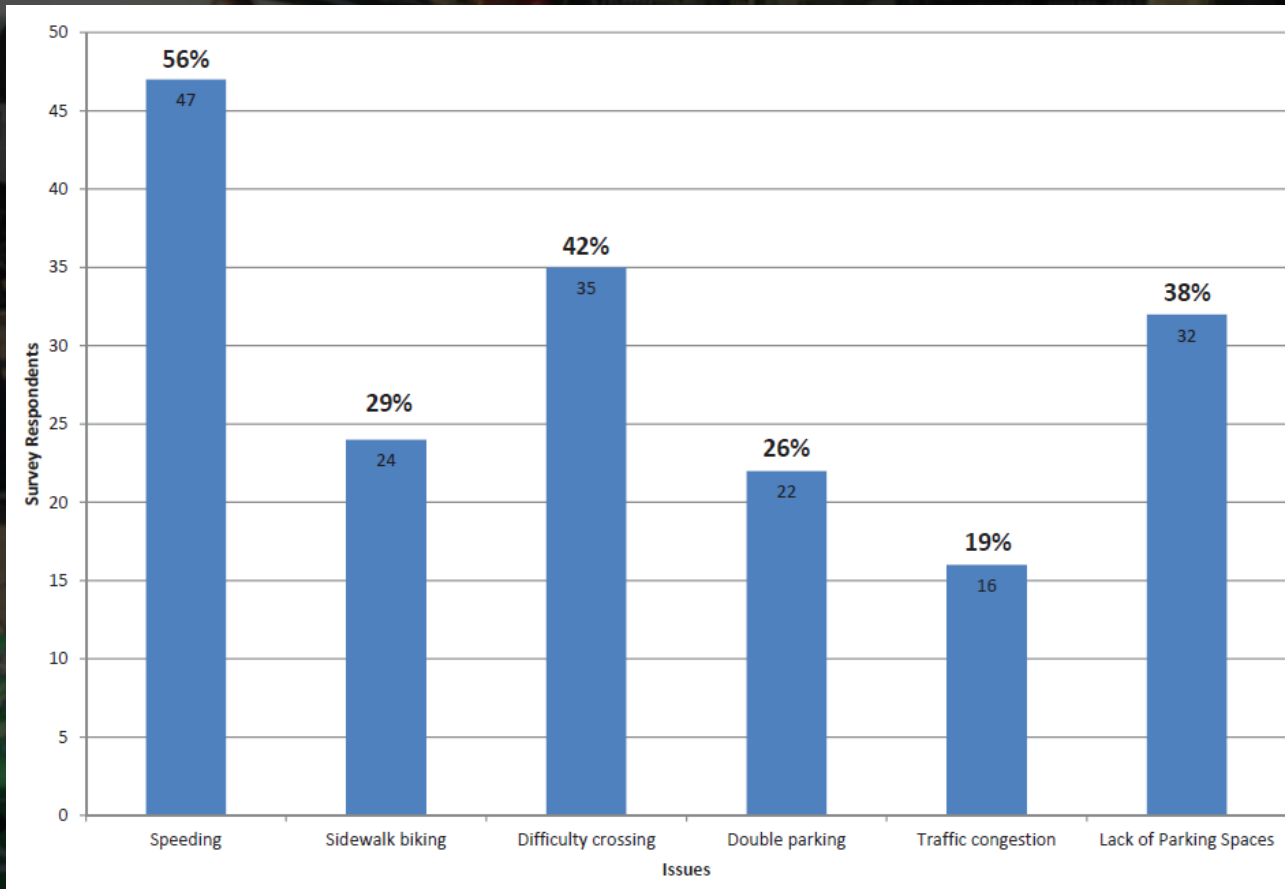
Street Survey: Safety/Access Concerns

- Of the safety and access concerns brought up, surveyed street users cited speeding the most frequently and traffic congestion the least frequently



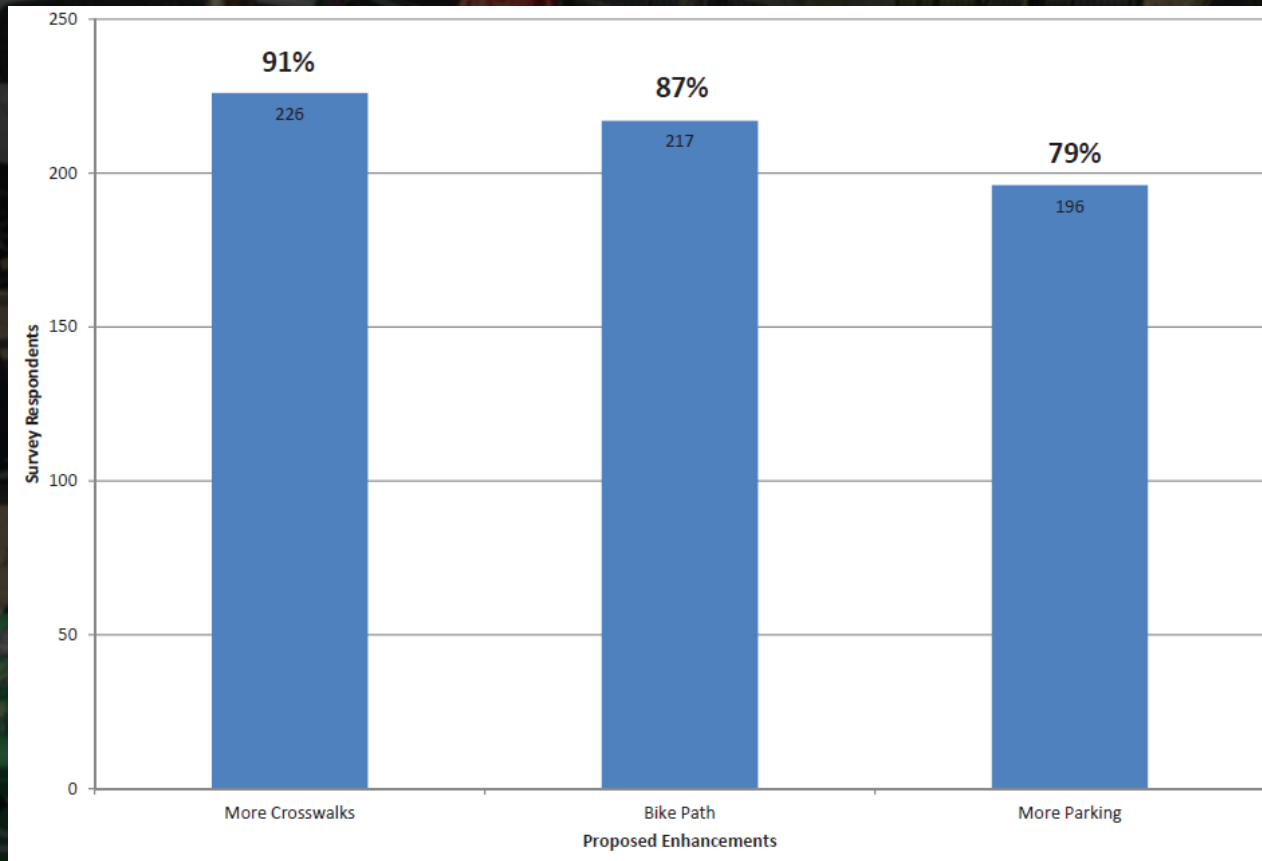
Street Survey: Safety/Access Concerns (Corona Residents)

- Surveyed Corona residents (zip code 11368) also cited speeding the most and traffic congestion the least of the safety and access concerns listed



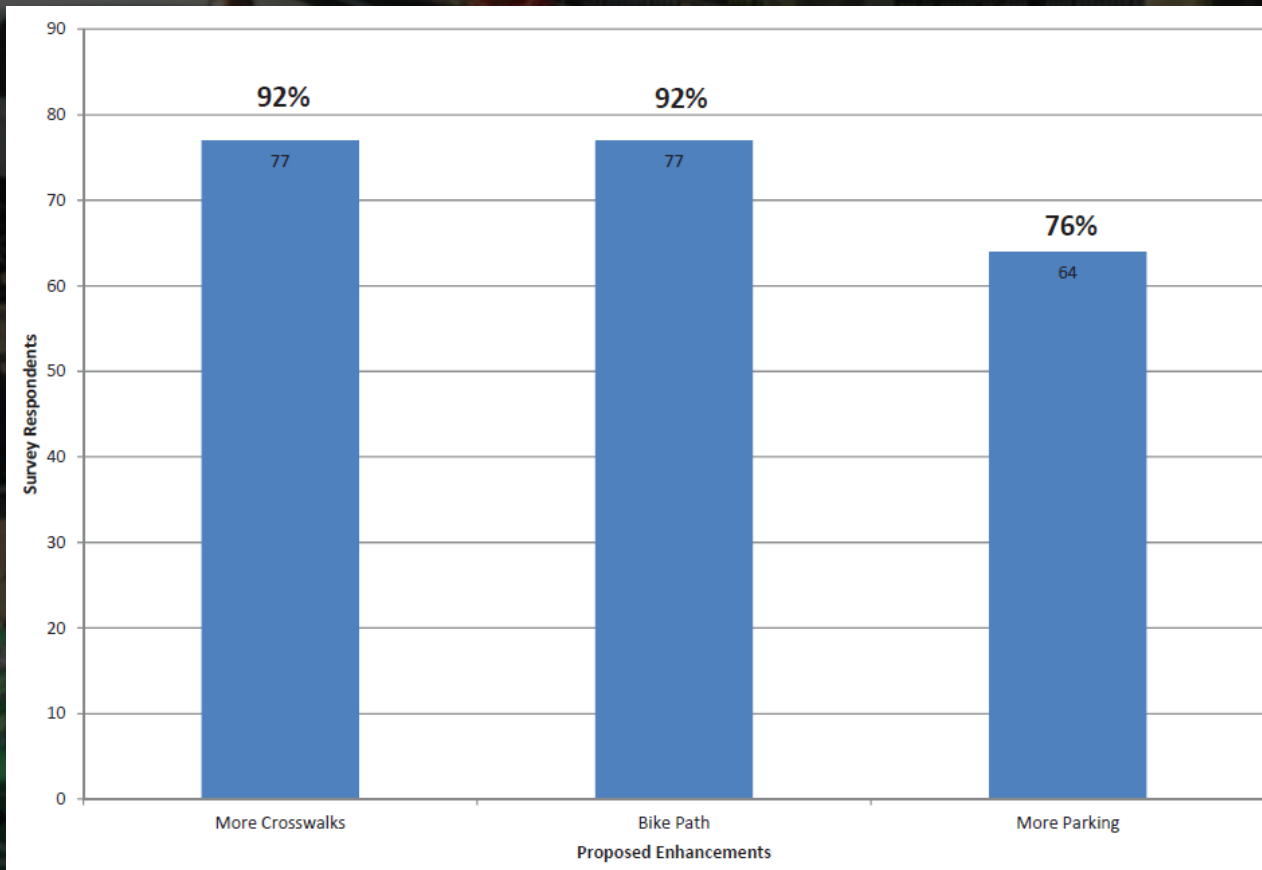
Street Survey: Interest In Transportation Amenities

- Surveyed street users overwhelmingly expressed interest in seeing more crosswalks



Street Survey: Interest In Transp. Amenities (Corona Residents)

- Surveyed Corona residents (zip code 11368) also overwhelmingly expressed interest in seeing more crosswalks and a bicycle path



Future Capital Improvements

- Proposed project would be done in-house using temporary materials
- CM Ferreras-Copeland has allocated \$2.7 million in capital funds for safety improvements along 111 St including the rebuilding of the existing medians

