Queens Boulevard & Yellowstone Boulevard
Safety Improvements in Forest Hills Senior Area

Community Board 6

Commissioner Polly Trottenberg
New York City Department of Transportation
Office of Research, Implementation and Safety
Project Background

• Skewed intersection
• Multiple community requests for improvements
• JHS 190 Russell Sage nearby
• Within Forest Hills Senior Area - Outreach to Selfhelp Austin Street Senior Center on 9-19-12
Existing Conditions

- Through truck routes on Queens Blvd
- Various Bus routes on Yellowstone Blvd, Jewel Ave, 108th St, and Queens Blvd
- Subway stations: Forest Hills E/F/M/R at 71st Ave
Safety Data

**Total Injuries**
(Motor vehicle occupant, bicycle and pedestrian)
2007-2011

**All Pedestrian Injuries**
2007-2011

**Senior Pedestrian Injuries**
2007-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Injuries</th>
<th>Severe Injuries</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>KSI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicyclist</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Occupant</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>85</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fatalities, 01/01/2007-11/25/2013**
- Pedestrian: 1
- Bicyclist: 0
- Motor Vehicle Occupant: 0

**Pedestrian fatality in 2012**
Need: Why Queens Blvd & Yellowstone Blvd?

- Long crossing distances with minimal refuge on skewed intersection
- Heavy pedestrian and vehicle volumes
- Multiple pedestrian/vehicle conflict points
- Disorganized and unsafe traffic movements
Intersection Proposal Details

- Install parking lane stripes to narrow moving lanes and calm traffic
- Reconstruct and upgrade pedestrian island and install extended kwik kurb to prevent illegal u-turns
- Ban northbound Yellowstone Blvd left turn onto Queens Blvd to remove unsafe turn, eliminate pedestrian/vehicle conflicts in west crosswalk, and organize Yellowstone traffic
- Construct three concrete median widenings to create more refuge space and safer crossings
Alternate Routes for Turn Ban

Ban Left Turns from N/B Yellowstone Blvd onto W/B Queens Blvd

Highest Turn Volumes:
7:30a-8:30a: 94
4:15p-5:15p: 134

OPTION 1:

OPTION 2:

OPTION 3:

OPTION 4:
Comparative Safety Data for Turn Ban

- 51st Ave has a similar geometry and skew
- Same northbound left turn ban at 51st Ave showed a **67% reduction** in pedestrian injuries and a **58% reduction** in motor vehicle injuries
Install parking lane stripe between 62nd Rd and 63rd Dr and from 65th Ave to 71st Ave to narrow lanes and calm traffic.
Benefits of Proposal

- Widening the medians reduces crossing distances and offers safer refuge for pedestrians
- Banning the turn eliminates conflict in west crosswalk, unsafe turns in gaps and optimizes and organizes traffic flow
- Installing kwik kurb on Yellowstone prevents illegal u-turns
- Installing parking lane stripes reduces speeding and calms traffic
Questions?

Contact:
Queens Borough Commissioner’s Office at qbc@dot.nyc.gov or 212-839-2510

Thank You