BROOKLYN BRIDGE PROTECTED BIKE LANE & ACCESS

Presented to Manhattan Community Board 1
April 2021
Brooklyn Bridge Protected Lane and Access

Background

East River Bridge Connections
- In 2007, DOT began prioritizing design changes that improve cyclist connections to the East River Bridges as well as on the East River Bridges

Brooklyn Bridge – Since 2007, numerous protected bicycle connections were installed on streets on both Brooklyn and Manhattan sides of the bridge

- Shared Use Path – Pedestrian overcrowding is the primary cyclist issues on the bridge span

- Protected Connection – There is currently no protected bicycle connection to the north of the Brooklyn Bridge on the Manhattan side, forcing cyclists to share the roadway with vehicles

Bicycle Volumes on the East River Bridges
- As cyclist volumes have grown on the other three bridges in the last five years (+4%), volumes on the Brooklyn Bridge have fallen (-44%)
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Brooklyn Bridge Design

Remove one vehicle travel lane and install two-way protected bike lane on the bridge, work is currently ongoing.
Brooklyn Bridge is a designated NYC Landmark (8/24/1967); changes subject to review and approval by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Proposed changes to bridge have minimal historic impact and are generally non-destructive/reversible.
Protected Connections
Linking the Brooklyn Bridge bike path to points further north is essential to its success

DOT is developing proposals to provide protected connections
Restrict left turning vehicles to a protected phase so that there is a dedicated time for north and southbound bikes to pass through the intersection.

Install center-running bike lane to continue bridge path through Chambers St to where Centre and Lafayette split at Reade St.
Improve bicycle connection to points north and to the rest of the protected bicycle network
Timeline & Next Steps for Centre St Connection

April
• Present to CB1 in Manhattan

Summer
• Complete traffic analysis and design
• Return to Community Board to present bike lane connections

Fall
• Begin implementation
Questions?

THANK YOU!