Dumont Ave, Fountain Ave to Shepherd Ave

Brownsville and East New York School Safety Update

Presentation to the CB 5’s Transportation Committee

March 21, 2022
Brownsville and East New York School Safety Initiative

Why Are We Here?

- Two child pedestrian fatalities in February 2020
- March 2020 community meeting on need for safety improvements
- Many schools in area
- High volumes of student pedestrians at arrival and dismissal hours
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**Vision Zero Priority**

**Vision Zero**
- Multi-agency effort to reduce traffic fatalities in NYC
- Borough Action Plans released in 2019
- Priority Intersections, Corridors, and Areas identified for each borough

**East New York and Brownsville**
- Project area is within Priority Area and includes Priority Corridors and Intersections
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School Safety Study Area

Community Board Boundary

2020 Child Fatality

Vision Zero Area

Vision Zero Corridor

Vision Zero Intersection

Proposed Study Area
Outreach
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2021-2022 School and NYCHA Outreach by DOT

- NYC DOT met with schools and NYCHA resident associations to discuss safety concerns and potential improvements
- Met with CB 5 in May of 2021

NYCHA Resident Associations

- Brownsville Houses
- Glenmore Plaza
- Howard Houses
- Linden Houses
- Pink Houses
- Van Dyke I Houses

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Schools

- Academy for Young Writers
- Achievement First Aspire Charter School
- Achievement First Linden Middle School
- Brooklyn Gardens Elementary School
- Collegiate Academy for Math and Personal Awareness Charter School
- Children First PK 4
- East New York Middle School of Excellence
- East New York Elementary School of Excellence
- FDNY Captain Vernon A. Richard High School for Fire and Life Safety
- Frederick Douglass Academy VII
- Frederick Douglass Academy VIII Middle School
- High School for Civil Rights
- I.S. 364 Gateway
- J.H.S. 218
- Leadership Prep Brownsville Charter School
- Mott Hall Bridges Academy
- P.S. 149 Danny Kaye
- P.S. 224
- P.S. 273
- P.S. 306
- P.S. 346
- P.S. 4
- P.S/I.S. 327
- Performing Arts and Technology High School
- Teachers Preparatory High School
- The East New York Arts and Civics High School
- The East New York Middle School of Excellence
- The Fresh Creek School
- The Gregory Jocko Jackson School of Sports, Art, and Technology
- The School for Classics High School
- Van Siclen Community Middle School
- World Academy for Total Community Health High School
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What We Learned

- Top Issues:
  - Speeding vehicles
  - Poor visibility at crossings
  - Uncontrolled intersections
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DOT Street Outreach Locations

- DOT conducted street level outreach at 14 sites in Summer 2021 to conduct surveys and collect site-specific comments
- Reached out to community boards and elected officials for locations

Outreach at Cherry Valley Supermarket, 926 Crescent St
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Feedback from Street Outreach

Traffic safety concerns affecting pedestrians who frequently walk in this neighborhood

When asked to identify and assess safety issues that would negatively impact the overall experience for pedestrians, more than half of respondents say traffic conditions pose significant barriers to them when walking in the neighborhood (Figure 1), including:

- Speeding vehicles (74%)
- Vehicles failing to yield (68%)
- Not enough crossing time for pedestrians (58%)

Other physical barriers/and or obstructions such as flooding, garbage, and other tripping hazards were also cited as significant safety concerns among respondents who frequently walk in the neighborhood.

*FIGURE 1. Ranking of pedestrian traffic safety issues, barriers or obstructions
Rate each of the following conditions from 1 (not a barrier) to 5 (absolute barrier) that can make walking difficult or unpleasant you on your trips in this neighborhood (n=294)
Factors That Influenced Parents’ Decision to Not Let Their Child Walk/Bike to School *

* Out of 184 respondents
Short Term Safety Improvements: Completed in 2021
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Recent Safety Improvements

Over the past year DOT installed safety treatments to address concerns, such as:

- School Slow Zones
- Speed humps
- Signage improvements
- Signal improvements
- Study intersections for stop signs and traffic signals, etc.
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School Slow Zones

- School Slow Zones improve traffic safety in the vicinity of schools. The speed limit can be reduced to 20 MPH or 15 MPH (with a speed hump) during school days.
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Speed Humps

Pre-existing Speed Humps
Requested Speed Humps under Study
Investigated and Denied
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Stop Signs & Traffic Signals

- Signal and all way stop sign studies are underway at numerous intersections
Leading Pedestrian Intervals

- Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI’s) also known as “pedestrian head starts”, are installed at signalized intersections to give pedestrians the opportunity to cross the street 3-7 seconds before vehicles are given a green signal.
- NYC DOT installed over 60 LPI’s in July and August of 2021
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Turn Traffic Calming

• Turn traffic calming treatments encourage drivers to reduce speeds while making turns.
• Turn calming treatments installed or under study at multiple locations

Wortman Ave and Crescent St, Brooklyn
Proposed Dumont Ave, Fountain Ave to Shepherd Ave
Dumont Ave, Fountain Ave to Shepherd Ave

Background

- Request for safety improvements from J.H.S. 218
- Complex intersections
- Difficult pedestrian crossings
- Project area used by students accessing nearby schools
- B15 bus on Dumont Ave and New Lots Ave
Dumont Ave, Fountain Ave to Shepherd Ave

Safety Data (2015-2019)

- 59 injuries
- 3 severe injuries
- 20% of injuries are pedestrian

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<th>Total Injuries</th>
<th>Severe Injuries</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fatalities: NYCDOT. Injuries: NYSDOT. KS: Persons killed or severely injured

Map does not include total or severe injuries that occurred at midblock locations. Data is based off of NYSDOT/NYSDMV crash and injury data available as of 2/2022.
**Dumont Ave and New Lots Ave Bowtie**

**Existing: Irregular Intersection**

- Complex intersection creates conflicts among drivers
- Excess channelization allows for unpredictable turning movements
- No safe, accessible crossing along Dumont Ave to B15 bus or schools
Proposal: Intersection Normalization

Install crosswalk to give pedestrians dedicated space to cross

Normalized intersection to increase visibility for pedestrians and motorists

Stop sign/traffic signal studies underway at intersections
Dumont Ave and New Lots Ave Bowtie

Example of Painted Curb Extensions and Normalized Intersection

Normalized intersection organizes traffic movements and makes them more predictable

Painted curb extensions slow turning vehicles and shorten pedestrian crossing distances

Example: Nassau Ave and Bedford Ave, Brooklyn
Dumont Ave at Shepherd Ave and Berriman Ave

Existing Conditions
Dumont Ave and Logan Ave

Existing Conditions

Uncontrolled crossing next to school
Proposal: Curb Extensions

Install painted curb extensions to shorten pedestrian crossings and improve visibility next to schools.

Investigate all-way stop controls and signals at uncontrolled intersections.
Dumont Ave, Fountain Ave to Shepherd Ave

Proposal: Curb Extension

Example: St. Marks Ave and Classon Ave, Brooklyn
Thank You!

Contact: NYCDOT Brooklyn Borough Commissioner’s Office – (646) 892-1350