COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- DOT partner responsible for the day to day execution of Open Streets in Prospect Heights
- Consists of neighbors, businesses, and other members of the Prospect Heights community working together collaboratively to create public space
- Stepped in to manage Open Streets when City resources were limited at the height of the pandemic
HOW OPEN STREETS WORK

Temporary Limited Local Access

Temporary Full Closure

Underhill Avenue

Vanderbilt Ave
EFFORTS TO DATE

Emergency response program – May to Nov. ‘20
• Open Streets on Underhill, Carlton, and Vanderbilt Avenues as an emergency response program during COVID-19

Community feedback survey – Feb to May ‘21
• 1,468 responses with feedback on how the existing Open Streets on Underhill + Vanderbilt Aves are operating and can be used in the future
• Promoted via flyers, digital media, flyers, email blasts, and in person opportunity on 5/26

Traffic study for Open Streets – March to Nov. ‘21
• Collecting vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian count data for Open Streets and surrounding corridors

2021 Open Streets program – March to present
• Working with PHNDC, made programmatic and operational tweaks to enhance Open Streets from lessons learned in 2020

Community Workshop – September ‘21
• 3 pop up workshops on Vanderbilt and Underhill Aves (9/11, 9/17, 9/22) to build on the survey feedback + offer in person feedback opp.

Clean Up Corps – July to present
• Regular operational, sanitation, and horticultural support w/ The Hort

Emergency Services Coordination– Ongoing
• Working with FDNY, NYPD to ensure smooth emergency operations
2021 Open Street Improvements

- Bike lane improvements
- New signs and barriers
- Clean Up Corps support
- Public art
- Programming and activations
Community outreach overview
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

1,468 Community Survey Responses

80% of respondents lived within Community Board 8

Relationship to Prospect Heights Open Streets

- I live nearby: 95%
- I visit restaurants or bars nearby: 66%
- I shop/run errands nearby: 63%
- I visit friends and/or family here: 30%
- I work nearby: 17%
- I visit nearby medical facilities: 7%
- I'm just passing through: 5%
- I go to school here: 2%
- I have only visited once: <1%
- I attend nearby religious services: <1%
UNDERHILL AVENUE FEEDBACK

Activities on Underhill

- Strolling: 89%
- Biking: 46%
- Part of my commute: 46%
- Socially distanced gatherings: 45%
- Exercise: 41%
- Socially distanced outdoor group activities: 25%

Modes of Transportation

- Walk: 96%
- Bike: 57%
- Personal car: 22%
- Taxi/FHV: 9%
- Dropped off by someone else using a car: 3%
- Access-A-Ride: <1%
Opportunities

» Make Open Streets permanent

• “It was such an amazing program and everyone in the neighborhood seemed to like it! I hope it comes back again this summer!”

» This space allows people to safely gather, exercise, and connect with the community.

• “This is a great program and should be kept! There are many families around Underhill and the Open Streets help keep the area safer”

Room for Improvement

» Needs better monitoring for bikes and cars (100+ mentions)

» Needs stronger / permanent barriers (60+ mentions)

» Traffic congestion on nearby side streets have increased. (30+ mentions)
### Activities on Underhill

- **Strolling**: 95%
- **Outdoor dining at a restaurant**: 84%
- **Socially distanced gatherings**: 65%
- **Visiting non-food service businesses**: 61%
- **Biking**: 41%
- **Part of my commute**: 39%
- **Socially distanced outdoor group activities**: 38%
- **Exercise**: 31%

### Modes of Transportation

- **Walk**: 97%
- **Bike**: 51%
- **Personal car**: 9%
- **Public Transit**: 8%
- **Taxi/FHV**: 6%
- **Dropped off by someone else using a car**: 2%
- **Access-A-Ride**: <1%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Room for Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>» This space allows people to safely gather, exercise, and connect with the community (200+ mentions)</td>
<td>» Designate a clearer bike lane (30+ mentions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Great for businesses and improving the neighborhood (100+ mentions)</td>
<td>» Lack of Organization and Inadequate Garbage Cleanup (40+ responses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Make Open Streets permanent (100+ mentions)</td>
<td>» Traffic congestion on nearby side streets have increased. (20+ mentions)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Would you like to see permanent changes to make Prospect Heights Open Streets pedestrian and/or cycling priority corridors?

- Yes: 86%
- No: 7%
- Unsure: 6%

How do you want to use Prospect Heights Open Streets in the future?

- Strolling: 94%
- Outdoor dining: 84%
- Socially distanced gatherings: 77%
- Socially distanced outdoor group activities: 62%
- As part of my daily commute: 56%
- Biking: 48%
- Exercise: 43%
- Driving: 10%
IN PERSON WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Which public space tool kit items would you like to see implemented?

- Traffic Diverters: 43%
- Time of day management: 32%
- Shared streets: 38%
- Public art: 34%
- Programming and activations: 29%
- Pedestrian plaza: 49%
- Other (please specify): 36%
- None: 23%

Data collected at 3 in person workshops on Vanderbilt and Underhill Avenues – 9/11, 9/17, and 9/22
Traffic data overview
“BEFORE” TRAFFIC COUNT DATA

Counts collected Friday 3/26/21 5pm to 6pm
NEXT STEPS

Supplemental Traffic Counts – Oct/Nov ‘21
- Collect further traffic count information about existing conditions in the Prospect Heights traffic network

Further analysis – Winter ‘22
- Working with DOT Traffic Planning, fully analyze traffic data to understand Open Streets impact on traffic network
- Use traffic data as projects are developed
Looking ahead towards 2022
DOT TOOL KIT

- Curb Use Management
- Gateway Treatments
- Programming
- Delivery Management
- Traffic Controls
- Bicycle Infrastructure
- CityBench
- Edge Objects
- StreetSeats
- Bike Parking
- Shared Streets
- Pedestrian Improvements
PUBLIC SPACE TOOL KIT
Time of Day Management – Berry St
Shared Streets – Union Square
Plazas – Jitu Wesi Plaza
LOOKING AHEAD

Community Board 8 Update – Sept. ‘21
• Summarize community feedback heard to date, traffic count data, and present a timeline for 2022

In person community workshop – November ‘21
• DOT will host a community workshop in November to get feedback about design proposals for 2022 projects

Community Board 8 Update – Winter ‘22
• Present final 2022 projects to CB 8 for final feedback

Project Implementation – Spring/Summer ‘22
• Develop public space and traffic calming projects using community feedback and traffic data
• Continue developing a traffic network and public realm plan for Prospect Heights
THANK YOU!

Email openstreets@dot.nyc.gov with any questions or concerns