Why are we here?

- Bicycle Fatality & Serious Injury Study - Improve Safety
- Mayor’s PlaNYC - A Greener Transportation Network
- NYC Bicycle Master Plan (1997)
- A Greenway Plan For NYC (1993)
Project Limits

Proposed On-Street Bicycle Route
Existing On-Street Bicycle Lane
Existing Off-Street Path
Objectives of Project

1. Safer Vernon Blvd for All
2. Cycling as a Real Transportation Choice for Residents & Visitors
3. Connections & Access to Waterfront, Neighborhoods & Amenities
4. Maintenance of Vehicular Access Where Needed
5. Momentum Toward Greater, Greener Long-Term Vision
1. **Safer Vernon**

**Wide Lanes & Speeding**

**Existing Condition**
- Unmarked moving lane on 45’ road
- Equivalent of 15’ moving lane
- Lanes appear wider when/where parking utilization is low

**Planned Condition**
- Buffer & lane line markings
  - Will narrow moving lanes to 11’ at all times & calm traffic
1. **Safer Vernon**

Infrequent Traffic Controls & Speeding

- Downtown Hunter’s Point - 18 controls/mile
- North of Hunter’s Point - 4.5 controls/mile

**Improvement Plans**

- New signal at Queens Plaza South
- Buffer & lane line markings
  - Effective calming for other corridors with infrequent signals
1. **Safer Vernon Roadway Curves**

**Existing Condition**

- Curves and wide moving lanes make for uncomfortable street
  - Vehicle veer where cyclists operate
  - Difficulty for crossing pedestrians
  - Challenge to motorists

**Planned Conditions**

- New & enhanced warning signage
- Buffer & lane line markings
  - Defined moving lanes provide visual cues on curves
2. Cycling as a Real Transportation Choice

Existing Condition
- No dedicated space for cycling
- Uncomfortable cycling environment
- Insufficient room for safe passing by vehicles

Planned Condition
- Wide bicycle lanes
- Buffers from moving traffic
3. Connections & Access to Waterfront, Neighborhoods & Amenities

- Improve pedestrian & bicycle links
- Current transportation links weak (limited transit & parking)

**Connections Made**

**Neighborhoods**
- Astoria
- Ravenswood
- Long Island City
- Hunter’s Point & its services

**Parks & Waterfront Attractions**
- Astoria Park & Pool
- Shore Towers Esplanade
- Whitey Ford Field Park
- Hallets Cove Esplanade
- Socrates Sculpture Park
- Rainey Park & Cosco Esplanade
- Queensbridge Park & Greenway Path

**Mass Transit**
- 7 - Vernon Blvd / Jackson Ave
3. **Connections & Access**

**New Strong Connection to Queensbridge Park & Its Greenway Path**

**Existing Condition**
- Greenway path is isolated
- Difficult for pedestrians and cyclists to exit & enter park & path

**Planned Conditions**
- 2 New Landscaped Refuge Islands
  - Hi-Visibility Signs & Markings
  - Calm traffic
  - Ease crossing at access points, particularly for 2-way streets

![Rendering of improved connection](image1)

![Existing entrance to park greenway](image2)

![Plan for new island and markings](image3)
3. **Connections & Access**

**New Strong Connection to Queensbridge Park & Its Greenway Path**

- Queensboro Bridge
- Area of Work
- South Entrance
- North Entrance
3. Connections & Access

New Signs & Markings to Clearly Guide Users to & From Exciting Amenities

Entry to Hallets Cove Esplanade

Example Bicycle Guide Signs

Example Greenway Signs

Example “Gateway” Markings for Paths
4. **Maintenance of Vehicular Access**

**No Parking Loss in Calmer “Downtown” Hunters Point**

- Frequent traffic signals and “main street” commercial activity already calm traffic
- Small businesses need curbside access
- Cyclists accommodated with shared lane signs and markings

![Example Shared Lane Markings](image)

![ Hunters Point Traffic Signals](image)

![ Vernon Blvd at 48th Ave](image)
4. **Maintenance of Vehicular Access**

Plan preserves parking at Queensbridge Park & Houses

- **Bike path currently provided in park**
  - Shared lane markings for Vemon adjacent park
- **Island at park entrances will calm traffic**

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**Areas to Remove Curbside Access**

**Areas Not Required to Remove Curbside Access**
4. **Maintenance of Vehicular Access**

**Parking Loss on West Curb Adjacent Properties with Off-Street Parking & Loading**

*Image of a map with various streets and areas marked.*

- **Areas to Remove Curbside Access**
- **Areas Not Required to Remove Curbside Access**

*Legend and details on the map.*
4. Maintenance of Vehicular Access
Parking Loss on West Curb Adjacent Properties with Off-Street Parking & Loading
4. Maintenance of Vehicular Access

Actively Survey & Monitor Side & Parallel Streets for Parking Opportunities

- Respond to Evolving Land Uses
  - Potential to alter regulations from No Parking (Industrial) regulations
- Input and Information from Local Community Essential

![Potential Parking Opportunities](image-url)
5. **Momentum Toward Greater, Greener Long-Term Vision**

- Safer, balanced & more connected Vernon by Summer 2008
- Improvement assist in attracting additional funding
- One element of long-term vision for Queens waterfront areas
4. **Momentum Toward Greater Vision**

**Upcoming & Potential Improvements**

- **Parks Department Projects**
  - Queensbridge Park
  - Rainey Park
  - Astoria Park

- **Studies & capital projects to improve and green problematic intersections**
  - Community input important to prioritize
  - Example Intersections:
    - 11th / Jackson/ Pulaski Bridge
    - Broadway / Vemon
    - Vernon/ 8th / Main

**Vernon Boulevard @ Broadway:**
Socrates Sculpture Park
Project Summary – Achieving Objectives

1. Safer Vernon
   - Signs & markings to calm traffic
2. Cycling a Real Option
   - Dedicated space buffered from traffic
3. Connections to Important Attractions
   - Lanes, islands & signs link neighborhoods & amenities
4. Maintenance of Needed Access
   - Parking loss only where necessary
5. Momentum to Long Term Vision
   - One project of Multi-Agency Effort
Next Steps

1. Community & Stakeholder Input
   - Side & parallel street parking opportunities
   - Focus Intersections
2. Project Refinement
3. Implementation
   - June & July 2008 Target
4. Evaluation
5. Pursuit of Longer Term Improvements
End of Presentation