Vleigh Place – Kew Gardens Hills Pedestrian Enhancements

Project Overview
September 2007
Project Location

- Queens
- Kew Gardens Hills
- Community Board 8
- 25th School District

- 77th Road
- Vleigh Place
- 141st Street
- 78th Avenue
Demographics

- Mostly Residential
- Small Commercial Strip
- Two Schools
  - North Queens Community H.S.
  - Stepping Stone Day School
- Large Park
  - Ball Fields
  - Playground
- Moderate Traffic
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Queen of Peace Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Queens Comm. H.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>150 Students, MTA Bused</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Parking in Front of School While in Session</td>
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**Current Conditions – 77th Rd**

- Speed Humps
- Play Street – Not Adhered To
- Narrow – Natural Traffic Calming
Current Conditions – Vleigh PI

- Small but Busy Commercial Strip
- Stepping Stone Day School
- 200 Pre-Schoolers Privately Bused
- No Parking in Front of School While in Session
Current Conditions – 141st St

- Lined with Residential Properties
- Thru Street to/from Union Turnpike
  - Wide and Fast in Places
- Multiple Curb Cuts for Loading Bays and Garages

Large and Uncontrolled Intersection

Only One Crossing to Park
Current Conditions – 78th Ave

• Thru Street to/from Main Street
  • Narrow
  • Lined with Residential Properties

Long Crossing

Large and Uncontrolled Intersection
Problem Areas

- Misaligned Pedestrian Ramp at 141st and Vleigh
- Small Center Island at 78th and Vleigh
- Large Uncontrolled Intersection at 141st and 77th Road
- Long Crossing Distance at 77th Road
Create a Safer Pedestrian Environment by:

1. Shortening crosswalks
2. Calming traffic

Enhance the community by:

1. Making better use of underutilized roadbed
2. Creating useable public open space
Create Island at 77th Road and Vleigh Place

Replace and Enlarge Disintegrating Crossing Island

Expand Green Streets Island and Realign Pedestrian Ramp

Create New Traffic Pattern at 141st Street and 77th Road (Three Options)
Option 1

Close redundant street for potential playground or park:

- More Parking
- School Play Space
- Community Gathering Place
- Will not Dramatically Change Traffic Flow
- Fewer Turning Conflicts with Pedestrians
- Re-Route Class 3 Bicycle Route

7219 Sq. Ft.
Option 2

Create traffic circle at 77th Rd & 141st St:

- Directs Traffic
- Increased Safety
- Slows Traffic
- Potential Green Street
- May Lose Some Parking
Option 3

Close 78th Ave between Vleigh and 141st St:

- Creates Public Plaza
- More Parking
- School Play Space
- Fewer Turning Conflicts with Pedestrians
- Safer Walk to Park from Day School

6308 Sq. Ft.
Traffic Calming on 141st Street:
Crossing to Park is Difficult
Street is Fast due to Large Width
Thru Route from Union Turnpike
Heavy Residential Area

**Goals:**
Reduce Width of Travel Lane
Keep Installation Costs Low
Easy to Implement

**Method:**
Add Two Landscaped Islands
Add Solid White Line to Direct Traffic but Allow Parking