

# **“Move the Ramp”**

## **Proposal to Improve Conditions at the East 91<sup>st</sup> Street Marine Transfer Station**

Community Board 8 – Transportation Committee Meeting

Presentation by Carol Tweedy, Asphalt Green

December 3, 2014

# Summary

*Asphalt Green, Stanley Isaacs and Holmes Towers Residents, and Pledge 2 Protect all agree:*

- If MTS is to be built, **DSNY must move the ramp** to improve traffic, safety, and emissions conditions
- Coalition is **meeting with DSNY, NYCDOT, and others** to address safety, traffic, construction, and operating concerns
- Coalition is also **pushing for important community benefits**
- We believe this approach fits squarely within the de Blasio administration's goals for achieving **Vision Zero in New York City**



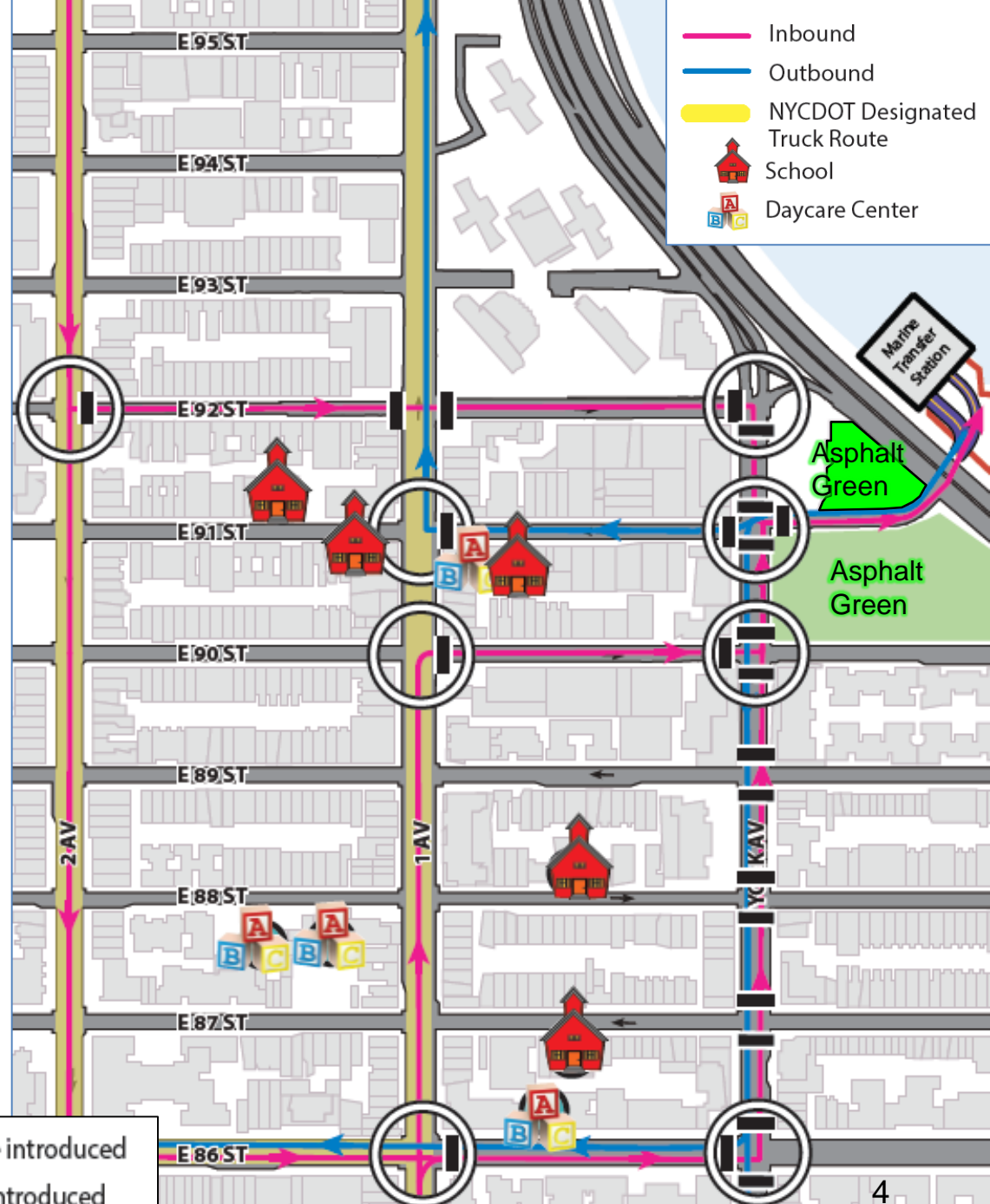
# ***The Problem: Current DSNY Plan Creates Potential for Crashes***

## ***Reducing conflicts reduces crashes***

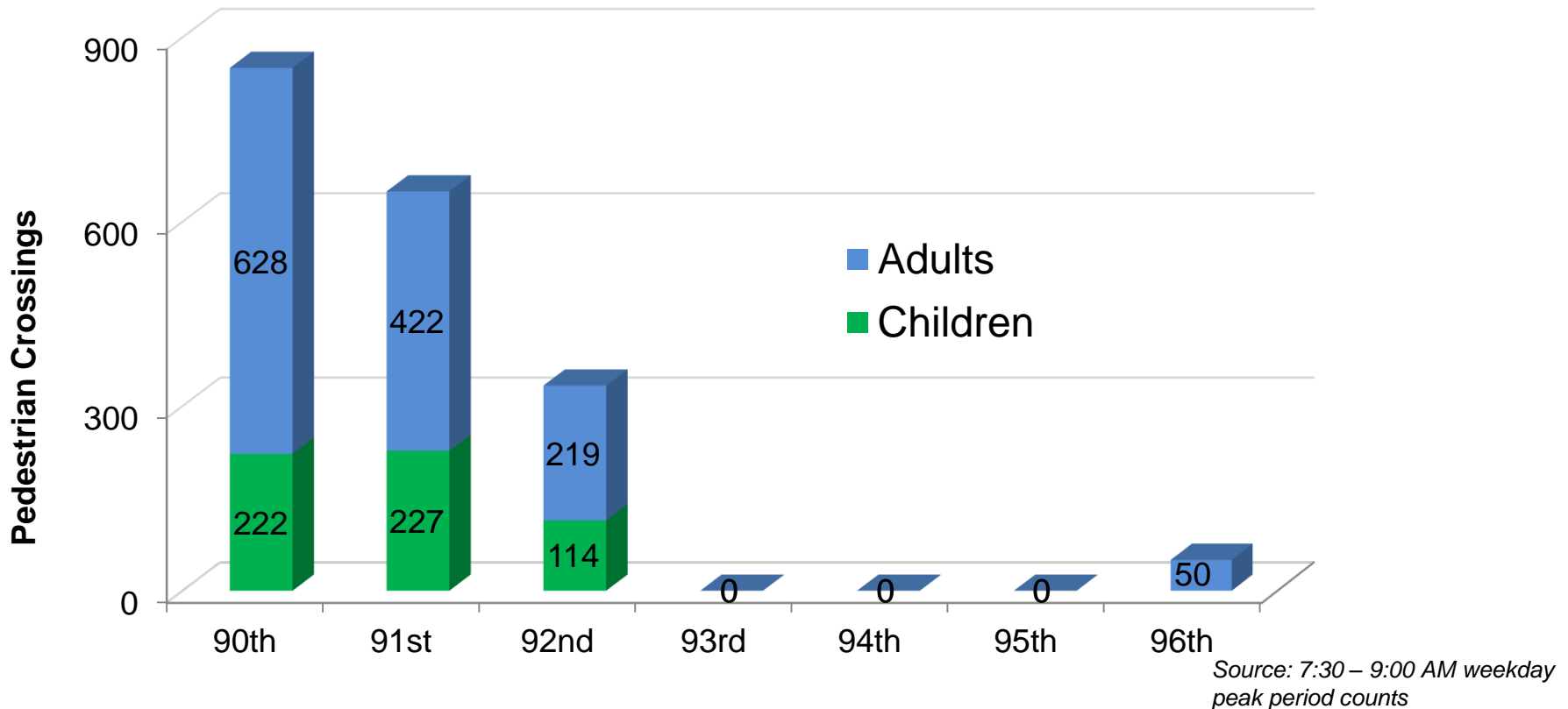
- **1 million** pedestrians
  - **400,000 children** and 600,000 adults
- **40,000 trucks** will use the MTS annually, generating **80,000 truck trips** annually
- **100-150,000 truck turns** added annually to immediate vicinity of Asphalt Green
- 29% of NYC truck-related traffic fatalities involve garbage trucks

# Current ramp design includes too many risks to pedestrians

- Ramp entrance is located at an **extremely busy intersection for pedestrians**
- Trucks will use **22 residential blocks** not designed for truck traffic—including 92<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Trucks will make new turns at **8 intersections**
- Trucks will make **5 new right-hand turns**—which pose greatest risk to pedestrians
- Trucks will cross **24 additional non-truck route pedestrian crosswalks**



# ***Fall 2014 analysis shows where pedestrians cross York Avenue***

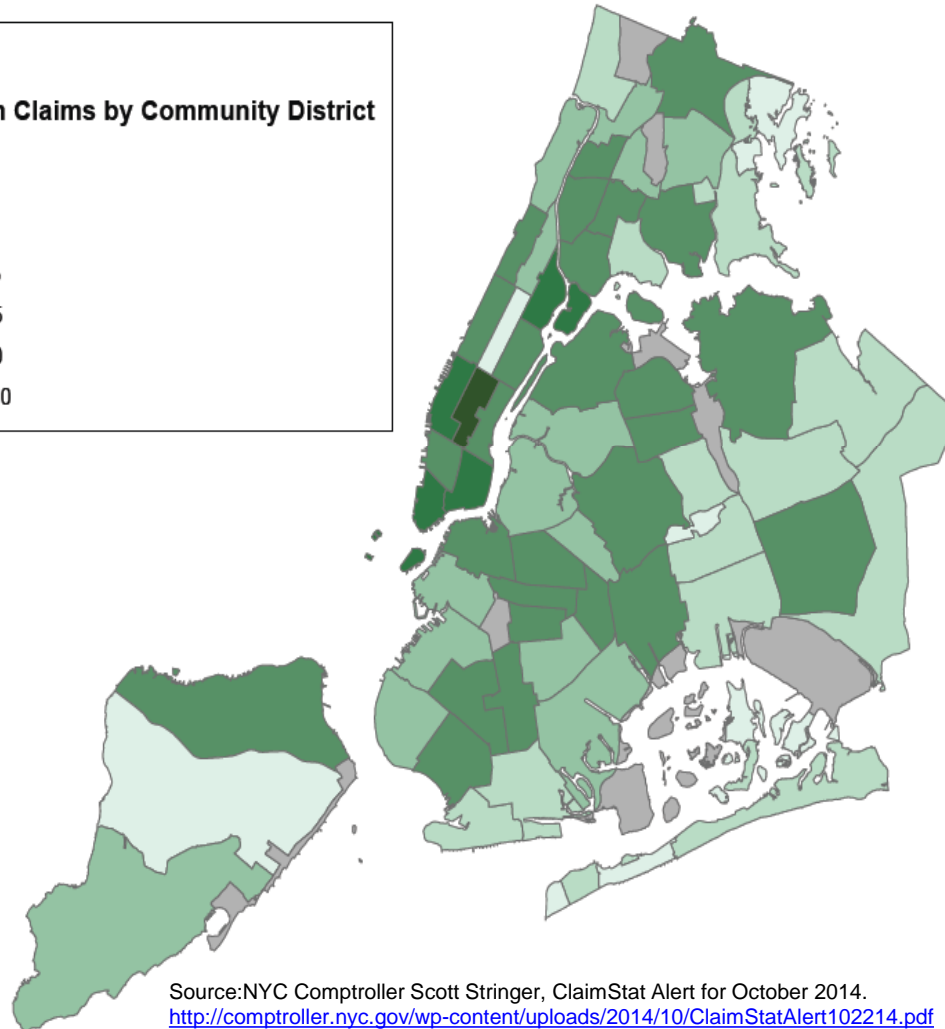
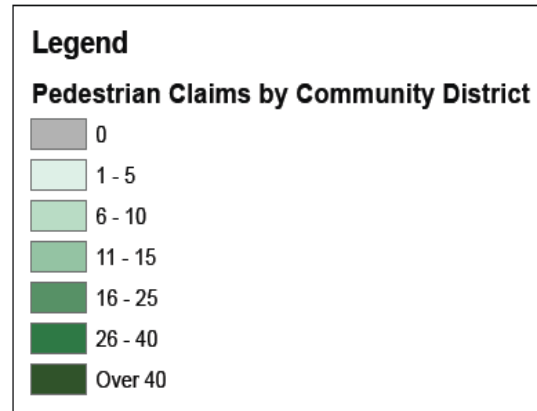


- Pedestrian **crash potential drops with fewer pedestrians**
  - 90<sup>th</sup> Street has most pedestrians, followed by 91<sup>st</sup> Street
  - 91<sup>st</sup> Street has most children
  - 91<sup>st</sup> Street has double the pedestrians of 92<sup>nd</sup> Street

# ***Comptroller Stringer report: East Harlem is a “hot spot”***

- Manhattan C.D. 5, 6, 8 & 11 **accounted for 131 pedestrian claims** since 2007
  - 14% of entire City’s claims
- NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer identified **East Harlem as “hot spot”** for DSNY truck incidents

## **Pedestrian Claims in NYC (FY2007 – 2014)**





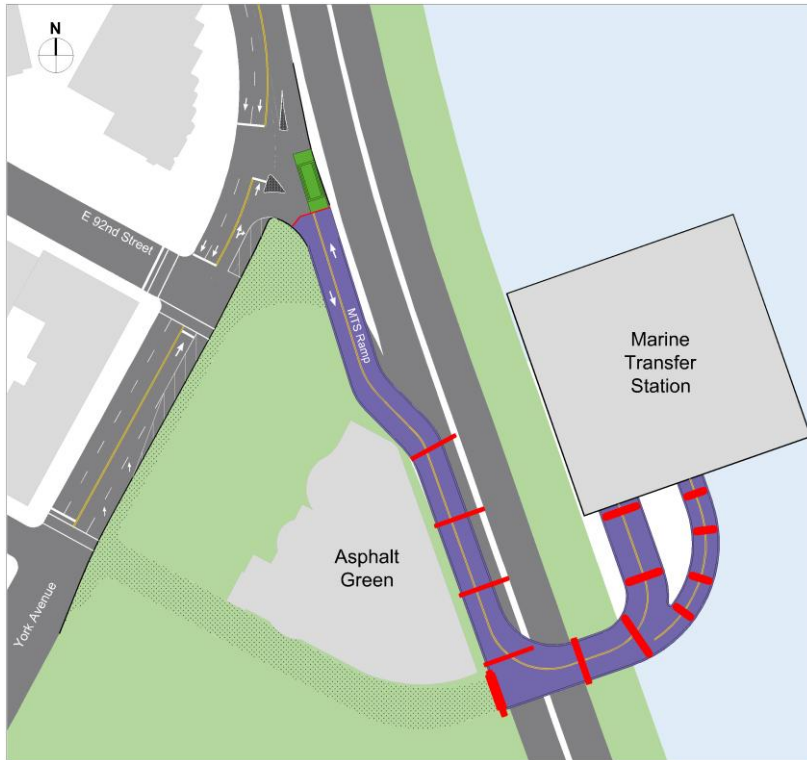
# ***The Solution: Move The Ramp***

- The ramp should be placed **behind Asphalt Green**
- Access and egress should **minimize additional trucks** circulating NYCHA houses
- Trucks should **use designated commercial truck routes** rather than residential streets

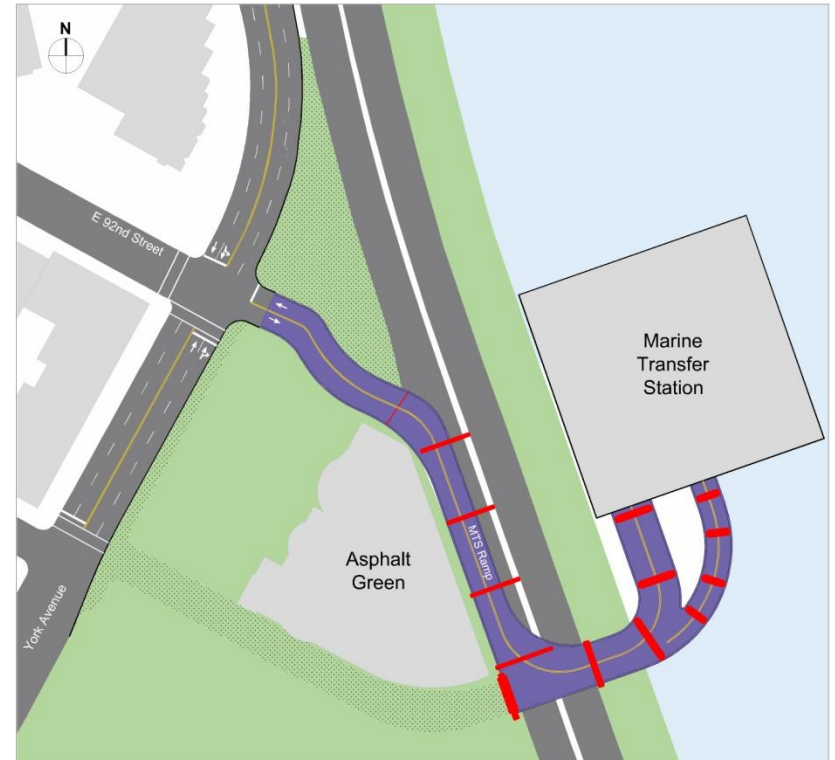


# ***Sam Schwartz Engineering and Weidlinger Associates have designed a ramp with two access options***

**92 ½ Street**



**92<sup>nd</sup> Street Direct**



- Traffic study should be launched on safest and fairest access/egress routes



# Community Bill of Rights

## A Message to Mayor de Blasio

**W**e the people of New York City believe no community rights are more fundamental than the rights to Health, Safety, and Justice. No purpose of government is more intrinsic than the obligation to uphold these rights. Yet, in building an industrial facility at E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street and the East River, the City of New York and its Mayor, Bill de Blasio, are violating the rights to Health, Safety, and Justice of a community that they are obligated to protect.

We, the people of East Harlem, Yorkville and of New York City, unequivocally oppose locating a marine garbage transfer station (MTS) at East 91<sup>st</sup> Street. Should building of the garbage station continue, we demand that the City take concrete actions to protect our rights by minimizing the harm that the garbage station will inflict on our community during construction and operation. We demand that the City of New York take these measures to protect our Health, our Safety and our right to Social Justice:

### **Our Right to a Healthy Environment**

#### **PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO BREATHE CLEAN AIR**

- Our right for Best Available Control Technology (BACT) on all vehicles entering and exiting the facility.
- Our rights to have updated/established baseline air quality measurements in order to accurately assess the health impact to the community.
- Our right to have continuous, real-time air quality monitoring and public reporting of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and volatile organic compounds.
- Our right for work/operations to stop and for corrective actions to be taken when air quality tolerances exceed thresholds.

#### **PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO FREEDOM FROM EXCESSIVE NOISE**

- Our right to have implemented procedures for noise monitoring and remedial action on noise exceedances.

#### **PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT**

- Our right for government to implement modern, sustainable solid waste practices such as communal recycling, reuse and composting to reduce/eliminate the need for garbage transfer facilities.

### **Our Right to a Safe Community**

#### **PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO BE SAFE FROM TRUCK ACCIDENTS**

- Our right to eliminate truck traffic on local, non-designated truck route streets. Our right to a new traffic study to determine optimal truck routes that eliminate pedestrian-truck conflicts.
- Our right to have implemented community safety requirements and traffic calming improvements.
- Our right to utilize the best available safety features including truck guards on all vehicles accessing the facility.

#### **PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT**

- Our right to reduce the traffic safety and health impact of the E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street MTS by moving the access ramp one block north to 92<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- Our right to truck time of day restrictions during peak pedestrian hours to reduce air quality, truck safety and noise impacts.
- Our right to protection from building and operating an industrial facility in a residential community: Assign NYPD Traffic Officers, DSNY police officers, and/or Pedestrian Traffic Managers to ensure safety around the MTS.

## Our Right to Social Justice

### PROTECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THOSE CLOSEST TO GARBAGE STATIONS

- Our right to quality of life improvements to offset the negative impacts of locating the E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street MTS in a residential community: Fulfill requests to ameliorate overall quality of life through making improvements in other areas such as safety measures, needed maintenance and upgrades to buildings, facilities and parks.
- Our right to a safe, public recreational and educational space in the community.

**We strongly attest that all New Yorkers deserve these undeniable rights to a healthy environment, to a safe community and to social justice.**

**Act Now! Sign on to tell Mayor de Blasio he's violating our rights.**

**Signed:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**or go to [pledge2protectnyc.org/CBOR](https://pledge2protectnyc.org/CBOR)**



Stanley Isaacs *and*  
Holmes Towers Residents

**For more information please visit:**

[Pledge2ProtectNYC.org](https://Pledge2ProtectNYC.org) | [@P2PNYC](https://twitter.com/P2PNYC) | [Facebook.com/Pledge2Protect](https://Facebook.com/Pledge2Protect)

# ***Next Steps: DSNY/NYC DOT Traffic Study***

**Purpose:** Develop **safest** and  **truck routes to and from MTS**

**Project Limits:** 96<sup>th</sup> Street to 79<sup>th</sup> Street,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to river

## **Scope:**

1. Identify alternate routes
2. Present for discussion with community
3. Collect traffic data
4. Assess relative impacts:
  - Traffic flows
  - Congestion
  - Use of commercial truck routes
  - Safety
  - Sharing the burden of truck traffic
5. Select preferred option

# ***Next Steps: DSNY to Address Community Concerns During Construction***

- Community-wide Safety
  - Implement traffic and construction safety measures
  - Conduct real-time air quality monitoring
- Safety of NYCHA's Isaacs and Holmes Residents
  - Provide indoor air filtration devices
  - Install solid barrier along the FDR Service Road
- Protection of Asphalt Green Facilities
  - Time-of-day restrictions on construction activity
  - Facade / structural protection for the Aqua Center

***These are just a few of the 24 recommendations made by Stanley Isaacs and Holmes Towers Residents, Pledge 2 Protect, and Asphalt Green***



# ***We have a plan to address pollution problems at the MTS***

## **3 Steps to Solving the MTS Pollution Problem**



### **Emissions Reduction Strategies**

- Require that all vehicles use Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) that can reduce  $PM_{2.5}$  by at least 90%
- Implement targeted demonstration projects of alternative fuel vehicles, such as CNG and Hybrid-Electrics



### **Monitoring and Enforcement Programs**

- Real-time monitoring and enforcement of air quality thresholds
- Implement truck labelling program to enforce BACT requirements



### **Operational Strategies**

- Implement just-in-time operations for trucks and tugboats
- Implement time of day restrictions for truck access to the MTS
- Maintain or reduce maximum permitted tonnages

## ***Where We Are:***

- City engineers (DSNY, NYC DOT) say alternate ramp proposals are constructible and technically feasible
- DSNY conducting a “deep dive” review:
  - Issues include ramp grade, FDR clearance, scale location, construction impacts (e.g., FDR closures, traffic maintenance/protection), cost, timing, and other issues

# ***Summary***

- Coalition and its consultants have identified a solution that **significantly reduces crash potential**
  - Solution would move ramp one block north
  - Technical work among city agencies, coalition and consultants continues
- Coalition also working to **address longstanding community concerns**
  - Community-wide safety, safety of NYCHA residents, and protection of Asphalt Green facilities
  - Implement emissions reduction and operational strategies as well as monitoring and enforcement program
- **Community Board 8 support** would be an important piece of securing a political resolution