



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study: Summary of Recommendations

Presentation to Manhattan Community Board 8

May 4, 2011



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study Overview

Study Goal:

- *Identify cost-effective ways to improve bus speed and reliability for local and express buses that use the QBB.*

Study Principles:

- Consult stakeholders
- Ensure pedestrian and driver safety
- Balance the needs of all bridge users
- Evaluate benefits and potential impacts
- Minimize impact on adjacent neighborhoods



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study Project Need

- **The QBB is a major bus corridor**
 - 16,000 bus trips a day
 - 110 buses during PM rush hour
 - Local service between Manhattan and Queens
- **Congestion on QBB is a major cause of bus delay**
 - Significant bus delay during rush hour
 - Over 75% of QBB bus riders report regular delays
 - Congestion slows buses, making transit less attractive



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study Study Schedule

Spring 2010

- Collected data on traffic and transit conditions
- Identified problem locations

Summer 2010

- Presentation on study to Mn and Qns Community Boards
- Developed preliminary improvement options

Fall/Winter 2010-2011

- Conducted traffic analysis
- Screened options and narrowed down list of recommendations

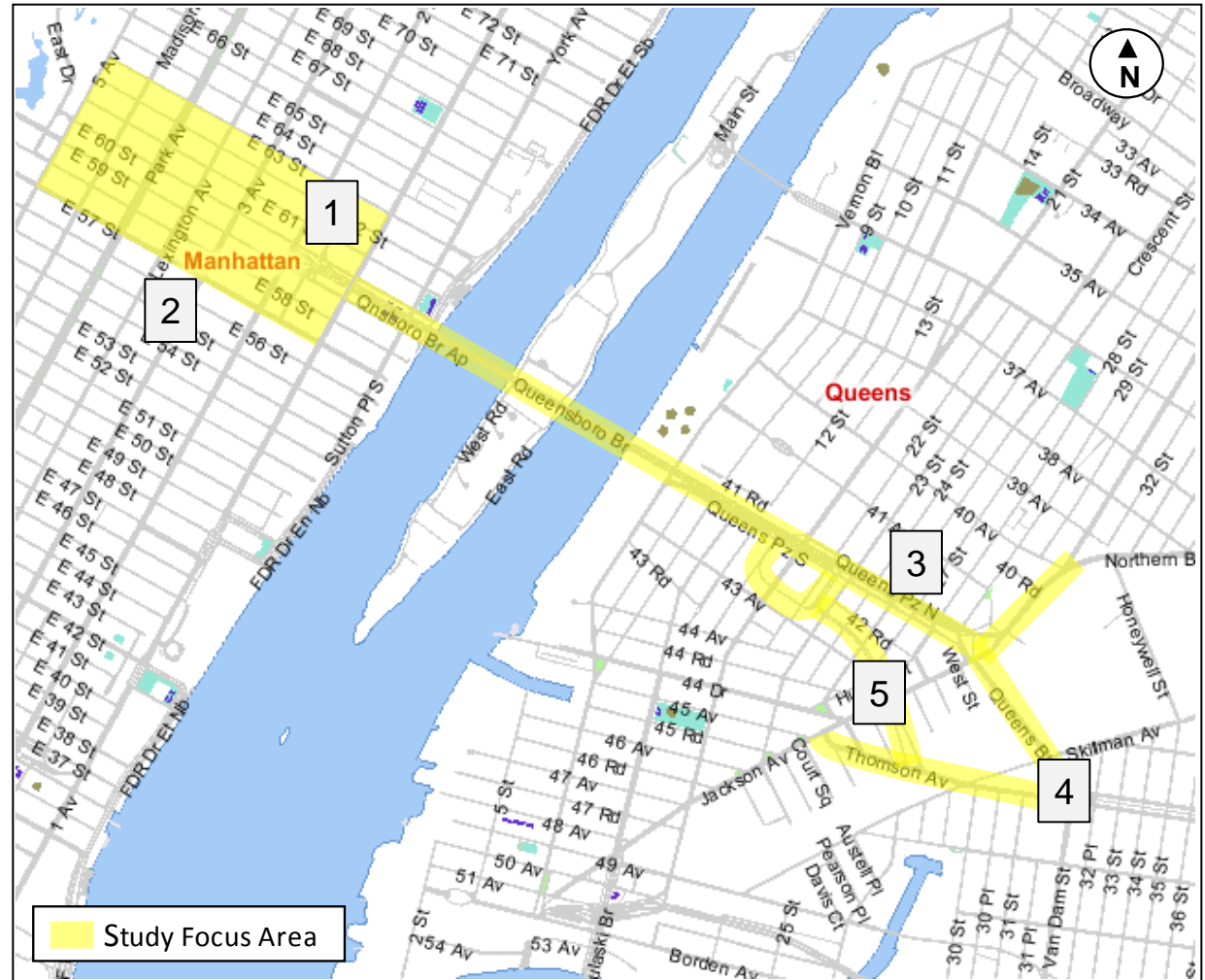
Spring 2011

- Presentation of study findings to Mn and Qns Community Boards
- Develop implementation plan



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study Study Focus Areas

1. 60th St. and 2nd Ave: bus safety
2. 57th St and 3rd Ave: opportunity for bus priority
3. Crescent St and Queens Plaza North: pedestrian and bike safety
4. Thomson Ave and Van Dam St: traffic congestion and pedestrian safety
5. Thomson Ave Ramps: traffic congestion

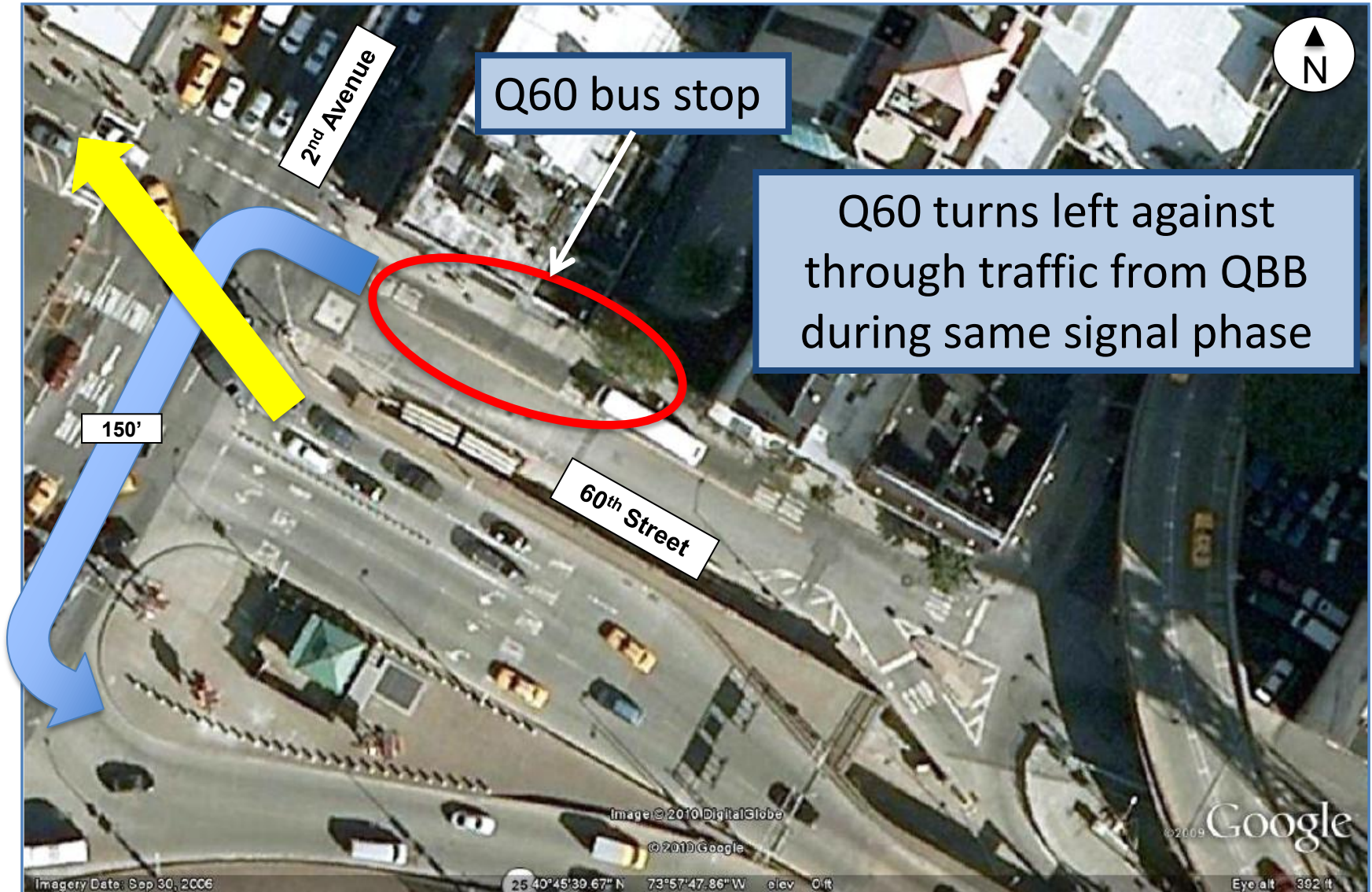




Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Second Avenue at 60th Street

Existing Issue

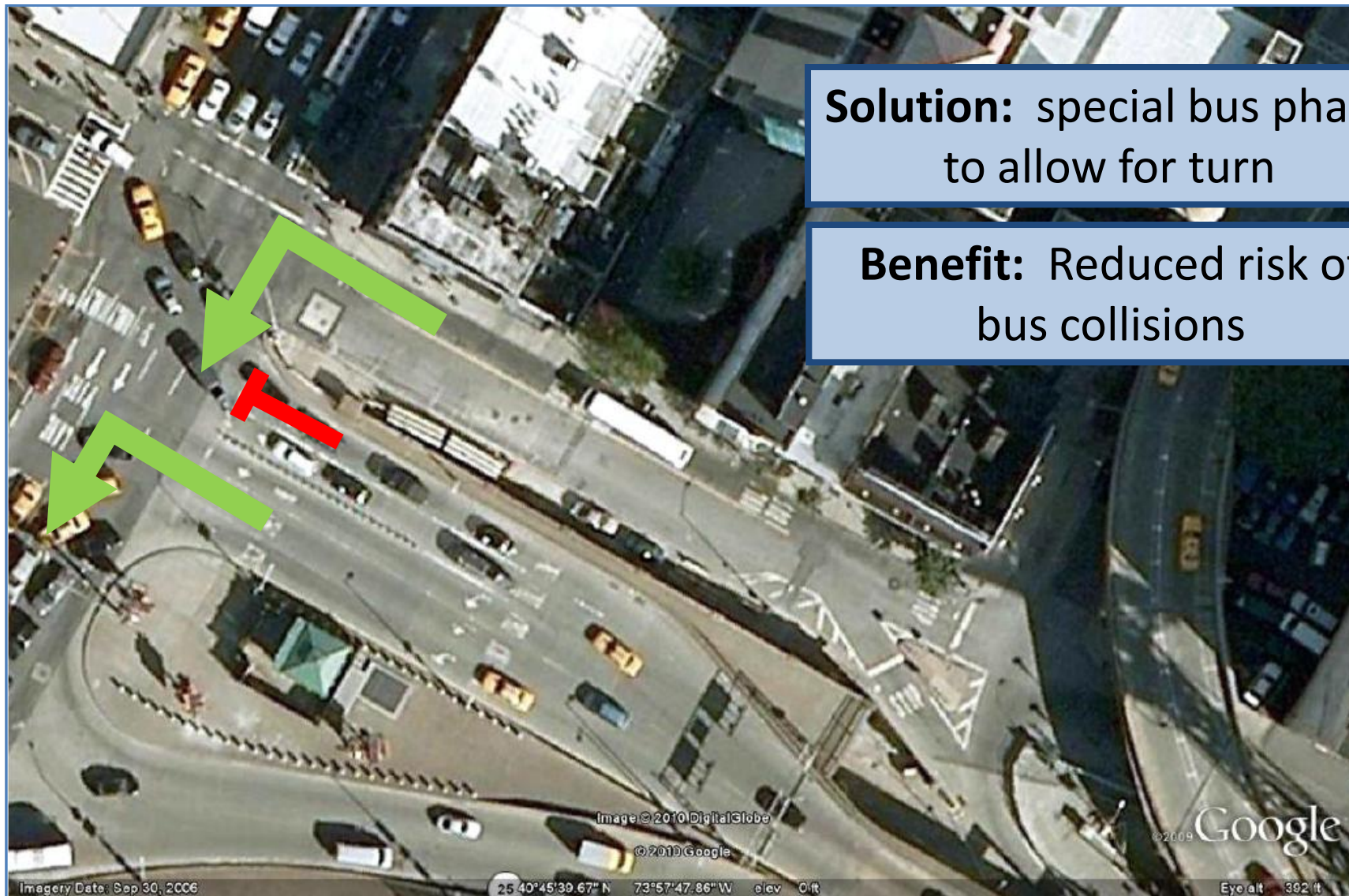




Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Second Avenue at 60th Street

Recommendation #1A



Solution: special bus phase to allow for turn

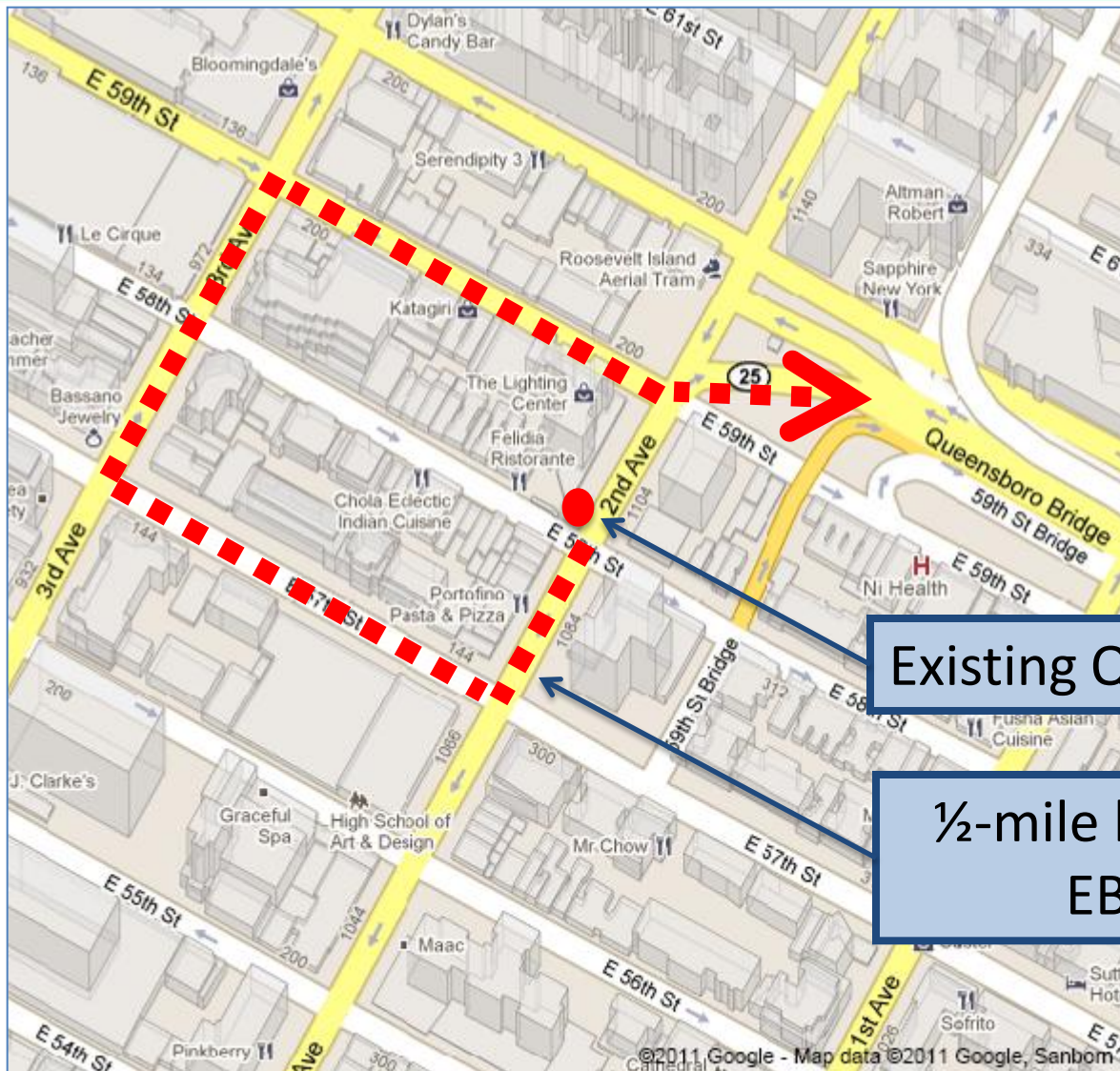
Benefit: Reduced risk of bus collisions



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Q101 Second Avenue Bus Stop

Existing Issue



Existing Q101 bus stop

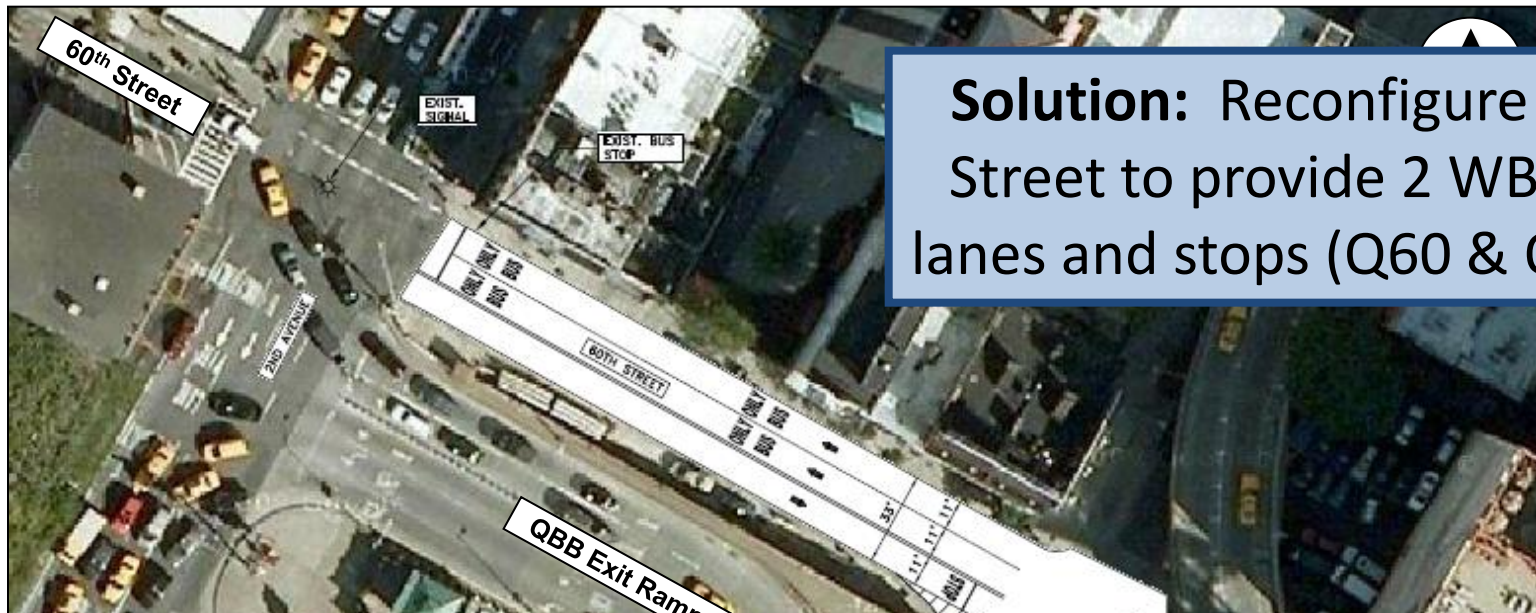
1/2-mile loop to return
EB on QBB



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

60th Street Bus Stop

Recommendation #1B



Solution: Reconfigure 60th Street to provide 2 WB bus lanes and stops (Q60 & Q101)

Benefits:

- 5-minute Q101 travel time savings
- improved bus reliability
- Q101 bus stop removed from 2nd Ave bus lane
- fewer bus turns in Manhattan (ped safety benefit)



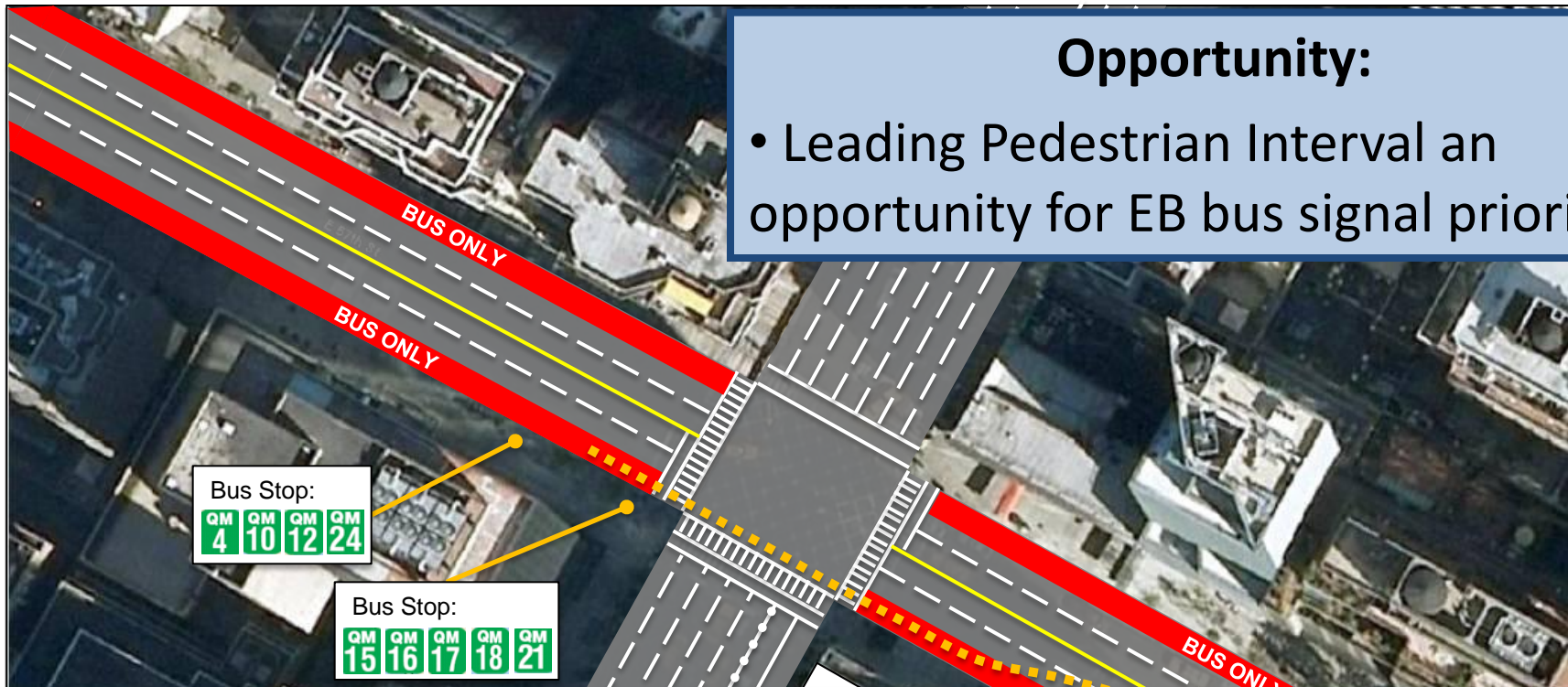
Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Third Avenue at 57th Street

Recommendation #2

Opportunity:

- Leading Pedestrian Interval an opportunity for EB bus signal priority



Benefits:

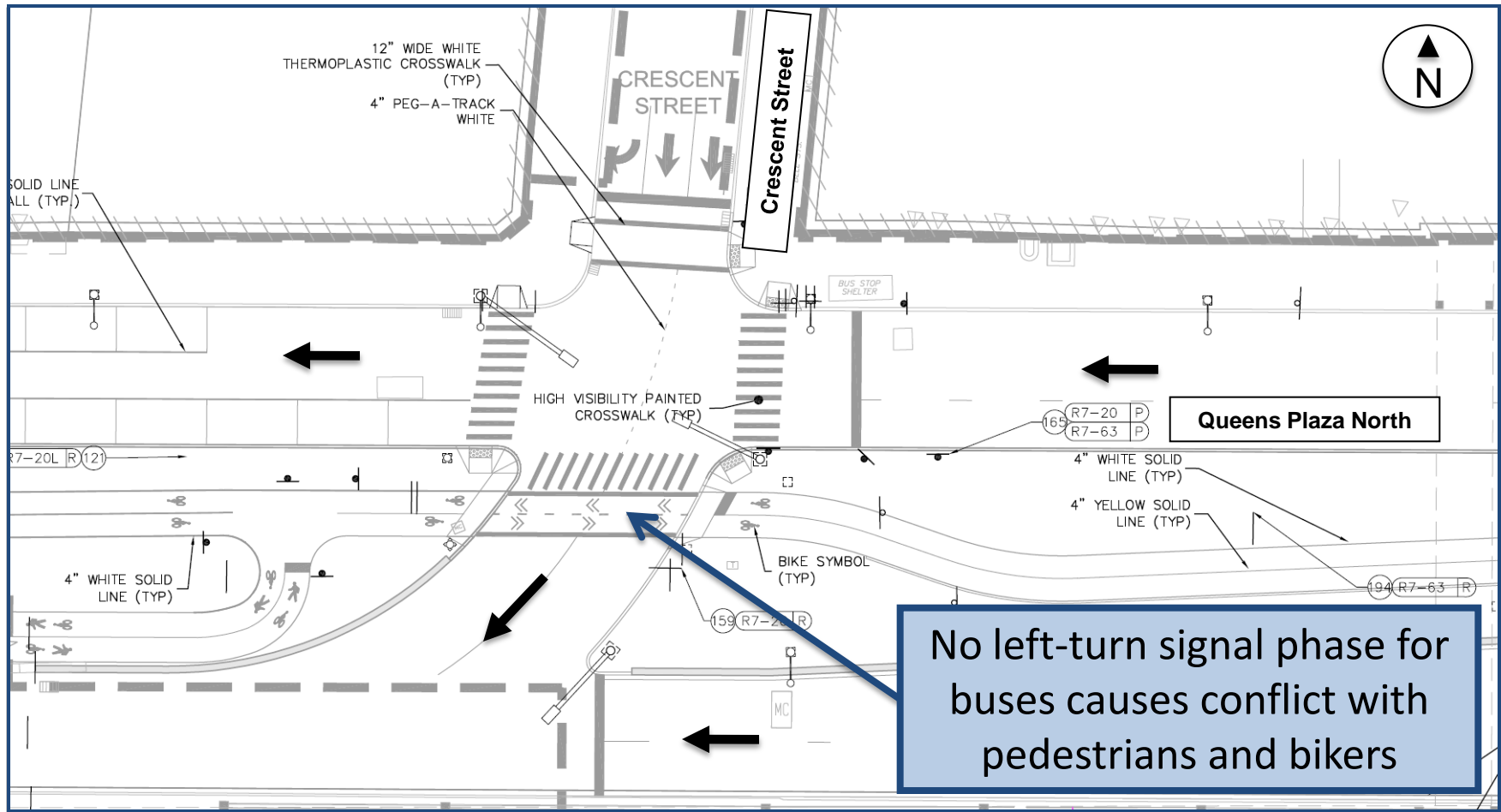
- Reduce bus delay
- Benefits 45 express and 10 local buses in PM peak hour
- Reduce bus sideswipe crashes attempting to merge left



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Queens Plaza North at Crescent Street

Future Issue





Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

NYCEDC Proposed Bikeway/Pedestrian Crossing Location (November 2010)

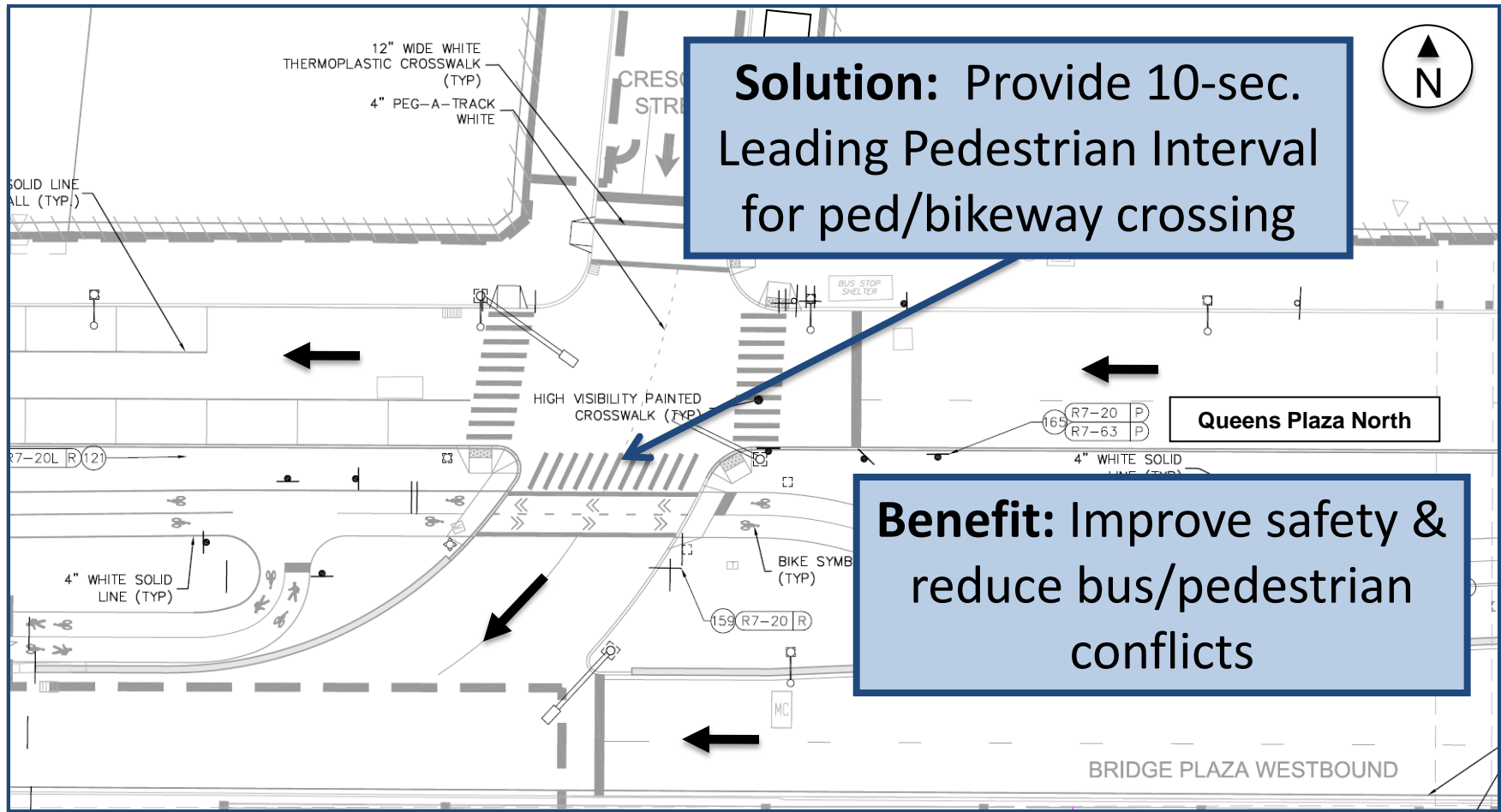




Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Queens Plaza North at Crescent Street

Recommendation #3





Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Thomson Avenue at Van Dam Street

Existing Issues





Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Thomson Avenue at Van Dam Street

Recommendation #4



Solution:

New signal timing:

- More green time for buses turning right
- 7-sec. Leading Pedestrian Interval for south crosswalk
- Repave pedestrian crosswalk

Benefits:

- Reduce right-turn delays for buses and cars
- Benefit 100 express buses in PM peak period
- Reduce pedestrian/vehicle conflicts (1,400 pedestrians use south crosswalk in PM peak hour)



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Upper Level Express Buses

Recommendation #5

Up to 4-minute average delays on upper level due to Thomson Avenue intersection congestion

DOT is examining options for bus priority on Thompson Ave ramps, including an express bus lane

PM Period	Average Travel Time (min:sec)	Average Speed (mph)
4-5	07:29	15.0
5-6	09:19	12.2
6-7	05:49	21.2

Legend

— Upper-Level Roadway



Queensboro Bridge Bus Priority Study

Next Steps

Recommendations #1-4

- Solicit comments from Community Boards
- Develop final plans for recommendations
- Target for implementation: Fall 2011

Recommendation #5

- Conduct additional analysis of bus priority options
- Revisit Community Boards when complete

Questions?