

A photograph of the Queensboro Bridge, showing its steel truss structure and concrete piers. The bridge spans a body of water, with the New York City skyline visible in the background under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent dark grey banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title and date.

# QUEENSBORO BRIDGE SOUTH OUTER ROADWAY

Design Update  
May 2021

# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background

### East River Bridge Connections

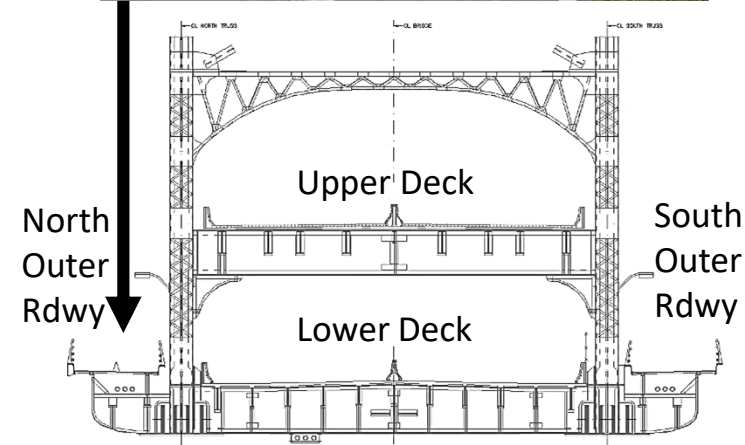
- In 2007, DOT began prioritizing design changes that improve cyclist connections to the East River Bridges as well as on the bridge structures themselves.

**Queensboro Bridge** – DOT has focused on providing protected connections to and from the QBB, including 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, 61<sup>st</sup>/62<sup>nd</sup> St (temp), Crescent St, and Northern Blvd (temp lane).

### Bicycle Volumes on the East River Bridges

- Total cyclist volumes have grown by 14.4% over the past 5 years
- During COVID all East River bridge volumes have grown by 29.8%
- Queensboro bridge saw the greatest increase in cycling, growing by 45% during COVID

**Shared Use Path** – Path over the bridge is a bottleneck. Continued conflicts between cyclists and pedestrian on existing bridge path.



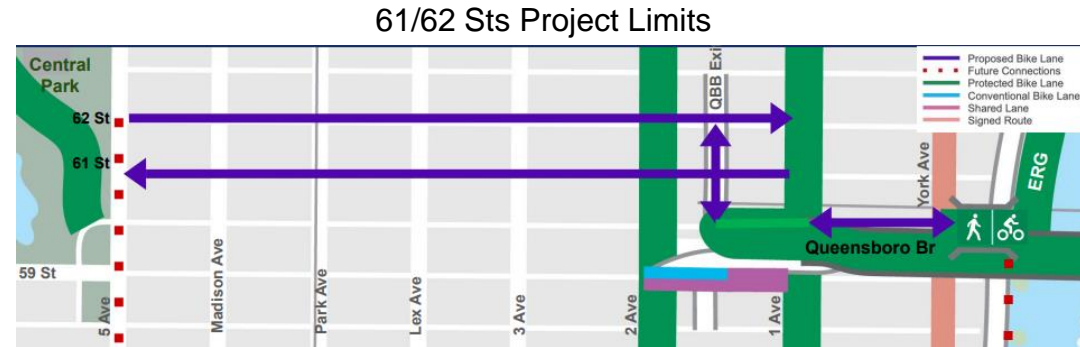


# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background – Upcoming Bicycle Projects

### 61/62<sup>nd</sup> St – DOT

- PBLs are being installed on 61st and 62nd Streets from Bridge Exit Road, and onto 60th Street to the east
- Connects bridge path to East River and Central Park
- Complements the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave PBL project



### Northern Blvd – DOT

- 2021 project will connect Central Queens to Queensboro Bridge with high quality protected bike lanes
- Enhances safety and builds on NYC DOT's ongoing efforts to improve safety on one of the borough's major corridors
- Complements recent Crescent Ave PBL project



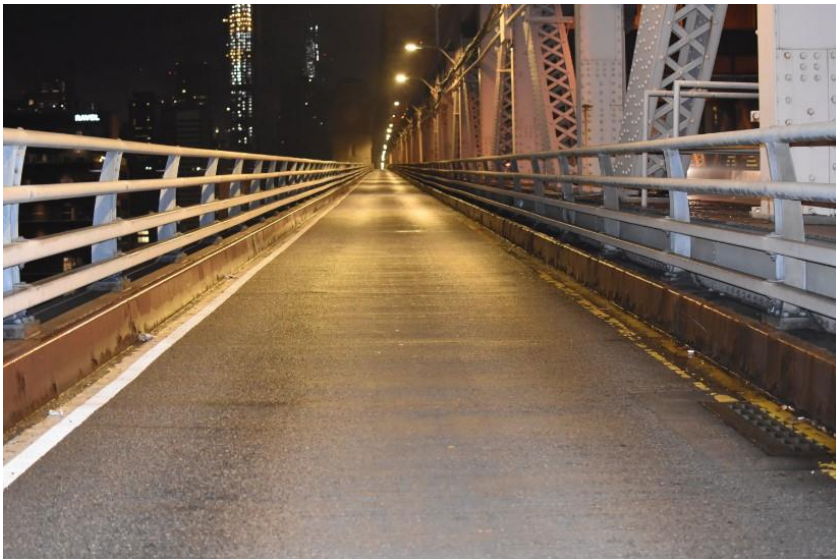
# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Proposed Project

### South Outer Roadway: Conversion to Pedestrian Only Scope

1. Add fencing to roadway to protect pedestrians (as exists on all other NYCDOT East River Bridge pedestrian paths)

**North Outer Roadway to become a bicyclist-only path**



Existing Conditions



Planned Conditions

# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Proposed Project

### South Outer Roadway: Conversion to Pedestrian Only Scope

2. Add gates to both sides of bridge to allow access for maintenance vehicles, but prevent general use traffic. Access will be maintained to NYCDOT operational facility under bridge.



ROADWAY

SIDEWALK

Existing Conditions



NEW  
PEDESTRIAN  
FENCE

Pedestrian Passage  
Main Gate Closed

Proposed Conditions



# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

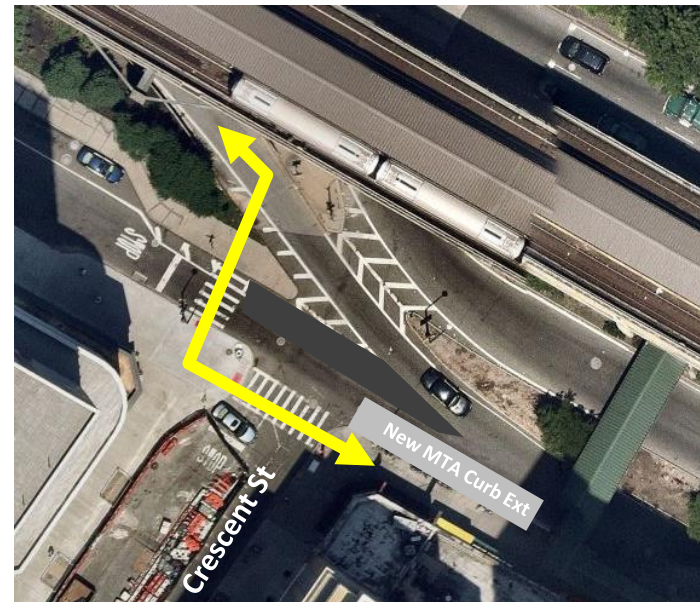
## Proposed Project

### South Outer Roadway: Conversion to Pedestrian Only Scope

3. Improve pedestrian connections to new path, including new crosswalks and other safety improvements on both sides of bridge. Will take into account maintenance and marathon requirements
4. Updates to wayfinding and signage to reinforce that North Outer Roadway should be bike-only
5. Traffic study to determine additional supportive changes to traffic patterns on bridge, or on bridge approaches to minimize traffic disruptions (coordinated with MTA CBD Tolling Program analysis).



Example Wayfinding – Williamsburg Bridge



Potential Pedestrian Flow

# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background – Upper Level Re-Decking

### Project Overview

Bridge is over 100 years old

Bridge rating is **4.214 out of 7** as of 2018

Changes in bridge use over the years have added weight to bridge trusses

Since 2018, DOT has been working on a repair project on the upper deck to extend life by 50-75 years and increase fire safety

During construction at least one lane closed on upper level at all times; two lanes closed off-peak with crossover operation on upper level during staged work

SOR must be available for traffic at key times during upper deck construction to reduce local traffic issues, based on findings from traffic study and analysis



# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Proposed Project

### South Outer Roadway: Timeline

#### 2021

- Community Outreach (now and ongoing during project)
- LPC approval (anticipate June)
- Finalize change order with existing upper level contractor
- Begin installing fence and gates (in coordination with upper level construction work)
- Complete traffic study and propose any changes to traffic patterns (estimated Summer 2021)

#### Late 2022 (target)

- Complete upper level construction
- Open SOR to pedestrian traffic at completion of upper level construction





Questions?

**THANK YOU!**



NYC DOT



NYC DOT



nyc\_dot

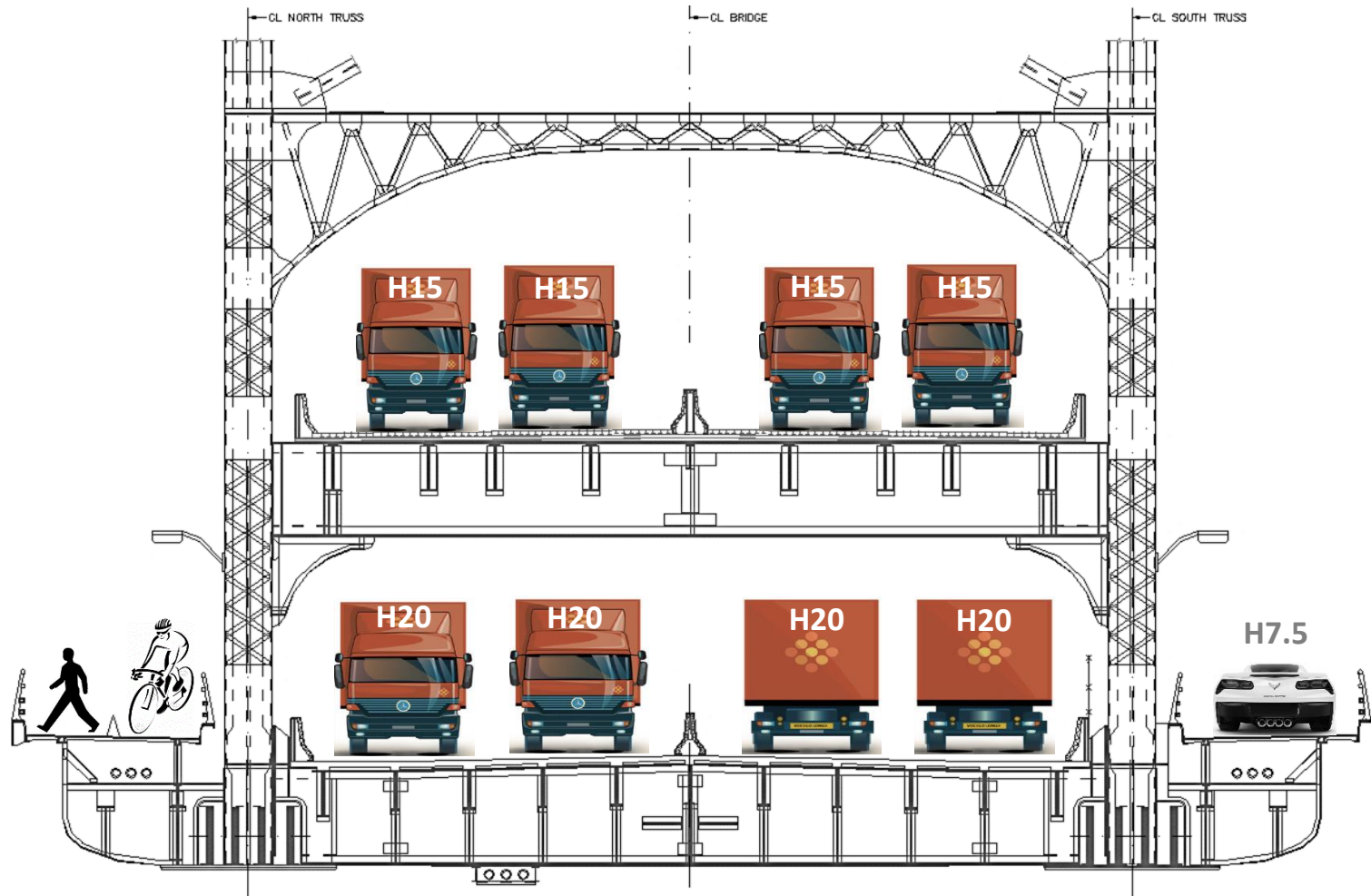


NYC DOT

# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background – Upper Level Re-Decking

### Queensboro Bridge – AM Configuration

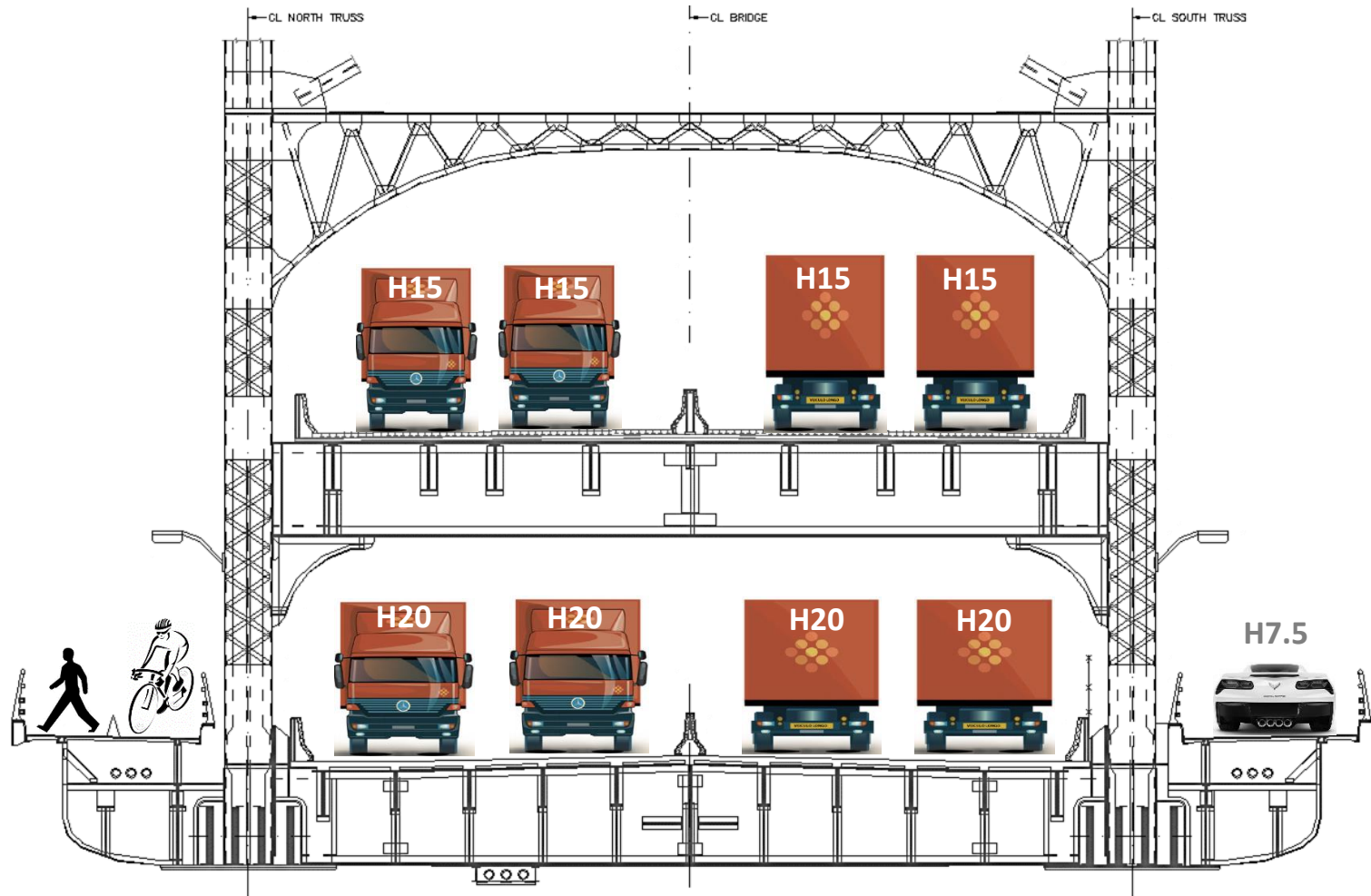




# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background – Upper Level Re-Decking

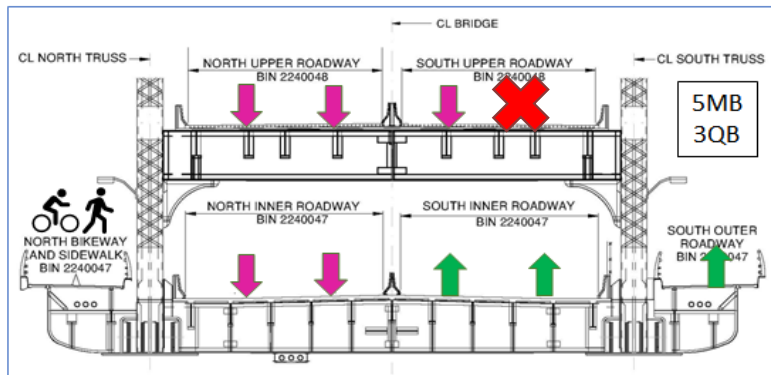
### Queensboro Bridge – Other Daytime Configuration



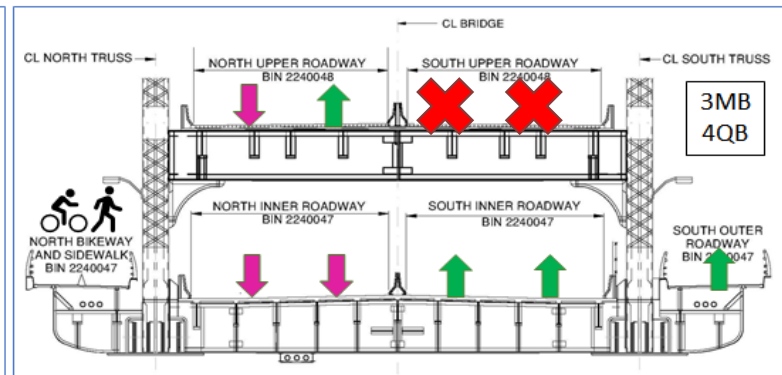
# Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Redesign

## Background – Upper Level Re-Decking

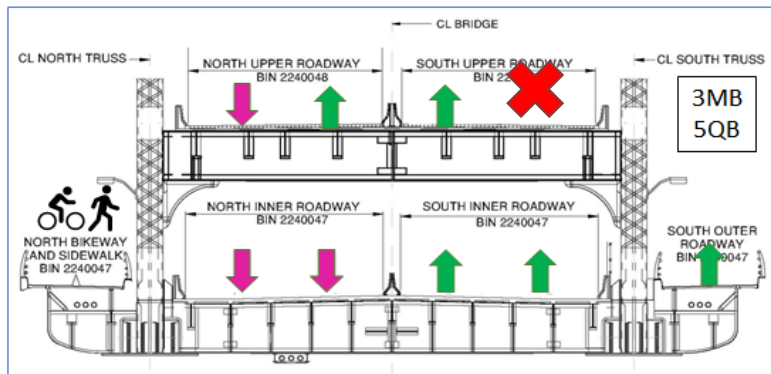
### Re-Decking Project – Traffic Management (Example, stages 3 and 4)



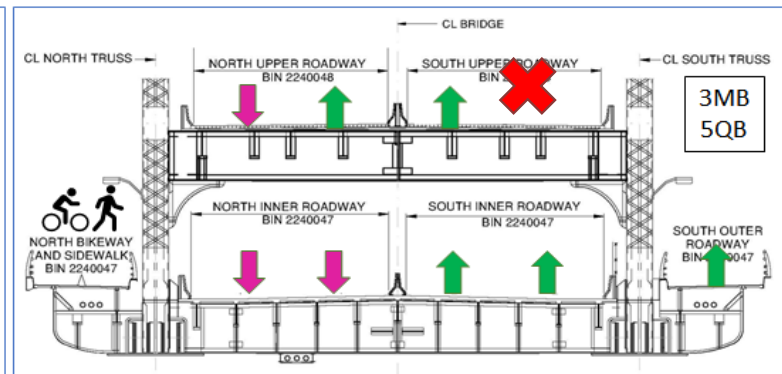
AM



Weekday MD and Overnight



PM



Weekend



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## Proposed Project

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Existing Conditions – 59<sup>th</sup> St



Planned Conditions – 59<sup>th</sup> St