

# Safe Streets for Seniors

## Yorkville, Manhattan

**FINAL REPORT**  
February, 2014



Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner



Safe Streets for Seniors  
**YORKVILLE**

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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## 1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Since 1990 the number of pedestrian fatalities in New York City has decreased by 56%. Moreover, prior to 1950, pedestrians accounted for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all traffic fatalities and since then, that percentage has decreased to account for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of all traffic fatalities. Despite these statistical improvements, pedestrians continue to be the largest at risk mode – with older adults more likely to suffer serious injuries or fatalities from traffic crashes than other pedestrians. The rate of pedestrian fatalities for every 100,000 persons in the City has decreased by nearly half since 1991 – to 2.0 from 3.8 – while the rate of senior pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 seniors has decreased even more sharply – to 6.6 from 13.1. Nevertheless, while seniors make up only 12% of the population in New York City, they still comprise 39% of pedestrian fatalities. The recognition of the disproportional representation of the senior population among severe pedestrian injuries and fatalities led to the development of the Department's Safe Streets for Seniors (SSS) Program.

The purpose of this project is to address senior pedestrian safety issues at twenty-five Senior Pedestrian Focus Areas (SPFAs) in the five boroughs of New York City and to develop and implement mitigation measures to improve the safety of seniors and other pedestrians within the 25 SPFAs. DOT identified SPFAs to include the top senior pedestrian crash (severe injury and fatality) areas within each borough. Four of the SPFAs are located in the Bronx, seven in Brooklyn, five in Queens, eight in Manhattan and one in Staten Island. The SPFAs have been selected based on the density of senior pedestrian crashes resulting in fatalities or severe injuries in a five-year period. DOT conducted in-house studies for five pilot SPFAs and is utilizing consultant services to perform a comprehensive study of pedestrian safety conditions at intersections and along corridors within twenty selected SPFAs.

The project evaluates the crash history and existing traffic conditions and controls (e.g., roadway geometry, signal timing) at selected intersections and corridors within each SPFA in order to develop short- and long-term measures to reduce pedestrian crashes specifically for seniors, and improve safety and traffic operations for all users. The consultant makes specific safety recommendations consisting of low-cost as well as capital engineering and design improvements for these twenty areas. In addition, the consultant conducts data analysis as needed, prepares engineering and design schematics and related services, as necessary, for capital improvements.

## 2. BACKGROUND

Land-use in the Yorkville Study Area is a mix of commercial and residential buildings.

There are four Senior Centers located near the Study Area:

- Washington Lexington Senior Center at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between East 98<sup>th</sup> Street and East 99<sup>th</sup> Street
- Search & Care Inc. at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between East 95<sup>th</sup> Street and East 96<sup>th</sup> Street
- Stanley M. Isaacs Senior Center located at East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue
- Lenox Hill Senior Center at East 70<sup>th</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

There are three nursing homes in the area (not shown on Exhibit 1 – Area Map):

- Dewitt Nursing Home at East 79<sup>th</sup> Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue
- Castle Senior Living 80<sup>th</sup> Street Residence at East 80<sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue
- Mary Manning Walsh Nursing Home Co. Inc. at York Avenue between 71<sup>st</sup> Street and 72<sup>nd</sup> Street.

There are two medical centers in the Study Area, Lenox Hill Hospital at East 77<sup>th</sup> Street at Park Avenue and Grace Square Hospital at E 76<sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

There are twenty-five schools in the study area and the list of school names and addresses are listed in Exhibit 5.

### Bicycle Facilities

The 2010 NYC Bike Map shows “existing” and “planned/proposed” bicycle facilities throughout the city. In the vicinity of Yorkville Study Area, East 90<sup>th</sup> Street, East 91<sup>st</sup> Street and First Avenue are existing bike routes. In addition, East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, East 79<sup>th</sup> Street and East 78<sup>th</sup> Street between East End and York Avenue, Second Avenue and Fifth Avenue are planned / proposed striped on street bike routes (Exhibit 2).

### Truck Routes

First Avenue, Second Avenue, Third Avenue, Lexington Avenue, East 79<sup>th</sup> Street and East 86<sup>th</sup> Street are local truck route in the vicinity of the study area (Exhibit 3).

### Bus Lines and Subway

Fourteen bus lines operate in the study area including:

- M31: Operates along York Avenue
- M15: Operates along First Avenue and Second Avenue
- M98, M101, M102, M103: Operates along Third Avenue and Lexington Avenue
- M1, M2, M3 and M4: Operates along Madison Avenue and Fifth Avenue
- M30, M72: Operates along East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street and part of East 71<sup>st</sup> Street
- M79: Operates along East 79<sup>th</sup> Street
- M86: Operates along East 86<sup>th</sup> Street

The M15 bus line is part of the Select Bus Service, a MTA Regional Bus Operations for Bus Rapid Transit Service (see Appendix F). The Lexington Avenue Line runs through the study area. A subway station for the 6 is on East 77<sup>th</sup> Street and for the 4, 5 and 6 is on East 86<sup>th</sup> Street (Exhibit 4).

EXHIBIT 1 – AREA MAP



# 2

# BACKGROUND

### EXHIBIT 2 – BIKE MAP



### EXHIBIT 3 – TRUCK MAP



### EXHIBIT 4 – TRANSIT MAP



## EXHIBIT 5 – LIST OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE STUDY AREA

| School Name                     | Address  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Richard R. Green High School    | East 88 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue            |
| St. Josephs School of Yorkville | East 87 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue            |
| The McCarton School             | East 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street at 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue                                 |
| St. Stephen School              | East 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street at 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue                                 |
| The Caedmon School              | East 80 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue            |
| Eleanor Roosevelt High School   | East 76 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue and 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue            |
| The International Preschools    | East 74 <sup>th</sup> Street at 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue                                 |
| Our Lady of Good Counsel School | East 91 <sup>st</sup> Street between 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue |
| P.S. 290                        | East 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street between 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue |
| Metaphysics & Parapsychology    | East 74 <sup>th</sup> Street between 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue |
| Robert F. Wagner High School    | East 76 <sup>th</sup> Street between 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue |
| PTA JHS 167                     | East 76 <sup>th</sup> Street between 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue |
| All Souls School                | Lexington Avenue between East 79 <sup>th</sup> Street and East 80 <sup>th</sup> Street |
| Allen Stevenson School          | East 78 <sup>th</sup> Street at Lexington Avenue                                       |
| St. Jean Baptiste High School   | East 75 <sup>th</sup> Street between 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Lexington Avenue       |
| The Buckley School              | East 73 <sup>rd</sup> Street between Lexington Avenue and Park Avenue                  |
| The Dalton School               | East 89 <sup>th</sup> Street between Lexington Avenue and Park Avenue                  |
| Church of Advent Hope           | East 87 <sup>th</sup> Street between Lexington Avenue and Park Avenue                  |
| Ramaz School – Lower School     | East 85 <sup>th</sup> Street between Lexington Avenue and Park Avenue                  |
| Brick Church School             | East 92 <sup>nd</sup> Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue                    |
| Regis High School               | East 84 <sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue                    |
| Loyola School                   | Park Avenue between East 83 <sup>rd</sup> Street and East 84 <sup>th</sup> Street      |
| P.S. 6                          | East 81 <sup>st</sup> Street at Madison Avenue   |
| Ramaz School – Upper School     | East 78 <sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue                    |
| The Hewitt School               | East 75 <sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue                    |

# 3

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

## 3. EXISTING CONDITIONS

### 3.1 ABOUT THE STUDY AREA

The Yorkville Study Area consists of seven major north-south corridors: York Avenue, First Avenue, Second Avenue, Third Avenue, Lexington Avenue, Park Avenue and Madison Avenue and three major east-west corridors: East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, East 79<sup>th</sup> Street and East 86<sup>th</sup> Street (Photo No. 1).

New York City Transit is installing a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System in New York to improve urban mobility. The First Avenue/Second Avenue Select Bus Service (SBS) are two of five corridors where the BRT is being implemented across NYC. Along these corridors, the BRT will extend from 125<sup>th</sup> Street to South Ferry. However, from 125<sup>th</sup> Street to Houston Street the BRT will have an exclusive bus lane with bus bulb outs at the stations. The SBS will improve service with increased hours of operation by utilizing a simpler service pattern including transit signal priority between Houston Street and South Ferry.



Photo No. 1: East 86<sup>th</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue

There were several accidents in the study area including 34 senior pedestrian accidents, four of which resulted with fatalities from 2001 to 2006. Most of these accidents occurred during the day at signalized intersections where pedestrians were crossing with the signal. The combination of heavy traffic and pedestrian volumes, operational factors and geometric factors make these corridors difficult for a senior pedestrian to safely cross.

### 3.2 FIELD OBSERVATIONS AND PEDESTRIANS CONCERNS

There were numerous issues that were repeatedly observed during the field visits and/or conveyed by senior pedestrians during interviews. Those issues are listed here:

- Insufficient crossing time
- Vehicles failure to yield
- Missing or inadequate pedestrian ramps



# 4

# TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

## 4. TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

### 4.1 CRASH SUMMARY

Crash data was obtained from the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) in the Yorkville study area from 2001 through 2006. This data provides some detail relating the circumstances and cause of each crash. Table 1 and Exhibit 6 show a summary of crashes.

| <b>TABLE 1: DMV SIX YEAR CRASH SUMMARY (2001-2006)</b> |                  |                                      |   |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>INTERSECTION</b>                                    |                  | <b>SENIOR PEDESTRIAN<br/>CRASHES</b> | <b>SENIOR PEDESTRIAN<br/>FATALITIES</b> |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street                           | First Avenue     | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Second Avenue    | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Lexington Avenue | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Park Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Madison Avenue   | 2                                    | 0                                       |
| East 76 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 77 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Park Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 78 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | First Avenue     | 2                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Third Avenue     | 2                                    | 0                                       |
| East 79 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Third Avenue     | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Madison Avenue   | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 80 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 1                                    | 1                                       |
|  | Second Avenue    | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 81 <sup>st</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | First Avenue     | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 2                                    | 1                                       |
| East 84 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Lexington Avenue | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Madison Avenue   | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 85 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Lexington Avenue | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | First Avenue     | 1                                    | 1                                       |
|  | Third Avenue     | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Lexington Avenue | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 87 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Third Avenue     | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Lexington Avenue | 2                                    | 0                                       |
| East 88 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
|  | Second Avenue    | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| East 89 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | Madison Avenue   | 2                                    | 1                                       |
| East 90 <sup>th</sup> Street                           | York Avenue      | 1                                    | 0                                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |                  | <b>34</b>                            | <b>4</b>                                |



EXHIBIT 6 – PEDESTRIAN CRASH STATISTICS (2001-2006)

## 4

## TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

## 4.2 TRAFFIC VOLUMES

The level of vehicle and pedestrian conflicts at the intersections utilized by senior pedestrians, in the Yorkville study area, was assessed using traffic volume data collected at key locations in June of 2009 and March of 2010 (Table 2).

The results of the ATR, TMC and pedestrian counts are included in Appendices A, B, C and the Technical Supplement.

TABLE 2: TRAFFIC VOLUME DATA

| Locations  | ATR <sup>1</sup> | TMC <sup>2</sup> | PED COUNTS |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------|
| York Avenue & E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue between E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & E 73 <sup>rd</sup> Street      | x                |                  |            |
| York Avenue & E 73 <sup>rd</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue between E 76 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 77 <sup>th</sup> Street      | x                |                  |            |
| York Avenue & E 80 <sup>th</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue & E 81 <sup>st</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue & E 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue between E 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street & E 83 <sup>rd</sup> Street      | x                |                  |            |
| York Avenue & E 85 <sup>th</sup> Street  |                  | x                |            |
| York Avenue between E 88 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 89 <sup>th</sup> Street      | x                |                  |            |
| York Avenue between E 90 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 91 <sup>st</sup> Street      | x                |                  |            |
| York Avenue & East 91 <sup>st</sup> Street                                     |                  | x                |            |
| Third Avenue between E 71 <sup>st</sup> Street & E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street     | x                |                  |            |
| Lexington Avenue between E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & E 73 <sup>rd</sup> Street | x                |                  |            |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street between York Avenue & First Avenue                   | x                |                  |            |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & First Avenue                                       |                  | x                | x          |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Second Avenue                                      |                  | x                | x          |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Third Avenue                                       |                  | x                | x          |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue                                   |                  | x                | x          |

Notes:

1. Twenty-four hour Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR)
2. Turning Movement Counts (TMC's)

# 4

# TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

| Locations  | ATR <sup>1</sup> | TMC <sup>2</sup> | PED COUNTS |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------|
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street between Lexington Avenue & Park Avenue               | x                |                  |            |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Park Avenue  |                  | x                |            |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Madison Avenue                                     |                  | x                |            |
| E 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Fifth Avenue                                       |                  | x                |            |
| First Avenue between E 78 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street     | x                |                  |            |
| Lexington Avenue between E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 80 <sup>th</sup> Street | x                |                  |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & York Avenue  |                  | x                |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue & First Avenue                   | x                |                  |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & First Avenue                                       |                  | x                | x          |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Second Avenue                                      |                  | x                | x          |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Third Avenue                                       |                  | x                | x          |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue                                   |                  | x                | x          |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Park Avenue  |                  | x                |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Madison Avenue                                     |                  | x                |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street between Madison Avenue & Fifth Avenue                | x                |                  |            |
| E 79 <sup>th</sup> Street & Fifth Avenue                                       |                  | x                |            |
| Third Avenue between E 85 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street     | x                |                  |            |
| Lexington Avenue between E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & E 87 <sup>th</sup> Street | x                |                  |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & York Avenue  |                  | x                |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street between York Avenue & First Avenue                   | x                |                  |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Third Avenue                                       |                  | x                | x          |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue                                   |                  | x                | x          |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Park Avenue  |                  | x                |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue & Madison Avenue                 | x                |                  |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Madison Avenue                                     |                  | x                |            |
| E 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Fifth Avenue                                       |                  | x                |            |

Notes:

1. Twenty-four hour Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR)
2. Turning Movement Counts (TMC's)

# 4

# TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

## 4.3 EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE

The common practices used to evaluate both un-signalized and signalized intersections are level-of-service (LOS), delay, and volume-to-capacity ratio (v/c). The intersections and corridors to be evaluated were selected based on the pedestrian crash locations and what was observed during the field visit. At some signalized intersections, delay and v/c were analyzed. The baseline conditions at a specific intersection are measured in the amount of time (delay) that a vehicle has to wait at that intersection. This is measured in seconds per vehicle (sec/veh) during the busiest one hour (peak hour) in both the morning (AM) and evening (PM), and referred to as total delay. Total delay is adjusted for additional accrued time due to traffic controls and queuing conditions. A volume-to-capacity ratio indicates the amount of congestion that occurs at a particular location. An intersection with a v/c that is greater than or equal to 1 proves that the traffic conditions are above or at capacity; whereas an intersection with a v/c less than 1 indicates that traffic operations are below capacity.

For un-signalized intersections, the level of service is determined by the time spent while the vehicle is not moving (stopped delay). The two approaches can be used to measure the average stopped delay, either by minor movements of the intersection as a whole or by lane grouping.

The results of existing level of service analysis for the studied corridors in the study area during both AM and PM peak hours are indicated in Table 3. The detailed results of the analysis are included in Appendix D and the Technical Supplement.

| TABLE 3: EXISTING (2010) INTERSECTION LEVEL OF SERVICE AND DELAYS (SEC) |                 |     |                 |     |
|---|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Intersection  | AM Peak Hour    |     | PM Peak Hour    |     |
|   | Delay (sec/veh) | LOS | Delay (sec/veh) | LOS |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & York Avenue                              | 34.7            | C   | 27.5            | C   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & First Avenue                             | 34.7            | C   | 27.5            | C   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Second Avenue                            | 19.6            | B   | 18.8            | B   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Third Avenue                             | 48.6            | D   | 31.8            | C   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue                         | 41.4            | D   | 18.2            | B   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Park Avenue (northbound)                 | 39.0            | D   | 18.5            | B   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Park Avenue (southbound)                 | 20.9            | C   | 17.4            | B   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Madison Avenue                           | 44.9            | D   | 21.8            | C   |
| East 72 <sup>nd</sup> Street & Fifth Avenue                             | 44.9            | D   | 21.8            | C   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & York Avenue                              | 27.5            | C   | 23.2            | C   |

# 4

# TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

| Intersection  | AM Peak Hour    |     | PM Peak Hour    |     |
|---|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
|   | Delay (sec/veh) | LOS | Delay (sec/veh) | LOS |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & First Avenue             | 41.7            | D   | 21.2            | C   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Second Avenue            | 28.3            | C   | 20.4            | C   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Third Avenue             | 28.3            | C   | 20.4            | C   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Lexington Avenue         | 57.1            | E   | 35.5            | D   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Park Avenue (northbound) | 17.2            | B   | 15.6            | B   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Park Avenue (southbound) | 24.3            | C   | 14.0            | B   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Madison Avenue           | 35.6            | D   | 21.5            | C   |
| East 86 <sup>th</sup> Street & Fifth Avenue             | 23.0            | C   | 23.1            | C   |

## 4.4 SIGNAL TIMING: PEDESTRIAN INTERVAL

According to MUTCD 2009 (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) Section 4E.06, a minimum of seven (7) seconds is allocated for a walk interval, in addition to a pedestrian clearance time based on a walking speed of 3.5 feet per second. All signalized intersections in the study area were modified to provide a clearance interval of 3 feet per second to accommodate slower walking speeds.

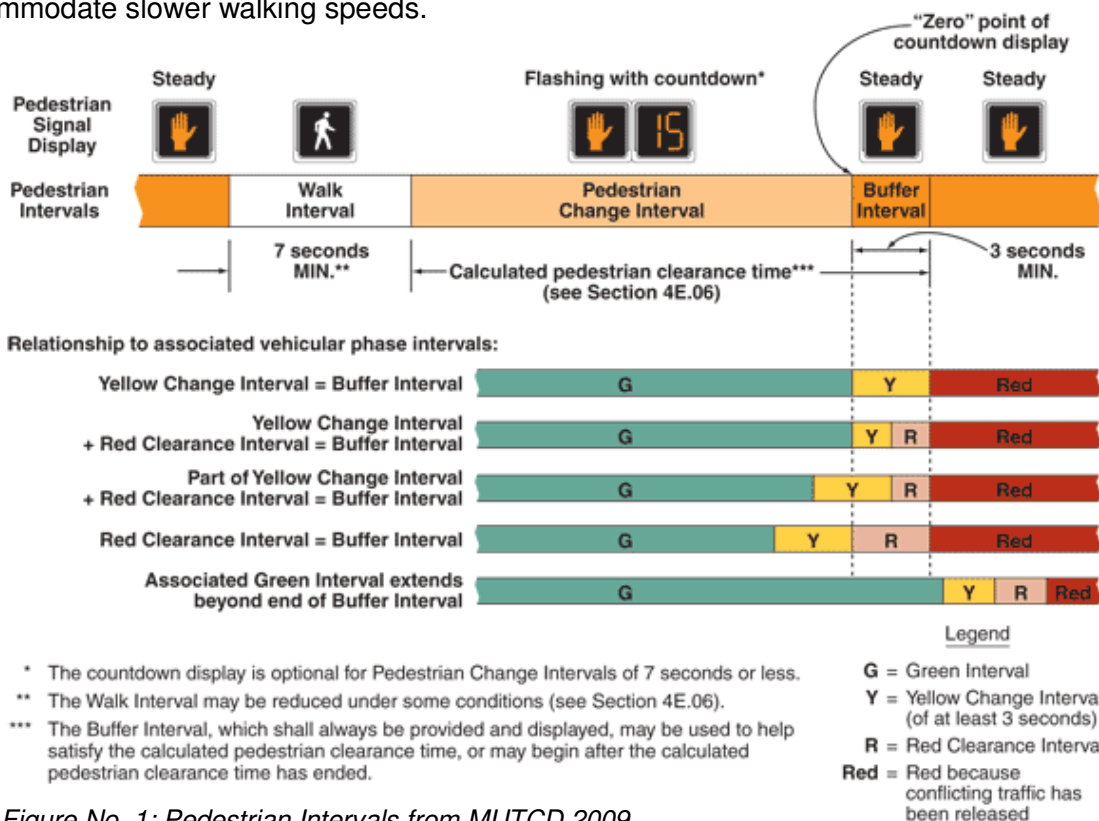


Figure No. 1: Pedestrian Intervals from MUTCD 2009

# 5

# ILLUSTRATING THE SOLUTION

## 5. ILLUSTRATING THE SOLUTION

### 5.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

| Section | Locations                                  | Extended/Raised Median | Curb Extension | Left-turn Bay | Ban Left-turn |
|---------|--|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 5.2     | York Avenue & 79 <sup>th</sup> Street      |                        | x              |               |               |
| 5.2     | York Avenue & 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street      |                        | x              |               |               |
| 5.3     | First Avenue & 86 <sup>th</sup> Street     | x                      |                | x             |               |
| 5.3     | Lexington Avenue & 86 <sup>th</sup> Street |                        |                |               | x             |
| 5.4     | Third Avenue & 83 <sup>rd</sup> Street     |                        | x              |               |               |

It should be noted that turning movement counts, traffic volumes and pedestrian counts were gathered along East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street and East 86<sup>th</sup> Street (Appendices A, B & C) from York Avenue to Fifth Avenue to determine the feasibility of reducing both corridors to one moving lane in each direction. Preliminary analysis of the traffic data showed that the reduction may be viable for both East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street and East 86<sup>th</sup> Street from York Avenue to Third Avenue and Park Avenue to Fifth Avenue without significantly impacting the vehicular level of service (Appendix D & Technical Supplement). The conceptual reconfiguration will have one shared travel lane in each direction with parking on both sides and a median to be used for left-turn bays as appropriate at the intersections. Further detailed study and analysis is required to validate these initial studies and observations.

## General Recommendations

- Place stop bars ten feet in advance of all crosswalks

The NYCDOT standard for placement of a stop bar is ten feet in advance of any marked pedestrian crosswalk, including school and high-visibility crosswalks. This helps to maximize pedestrian visibility and to minimize the potential for pedestrian/vehicle conflicts. Therefore, it is recommended that stop bars be placed ten feet in advance of all crosswalks.

- Provide additional crossing time where feasible

Number of senior residents interviewed, indicated that there was not enough time to cross a lot of the streets. All the signals, where possible, will be retimed to allow more crossing time for pedestrians.

- Green projects where feasible

All medians, pedestrian plazas and curb extensions will be part of the Greenstreets project where feasible. The Greenstreets project is a citywide program to convert paved vacant traffic islands and medians into green spaces filled with shade trees, flowering trees, shrubs and groundcover.



## 5.2 YORK AVENUE

York Avenue is a 60-foot wide street with two travel lanes in each direction and parking on both sides. During the field visit, it was observed that York Avenue is congested near the entrances to the FDR at: East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street, East 80<sup>th</sup> Street and East 91<sup>st</sup> Street. There was a high concentration of senior pedestrian crashes along York Avenue between East 80<sup>th</sup> Street and East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, including two fatalities. These consecutive intersections were evaluated to determine an underlying cause for the high concentration of crashes. It was found that a significant volume of turning vehicles entering onto the FDR failing to yield to pedestrians. In addition, multiple bus stops as well as high volume of taxis and private vehicles making U-turns make these intersections intimidating for seniors.



Photo No. 2: York Ave. & E 81<sup>st</sup> St. (looking north)

Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) and Turning Movement Counts (TMC) were collected in March of 2010 along York Avenue from East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street to East 91<sup>st</sup> Street (Appendices A & B). The analysis and field observation indicated that a lane reduction may be feasible for only northbound traffic (Technical Supplement). Along with the elimination of a moving lane, new pedestrian refuge islands are recommended. Further study is required to fully evaluate these initial studies and observations.

Neckdowns are recommended for the following intersections to shorten the crossing distance and slow turning traffic:

- Southeast corner of York Avenue & 79<sup>th</sup> Street
- Southeast corner of York Avenue & 82<sup>nd</sup> Street

Vehicle turning was reviewed and the proposed neckdowns allow for vehicles to safely complete all legal turns (Appendix E).

Most of the pedestrian ramps along York Avenue are in good condition with the exception of the northwest corner of East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and the northeast corner of East 86<sup>th</sup> Street. New NYCDOT standard pedestrian ramp and ADA safety surface is recommended.



Photo No. 3: York Ave. & E 82<sup>nd</sup> St. (northwest corner)

### 5.3 EAST 86<sup>TH</sup> STREET

East 86<sup>th</sup> Street is a 59-foot wide street with two moving lanes in each direction and parking on both sides (Photo No. 4). It is a designated truck route. The conflict between turning vehicles and pedestrians make many intersections along East 86<sup>th</sup> Street intimidating for seniors.

All of the pedestrian ramps along East 86<sup>th</sup> Street are in good condition with the exception of the northwest corner of York Avenue. This ramp should be replaced with new NYCDOT standard pedestrian ramps and ADA safety surfaces.

There is a number of conflicting priorities for East 86<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a collector roadway that crosses Central Park making it a crucial East-West connector; however, heavy pedestrian volumes from residential and commercial activities make this street a vital pedestrian route. To determine the appropriate pedestrian amenities that could be installed without causing a decrease in vehicle level of service, a traffic study program was initiated.

A new concrete refuge island is recommended for the east leg of 86<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue. Vehicle turning was reviewed and the proposed concrete refuge island allows for vehicles to safely complete all legal turns (Appendix E). The new median will slow turning traffic, discourage pedestrians from crossing mid-block and provide a refuge area.

On the west leg of 86<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue, a left-turn bay is recommended to help improve the flow of traffic along 86<sup>th</sup> Street. The left-turn bay will reduce the “shock wave” effect caused by a speed differential. Shock waves occur when left-turning vehicles are forced to decelerate in the through lanes, causing through traffic to decelerate. The flow of traffic at the intersection will be improved by the 100-foot left-turn bay.



Photo No. 4: E 86<sup>th</sup> St. & Lexington Ave. (looking west)



Photo No. 5: E 86<sup>th</sup> St. & First Ave. (looking east)

# 5

# ILLUSTRATING THE SOLUTION

At the intersection of 86<sup>th</sup> Street and Lexington Avenue, a left-turn ban is recommended. The left-turn ban will reduce the conflict between pedestrians and left-turning vehicles and allow more crossing time for the pedestrians.

## 5.4 THIRD AVENUE

Third Avenue is a 70-foot wide northbound street with four moving lanes and parking on both sides.

The southeast corner of East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street is missing a pedestrian ramp along Third Avenue and a NYCDOT standard pedestrian ramp configuration with ADA safety surface is recommended.

At the northeast corner of 83<sup>rd</sup> Street, a single neckdown along Third Avenue is recommended to shorten the crossing distance for seniors and to slow turning traffic. Vehicle turning was reviewed and the proposed neckdowns allow for vehicles to safely complete all legal turns (Appendix E).



*Photo No. 6: E 86<sup>th</sup> St. & First Ave. (looking east)*

Exhibit 7 - RECOMMENDATION INDEX 1

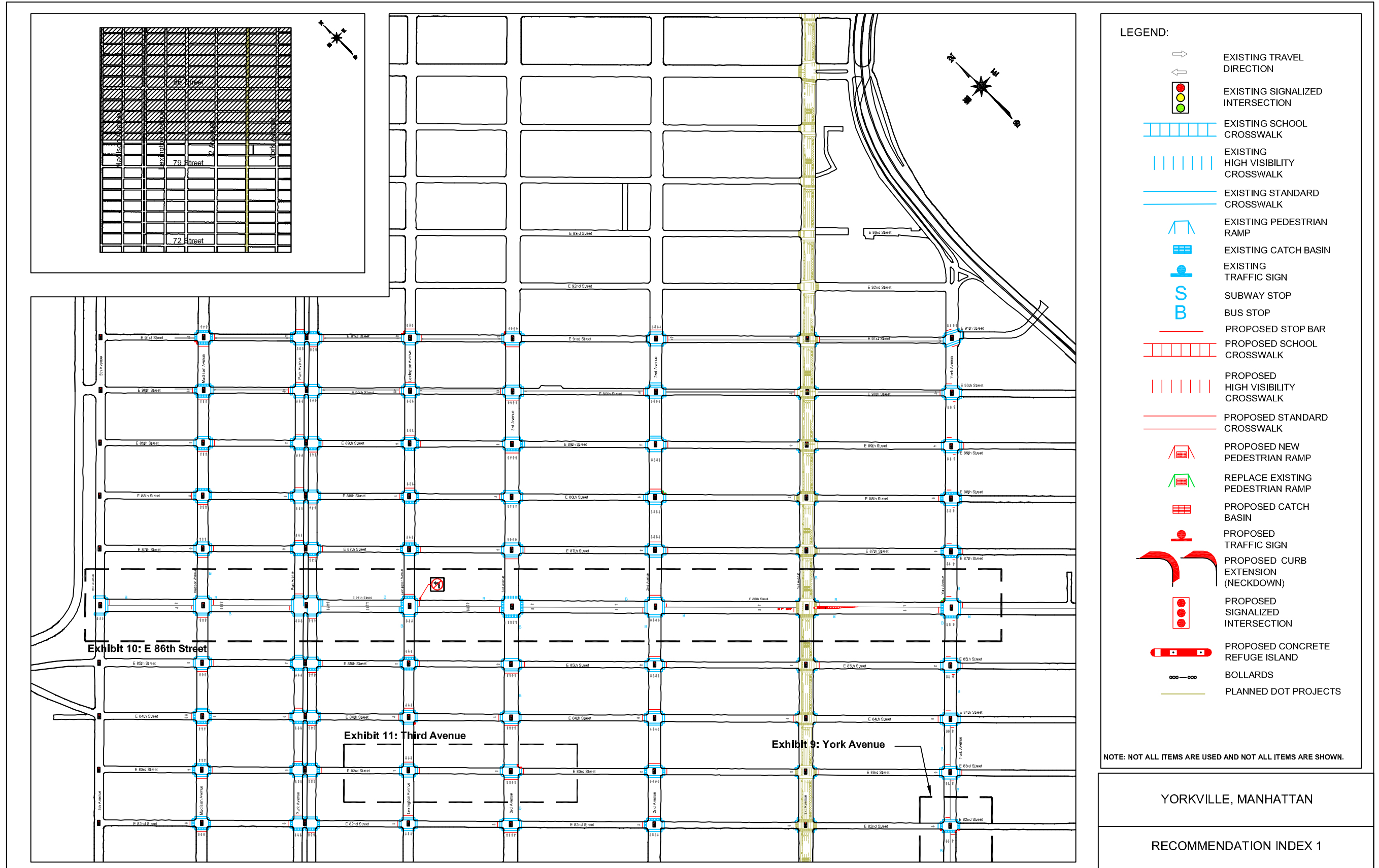


Exhibit 8 - RECOMMENDATION INDEX 2

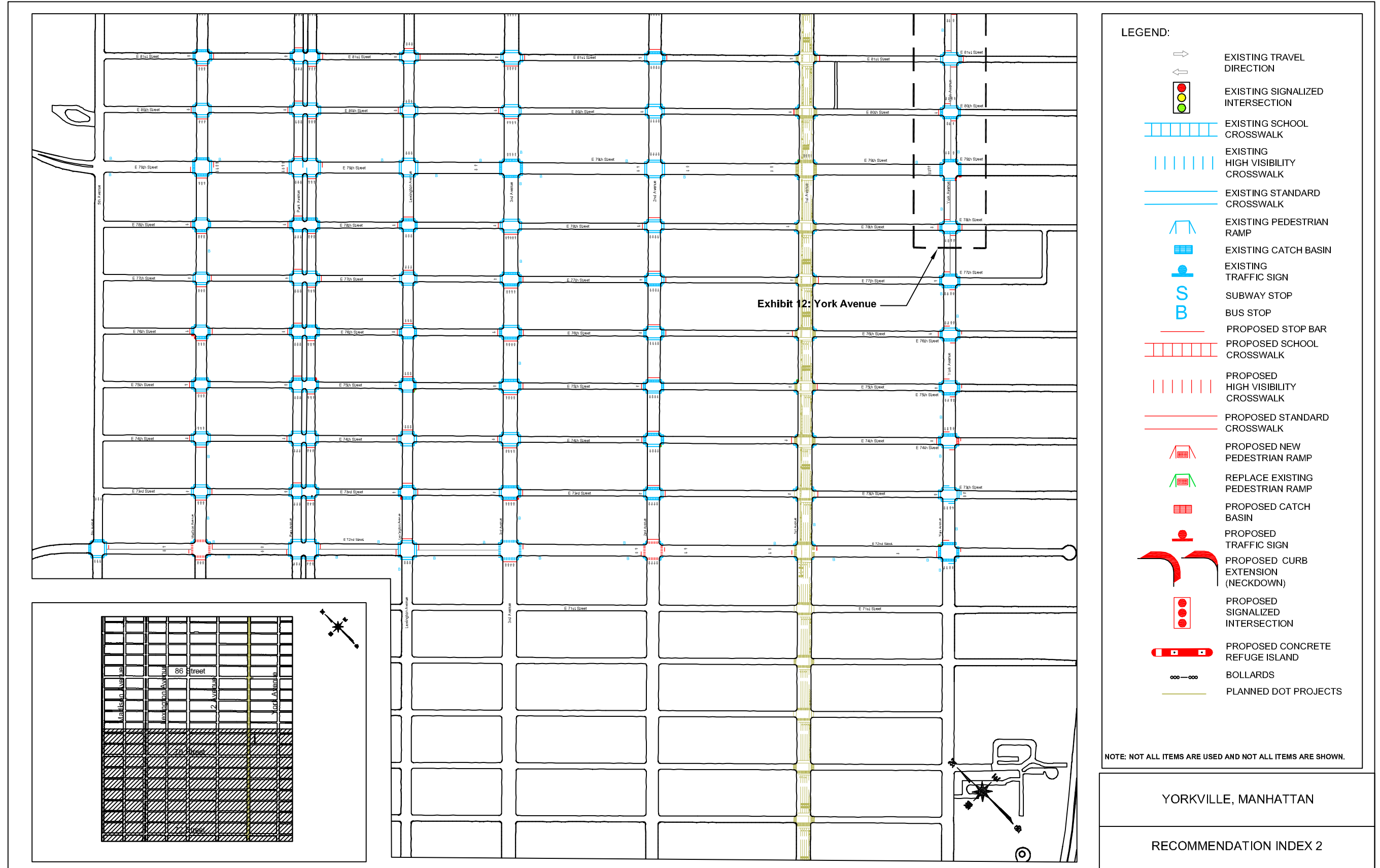
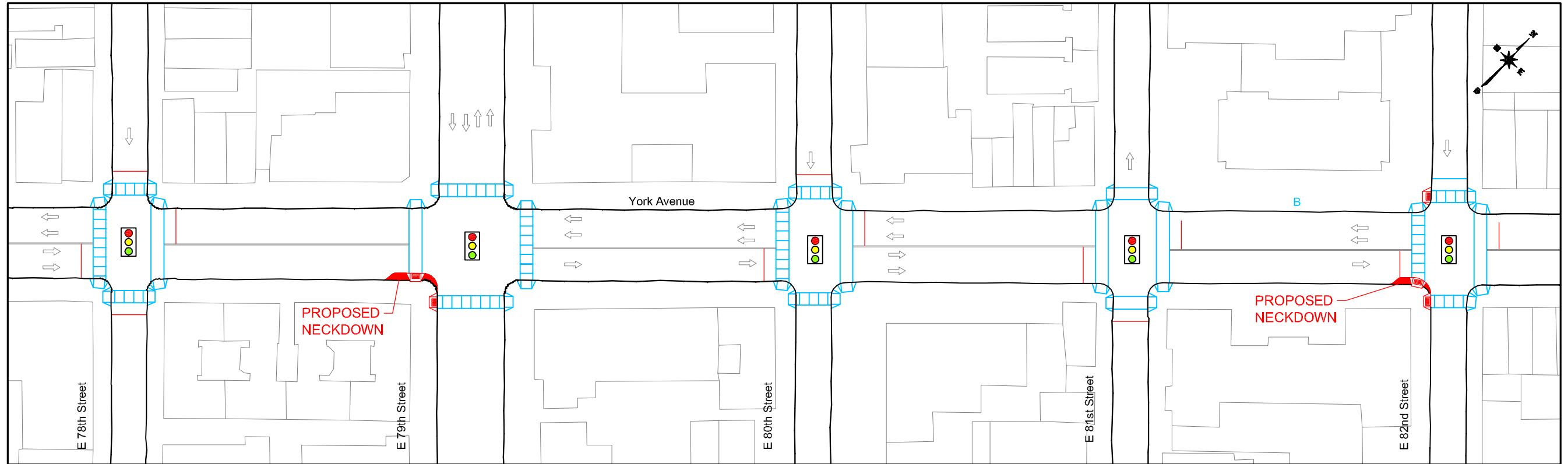


Exhibit 9 - York Avenue (From 78th Street to 82nd Street)



|  |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|  | EXISTING HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED CURB EXTENSION (NECKDOWN) |  | EXISTING SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|  | EXISTING STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | PROPOSED STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: STREETLIGHT        |  | PROPOSED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|  | EXISTING SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | PROPOSED SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: SIGNAL POLE        |  | EXISTING TRAVEL DIRECTION        |
|  | EXISTING STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED BIKE LANE                 |  | EXISTING CATCH BASIN             |
|  | EXISTING PEDESTRIAN RAMP           |  | PROPOSED CONCRETE REFUGE ISLAND    |  | PROPOSED SHARED BIKE LANE          |  | EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGN            |
|  | PROPOSED NEW PED RAMP              |  | EXISTING BUS STOP                  |  | BOLLARDS                           |  | PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGN            |
|  | REPLACE EXISTING PED RAMP          |  | EXISTING SUBWAY STOP               |  |                                    |  | PLANNED DOT PROJECTS             |

\*NOTE: NOT ALL ITEMS ARE USED AND NOT ALL ITEMS ARE SHOWN.

**Recommended improvements include:**

- Time all signals for seniors and where feasible, the crossing time will be extended
- Install new advanced stop bars
- Install a neckdown
  - southeast corner of York Avenue & E 79th Street
  - southeast corner of York Avenue & E 82nd Street

**Pedestrian concerns in this area:**

- Turning vehicles not yielding to pedestrians
- Signal timing (insufficient crossing time)
- Missing or inadequate pedestrian ramps

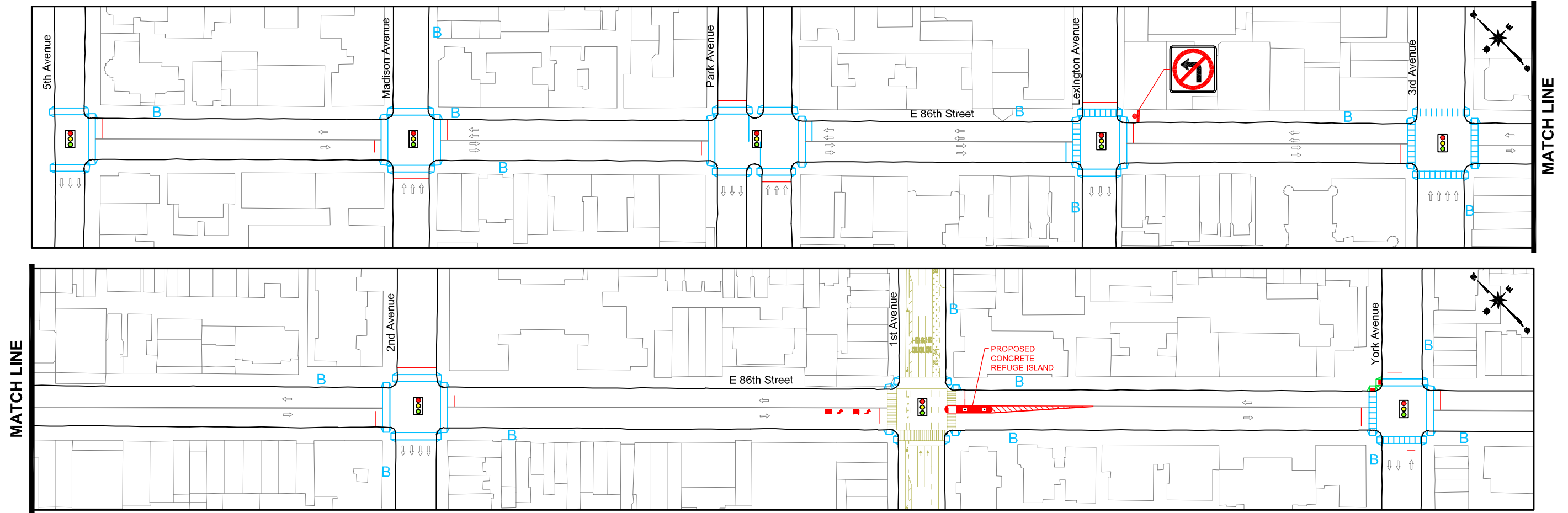
**Traffic Analysis:**

- Turning Movement Counts (TMC)
- Automatic Traffic Recorder Counts (ATR)

**Additional Information:**

- This study area was visited on December 22nd, 2009 and April 6th, 2011
- Autoturn for York Avenue & East 79th Street, and York Avenue & East 82nd Street are shown in Appendix E

Exhibit 10 - East 86th Street (From York Avenue to Fifth Avenue)



|   |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|   | EXISTING HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED CURB EXTENSION (NECKDOWN) |  | EXISTING SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|   | EXISTING STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | PROPOSED STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: STREETLIGHT        |  | PROPOSED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|   | EXISTING SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | PROPOSED SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: SIGNAL POLE        |  | EXISTING TRAVEL DIRECTION        |
|   | EXISTING STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED BIKE LANE                 |  | EXISTING CATCH BASIN             |
|   | EXISTING PEDESTRIAN RAMP           |  | PROPOSED CONCRETE REFUGE ISLAND    |  | PROPOSED SHARED BIKE LANE          |  | PROPOSED CATCH BASIN             |
|   | PROPOSED NEW PED RAMP              |  | EXISTING BUS STOP                  |  | EXISTING SUBWAY STOP               |  | EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGN            |
|   | REPLACE EXISTING PED RAMP          |  | EXISTING SUBWAY STOP               |  | BOLLARDS                           |  | PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGN            |
| <small>*NOTE: NOT ALL ITEMS ARE USED AND NOT ALL ITEMS ARE SHOWN.</small> |                                    |  |                                    |  | PLANNED DOT PROJECTS               |  |                                  |

**Pedestrian concerns in this area:**

- Turning vehicles not yielding to pedestrians
- Signal timing (insufficient crossing time)
- Missing or inadequate pedestrian ramps

**Recommended improvements include:**

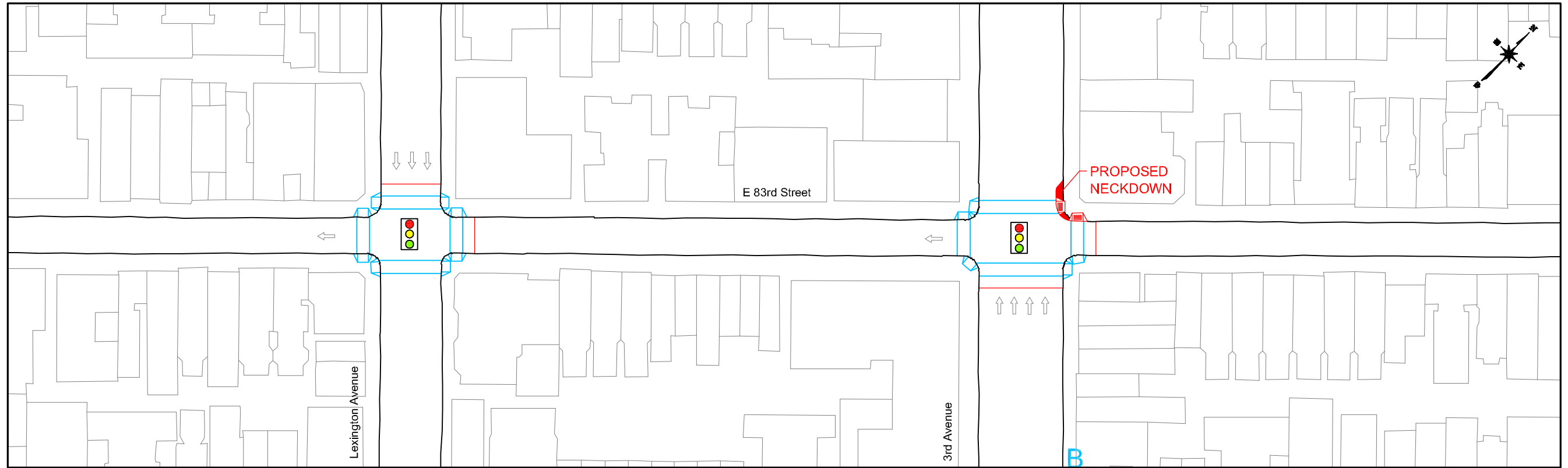
- Time all signals for seniors and where feasible, the crossing time will be extended
- Install new advanced stop bars
- Install "No Left-Turn" sign for westbound traffic along E 86th Street at Lexington Avenue
- Stripe left-turn bay for eastbound traffic along E 86th Street at First Avenue
- Install a concrete refuge island along east leg of First Avenue

**Traffic Analysis:**

- Automatic Traffic Recorder Counts (ATR)
- Turning Movement Counts (TMC)
- Pedestrian Counts

**Additional Information:**

- This study area was visited on December 22nd, 2009 and April 6th, 2011



|  |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                    |  |                                  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|  | EXISTING HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK |  | PROPOSED CURB EXTENSION (NECKDOWN) |  | EXISTING SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|  | EXISTING STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | PROPOSED STANDARD CROSSWALK        |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: STREETLIGHT        |  | PROPOSED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION |
|  | EXISTING SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | PROPOSED SCHOOL CROSSWALK          |  | SW OBSTRUCTION: SIGNAL POLE        |  | EXISTING TRAVEL DIRECTION        |
|  | EXISTING STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED STOP BAR                  |  | PROPOSED BIKE LANE                 |  | EXISTING CATCH BASIN             |
|  | EXISTING PEDESTRIAN RAMP           |  | PROPOSED CONCRETE REFUGE ISLAND    |  | PROPOSED SHARED BIKE LANE          |  | EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGN            |
|  | PROPOSED NEW PED RAMP              |  | EXISTING BUS STOP                  |  | BOLLARDS                           |  | PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGN            |
|  | REPLACE EXISTING PED RAMP          |  | EXISTING SUBWAY STOP               |  |                                    |  | PLANNED DOT PROJECTS             |

\*NOTE: NOT ALL ITEMS ARE USED AND NOT ALL ITEMS ARE SHOWN.

**Recommended improvements include:**

- Time all signals for seniors and where feasible, the crossing time will be extended
- Install new advanced stop bars
- Install a neckdown at the northeast corner of Third Avenue & E 83rd Street

**Pedestrian concerns in this area:**

- Turning vehicles not yielding to pedestrians
- Signal timing (insufficient crossing time)
- Missing or inadequate pedestrian ramps

**Traffic Analysis:**

- Turning Movement Counts (TMC)
- Automatic Traffic Recorder Counts (ATR)

**Additional Information:**

- This study area was visited on December 22nd, 2009 and April 6th, 2011
- Autoturn for Third Avenue & East 78th Street, Madison Avenue & East 76th Street, Madison Avenue & East 79th Street, and Madison Avenue & East 84th Street are shown in Appendix E