

# Safe Streets for Seniors

## NYMTC Brown Bag

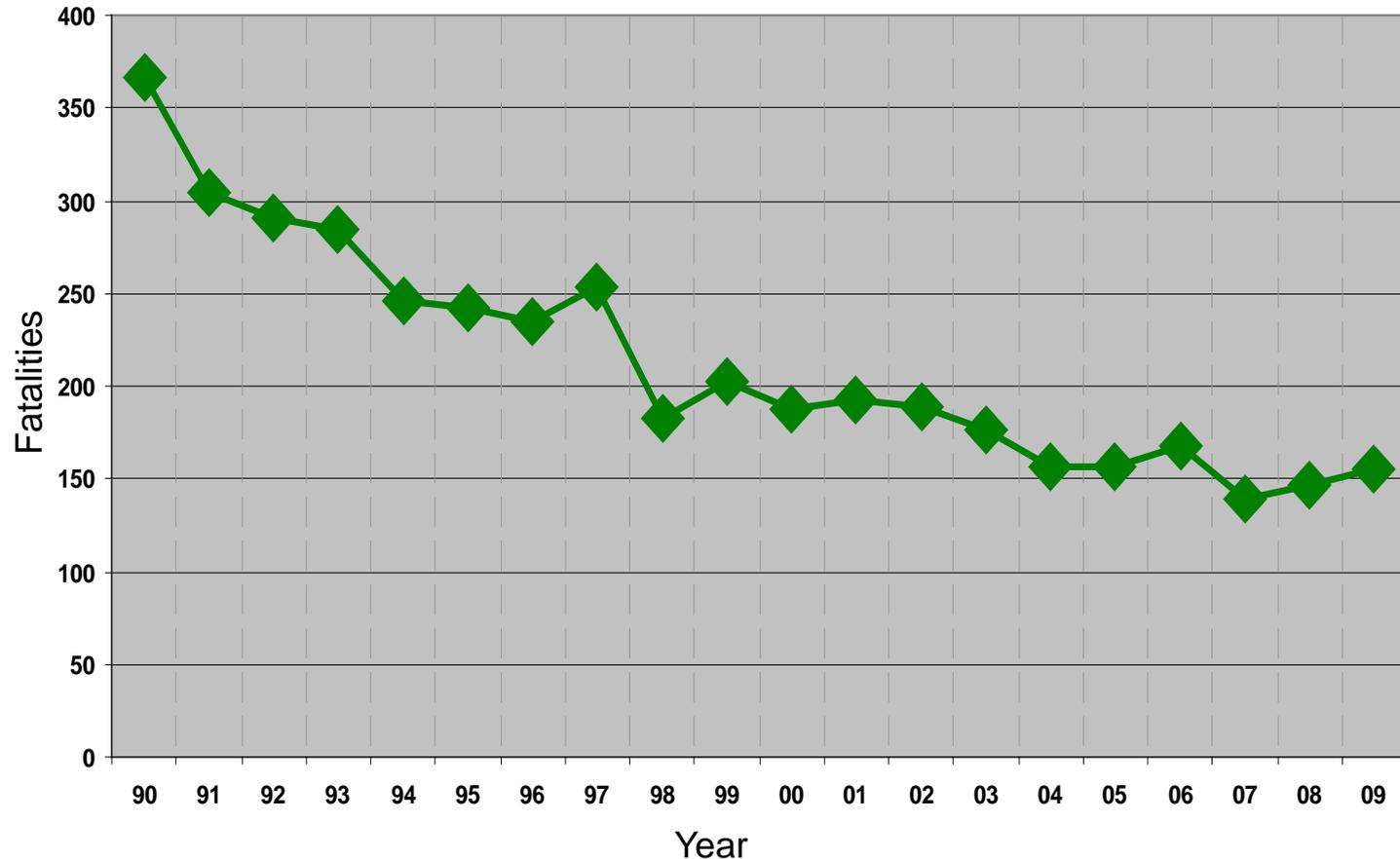
January 19, 2011  
99 Water Street



# Pedestrian Fatality History

- Since 1990 pedestrian fatalities in NYC have decreased by 58% from 366 to 155

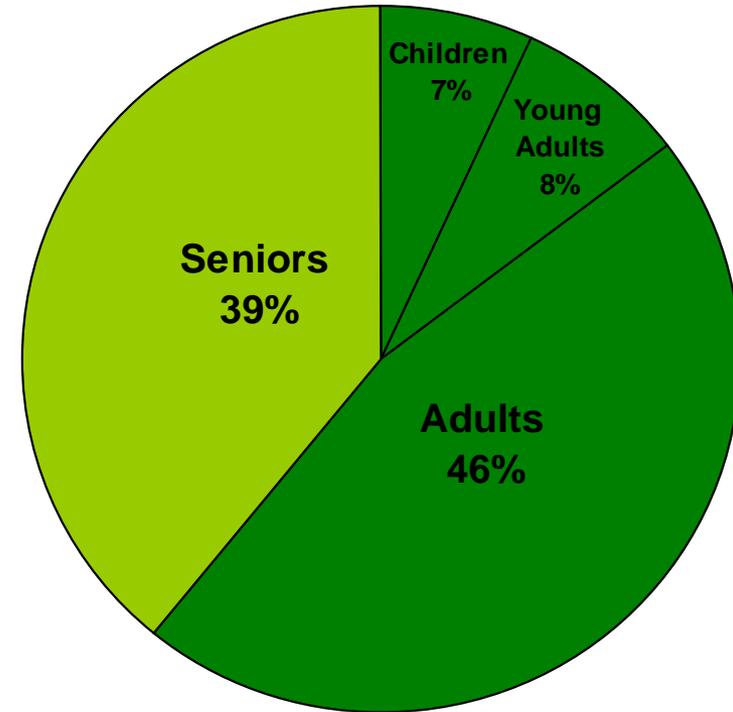
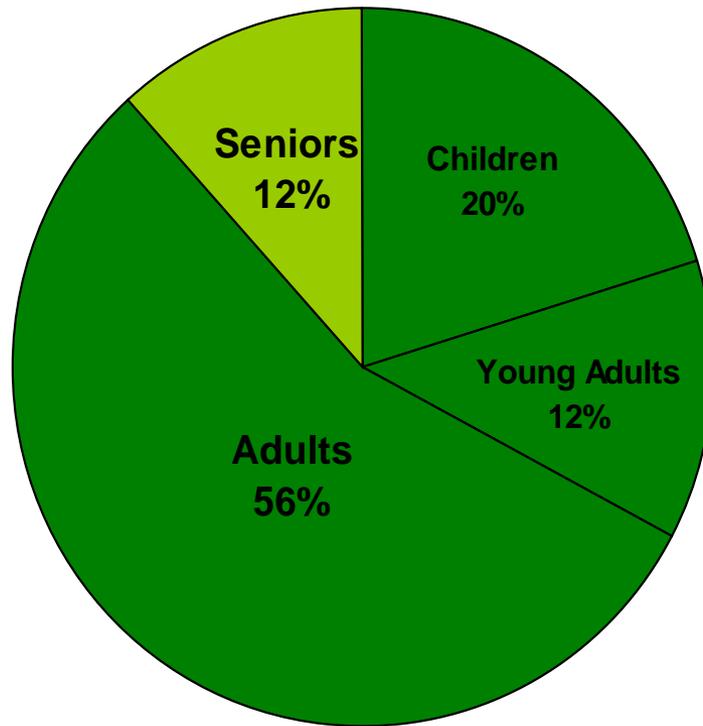
- Prior to 1950, pedestrians accounted for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of traffic fatalities. Now the percentage has decreased to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



# Senior Pedestrians

- 12% of the population in New York City are seniors

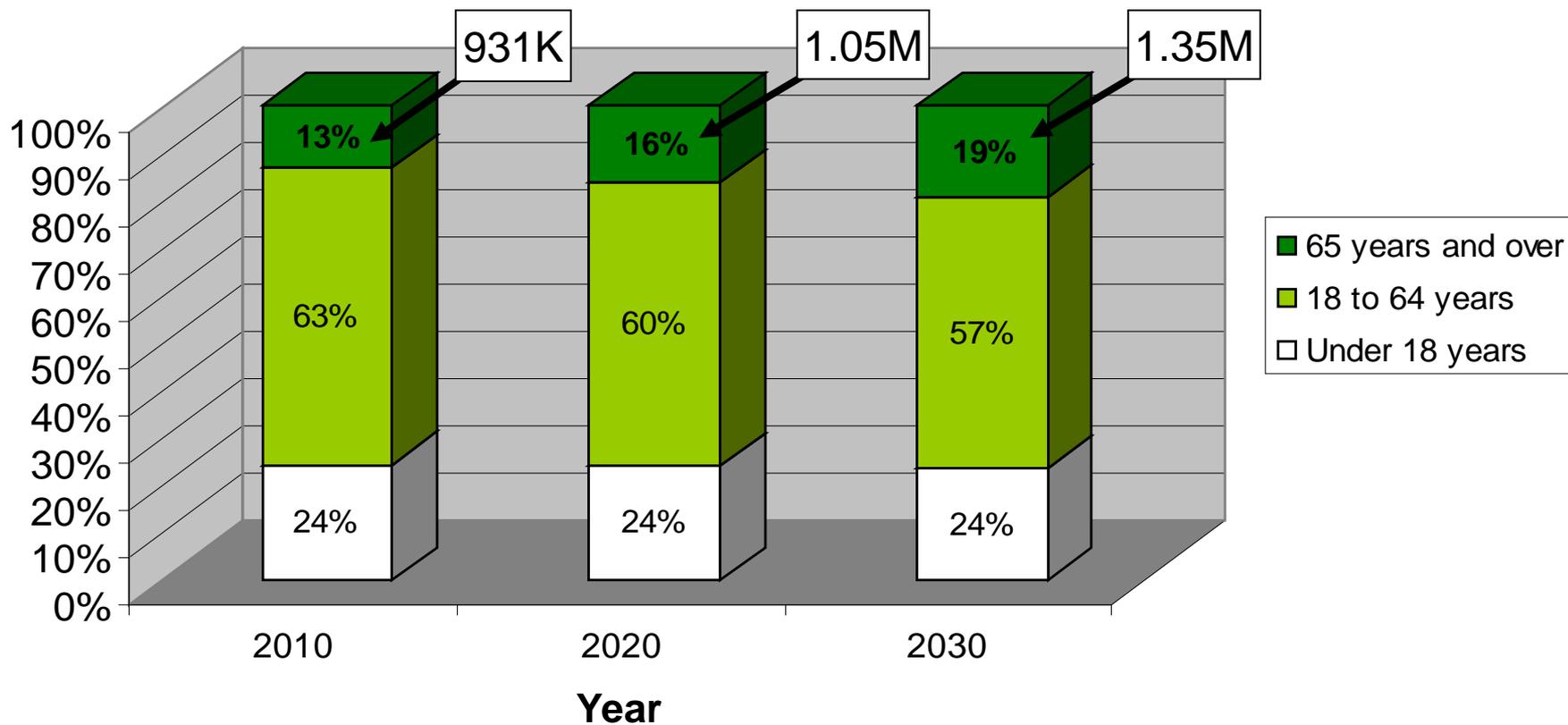
- 39% of pedestrian fatalities are seniors



Children (0-14)	Seniors (65+)
Young Adults (15-24)	Adults (25-65)

# Senior Citizen Population Trend

## Projected United States Population by Age





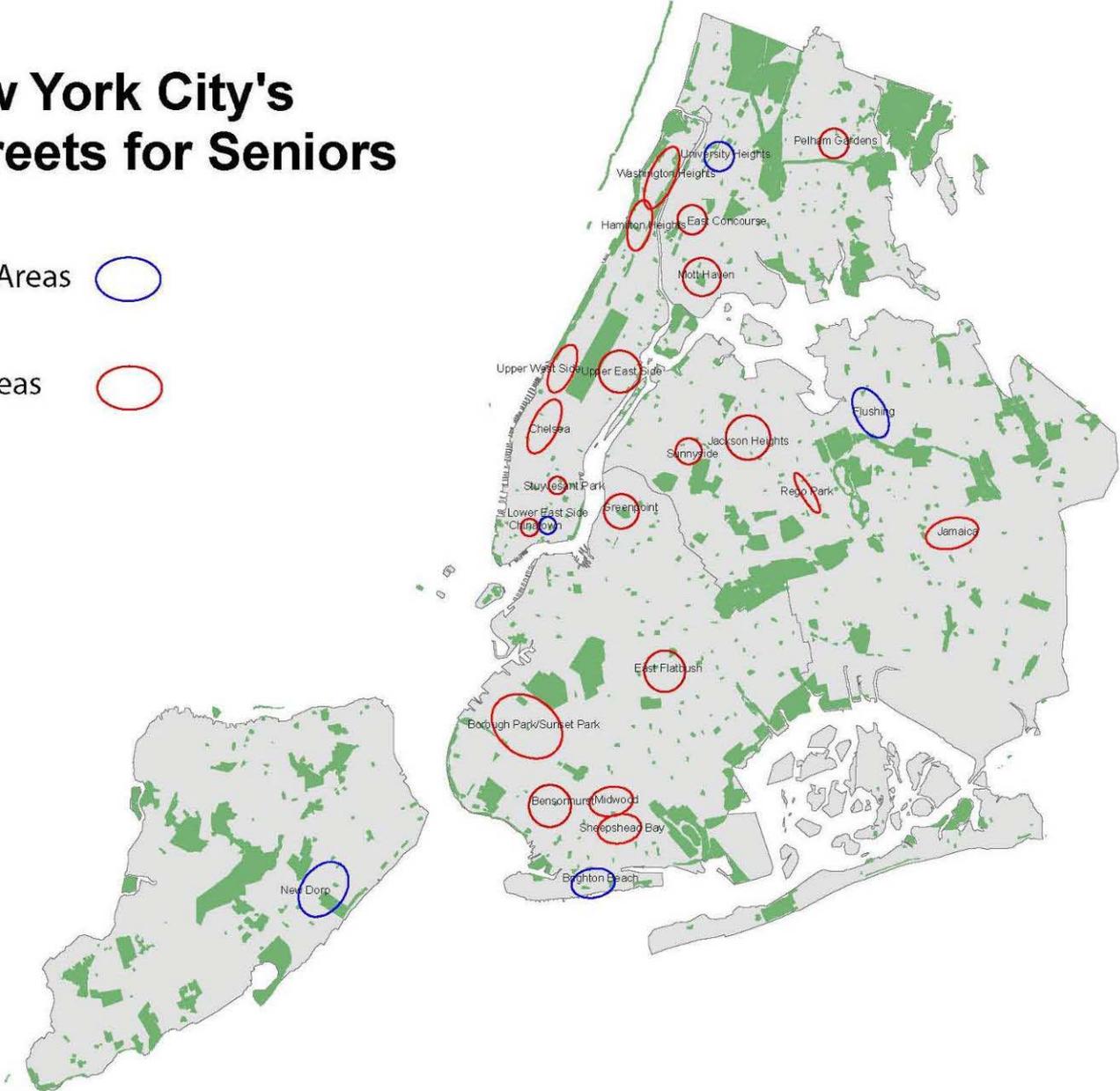
# NYCDOT Response

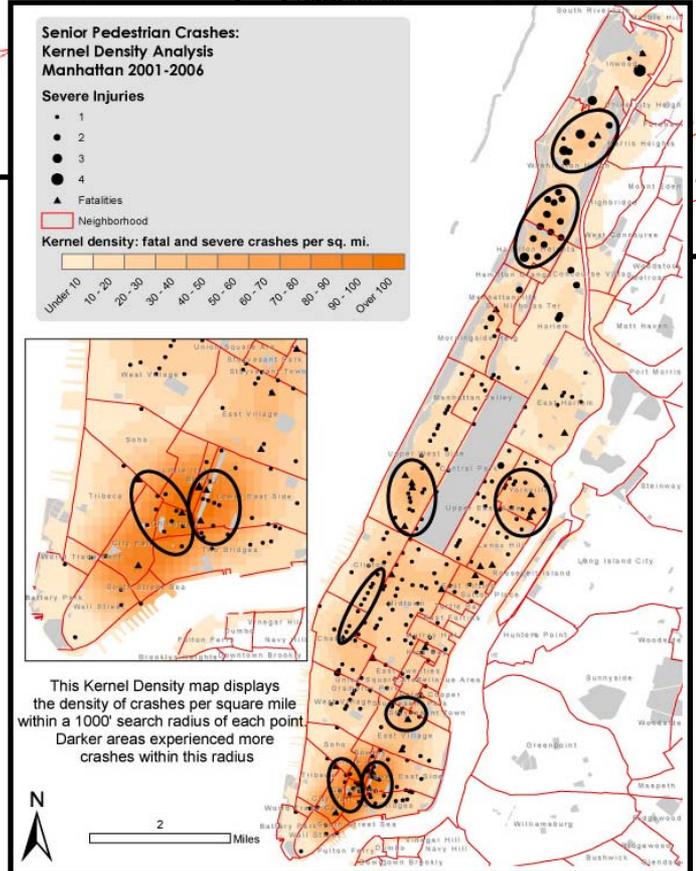
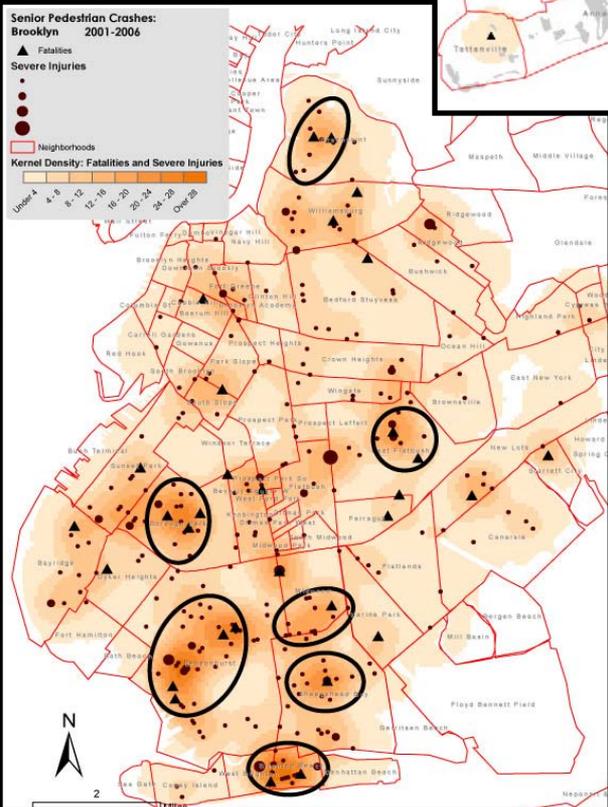
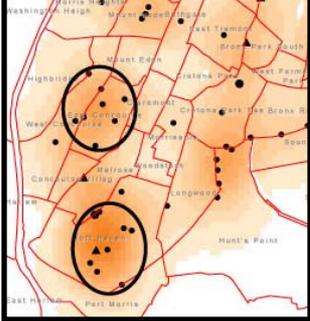
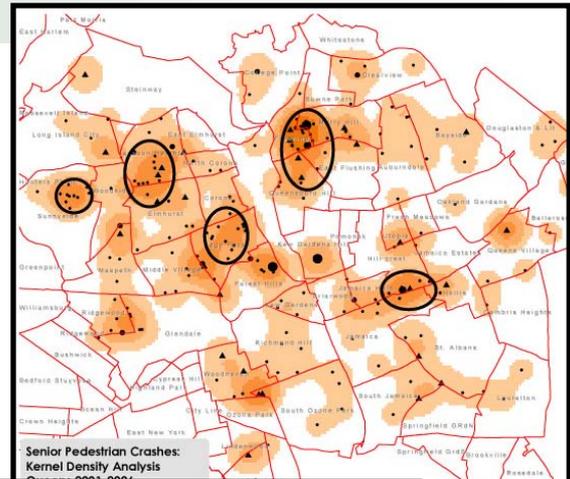
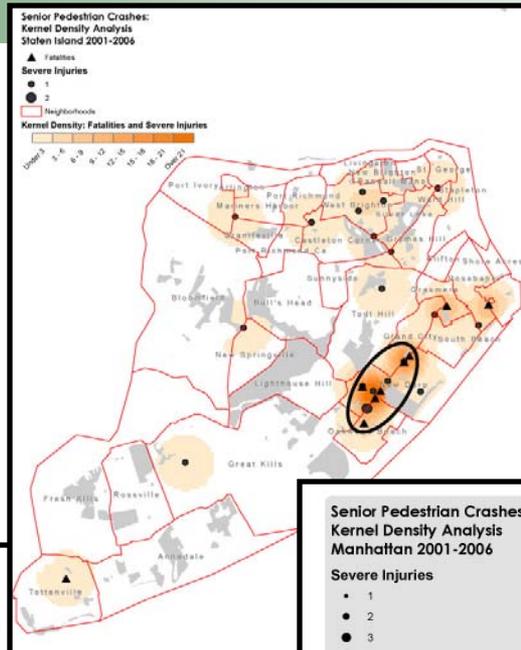
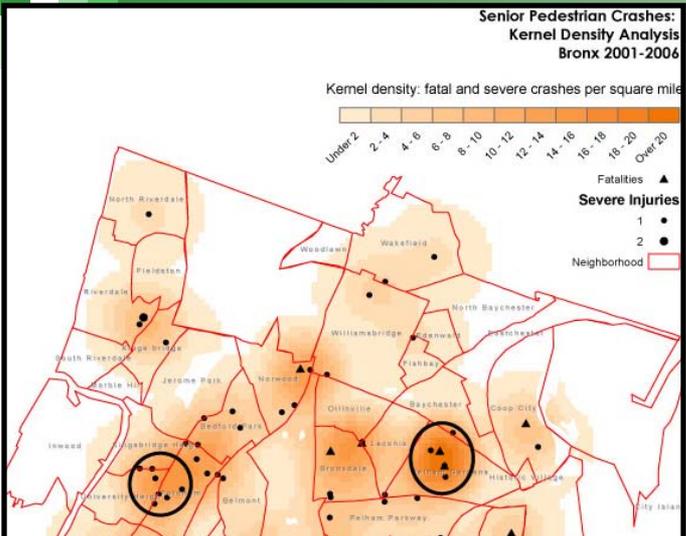
- Developed DOT's senior pedestrian safety program
- Designated "Senior Pedestrian Focus Areas" based on statistical analysis and mapping
- Initiated pilot projects in each borough
- Created aggressive timeline for remaining focus areas

# New York City's Safe Streets for Seniors

2008 Pilot Areas 

Phase 2 Areas 







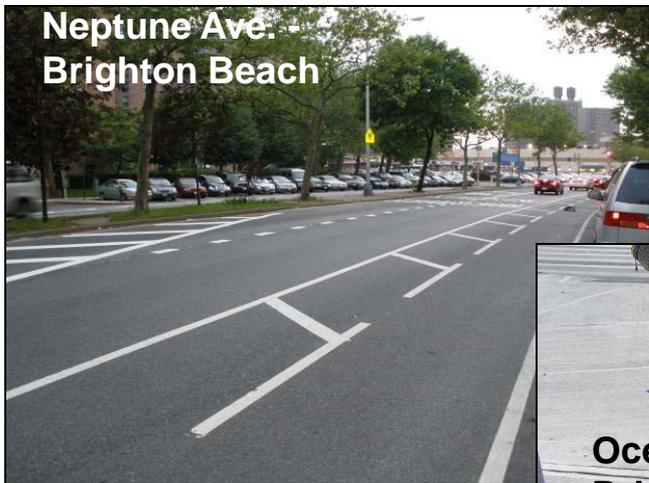
# Project Process

- Area-wide safety audits
- Senior surveys
- Data collection and analysis
- Proposed improvement measures
- Community feedback
- Final recommendations
- Implementation
- Education outreach
- Evaluation



# Senior Pedestrian Issues

- Not enough time to cross the street
- Broken or missing pedestrian ramps
- Faded and hard-to-see markings
- Turning vehicles failing to yield
- Poor drainage or ponding in crosswalks





## Brighton Beach Senior Focus Area

Ocean Parkway & Neptune Avenue

Brooklyn, 2008



## Flushing Senior Focus Area

Main Street & Kissena Boulevard  
Queens, 2008



## Lower East Side Senior Focus Area

Chrystie St. and Delancey St.  
Manhattan, 2008





## Lower East Side Senior Focus Area

Chrystie St. and Delancey St.

Manhattan, 2008



## Lower East Side Senior Focus Area

Forsyth St. and Delancey St.  
Manhattan, 2008





**BEFORE**

# Fordham Road

## Pedestrian Safety Improvements

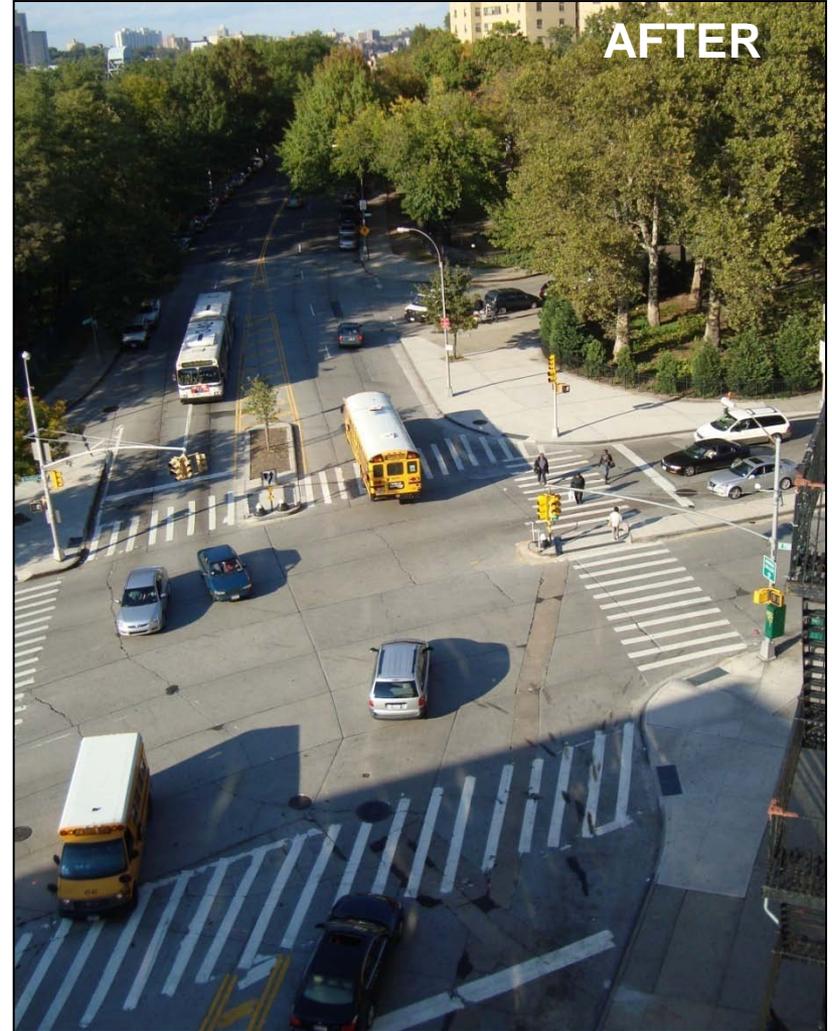
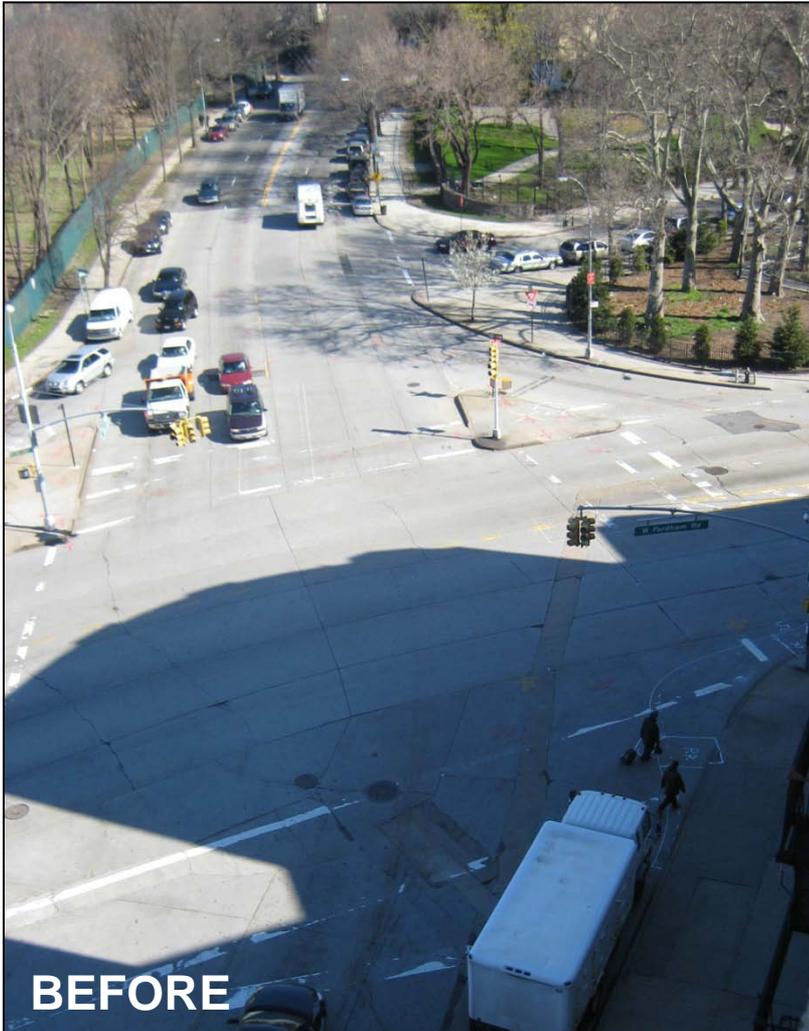
Bronx, 2009



**AFTER**

# Sedgwick Avenue & Fordham Road Intersection Redesign

Bronx, 2009





# Progress:

- 26 pedestrian refuge islands to provide safer crossings
- 600 Intersections with more time to cross the street
- 55 new left turn lanes to better manage traffic
- 13 turn restrictions to reducing pedestrian-vehicle conflicts
- 11 Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPis) to provide conflict free crossing time
- 12 curb extensions to shorten crossing distances
- 8 median tip extensions to provide safer crossings
- 2 full planted medians to enhance streetscape and provide safer crossings
- 8 roadways narrowed to calm traffic
- 3 pedestrian areas to give pedestrians more street space
- 7 painted medians to slow traffic
- 4 pedestrian fences to encourage pedestrians to use crosswalks
- 3 new traffic signals to provide more crossing opportunities



# Before and After Key Findings

- **Brighton Beach:** All crashes with injuries decreased by 19%
- **Flushing:** All crashes with injuries decreased by 19%, pedestrian crashes decreased by 9%
- **Lower East Side:** Pedestrian crashes decreased by 19%
- **Hylan/New Dorp:** All crashes decreased by 47%; pedestrian crashes decreased by 60%
- **Fordham/University Heights:** All crashes decreased by 29%; pedestrian crashes decreased by 25%
- **For all areas:** Non-pedestrian motor vehicle crashes decreased between 23% and 46%



# Comments and Questions

Contact: Hillary Poole  
[HPoole@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:HPoole@dot.nyc.gov)

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/sidewalks/safeseniors.shtml>