West End Ave Corridor Safety

- 2 recent pedestrian fatalities on West End Ave
- In Manhattan Valley Senior Focus Area
- Near PS75 Priority School
- W 95th & 97th Streets and West End Ave handle traffic entering and leaving Henry Hudson Parkway
Recent Safety Enhancements

Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPIs) across West End Ave
- W 95th St: installed 7/22/14
- W 96th St: installed 5/5/08
- W 97th St: increased length 1/29/14

Left turns banned near PS75
- W 95th St: 7-9AM No westbound left turn: installed 7/15/14
- W 96th St: 7-9AM No westbound left turn: installed 12/20/12
Typical Cross Section

West End Ave from W 72\textsuperscript{nd} St to W 106\textsuperscript{th} St
West End Ave from W 72nd St to W 106th St

**EXISTING**

- Sidewalk
- 10’ Parking Lane
- 10’ Moving Lane
- 10’ Moving Lane
- 10’ Moving Lane
- 10’ Moving Lane
- 10’ Parking Lane

**PROPOSED**

- Sidewalk
- 13’ Wide Parking/Loading Lane
- 11’ Moving Lane
- 11’ Moving Lane
- 11’ Moving Lane
- 13’ Wide Parking/Loading Lane

12’ Turn Bays/Flush Median
Project Proposal

- Ban two left turns off West End Ave
  - Northbound left at W 97th St
  - Southbound left at W 95th St

- Construct four islands
  - North & south crosswalks: W 95th, W 97th Sts

- “4 to 3 Conversion”
  - Remove one lane in each direction
  - Mark wide parking lane stripe and flush center median with left turn bays (lengthen northbound left turn bay at W 96th St)

- Add curbside right turn lanes:
  - Southbound right at W 96th St
  - Northbound right at W 86th St

**Left Turn Volumes (1 hr)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>AM Peak</th>
<th>PM Peak</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W 97th St NB</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>W 95th St SB</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>43</td>
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Issue: Interrupted Through Movements

Existing Condition

- Double-parked vehicle
- Left-turning vehicle waiting for gap
- Autos moving thru
- Right lane vehicles change lanes twice
- Frequent lane changing
- No “good” through travel lane
• Normal activity doesn’t force lane changes
• One “good” through travel lane
• More orderly and predictable movements
Issue: Challenging Left Turns

1) Vehicles Approaching from Behind

2) Identifying Gap in Left Lane

3) ID’ing Gap in Right Lane
   (VISIBILITY HINDERED)

4) ID’ing Pedestrians in Crosswalk

Left Turning Motorist Have 4 Concerns

Existing Condition
Proposed Condition

Driver only needs ONE gap to turn; can then look at crosswalk

Only 2 Points of Focus and No Visibility Problem

Vehicles from behind in different lane
W 95<sup>th</sup> – W 97<sup>th</sup> Sts

West End Ave W 95<sup>th</sup> St – W 97<sup>th</sup> St

– Handles regional HHP traffic
– Heavy turning volume onto WEA from W 95<sup>th</sup> & W 97<sup>th</sup> Streets
– Left turn bays at W 95<sup>th</sup> and W 97<sup>th</sup> Sts are underutilized
W 95th, W 97th Sts: Wide turns

- Zigzag left turns from/to highway

- Underutilized left turn bays encourage fast wide turns on to West End Ave
West End Ave at W 95th and W 97th Sts

- Ban northbound left at W 97th St, Ban southbound left at W 95th St

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Benefits of Proposal: W 95th, W 97th Sts

- Slower turns on to West End Ave
- Discourages double left turns
Existing: W 97th St
Proposed: W 97th St

Install Pedestrian Islands

Remove Parking W/S W 97th – 96th Sts
Existing: W 95th St
Proposed: W 95th St

Install Pedestrian Islands
W 95th St (Riverside to West End)

- Existing: No Parking 8am-6pm M-F on south curb; Speed hump mid-block
- Proposed: Restore parking on south curb
- Study completed for second speed hump
- Extended repaving to W 72\textsuperscript{nd} St
- Studying feasibility of adding improvements at W 72\textsuperscript{nd} and 79\textsuperscript{th} Streets
  - W 72\textsuperscript{nd} St island in west crosswalk if eastbound left is banned
  - W 79\textsuperscript{th} St island in north crosswalk if southbound left is banned

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<tr>
<td>106 AM</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
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<td>106 PM</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>186</td>
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<tr>
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Refinements Based on Community Feedback

- Added single southbound lane takeoff from Broadway at W 107th St
- Riverside Dr service road will be allowed to exit to mainline at W 104th St
- East Side trailblazer signs being posted
  - W 94th St & Amsterdam: installed
  - W 96th St & Amsterdam: pending completion of construction
- Protected left turn phase at West End Ave and W 96th St under study
Benefits of Proposal

• Proposed safety improvements in fatality locations
• Safer, shorter crossings
• Reduces speeding and calms traffic
• Simpler, safer left turns
• Wide curb lane organizes street, reduces unnecessary lane changes

Crashes with Injuries -31%

Existing Conditions: West End Ave at W 98th St

Example of Proposed Configuration: W 6th St, Brooklyn
Ped Islands: Beautification Options

- West End Ave sewers may be too close to install trees on islands
- Planters are possible if CB/CM can find maintenance partners
- Urban Art installation is another possibility
Next Steps

- Collect community feedback
- Finalize project implementation schedule
nyc.gov/dot

Thank You

Contact: Manhattan Borough Commissioner’s Office (212) 839-6210