
NORTHWEST BRONX SCHOOL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

COMMUNITY BOARD 8 - TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

PROJECT ID: HWX406
RIVERDALE AND WOODLAWN
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

PROJECT UPDATES

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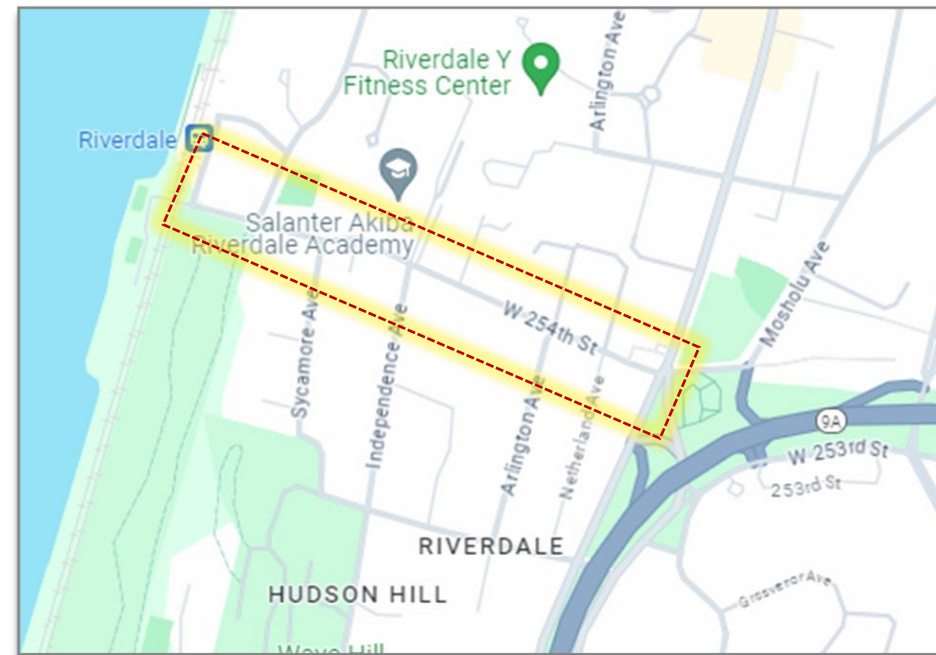
STREET ACQUISITION



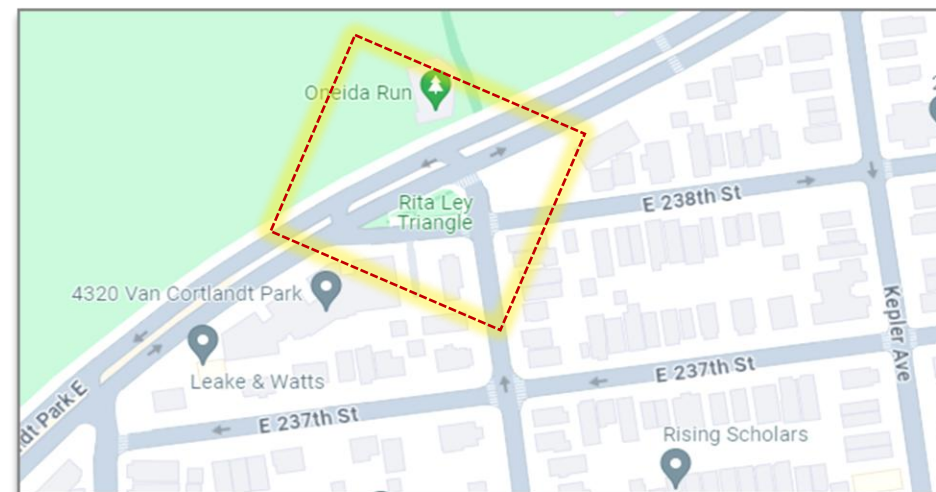
BACKGROUND

School Safety Capital Project

- Improve pedestrian safety and accessibility near two schools and Metro-North.
 - Salanter Akiba Riverdale (SAR) Academy on West 254th Street
 - Judith K. Weiss Woodlawn School (P.S. 19) on East 237th Street
- Project Locations
 - Location 1 – West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue
Palisade Avenue from West 254th Street to West 255th Street
 - Location 2 – Van Cortlandt Park East and East 238th Street



Location 1 – West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue



Location 2 – Van Cortlandt Park East and East 238th Street

BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Existing Street Conditions

- West 254th Street is used by SAR Academy students to access school
- West 254th Street also leads into the Metro-North Riverdale Train Station
- Missing sidewalks and curbs
- Poor roadway surfaces
- Lack of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- Poor visibility



TEMPORARY IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

Interim Improvements in 2023

- Temporary pedestrian path along north curb to provide safer access for students and local residents
- All-way stop controlled intersections and new crosswalks on West 254th Street at Sycamore Avenue and at Independence Avenue
- Flexible delineators, granite blocks, and planters added as protection for pedestrians
- Potential future adjustments: replacing some of the granite blocks with jersey barriers



BACKGROUND

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue

Existing Sewer and Watermain Conditions

- Water main installed in the 1920s showing signs of aging
- Existing sewers exhibit cracks and defects
- Undersized sewers on West 254th Street from Independence Avenue to Palisade Avenue
- Undersized sewer on Palisade Avenue between West 254th Street and West 255th Street



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th Street from Railroad
Terrace to Arlington Avenue

DOT Capital Project Improvements

- Streetscape amenities – street trees, planting strip (street tree removals and plantings)
- Upgraded infrastructure - street lighting, signage
- No reduction in traffic flow capacity

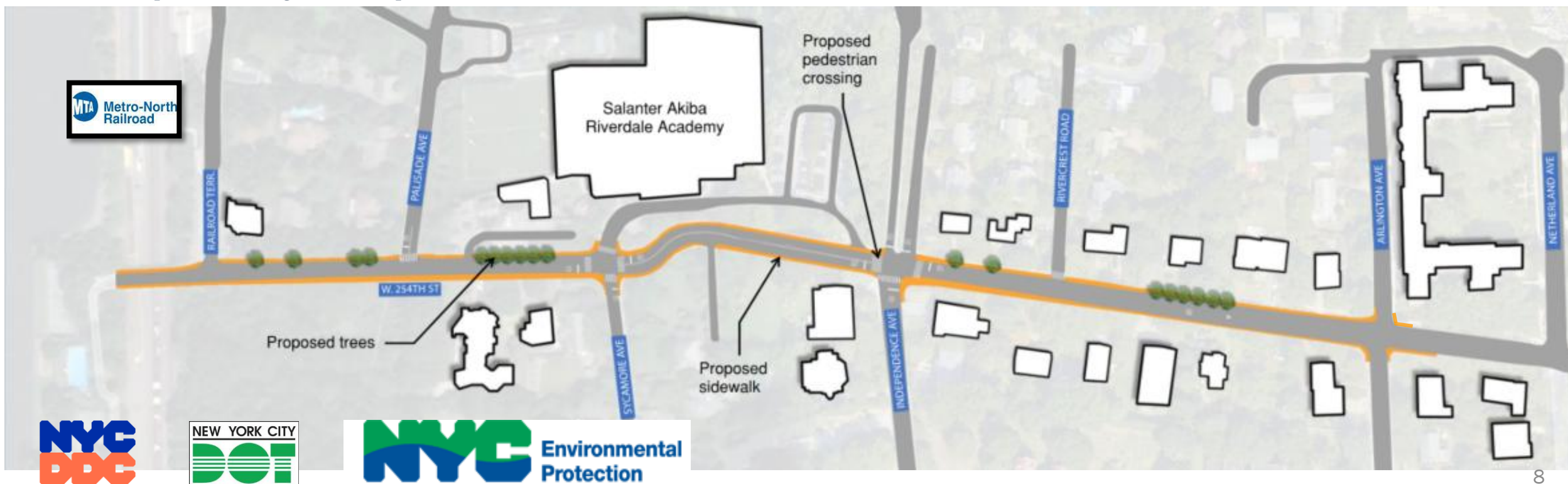


PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Arlington Avenue

DOT Capital Project Improvements

- Full roadway reconstruction with one 12 ft travel lane in each direction
- Continuous 5' to 8' sidewalks on both roadway sides
- ADA compliant pedestrian ramps and crosswalks



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

West 254th Street from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue

DEP Sewer and Water Main Improvements

- Water main replacement and upsized for 3200 LF from Railroad Terrace to Riverdale Avenue
- New sanitary and storm sewers, both spanning approximately 1300 LF from Palisade Avenue to east of Rivercrest Road
- New sewer for 450 LF on Palisade Avenue from West 254th Street to West 255th Street
- New catch basins and green infrastructure practices for capturing stormwater



NEW SEWERS

NEW WATER MAINS

DESIGN PROGRESS

Mass Mailing 1

- Design package was distributed to relevant agencies and private utilities on July 24, 2025.

Alignment Meeting

- Held on August 25, 2025.

Trees

- Approximately 19 trees to be removed along West 254th Street for design purposes.
- The current design includes the planting of 21 new trees along West 254th Street.

Street Lighting

- Coordination with Con Edison for the wood pole relocation.
- Progressing on the lighting calculations to ensure lighting levels upgraded to Vision Zero Requirements.

Maintenance and Protection of Traffic

- Construction is anticipated to proceed block by block, maintaining one-way traffic flow where feasible and detouring vehicles traveling in the opposite direction
- Coordination with MTA Metro-North to develop and implement bus detour routing.

Landmarks Preservation Commission

- Submitted LPC report on August 8, 2025.



NEXT STEPS

Private Utilities

- Continue coordination with Private Utilities.

Trees along Palisade Avenue

- Perform tree inventory, mitigation and propose new tree plantings.
- Schedule a walkthrough with Parks Forestry.

Street Lighting

- Coordinate with NYCDOT Street Lighting for review and plan approval.

Maintenance and Protection of Traffic

- Continued development of MPT plans to minimize traffic disruptions during construction.
- Coordination with NYCDOT Office of Construction Mitigation and Coordination to approve MPT plans and traffic stipulations.

Land Acquisition

- Acquisition Community Outreach Fall 2025.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

- Develop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) package and coordinate with DDC Office of Environmental and Hazmat Services.

PROJECT MILESTONES

Estimated timelines are subject to change as project is still in design.

- July 2025 – 40% Design Plans Complete
- Late 2025 / Early 2026 – 75% Design Plans Complete
- Summer 2026 – 100% Design Plans Approval
- Early Fall 2026 – Advertise Bid
- Fall 2026 – Bid Opening
- Spring 2027 – Award Contract
- Summer 2027 – Start Construction
- Summer 2030 – Construction Completion

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- **DDC's Office of Community Outreach + Notification (OCON)** works with CB's, BID's, local businesses, and other community stakeholders impacted by construction.
- DDC will assign a dedicated on-site Community Construction Liaison (CCL). The CCL information will be provided at the pre-Construction phase.

Field Office Hours: 7AM to 3:30PM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (continued)

Community Construction Liaison (CCL) responsibilities are as follows:

- First point of contact, maintain on-site presence and communications
- Identify, resolve and/or proactively address issues and inquiries
- Distribute advisories and weekly construction activities newsletter
- Provide 72-hour and 24-hour (confirmation or cancellation) advisories for work impacts by email and door to door
- Attend community board monthly district service cabinet meetings

PROJECT INFORMATION CARD

**Department of
Design and
Construction**

Office of Community Outreach & Notification

COMMUNITY ADVISORY

**INSTALLATION OF DISTRIBUTION WATER MAINS AND APPURTENANCES ALONG
SOUTHERN BOROUGH**

PROJECT: HED553 **BOROUGH:** The Bronx **DATE:** July 13, 2018

NO CURBSIDE PARKING

On Southern Boulevard (west side) between

Jennings Street and Louis Nine Boulevard

Monday, 07/16/18 – Friday, 08/31/18

7-days a week 24-hours a day (including weekends)

Please be advised that beginning on/ or about Monday, July 16, 2018 (through Friday, August 31, 2018 (weather and/or field conditions permitting), there will be "No Curbside Parking" on Southern Boulevard (west side) between Jennings Street and Louis Nine Boulevard due to the anticipated excavation and installation of the 48" Trunk Main.

Traffic/Community Impacts:

- Contact the CCJ, Sonia Quinones, or the 42nd Precinct for the towing or relocation list.
- Emergency vehicles and Police/param access will be maintained at all times.
- Driveway access will be maintained at all times.
- Gas, electric, telephone, and cable service will not be interrupted.

• Certain operations will be noisy. DDC will monitor operations and work within the DEP Noise Code regulations.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to unforeseen conditions (weather and/or field conditions permitting), it may become necessary to change some scheduled work locations and operations.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to be added to the electronic neighborhood Notification Network (NNN) list, please contact the Community Communication Unit (CCU), Sonia Quinones, at 718.622-0073, or by email at sonia.quinones@nyc.gov

EM or Elio or
Major

Ann Stern
Asst. Commissioner

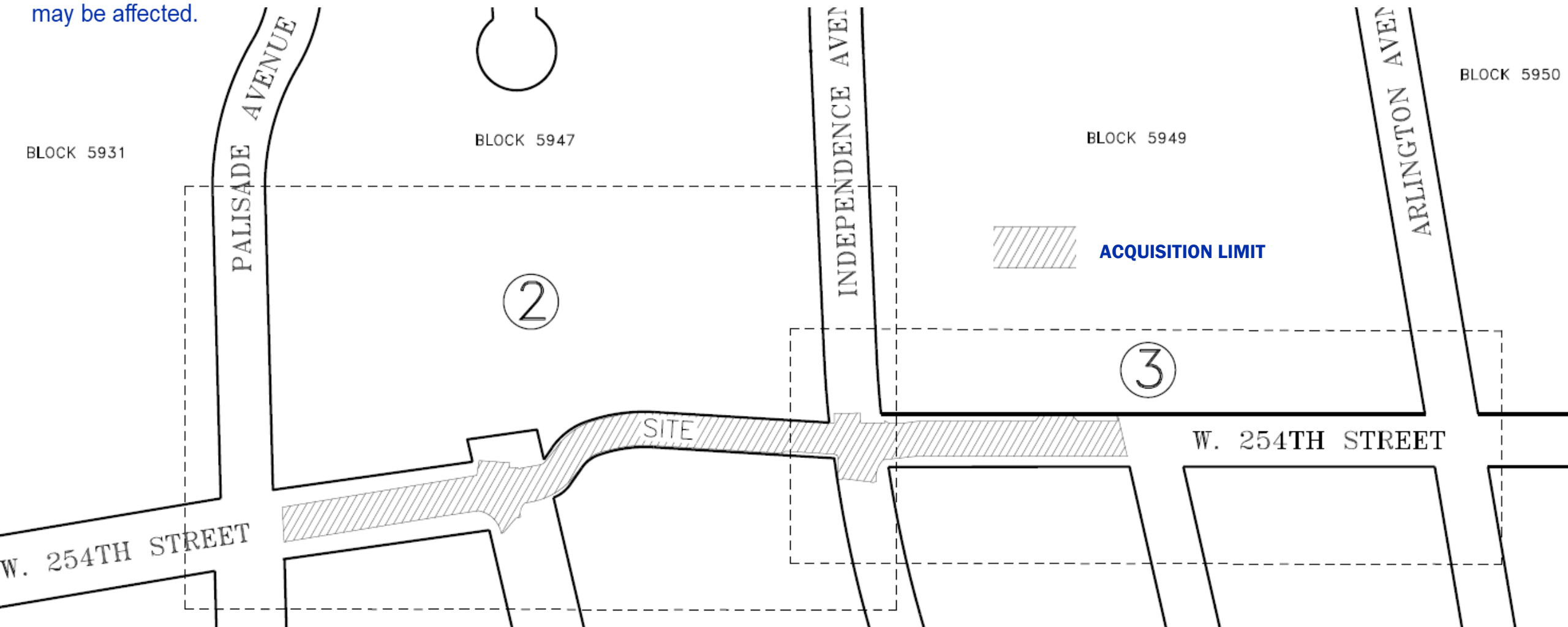
www.nyc.gov/dotc

STREET ACQUISITION



The City is acquiring **W. 254th Street**, extending from Palisade Avenue to Blackstone Avenue, along with portions of the following parcels: Block 5947, Lot 1; Block 5949, Lots 265, 268, and 271; Block 5942, Lot 298; Block 5939, Lots 399 and 410; and Block 5937, Lot 493, totaling **1,654 square feet**.

This acquisition is required to accommodate the construction of a new street alignment that extends beyond the existing roadway, curbs, and sidewalks. As part of the process, portions of these lots and any private improvements located within the mapped street right-of-way may be affected.



STREET ACQUISITION

City is acquiring portions of lots along W. 254th Street, extending from Independence Avenue to Blackstone Avenue.

The image below shows the street acquisition limits on the Damage and Acquisition Map, highlighting the portions of lots being acquired.

A table on the right provides property details along with the square footage of the area being acquired.



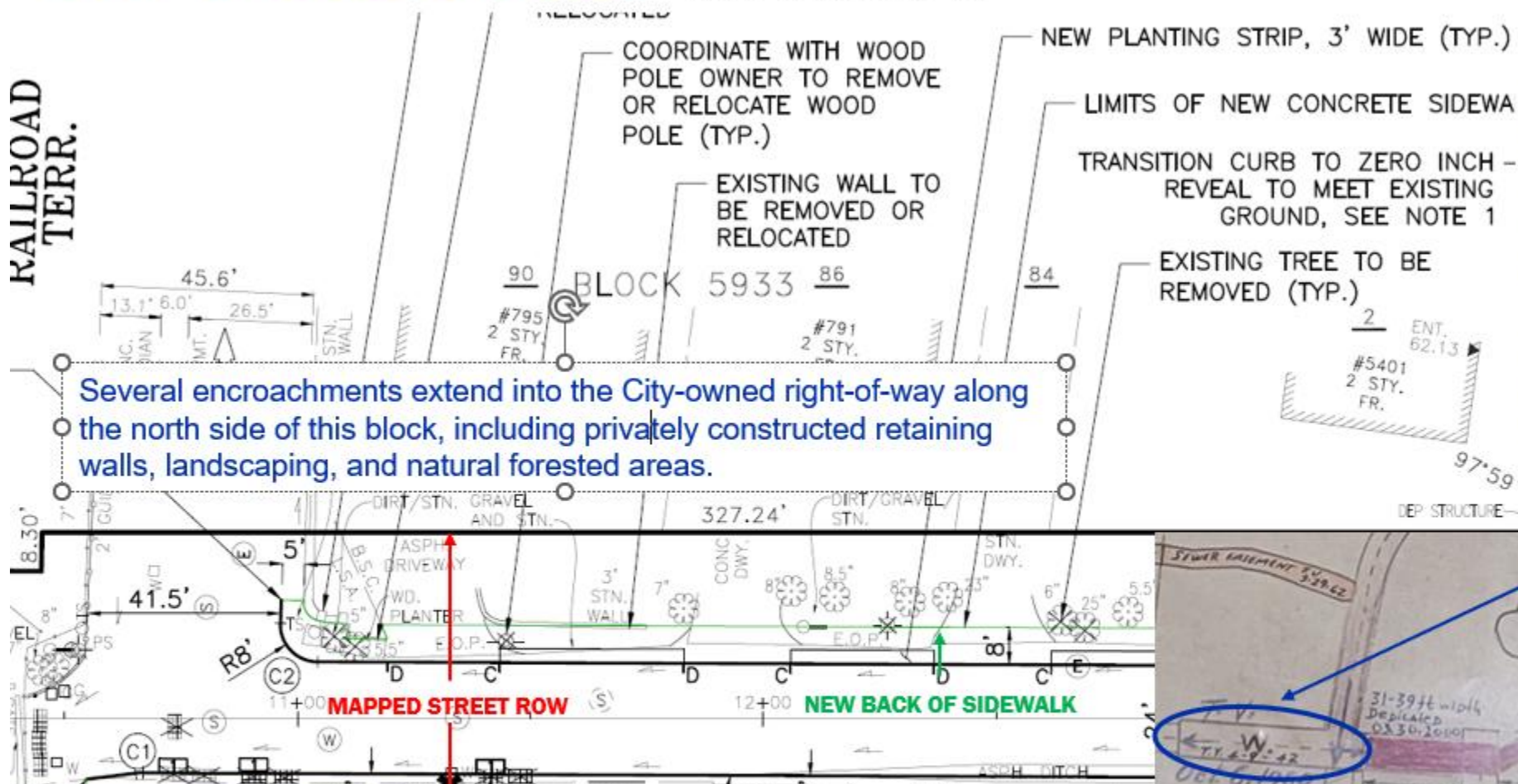
DAMAGE PARCEL NO.	BLOCK NO.	LOT NO.	REPUTED OWNER(S)	AREA IN SQ. FEET	
				TAKEN	REMAINING
1	5947	1	SAR ACADEMY	460	211,535
2-1	5949	271	SAFDIE, ABRAHAM HALVEY, JENNA	4	7,756
2-2				96	
3	5949	268	SCHORR JUDAH	302	8,006
4	5949	265	NORINSBERG, JON	368	9,663
7	5942	298	R SCHWARTZ	179	10,949
8	5939	410	5297 LLC	3	30,133
9	5939	399	MARTIN, Yael MARTIN, JONATHAN SCHILLER, Yael	18	14,396
10	5937	493	WALTERS, SUZANNE	224	7,854
TOTAL:				1,654	



CITY-OWNED STREET



RAILROAD
TERR.



Several encroachments extend into the City-owned right-of-way along the north side of this block, including privately constructed retaining walls, landscaping, and natural forested areas.

Certain segments within the project limits are located on City-owned streets.

The westernmost block, from Palisade Avenue to Railroad Terrace, was deeded to the City in 1942 with a width of 80 feet.

The easternmost block, from Blackstone Avenue to Arlington Avenue, was deeded to the City in 1960 with a width of 60 feet.



NORTH SIDE OF W. 254TH STREET FROM PALISADE AVENUE TO RAILROAD TERRACE

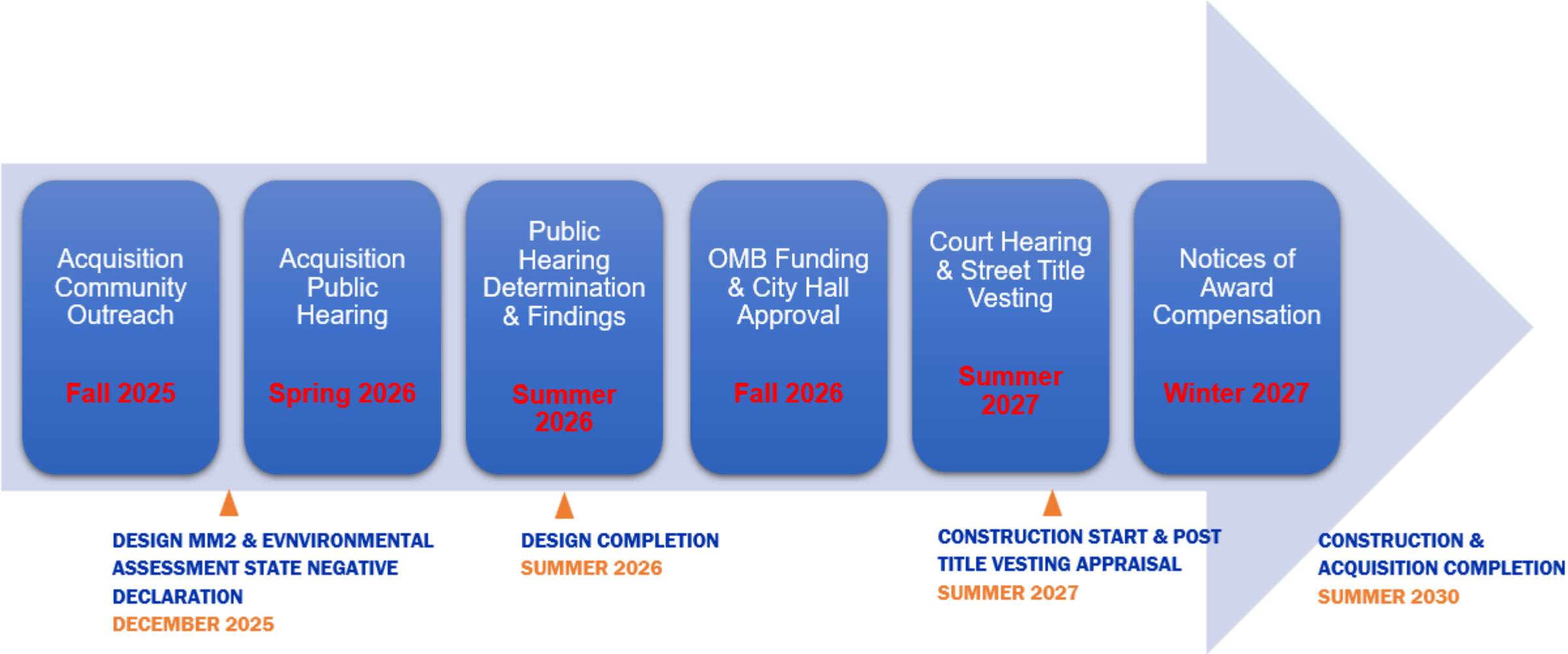


STREET LEGAL STATUS MAP

ACQUISITION MILESTONES



Acquisition process milestones and projected schedule, which is subject to change.



ACQUISITION PROCESS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Will the City condemn the property or lot?

The City will need to acquire portions of several lots, including areas of roadway, curb, sidewalk, and grass that extend into the mapped street within certain sections of the project.

2. How does the acquisition process affect the certain properties?

Lots impacted by the acquisition will have their tax lot dimensions adjusted. Adjacent lots not affected by the street acquisition will remain unchanged.

3. How does street reconstruction and street acquisition affected the property improvements or fixtures?

Property improvements or fixtures, such as fences, walls, or movable structures, that extend beyond the property lot line will be considered encroachments once the City takes ownership of the streets. Affected property owners will be notified and asked to remove these encroachments prior to the commencement of street work.

4. How will property owners be compensated for portion of lot taking or removed encroachments?

Acquired portions of the lots will be compensated based on the land's value. For encroachment fixtures, such as fences or walls, a licensed appraiser will assess their depreciated value on a case-by-case basis, depending on the location and type of the fixture. The NYC Law Department will issue a notice detailing the award amount for the land and/or encroachments. Property owners will be required to clear title to confirm rightful ownership before payment is made.

5. Contact for DDC Property Acquisition Unit?

John Isaac, Deputy Director at (718) 391-3173, Mian Faisal, Acquisition Coordinator at (718) 391-1367, Acquisition_Unit@ddc.nyc.gov.

Q & A

DDC Contact

Jahneille Edwards, Assistant Director
Intergovernmental Affairs
NYC Department of Design and Construction
718-391-3319
EdwardsJa@DDC.NYC.gov

THANK YOU