

A photograph of a road scene with several cyclists. In the foreground, a cyclist in a dark shirt is seen from behind. Further down the road, another cyclist in a white and black jersey is riding away. In the distance, a cyclist in an orange shirt is also riding away. The road is lined with trees and grass. On the left side of the road, there are several traffic signs: a red circular sign with a white horizontal bar and the text 'DO NOT ENTER', a smaller red sign below it with the text 'WRONG WAY', a white rectangular sign with a black arrow pointing right and the text 'ONE WAY', and another red circular sign with a white horizontal bar and the text 'DO NOT ENTER'. On the right side of the road, there is a white rectangular sign with the text 'EMERGENCY ROUTE' and 'ROAD SERVICE BY PERMIT ONLY'.

Project Status Update

Van Cortlandt Park South & Bailey Avenue: Phase 2

Community Board 8 Traffic and Transportation Committee

April 17, 2025



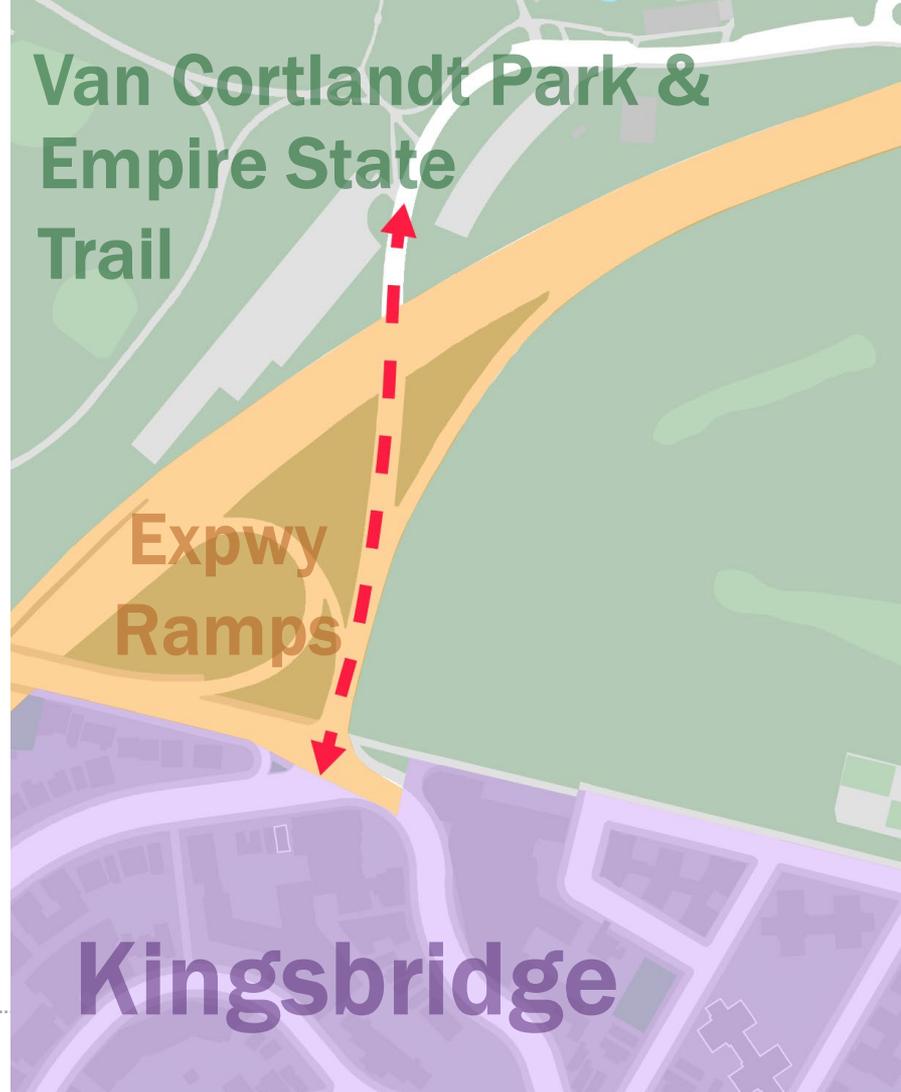
Previously Presented Summary

Pre-Project Implementation Conditions

Project Background

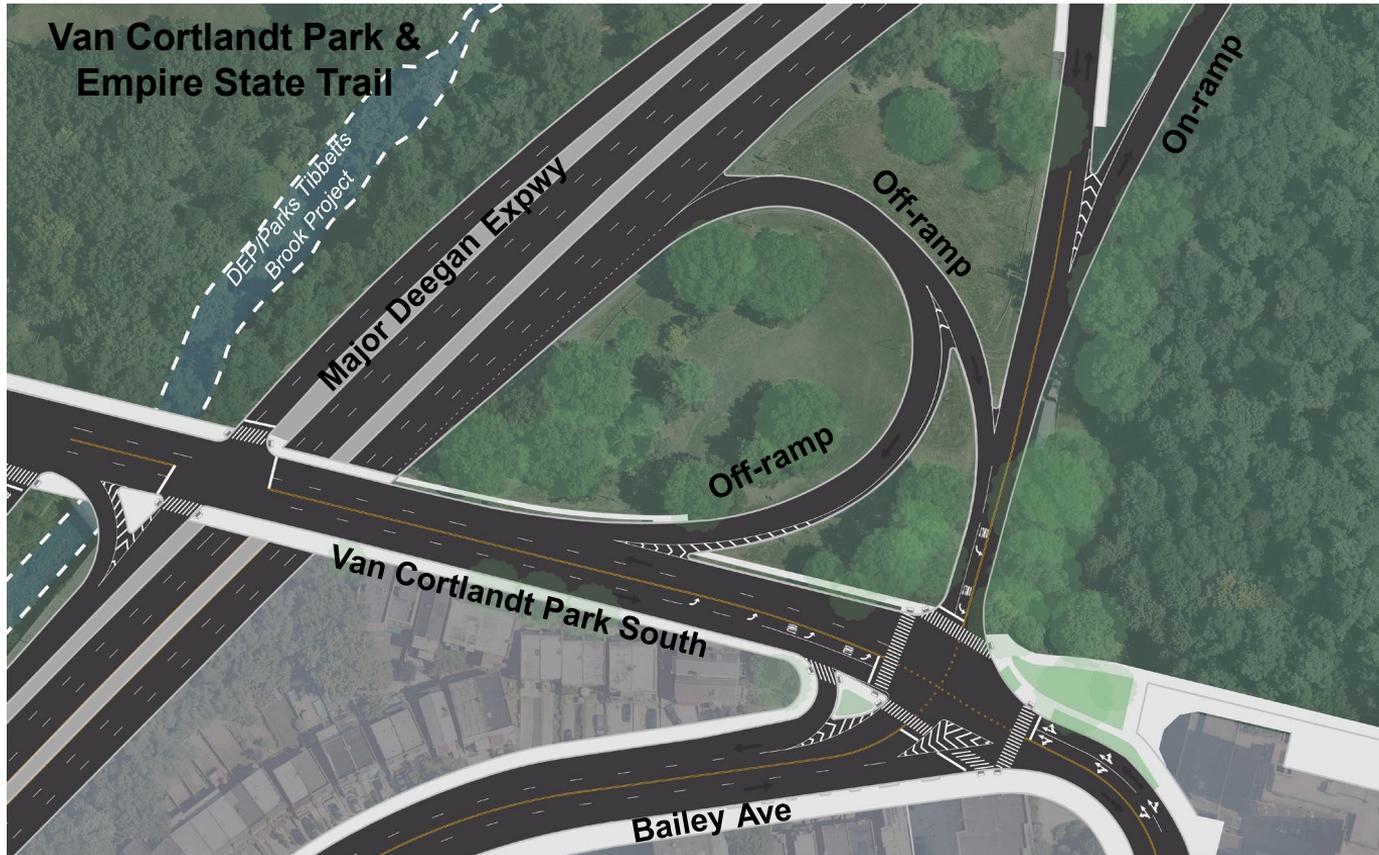
Missing Park Connection

- Park entrance inaccessible to pedestrians and bicycles due to Major Deegan Expressway on/off-ramps
- Over 100 pedestrians cross the expressway ramps during peak hour
- On-going Harlem River Greenway planning process
- Several nearby schools



Pre-Project Conditions

Full Plan Overview



Pre-Project Conditions

Lack of Pedestrian infrastructure

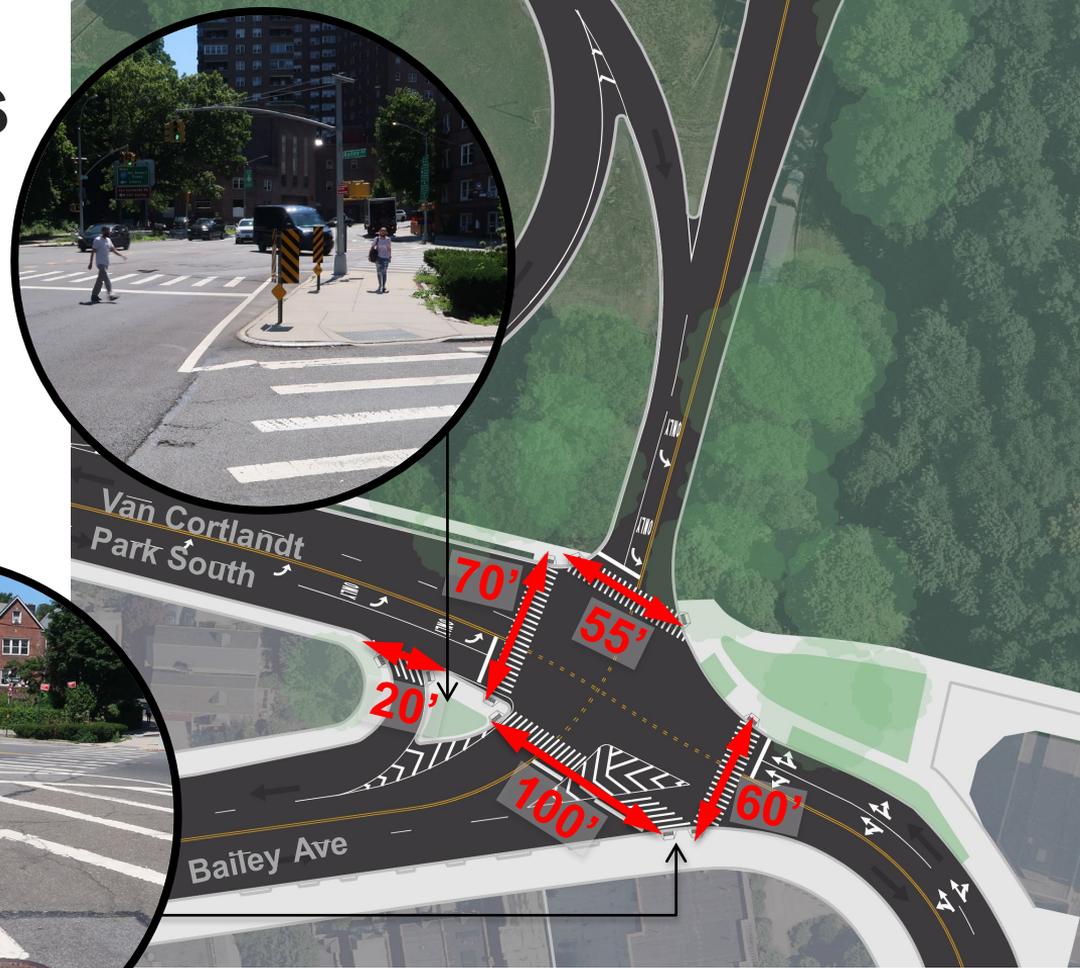
- Worn footpaths where there is no sidewalk
- Poor separation between street and sidewalk near park entrance
- No crosswalks at on- and off-ramps, located near pedestrian and bicyclist park entrances



Pre-Project Conditions

Long Crossing Distances at Bailey Ave & Van Cortlandt Park S

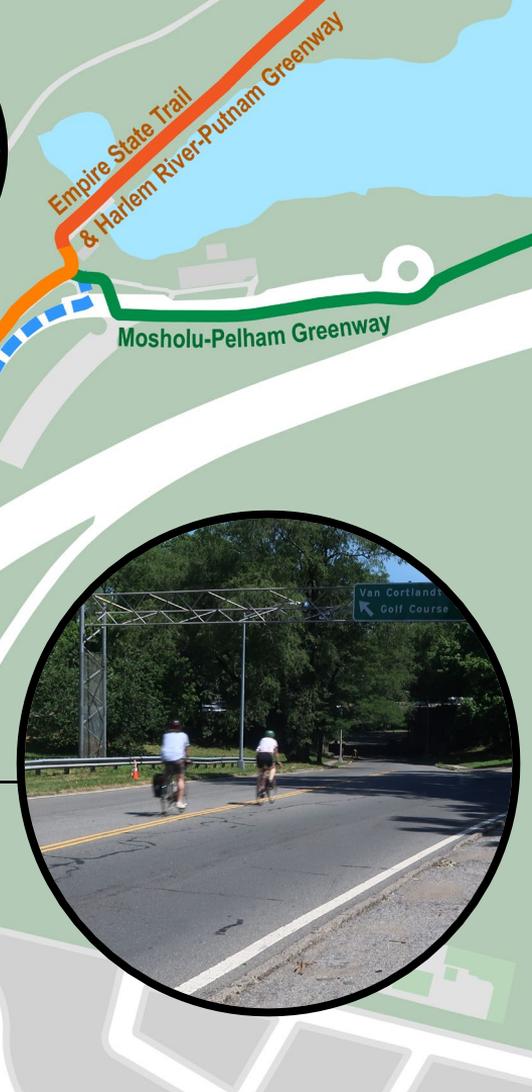
- Popular intersection between the Park and schools, libraries, and residential uses
- Pedestrians must cross three segments of traffic at Bailey Ave, 120' total
- Pedestrians cross through unprotected channelization



Pre-Project Conditions

Bike Conditions

- Popular bicycle route without connection to Park and Empire State Trail
- Bicyclists and vehicle conflict at expressway ramps



Pre-Project Conditions

Summary

- Long, unmarked pedestrian crossings
- Lack of crosswalks and other pedestrian infrastructure
- No bicycle connection to the Park and the Empire State Trail and Harlem River Putnam Greenway



Updates

Additional Project Background

Van Cortlandt Park/Northwest Bronx Neighborhood Planning Analysis

Near Term Outreach

Upcoming DOT Projects (2025)

- 1 Van Cortlandt Park S and Bailey Ave Phase 2*
- 2 Bailey Ave (Van Cortlandt Park E to W Fordham Rd)*
- 3 Jerome Ave and W 192nd St, 205th St
- 4 Reconstruction of Grand Concourse Phase 5 | In Construction

Other Agency Projects

- 5 MTA ADA Station Upgrades | In Construction
- 6 Tibbetts Brook Daylighting Project | DEP | Final Design*
- 7 Kingsbridge Armory Renovations | EDC | Pre-Design
- 8 Woodlawn Playground Reconstruction | DPR | Procurement
- 9 Northwest Bronx School Safety Improvements | DDC | Final Design

*Correlates with Harlem River Greenway Project

-  Area Being Explored for a Project
-  Community Board District
-  Open Street
-  DOT Plaza
-  Summer Street
-  Access Point to Van Cortlandt Park
-  Concentration of Educational/Medical Institutions
-  Commercial and Mixed Residential Area
-  Elevated Transportation Structure

Projects focused on major north-south corridors that connect between Manhattan/South Bronx and NW Bronx, including educational and medical institutions and Van Cortlandt Park



Project Background

Community Feedback during 2025 Harlem River Greenway Workshops

Van Cortlandt Park South
with the off ramps are very
challenging because of traffic

We (the Bronx) have the most
parks but lack equity to get to
them. Connect to Van Cortlandt
and to Empire State Trail

Excited to see improvements at Van
Cortlandt Park entrance - making it
easier to enter the park and avoid
conflicts with Major Deegan

great connection
to make to park

Update

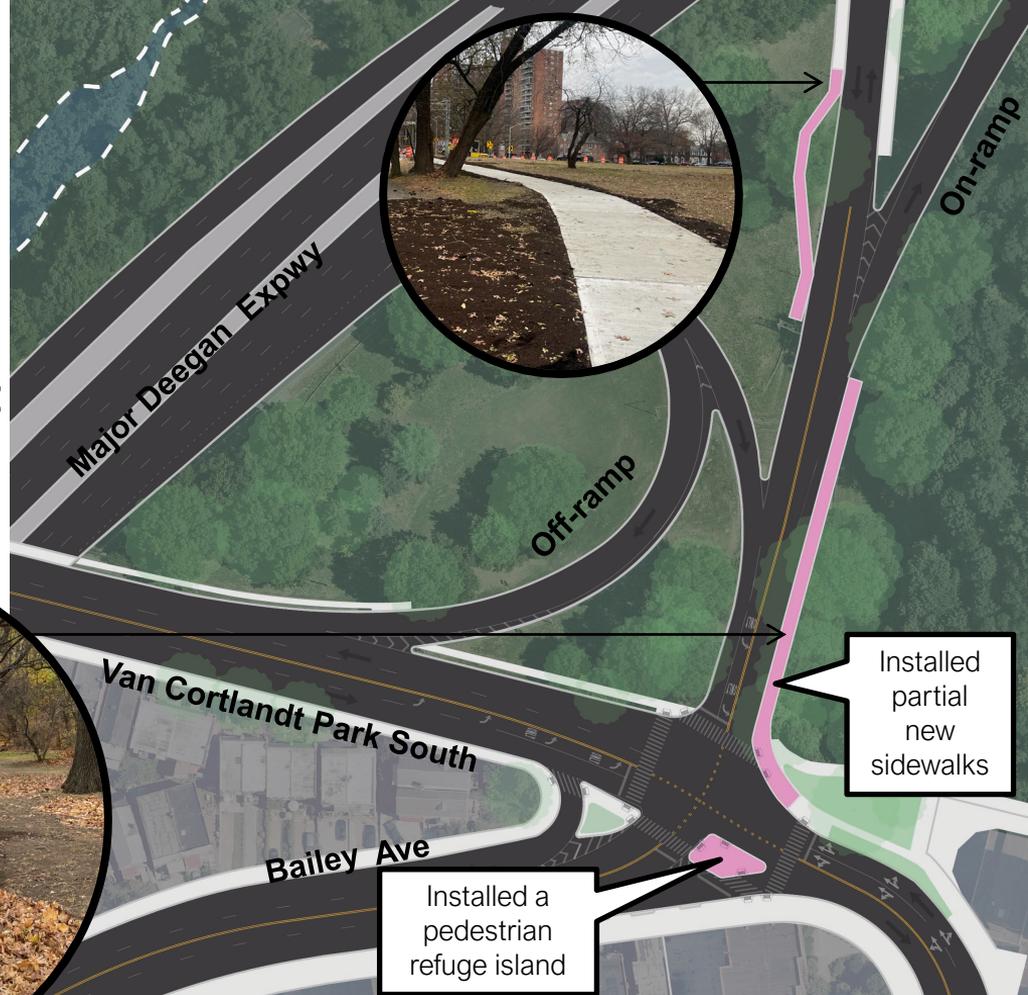
Phase 1: Completed

1

Phase 1 Completed

Fall 2024 Work Summarized

- To expedite completion of the project, NYC DOT installed Phase 1 in Fall 2024:
 - Sidewalk on the east and west side of the Park Drive
 - A pedestrian refuge island
 - Guiderail along the east curb



Installed partial new sidewalks

Installed a pedestrian refuge island

Update

Phase 2: Design + Implementation

2

Phase 2 Updates

State DOT Approved Design: Expressway Ramps

Off Ramps: Relocate and normalize intersection geometries

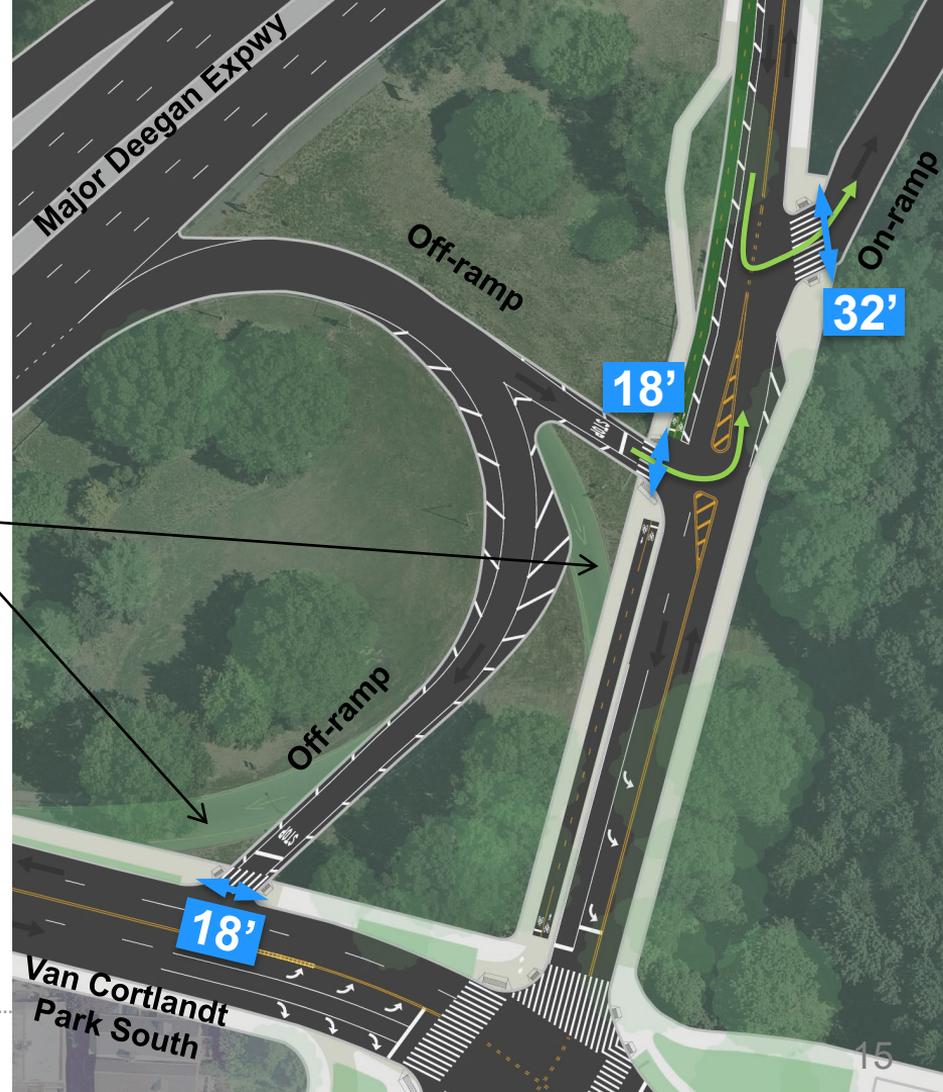
-  Add stop controls and pedestrian crossings
-  Legalize north ramp's left-turn to park
-  Integrate old ramps into existing vegetated area

On Ramp: Slow right turn movement

-  Add pedestrian crossing
-  Legalize left-turn onto ramp for passenger vehicles from park

Benefits:

- Calm vehicles exiting + entering the Expwy
- Reduce crossing distance
- Improve visibility at new crosswalks



Phase 2 Updates

Closed Slip Lane + Bx10 Bus Bulb + Right Turn Lane

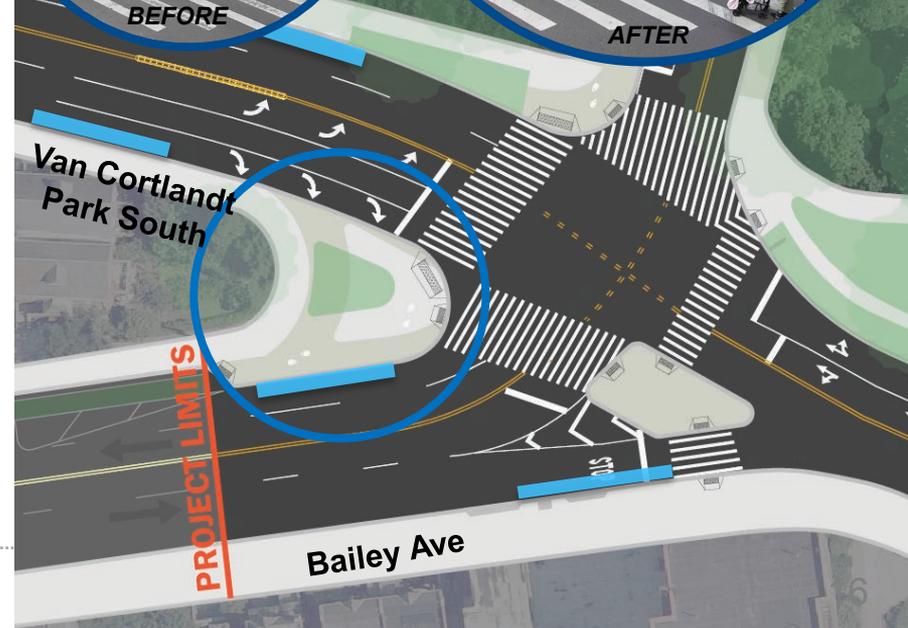
Changes:

Added a **right turn lane** in response to Community Board's concern raised at Feb 2024 meeting regarding vehicle queuing on Van Cortlandt Park S

Other Benefits:

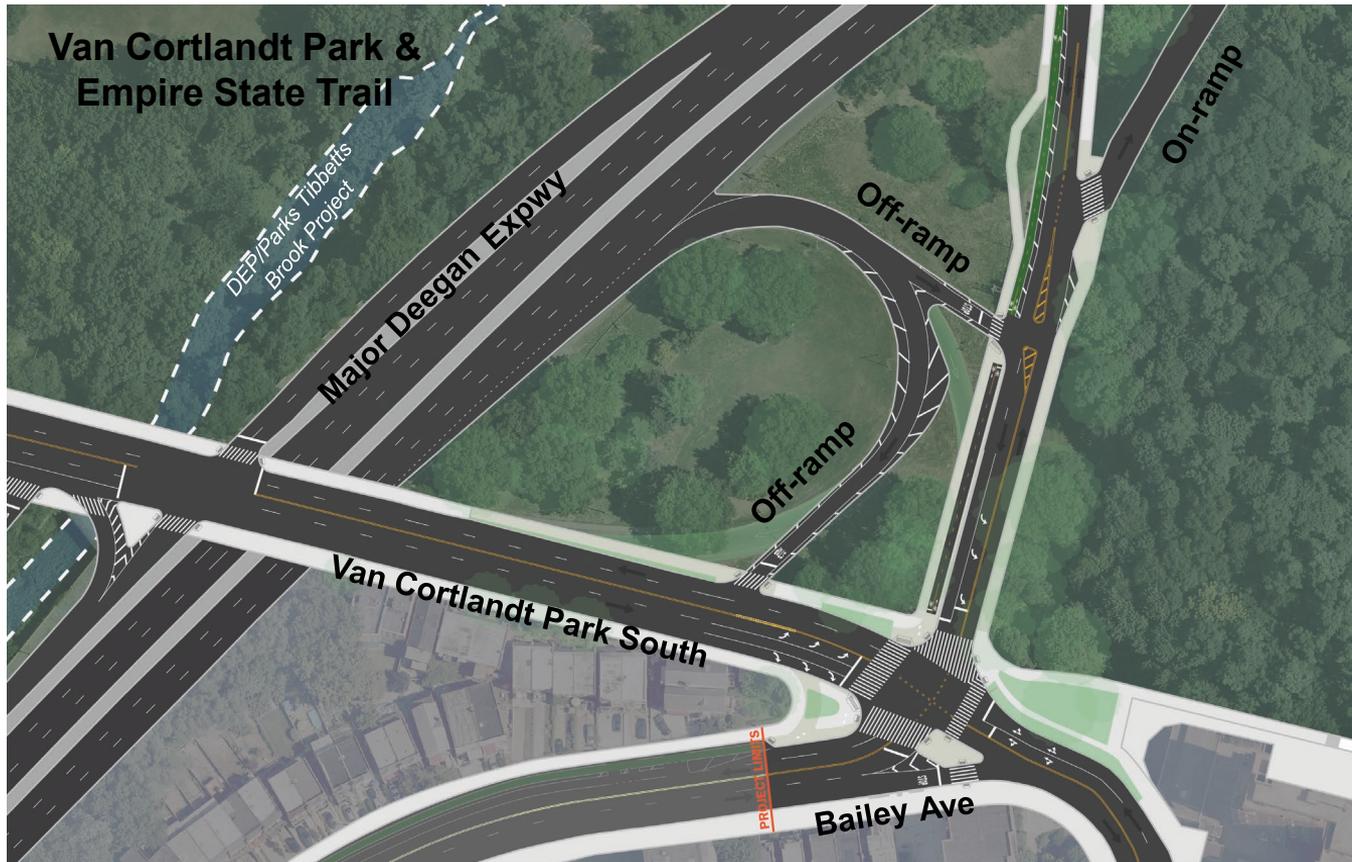
- Eliminates a conflict point between pedestrians, vehicles, and bicyclists
- Relocates crosswalk and creates a smaller intersection
- Improves pedestrian infrastructure near **bus stops**

EXAMPLE PROJECT:
BROADWAY, FLUSHING,
GRAHAM AVE, BROOKLYN



Project Proposal

Full Plan Overview



Other Nearby 2025 Project

Bailey Avenue Safety Project

- Project is being coordinated with the Bailey Avenue Safety Project to the south



Timeline

Next Steps



Thank You!



Questions?



NYCDOT



nyc_dot



nyc_dot

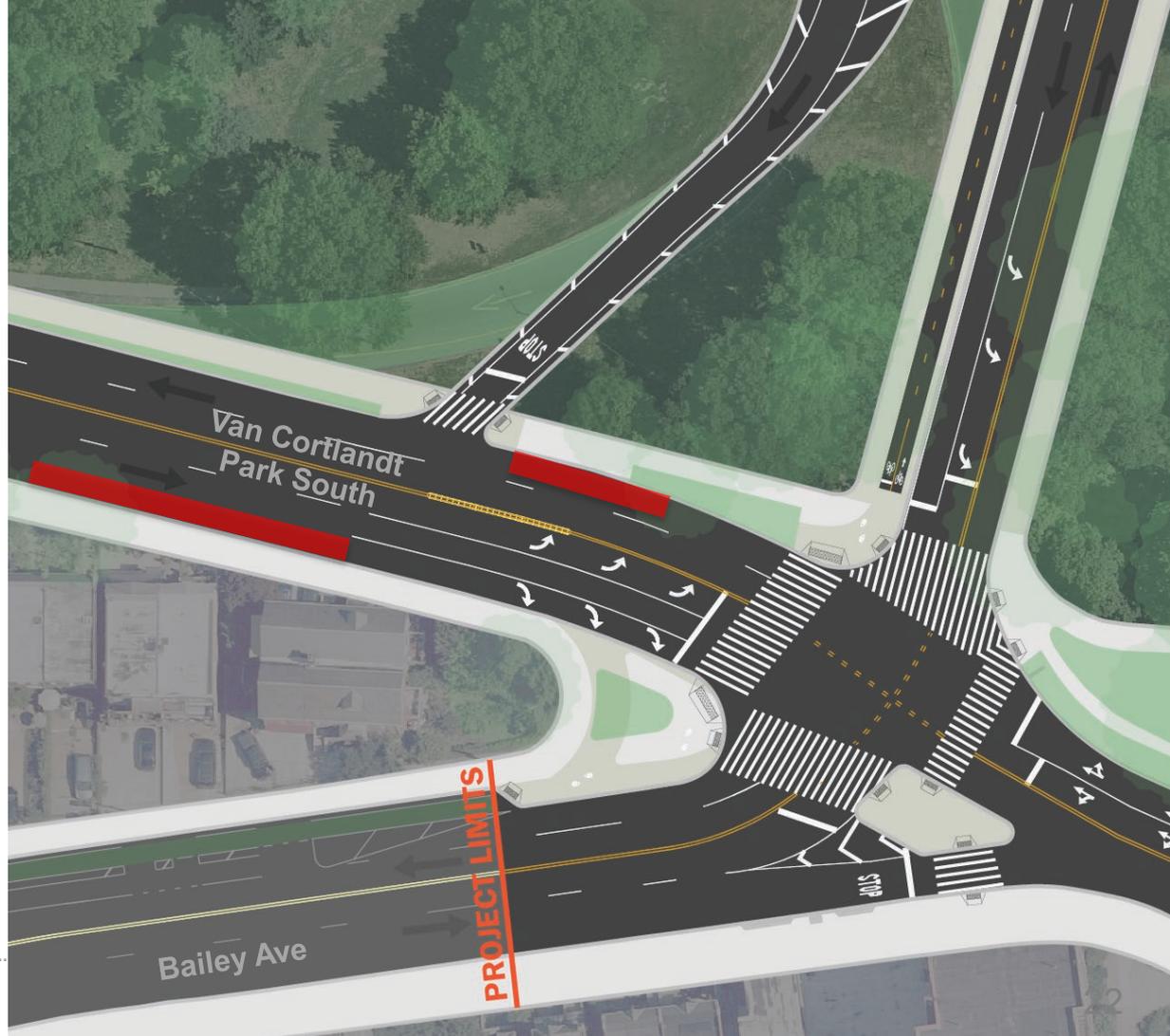


NYCDOT

Appendix

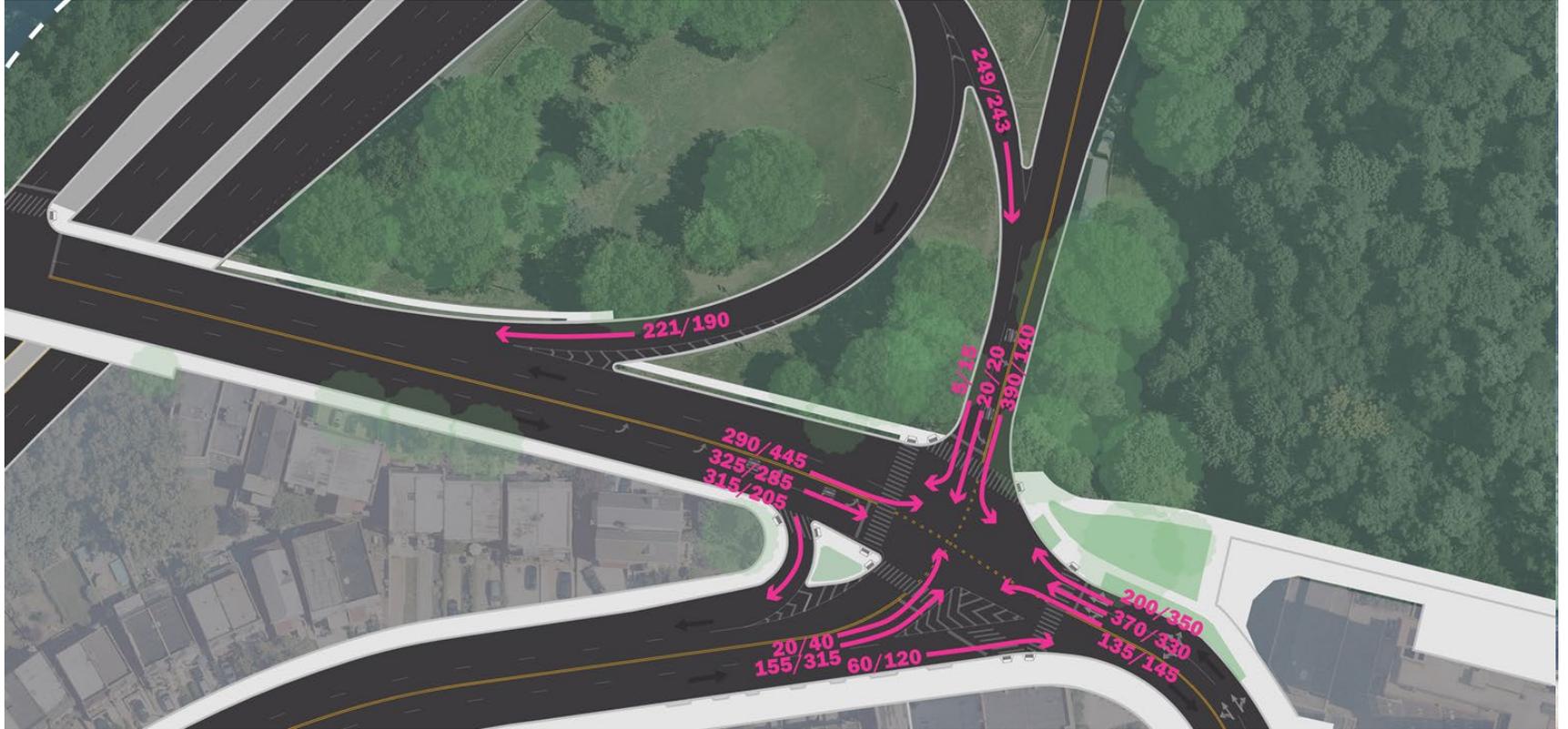
Parking Loss

- 5 regular parking spaces repurposed on south curb of Van Cortlandt Park South
- 3 regular parking spaces repurposed on north curb of Van Cortlandt Park South



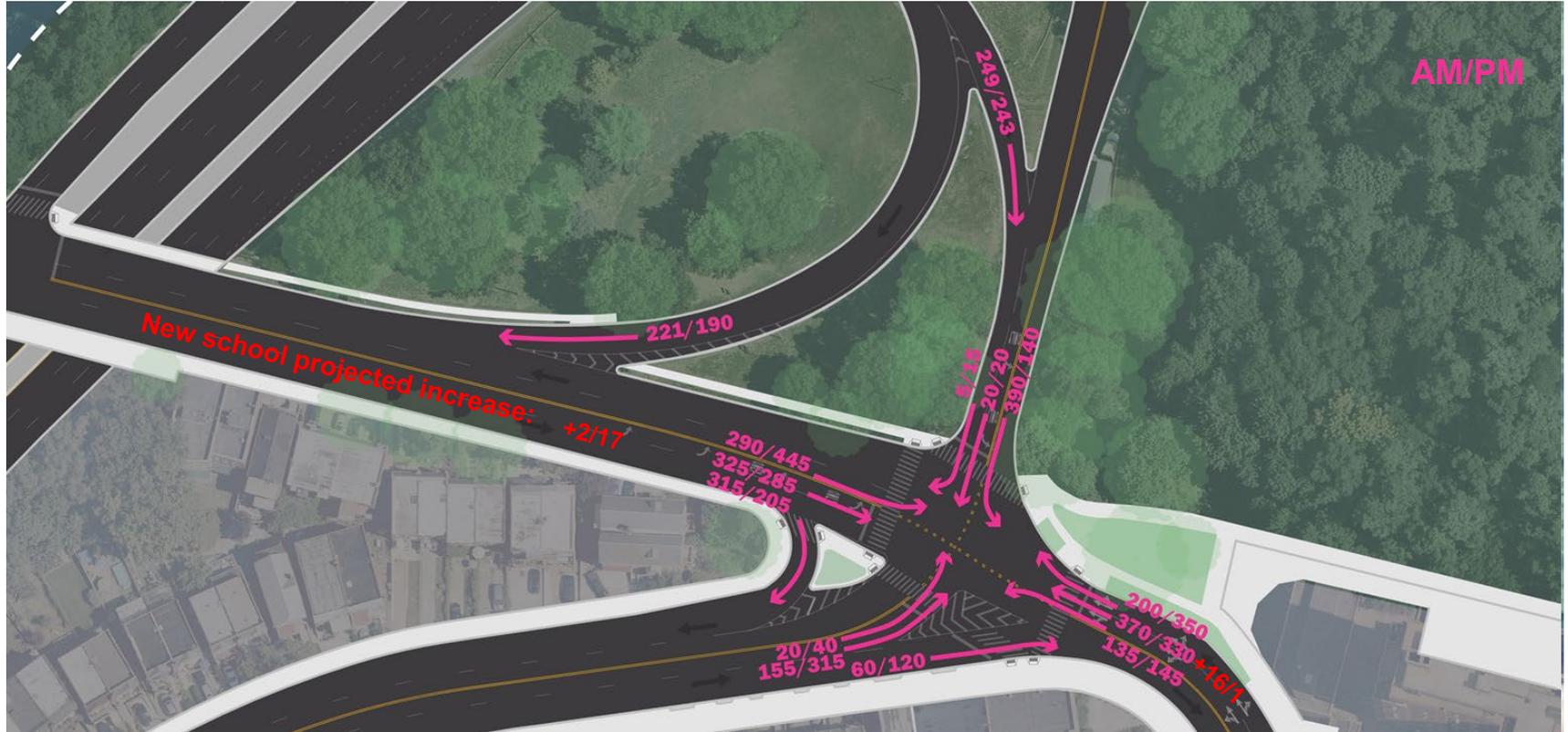
Appendix

Vehicle Counts, Oct/Nov 2023



Appendix

Projected school impact on Vehicle Counts from Oct/Nov 2023



Appendix

Pedestrian Counts, March 2021

