

(Draft Minutes Pending Approval)
Traffic and Transportation Committee
Bronx Community Board 8
February 18th, 2021

Meeting Conducted Via Zoom Video / Audio Conference

Committee Members Present:

Sylvia Alexander
David Gellman
Mary Ellen Gibbs (CCM)
Ed Green (Vice Chair)
Dan Padernacht (Chair)
Georgia Santiago
Deb Travis (Vice Chair)

Committee Members Absent:

Margaret Donato
Joyce Campbell Priveterre

Guests:

Evelyn Oliver (Con Edison Liaison), Eric Soto (Bronx Regional & Community Affairs), Kevin McLaughlin (Con Edison), Mike Penta (Con Edison) Thomas Santos (Bronx Gas Management), Howard Kamiel (President, Amalgamated Housing Corp.), Jane Sokolow, Joyce Moran, Rosemary Ginty, Michael Amabile, Jeff Moerdler (President of The White Hall), Jodi Colon,

Committee Chair Dan Padernacht called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Announcement of Committee Members and Guests

Chair Padernacht took a roll call of Committee members and introduced guests.

Con Edison on Local Projects

Evelyn Oliver of Con Edison and her team of representatives gave presentation:

What is Con Edison's Main Replacement Program (MRP)?

- Stages in MRP construction
- Engineering Layouts

- Request permits
- Mark Outs (NYC 811)
- Excavation
- Install gas main
- Transfer service
- Backfill
- Restoration

Housekeeping and Safety Measures

Work Area Protection Manual

- Traffic flow
- Advance warning signs
- Flaggers

Blocking of Areas to facilitate work

- Storage areas
- Service transfers

Road Plates / Sidewalk Plates

- Installation and inspections

Status of MRP Work from 2020

Project Status & justification for delayed work in 2020 - remaining plates, outstanding service connections:

- Manhattan College Parkway between W 239th St. & W 238th St.
- Riverdale Ave between W 239th St. & W 238th St.
- Liebig Ave between W 261st St. & Mosholu Ave
- Tyndall Ave between W 261st St. W 259th St.
- Delafield Ave between W 260th St. & W 261st St.

Bronx 2020 MRP Goals

- Replace 24.55 miles of leak-prone gas main
- Community Board 8 - 1.30 miles
- Reservoir Ave / W 192nd St.
- Faraday Ave / Sylvan Ave.

Resident request for angled parking on Van Cortlandt Park South; speed bumps at Orloff Ave and VCPS and Saxon Ave between Sedgwick Ave and VCPS; and discussion of new No Standing signs in the vicinity.

Howard Kamiel of Amalgamated Housing Corp. requested paving on Gale Place, Saxon Ave, Gouverneur Ave and Dickerson Ave.

- Speed bump on Orloff Ave & VCP South by stop sign
- Angled parking @ VCP on South side
- No standing signs take away parking spaces

Chair Padernacht stated DOT did not give notice when the no standing signs were put up and the community should receive notice. He stated Amalgamated Housing should contact DOT about removing the no standing signs.

Chair Padernacht stated that Dickerson Ave is the responsibility of the DEP.

Resident Request for 25mph signs on:

- **Independence Ave. between W 252nd St. and Spaulding Lane**
- **Spaulding Lane between Independence Ave. and Palisade Ave.**
- **Palisade Ave. between Spaulding Lane and W 231st St.**

Jane Sokolow (resident) made request:

- Problems occur when school begins and when kids get left out.
- Cars travel 45mph
- Path on Palisades Ave needs to be completely redone and it's part of the park.

The Committee voted unanimously to send a letter of request to DOT for speed limit signs at the 3 locations requested.

Discussion of Channeling and speed bumps at intersections of Independence Ave and W 235th St., W 236th St., W 237th St., and W 239th St.

West 235th St. Intersection:

- Channelization with small rubber speed bumps on west side of the street
- Channelization with delineators on southeast corner
- Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
- Speed bumps on centerlines or painted medians where needed to prevent wide turns & donuts

West 236th St. Intersection:

- Channelization with small, rubber speed bumps on all corners
- Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
- Speed bumps on centerlines or painted median where needed to prevent wide turns and donuts

West 237th St. Intersection:

- Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
- Channelization with speed bumps on southwest and southeast corners
- Speed bumps on centerlines to prevent wide turns and donuts

West 239th St. Intersection:

- Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
- Channelization with small, rubber speed bumps on all corners
- Speed bumps on centerlines to prevent wide turns and donuts

West 240th St. Intersection:

- Crossing distance is currently over 50'
- Expand the markings
- Add truffle paint
- Add flat detector panels

Joyce Moran (President of 3901 Independence Ave) stated she was concerned about narrowing the street; street is already congested; large trucks come through; she sees the potential for a lot of accidents.

Committee Resolutions:

- W 235th St.
- W 236th St.
- W 237th St. *Modified: Remove 2 flexible delineators at stop line and 1 in crosswalk.
- W 239th St.
- W 240th St. *Modified: Put in delineator; bring it back; square it off at end.

The following Resolution was voted unanimously by the Committee:

WHEREAS, the roadway on Independence Avenue between West 232nd Street and West 246th Street (“Independence Corridor”) has become an attractive street for reckless drivers who are using this stretch for racing and stunt driving;

WHEREAS, the Traffic and Transportation Committee (“Committee”) tasked a working group to look at possible traffic changes to make the Independence Corridor a less desirable location for reckless driving;

WHEREAS, the working group presented a report to the Committee on December 17, 2020 that included numerous suggestions for the Committee and community input;

WHEREAS, the matter was laid over to the January 21, 2021 Committee meeting, and then further adjourned to the February 18, 2021 Committee meeting in order to hear public testimony;

WHEREAS, after more than six hours of public testimony, and thorough and thoughtful discussion, the Committee has decided to put forth the following recommendations to the New York City Department of Transportation for feasibility.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Traffic and Transportation Committee of Bronx Community Board 8 requests that the NYC Department of Transportation investigate the feasibility and advice of the following changes to the Independence Corridor:

1. At the intersection of West 235th Street and Independence Avenue:
 - a) Channelization with small rubber speed bumps on west side of the street
 - b) Channelization with delineators on southeast corner
 - c) Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
 - d) Speed bumps on centerlines or painted medians where needed to prevent wide turns & donuts
2. At the intersection of West 236th Street and Independence Avenue:
 - a) Channelization with small, rubber speed bumps on all corners
 - b) Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
 - c) Speed bumps on centerlines or painted median where needed to prevent wide turns and donuts
3. At the intersection of West 237th Street and Independence Avenue:
 - a) Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
 - b) Channelization with speed bumps on southwest and southeast corners
 - c) Speed bumps on centerlines to prevent wide turns and donuts
4. At the intersection of West 239th Street and Independence Avenue:
 - a) Reinforce existing painted curb extensions with delineators and truffle paint
 - b) Channelization with small, rubber speed bumps on all corners
 - c) Speed bumps on centerlines to prevent wide turns and donuts

5. At the intersection of West 240th Street and Independence Avenue:
 - a) Expand the existing curb extension on the southwest corner of the intersection slightly
 - b) Add truffle paint to the striped areas of the curb extensions on the west side of the intersection
 - c) Add flat detector panels to the curb extensions on the west side of the intersection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Traffic and Transportation Committee requests that the NYC Department of Transportation report its findings to the Committee and not implement any of the changes herein until such time as the Committee and community can weigh in on a final design and recommendation by DOT.

Discussion of Roundabout at Independence Ave and West 237th St.:

Due to a lack of support from the Community and Committee this item would not be moved to the Board in the form of a resolution.

Chair Padernacht stated he would ask BXDOTC Lopez about the feasibility of a roundabout.

Chair Padernacht asked if the Committee would like to have the traffic light at W 237th St & Independence Ave on next month's T&T Agenda for discussion. The committee agreed it should be on the agenda.

Request by Committee for advance notice by DOT of changes in Community Board 8 prior to implementation by DOT:

The consensus among the Committee was advance DOT providing notice to the community is important.

Chair Padernacht stated he would talk with Marty Wolpoff, Chair of BXC8 Law, Rules and Ethics Committee about the issue and this discussion will continue in T&T.

Budget Requests:

Combined expense budget request with Public Safety Committee for School Safety Agents (Crossing Guards). The previous request was denied due to lack of available funds.

In April T&T will make budget requests.

Putnam Right of Way Greenway: Expedite purchase of land; land has not been purchased yet; Elected Officials need to know this is important.

West 235th Street & Independence Ave. North side of Independence Ave and Henry Hudson Parkway needs a new sidewalk. It has been flooded, dangerous and icy in the winter for years;

capital needs request; Committee should consider sidewalk construction. Chair Padernacht stated he will add it to the budget request.

Street Paving list should be compiled by May.

Approval of Minutes:

November, December & January T&T minutes were approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:44pm.

Dan Padernacht
Chair, Traffic & Transportation Committee

Minutes submitted by Vice-Chair Ed Green

DRAFT

Intersection Modifications

Independence Avenue Working Group

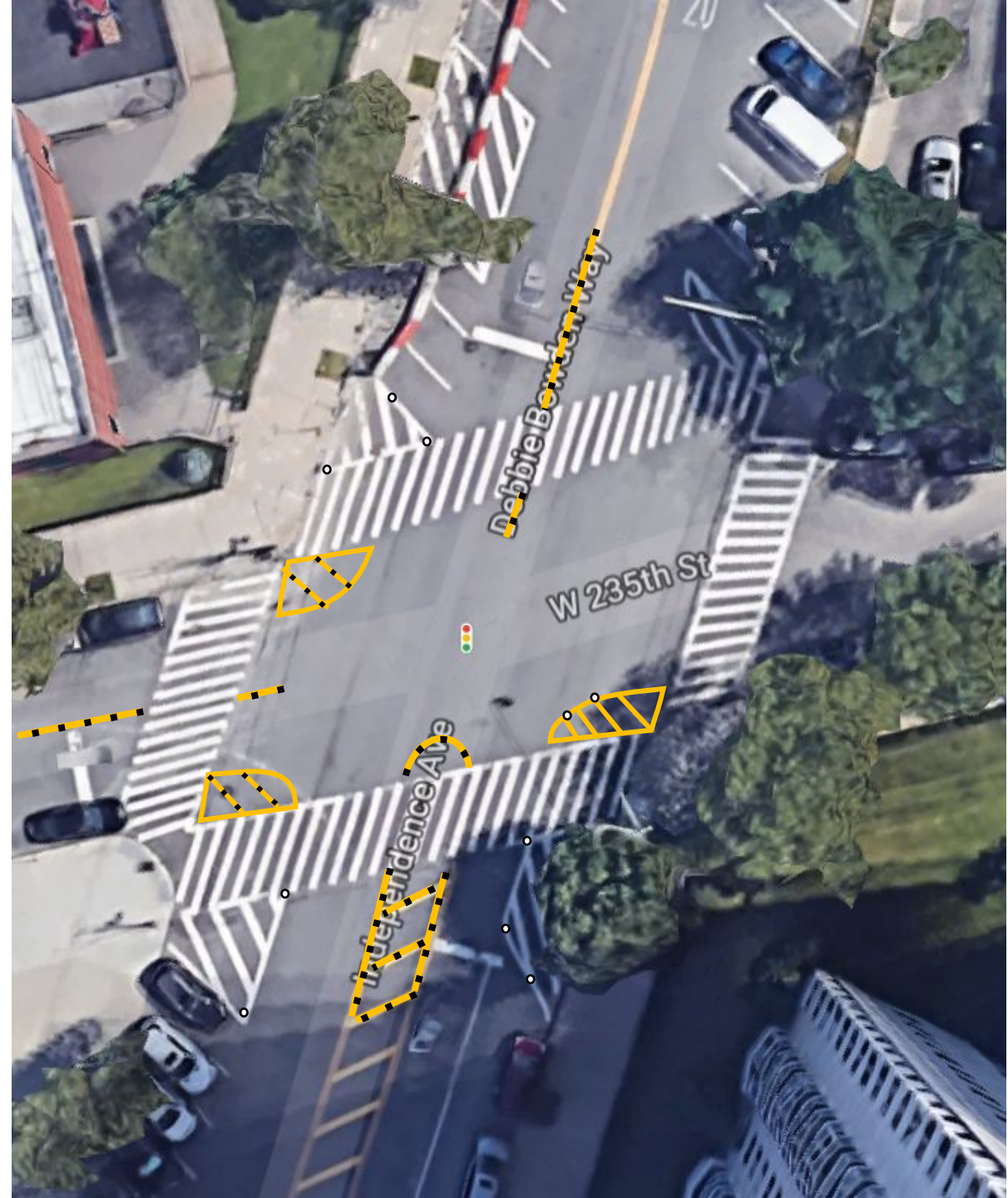
Presentation to

Bronx CB8 Traffic and Transportation Committee

Thursday, February 18, 2021

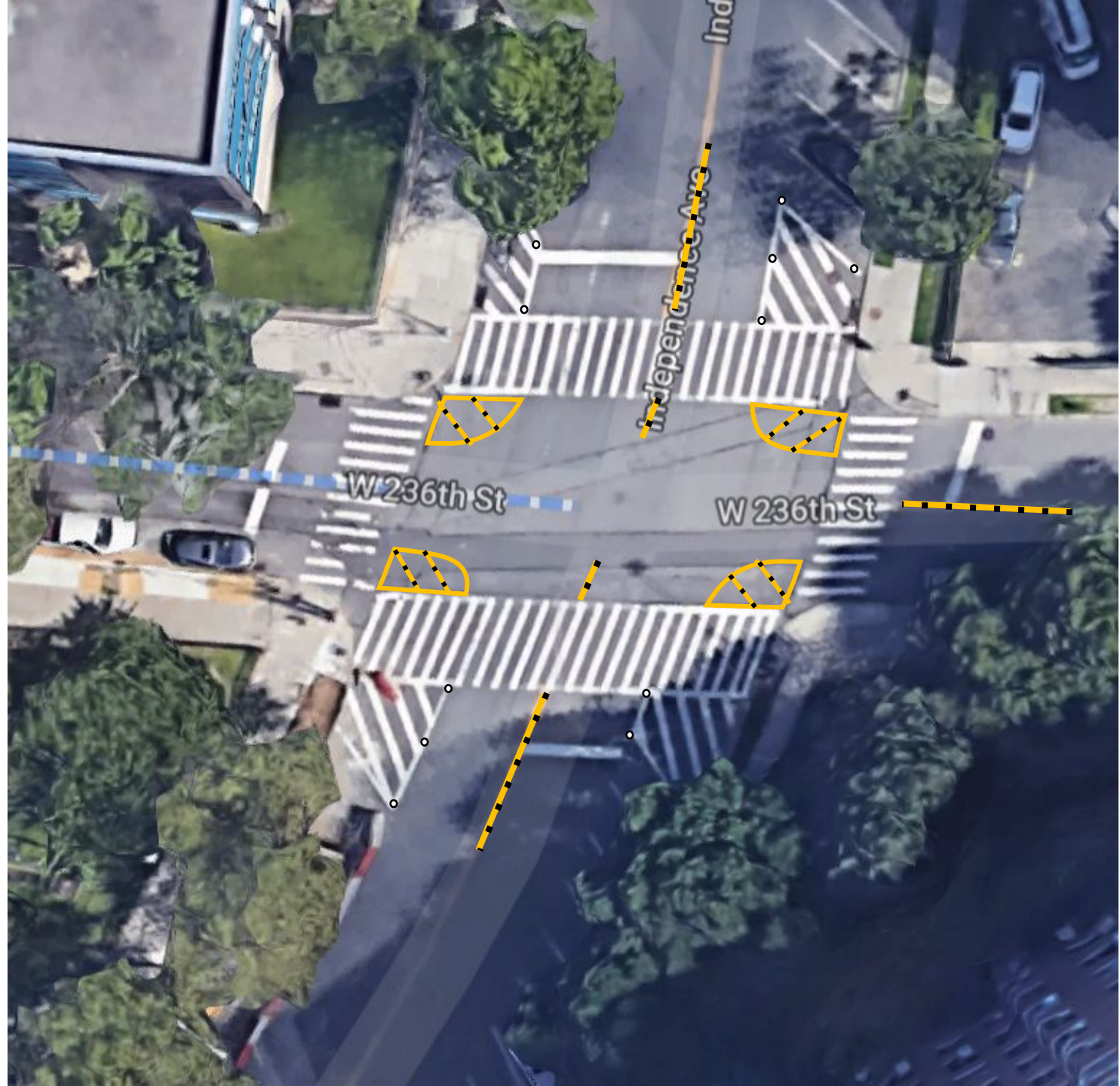
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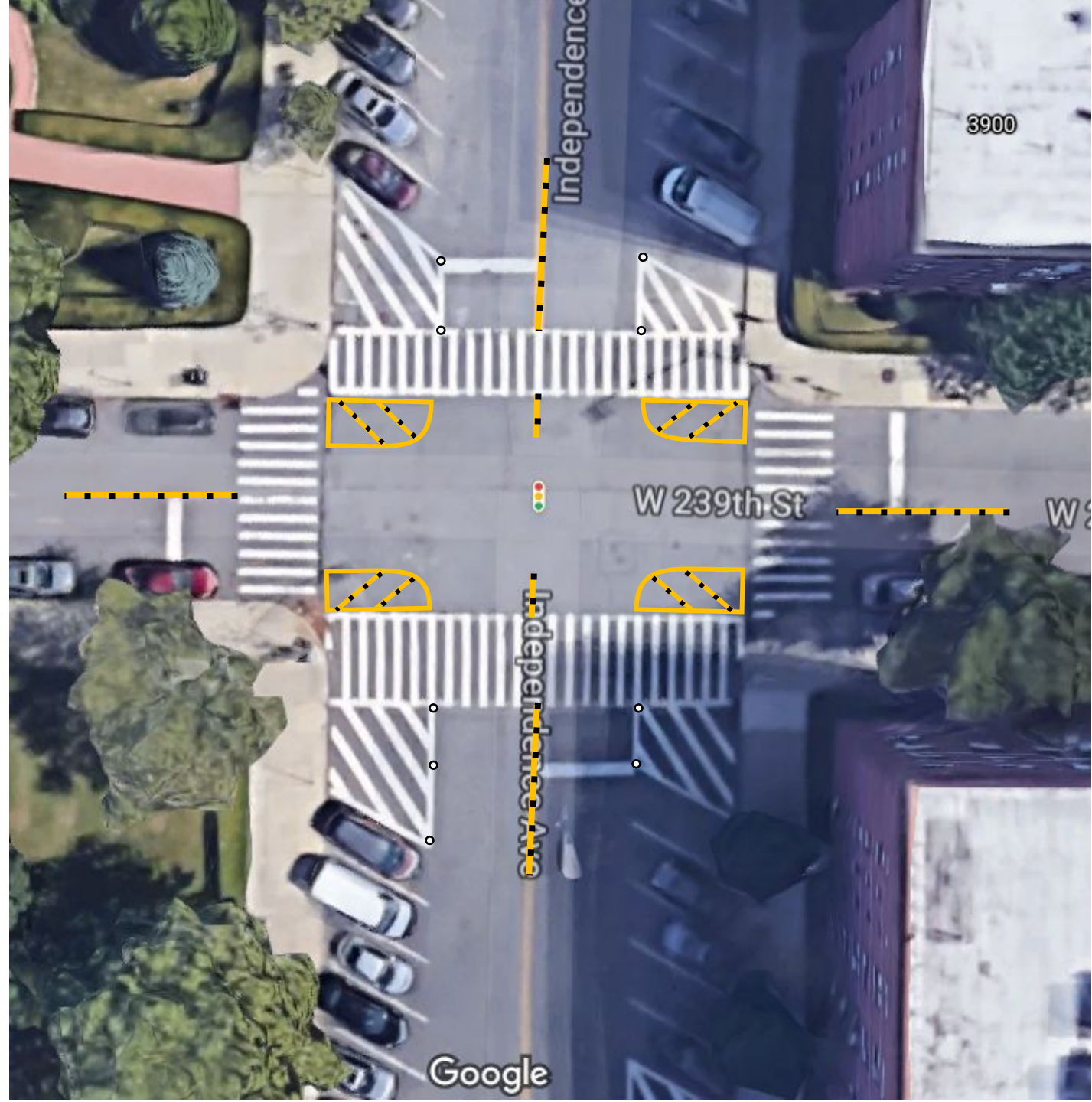
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