Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign

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DRAFT PLAN

Brooklyn Redesign Process & Project Status

Data Analysis and Public Outreach Winter 2020

 Published Existing Conditions Report

Redraw Network and Develop Draft Plan Spring 2020 - Fall 2022

 Publishing Draft Plan (December 2022)



Spring 2020 - Summer 2021

Why Redesign the Brooklyn Bus Network?

Brooklyn is growing and evolving, with demographics shifting and travel patterns changing. Meanwhile, the Brooklyn bus network has not substantially changed in decades. As our customers' needs change, we must change with them.*

Slow Speeds

• Bus speeds continue to decline year by year

Service Reliability

 Customer Journey Time Performance (CJTP) was 69% in 2019

Ridership Decline

- Pre-pandemic bus ridership was on a steady decline
- Ridership in Brooklyn has started to rebound, and the Brooklyn Redesign brings the opportunity to make bus service even more appealing to our bus customers



*We used pre-pandemic ridership data to inform our proposals in the Draft Plan.

Customer Priorities

During our initial outreach, we asked customers how we should prioritize our efforts to develop a better bus network. They answered with the five priorities below, which are the goals for the redesign.



Frequent Service

Customers want the bus to arrive more often





Faster Travel

Customers expressed concerns about delays, slow bus service, and congestion





Reliable Service

Customers want to be able to rely on buses to arrive when they are supposed to



Better Connections

Customers want improved intra- and inter-borough connections

Ease of Use

Customers want bus service that's simple and easy to understand

Redesign Strategies

We deployed the following strategies to achieve the five customer priorities:

Simplifying the Network

- Straighter, more direct routing
- New route types
- · Less redundant service and fewer route variants

Enhancing Connectivity

- In some locations, improve the network grid
- In other locations, maximize connective hubs
- Create new connections to key destinations
- Strengthen interborough bus travel to Queens

Improving Reliability

Avoid narrow streets and remove turns

Improving Frequency

- Build a better all-day frequent network
- Reallocate service to align with routing changes and to better meet customer needs

Balancing Bus Stops

- Increase stop spacing to speed up buses and improve reliability for customers
- Improve average stop spacing based on new route types

Expanding Bus Priority with NYC DOT

 More busways, bus lanes, and other treatments to speed up service and improve reliability

Simplifying the Network

Straighter and more direct routing

- Fewer turns and fewer diversions means less time spent stopped at intersections and more time spent moving
- Consolidate nearby parallel routes onto one street to increase frequency on that section and simplify the network

Less redundant service and fewer route variants

- Routes serve one purpose, so customers know which route to take without looking at the destination sign
- Multiple routes serving the same corridor don't need to make every stop

New route types

 New route types have more specific design guidelines for stop spacing and frequencies, allowing customers to know what type of service to expect on their route



Commute on two buses takes more than 60 minutes

Streamlining of the B16 to avoid narrow streets and its extension onto Clarkson Av removes transfer and may save her up to 10 minutes

Travel time reductions: Up to 10 minutes

Enhancing Connectivity

Improve the bus network grid to create new connections

Create new routes to address gaps in the bus network

Strengthen interborough bus travel to Queens

- Each of these strategies expand access within the borough and beyond
- Create new travel opportunities, reduce travel time, and increase the reach of our ADA accessible bus network



Could save James up to 5 minutes and removes a transfer

Travel time reductions: Up to 5 minutes

Improving Frequency

Build a better all-day frequent network

- Strategic additions to widespread existing all-day frequent network
 - Interborough routes
 - East-west routes in southern Brooklyn
- Many Limited routes and all Crosstown routes would be scheduled at 10-minutesor-better between 6am and 8pm on weekdays

Reallocate service to align with route changes and to better meet customer needs

 24 routes with increase in at least one time period



10-minutes or better frequency maintained 10-minutes or better

frequency gained

Route Types (Local Network)

To improve bus network legibility and tailor routes to customers' needs, we are proposing four color-coded route types

Each route type serves a particular purpose with different guidelines for stop spacing and service frequency

Local Routes (Green)

Connecting local neighborhoods

- Average stop spacing between 1,000 and 1,320 feet
- Frequency varies based on ridership

Rush Routes (Purple)

Connecting outer borough neighborhoods quickly to the subway

- Average stop spacing for local portion is 1/4 of a mile (1,320 feet)
- More frequent during peak hours

Limited Routes (Red)

Serving high demand corridors with frequent service

- Average stop spacing approximately 1/3 of a mile (1,760 feet)
- Generally all-day frequent service (10-minutes-orbetter between 6am and 8pm on weekdays)

Crosstown (SBS) Routes (Blue)

Connecting key destinations across longer distances

- Average stop spacing approximately 1/2 of a mile (2,640 feet)
- All-day frequent service (routes are 10-minutes-orbetter between 6am and 8pm on weekdays)

Balancing Bus Stops

Route types with new average stop spacing guidelines

Existing versus proposed average stop spacing

Route Type	Existing Average Stop Spacing	Proposed Average Stop Spacing
Local Routes	830 feet	1,100 feet
Limited Routes	1,586 feet	1,621 feet
Rush Routes	N/A	1,556 feet
Crosstown (SBS) Routes	2,466 feet	2,465 feet
Express Routes	1,387 feet	1,685 feet

Increase stop spacing to speed up buses and improve reliability for customers

- Every bus stop removed saves about 20 seconds on average; this can translate to noticeable travel time savings and improved reliability along the entire route
- Maintains stops with heavy ridership, that provide key connections, and serve community facilities



Expanding Bus Priority with NYC DOT



More busways, bus lanes, and other bus priority treatments to speed up service and improve reliability

- NYC DOT has identified 17 potential bus priority corridors to complement the draft plan
- Corridors were identified based on several criteria, including where the Redesign project proposes service increases

Introducing the New Bus Network

Overview of the Proposed Local Bus Network Changes

Route Changes

69 total proposed routes

- 9 new routes
- 15 routes with minor routing change
- 7 routes with major routing change
- 7 routes extended

Frequency Changes

- 24 routes with increase in at least one time period
- 6 additional overnight routes

Route Labels

- 9 new route labels
- 4 retired route labels (most either have a new label or are combined with other routes)

- 8 routes shortened
- 3 routes extended on one end, shortened on the other
- 4 routes with branch changes
- 14 routes with stop changes only
- 2 routes with no routing or stop changes



Introducing the New Bus Network

To Midtown Only

Overview of the Proposed Express Bus Network Changes

Route Changes

- 9 existing routes, but many have 3-4 variants
- Increase network legibility by creating one new route number for each variant
 - For instance:
 - BM1 is peak-only Downtown variant
 - BM1c is off-peak Downtown/Midtown variant
 - BM31 is peak-only Midtown variant
 - Total of 19 Draft Plan express routes
- 'X' routes renamed as 'BM' routes
- Generally minor routing changes proposed
- BM1/2/3/4 proposed to travel in both directions on Water St in Lower Manhattan, rather than existing one-way loop
- All routes receive stop balancing
- All routes have some proposed frequency and/or span reductions due to low ridership on some trips



How to read a route profile



How to provide feedback

Customers can provide feedback through various means:

- At one of the 18 virtual public workshops one for each community district in Brooklyn (schedule on next slide)
- Through Remix, a web-based interactive map
 - Customers can view all proposed routes and stops in detail, compare with existing routes, and post comments in specific geographic locations
 - Remix can be accessed on both desktop and mobile – where people can view stops and frequencies by route for the entire Brooklyn Bus Network
- Through our comment portal on the Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign microsite



How to Provide Feedback

18 Virtual Workshops by Community District - Proposed Schedule

All workshops 6:30-8:30pm with sessions beginning at 6:30pm and 7:30pm

Date	Community District	Neighborhoods Covered	
Wednesday, January 11	Community District 1	East Williamsburg, Greenpoint, Northside, Southside, Williamsburg	
Thursday, January 12	Community District 2	Boerum Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Clinton Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, Fort Greene, Fulton Ferry, Navy Yard, Vinegar Hill	
Tuesday, January 17	Community District 3	Bedford-Stuyvesant, Stuyvesant Heights, Tompkins Park North	
Thursday, January 19	Community District 4	Bushwick	
Tuesday, January 24	Community District 5	Broadway Junction, City Line, Cypress Hills, East New York, Highland Park, New Lots, Spring Creek, Starrett City	
Thursday, January 26	Community District 6	Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Columbia St, Gowanus, Park Slope, Red Hook	
Tuesday, January 31	Community District 7	Sunset Park, Windsor Terrace	
Thursday, February 2	Community District 8	Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, Weeksville	
Tuesday, February 7	Community District 9	Crown Heights South, Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Wingate	
Thursday, February 9	Community District 10	Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Fort Hamilton	
Monday, February 13	Community District 11	Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Gravesend, Mapleton	
Thursday, February 16	Community District 12	Borough Park, Kensington, Ocean Parkway	
Tuesday, February 21	Community District 13	Brighton Beach, Coney Island, Gravesend, Homecrest, Sea Gate, West Brighton	
Thursday, February 23	Community District 14	Ditmas Park, Flatbush, Manhattan Terrace, Midwood, Ocean Parkway, Prospect Park South	
Wednesday, March 1	Community District 15	Gerritsen Beach, Gravesend, Homecrest, Kings Highway, Manhattan Beach, Plumb Beach, Sheepshead Bay	
Thursday, March 2	Community District 16	Broadway Junction, Brownsville, Ocean Hill	
Tuesday, March 7	Community District 17	East Flatbush, Farragut, Flatbush, Northeast Flatbush, Remsen Village, Rugby, Erasmus	
Thursday, March 9	Community District 18	Bergen Beach, Canarsie, Flatlands, Georgetown, Marine Park, Mill Basin, Mill Island, Paerdegat Basin	

On-Street Outreach Locations

On-Street Outreach and Engagement Locations



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Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign

Thank you!

Project website: https://new.mta.info/project/brooklyn-busnetwork-redesign

