The Need for a Safer Way

The Rockaways need more green space and better, safer opportunities for pedestrians, bicyclists and families.

Project Underway would achieve all of this, without major disruptions to traffic and without the need for huge capital investments by the City. The underpass is underutilized space that should be planned and designed in such a way that it can benefit the community by connecting both the east and west ends of the Peninsula together and provide a safer and more equitable route that people of all ages can use to get to school, work or home.

Project underway is a new vision to convert this space into bike paths, footpaths, green space and public areas spanning the length of the Peninsula.

Walk score of 44

compared to the city-wide

88. Lack of sidewalks, bike lighting, and barriers create a confusing and dangerous walking experience.

A Better Way

3 cyclists and 4 pedestrians are injured annually while using the road.

Currently owned and

managed by a fragmented group of private and public organizations, Project Underway would help to design and manage to create a cohesive extension throughout the 15-block stretch.

Areas adjacent to the subway stations can be better planned to provide safer public areas for people to use for resting, RCA access, bike racks and way finding signage.

The Way Forward

Phase I: Beach 62nd St to Beach 67th St.

RTA is working with landowner Arverne By The Sea on developing this stretch as a temporary pilot project to implement measures that include reducing storm water run-off through green infrastructure landscaping, trash receptacles for cleaner streets, hiring local to maintain property as well as events to bring economic development to the area through cultural programs and public use.

Phase II: Detailed pilot project with long-term goals, using the Beach 67th St pilot to called community input and data in developing the infrastructure to benefit the community. This may include improving street crossings, implementing solar lighting, identify areas for public plazas adjacent to subway stations, ADA accessibility to subway platforms.

Phase III: Develop plan with stakeholders and landowners to connect the entire stretch of underwa from Modd Ave to Beach 116th St. This will require developing governance to address oversight and management of property. The full plan will connect the east and west ends of the Peninsula and provide a safer and more equitable route that people of all ages can use to get to school, work or home.

Support Project Underway and work with us to launch a pilot project as part of an overall transformative change for the Rockaway Peninsula.
Project Underway was the result of a community visioning process which included collaborative listening sessions held throughout the Rockaways as well as meetings with local residents, planners and city agencies to develop a plan for a safer corridor under the elevated A line track.

Project Underway is sponsored by:

Rockaway Waterfront Alliance (RWA) is a community based organization dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding, respect and connection between our communities and the Rockaway waterfront.

To ensure the long-term vitality and economic health of the Rockaway waterfront, RWA works to empower residents of the underserved communities of the Rockaway Peninsula to play a role in the determination of their neighborhoods, by providing enriching educational and community programming, that instill both individual and civic respect for nature, and contributes to advancing the physical, economic and social sustainability in the Rockaway Peninsula and Greater New York City.

Professional engineering services were provided by Sam Schwartz Engineering and lighting services by Tillett Lighting Design.

Sam Schwartz Engineering (SSE) is an internationally-recognized firm specializing in developing context-sensitive transportation solutions for government, private-sector, not-for-profit, and community clients. Through our technical expertise, creative visioning, and consensus building, SSE strives to balance the needs and improve the quality of life for all users, including drivers, pedestrians, transit riders, and cyclists.

Tillett Lighting Design Associates crafts highly nuanced lighting programs. Founded in 1983 by Linnaea Tillett, PhD, the firm has a reputation for artistry, technical innovation and functionality. Tillett’s innovative approach incorporates a thorough understanding of the perceptual, behavioral and psychological effects of light, while merging sophisticated aesthetic values with comprehensive technical knowledge.

Generous support for this plan was provided by NY Community Trust, Fund for the City of NY and Capital One Bank.

For more information about Rockaway Waterfront Alliance, visit us at: www.rwalliance.org