

What is the NYC Streets Plan?

The NYC Streets Plan is a five-year plan (mandated by Local Law 195 of 2019) aimed at improving the safety, accessibility, and efficiency of New York City's streets.

Developed by the Department of Transportation (DOT), it builds on existing transportation initiatives and introduces new strategies to prioritize sustainable and equitable street design.

Why does it matter?

New York City's streets were historically designed around private vehicles, but **most residents rely on transit, walking, or biking**. The plan shifts street design priorities to better serve these modes, while also tackling traffic congestion, road safety, and environmental concerns.

Key Initiatives

- 1. **Pedestrian-Friendly Streets**: NYC is prioritizing the redesign of streets to be more pedestrian-friendly. This involves widening sidewalks, installing curb extensions, and improving crosswalk visibility to ensure safer and more accessible walkways for all.
- 2. **Protected Bike Lanes**: The city is expanding its network of protected bike lanes to encourage cycling as a safe and viable mode of transportation. These lanes are separated from vehicle traffic, providing cyclists with a dedicated and secure path.
- 3. **Enhanced Public Transportation**: Improvements to public transportation, including more efficient bus routes and upgraded subway systems, are underway. These enhancements aim to provide faster, more reliable services for commuters.
- 4. **Sustainable Practices**: NYC is committed to sustainability by integrating green infrastructure, such as rain gardens and permeable pavements, to manage stormwater and reduce urban heat.
- 5. **Reducing Congestion**: Implementing traffic reduction measures, like speed humps and narrower streets, helps to reduce vehicle speeds and increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 6. **Universal Accessibility**: The city is committed to making streets accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. This involves installing ramps, tactile paving, and audible signals at crosswalks.

What's Next?

Implementation is ongoing, with DOT tracking progress and adjusting plans based on community feedback. Future street projects will reflect this new, people-first approach to mobility in NYC.

Through these initiatives, New York City aims to create a safer, more sustainable, and inclusive urban environment that enhances the quality of life for all residents and visitors.