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NYPIRG STATEMENT ON NYC DOT'S FLATBUSH AVENUE BUS LANES

(*New York, N.Y.*) The NYPIRG Straphangers Campaign applauds the New York City Department of Transportation's (DOT) recently unveiled plan to implement center-running bus lanes and pedestrian islands along Flatbush Avenue between Livingston Street and Grand Army Plaza. This initiative is a significant step toward making buses more efficient and enhancing public transit along one of Brooklyn's most congested corridors.

Flatbush Avenue serves as a vital artery for Brooklyn, accommodating over 130,000 daily bus riders across 12 MTA routes, including the heavily utilized B41. Currently, buses on this corridor average speeds as low as 4 mph during peak hours, causing delays and unreliable service for commuters. The redesign introduced dedicated bus lanes along parts of Flatbush Ave and the installation of pedestrian islands equipped with benches and canopies, providing safer and more comfortable waiting areas for straphangers.

The following statement is attributable to Natasha Elder, Regional Director for NYPIRG:

This plan should be just the beginning. Flatbush Avenue is a major spine running the length of Brooklyn, and improvements shouldn't stop at Grand Army Plaza. We urge the City to expand this project further south along the corridor—through neighborhoods like Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Flatbush, and East Flatbush—where even more riders and pedestrians face slow, unreliable service and unsafe street conditions.

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