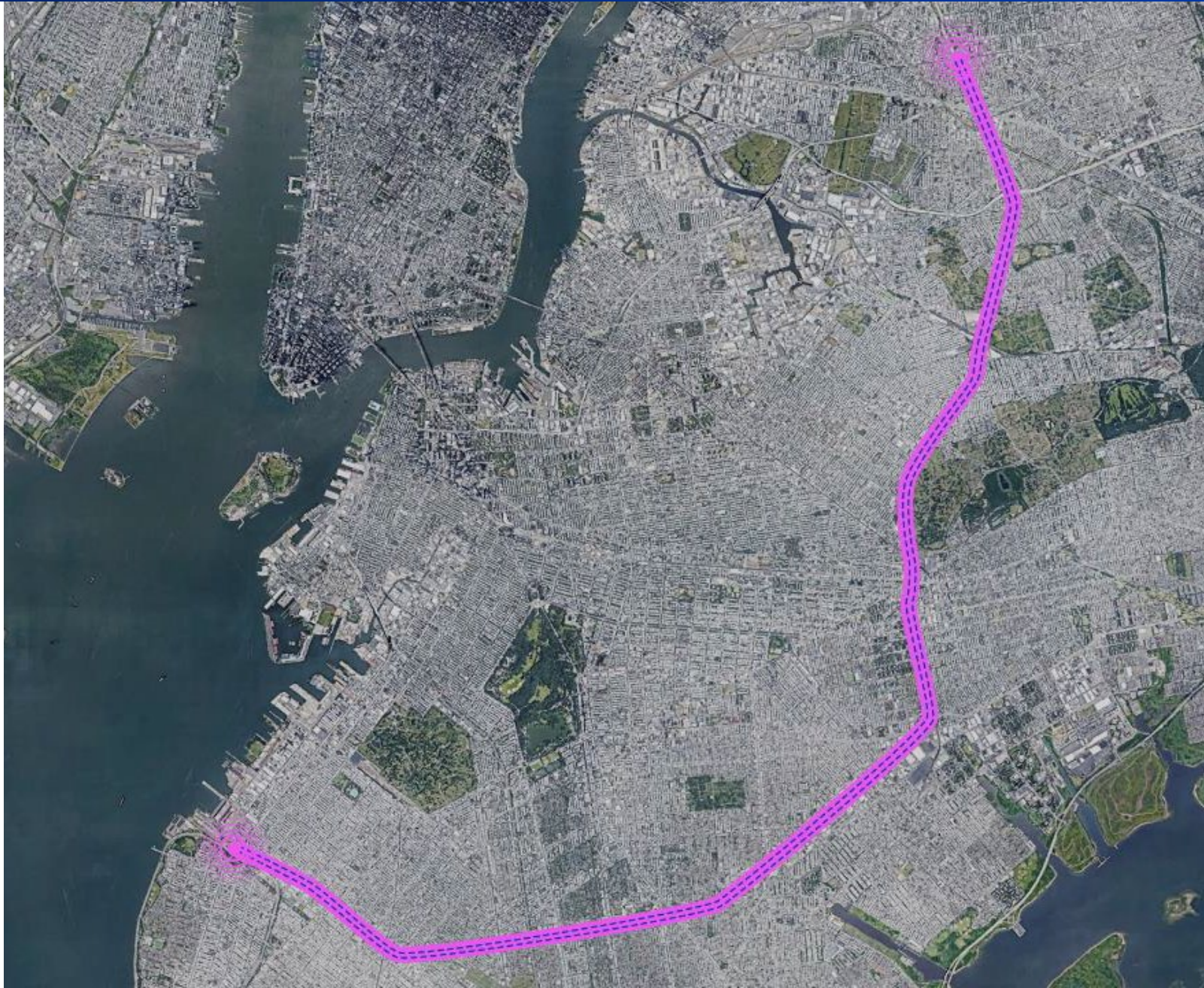




March 26, 2026

# Interborough Express

Community Board Briefing –  
Brooklyn CB14



# Agenda

**01** Introductions

**02** Project Overview

**03** Access to Opportunity

**04** Project Updates

- Environmental Review
- Design

**05** Community Focus Areas

**06** Next Steps

# Project Overview



# Project Context

The Interborough Express (**IBX**) would provide a **transformative new transit connection between Brooklyn & Queens**

- It would be built along an existing rail corridor that runs from Sunset Park to Jackson Heights and is currently used solely for freight
- The IBX would **add passenger service** while preserving freight service
- The Southern portion (~11 miles) is owned by LIRR and operated by New York & Atlantic Railway
- The Northern portion in Queens (~3 miles) is owned by CSX



# IBX Station Locations

The current station program was developed to **maximize connections** within MTA networks and major arterial roadways

**18**

IBX stations

**13**

IBX stations with subway transfers

**17**

Subway lines connecting with IBX

A C E N Q R 2 3 5 7 B D F M J Z L

**50+**

Current bus route connections

**LIRR**

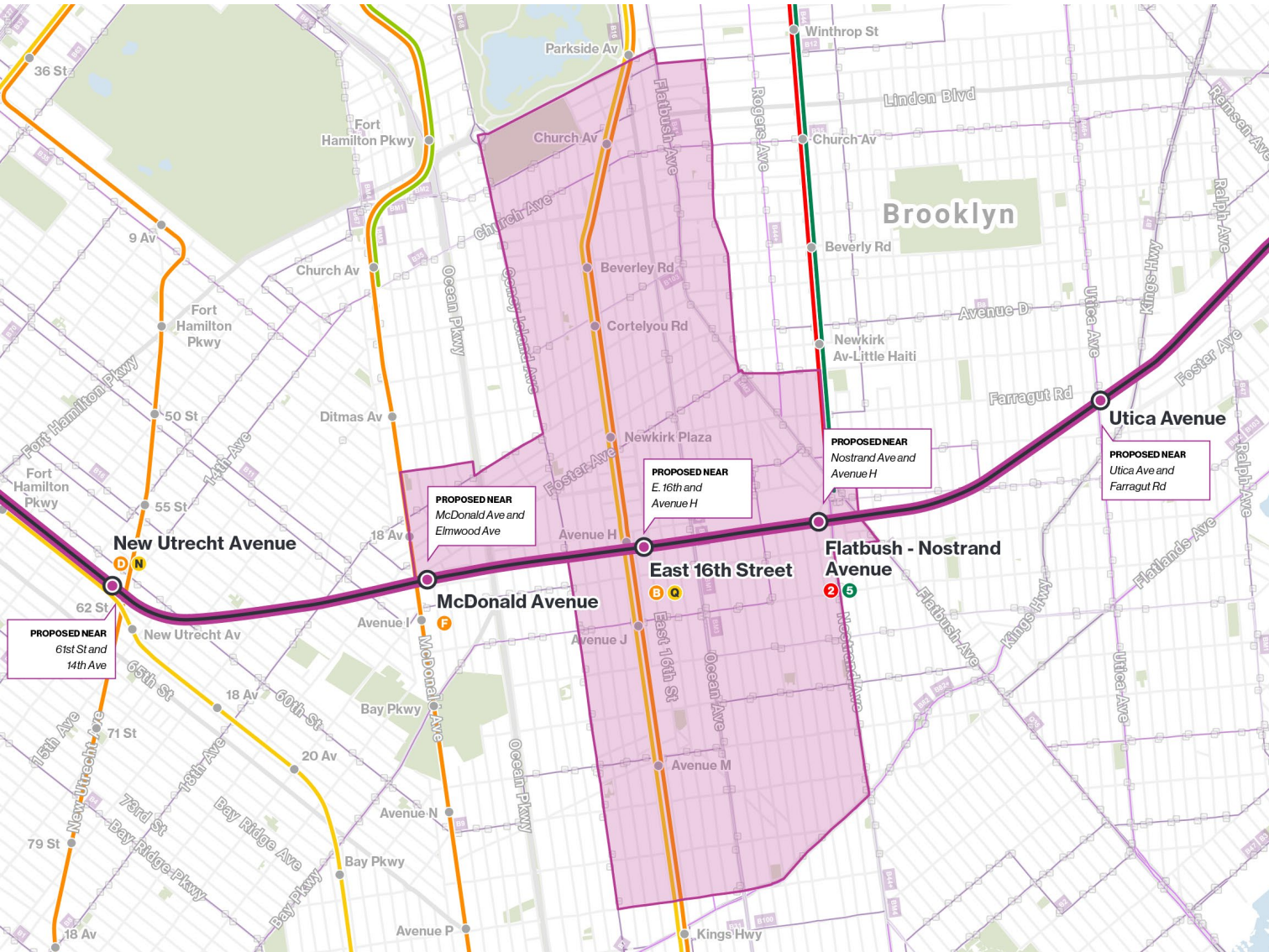
Connections at East New York & Woodside Avenues



# Access to Opportunity



# Brooklyn Community District 14



Brooklyn Community District 14 is currently served by:

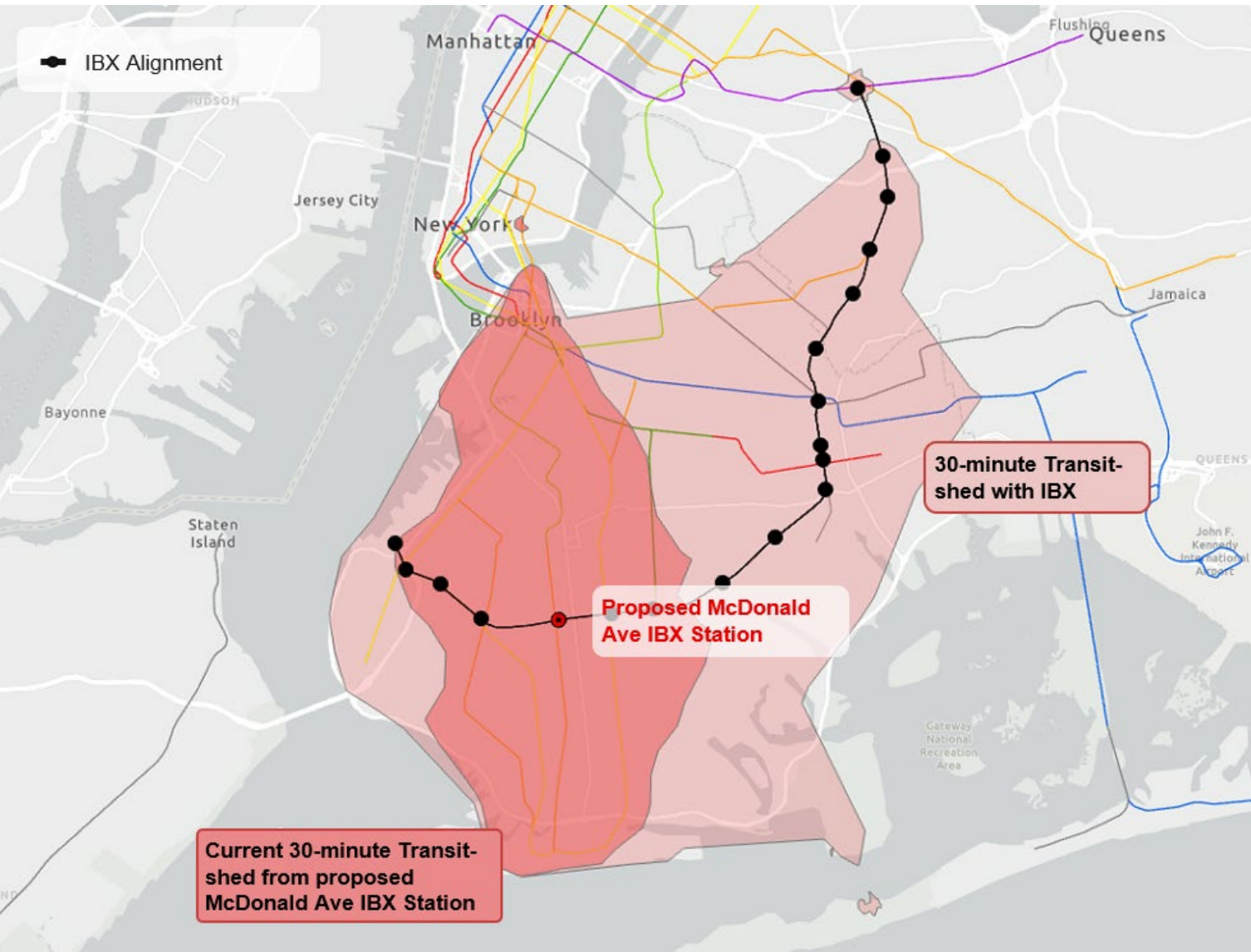
- **21** bus routes (B103, B11, B12, B16, B35, B41, B44, B44+, B49, B6, B68, B7, B8, B82, B82+, B9, BM1, BM2, BM3, BM4, Q35)
- Subway lines ( **B** **F** **Q** **2** **5** )

IBX will introduce **three stops** at:

- McDonald Avenue
- East 16th Street
- Flatbush – Nostrand Avenue

*Exact station locations subject to change*

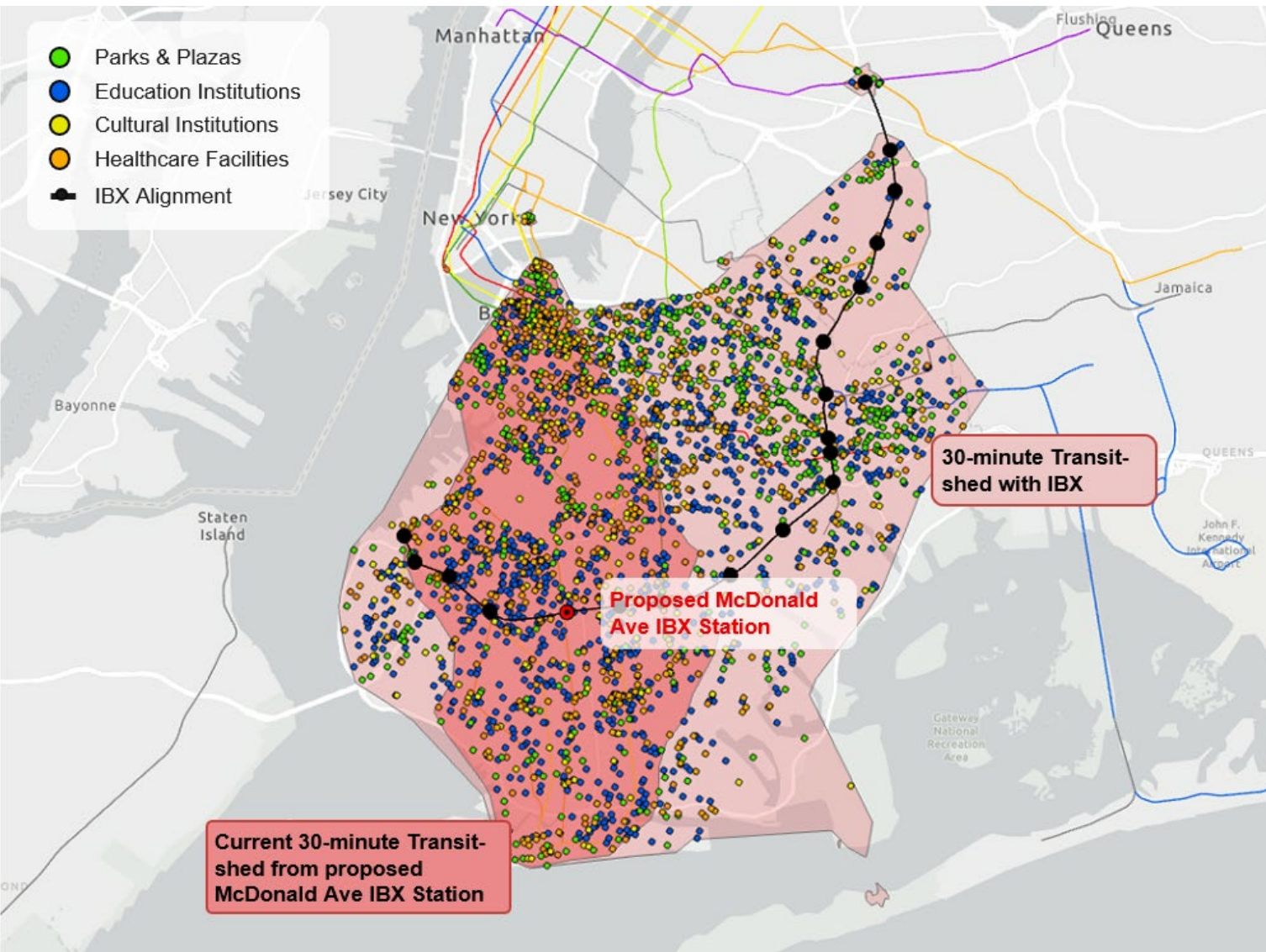
# Access to Opportunity: McDonald Avenue



IBX **more than doubles** the land area accessible within a 30-minute public transit trip

- **Residents** gain access to employment hubs, amenities, and recreation
- **Businesses** reach larger customer bases and talent pools
- Newly accessible **destinations** include:
  - Bay Ridge
  - Far Rockaway beaches
  - Jackson Heights
  - Sunset Park

# Access to Opportunity: McDonald Avenue



Residents and businesses near **McDonald Avenue** will gain access to:

**1.5x jobs**

From 489K to 755K

**1.9x healthcare facilities**

From 417 to 798

**1.4x higher education institutions**

From 14 to 19

**1.8x daycare & pre-K**

From 803 to 1,469

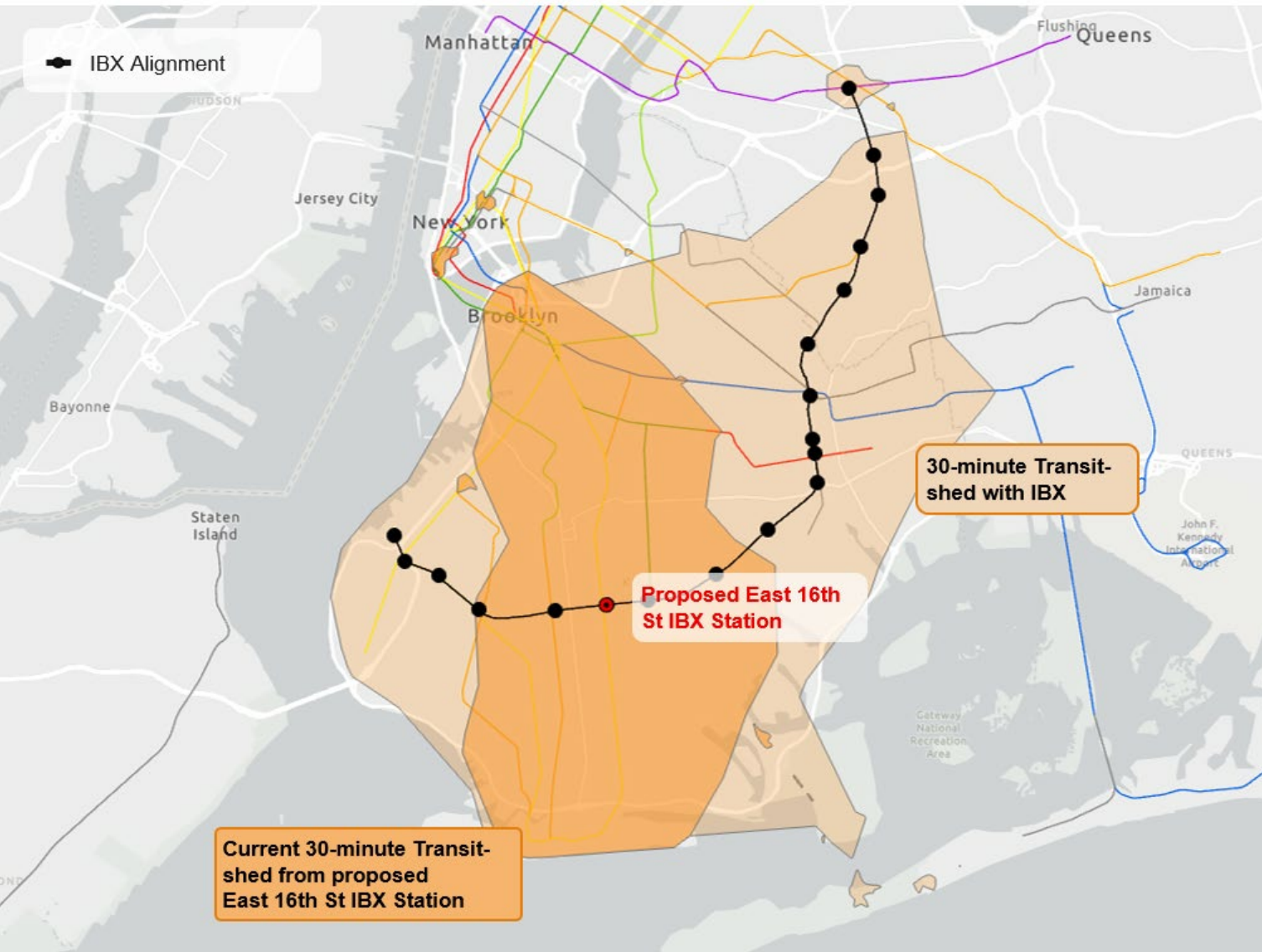
**1.6x cultural institutions**

From 282 to 441

**2.1x working age population**

From 908K to 1.9M

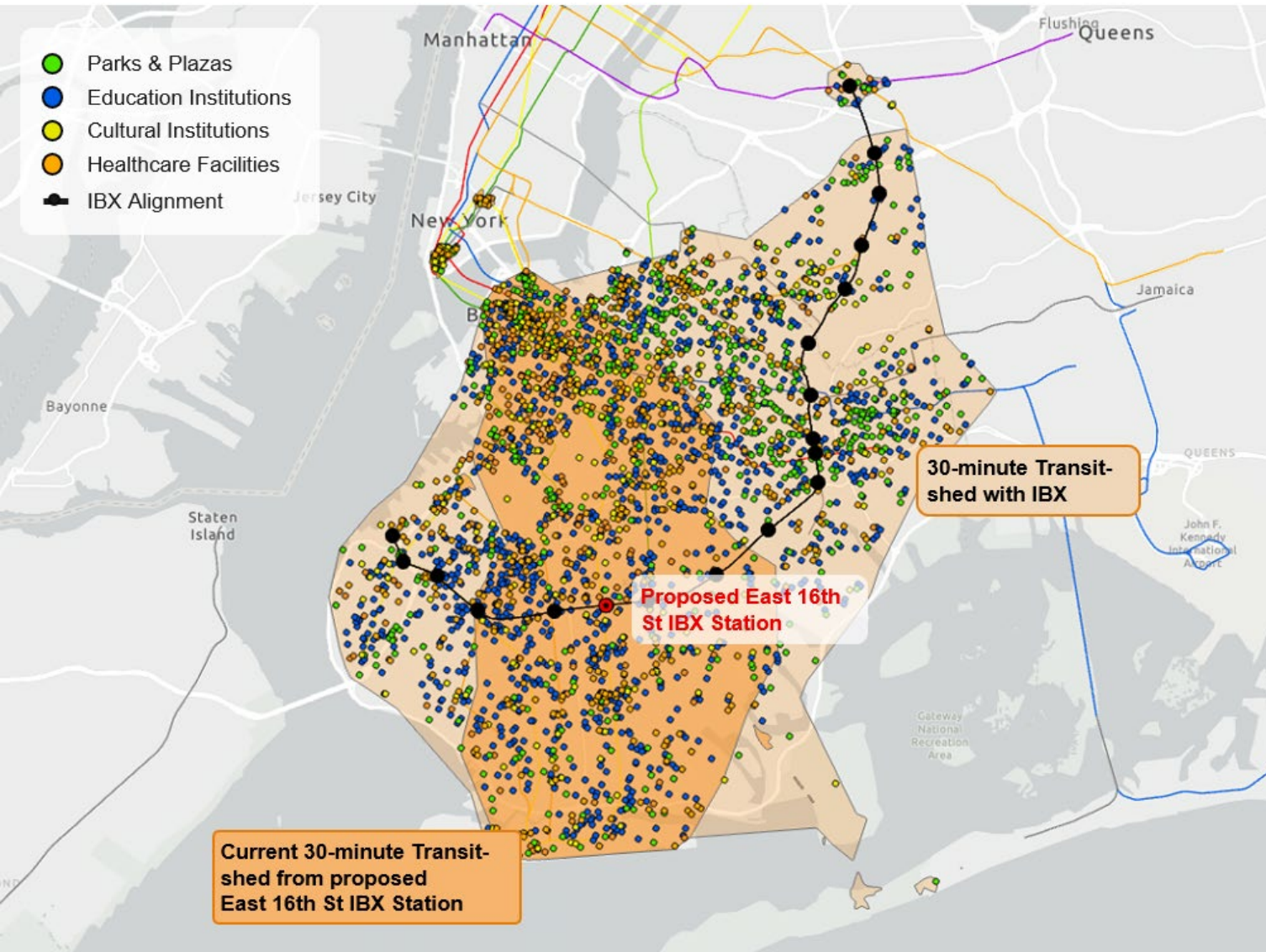
# Access to Opportunity: East 16<sup>th</sup> Street



IBX **more than doubles** the land area accessible within a 30-minute public transit trip

- **Residents** gain access to employment hubs, amenities, and recreation
- **Businesses** reach larger customer bases and talent pools
- Newly accessible **destinations** span as far north as Jackson Heights and as far south as the Rockaways

# Access to Opportunity: East 16<sup>th</sup> Street



Residents and businesses near **East 16th Street** will gain access to:

**1.7x jobs**

From 470K to 798K

**1.7x healthcare facilities**

From 529 to 884

**1.1x higher education institutions**

From 22 to 24

**1.7x daycare & pre-K**

From 875 to 1,530

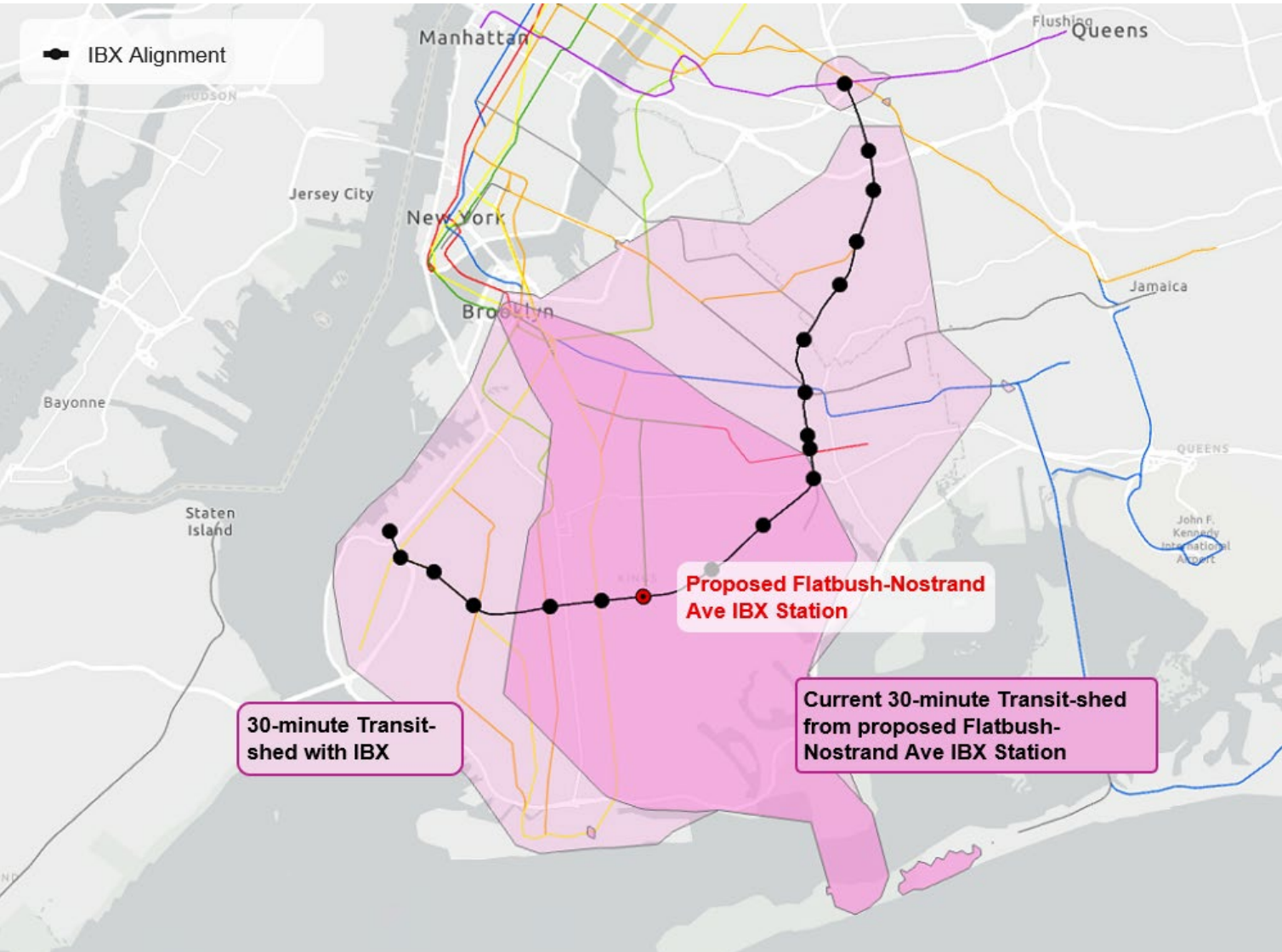
**1.4x cultural institutions**

From 343 to 473

**2x working age population**

From 1M to 2M

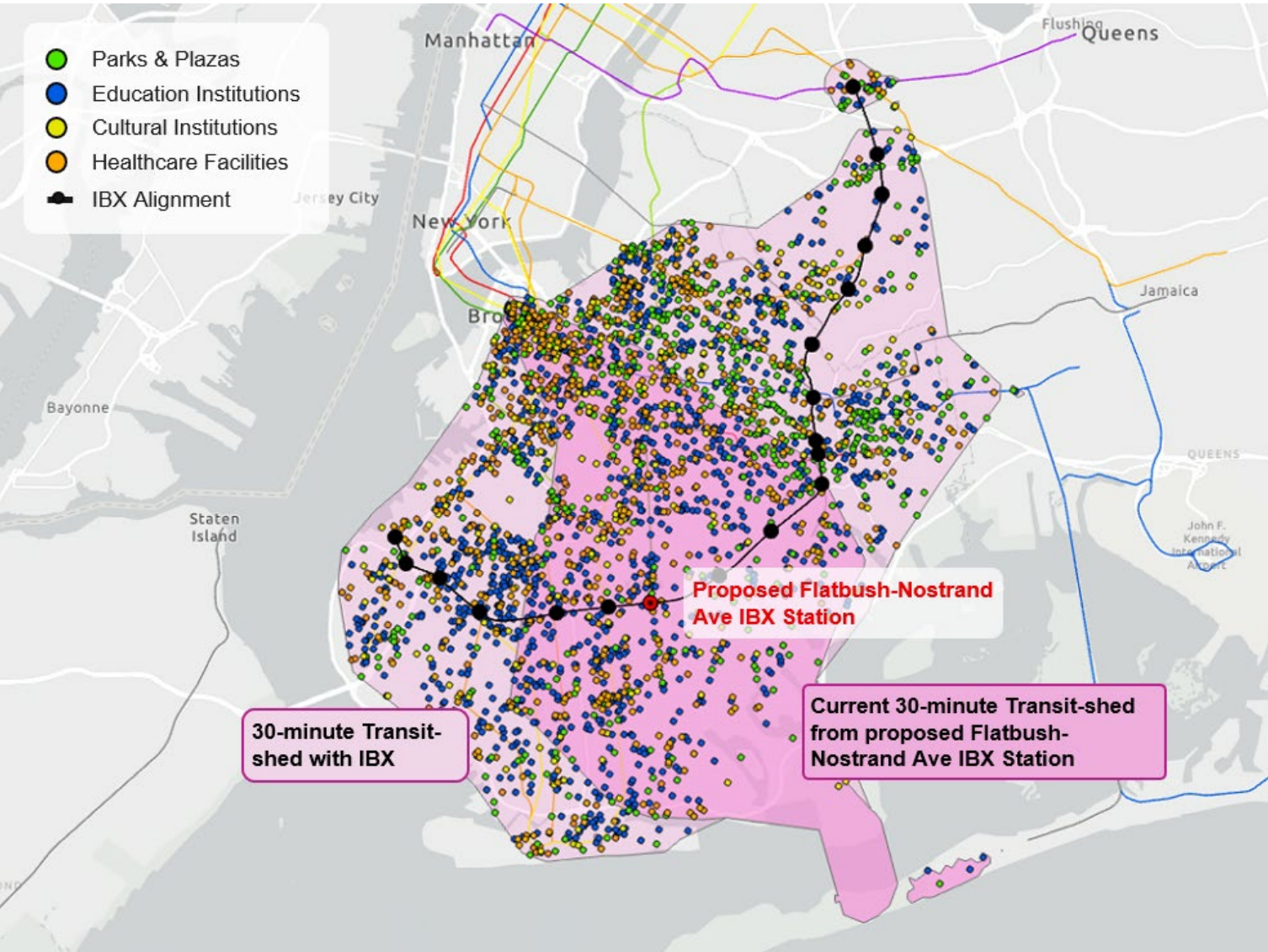
# Access to Opportunity: Flatbush-Nostrand Avenue



IBX **more than doubles** the land area accessible within a 30-minute public transit trip

- **Residents** gain access to employment hubs, amenities, and recreation
- **Businesses** reach larger customer bases and talent pools
- Newly accessible **destinations** include:
  - Bay Ridge
  - Brooklyn waterfront
  - Jackson Heights
  - Park Slope
  - Sunset Park
  - Sheepshead Bay

# Access to Opportunity: Flatbush-Nostrand Avenue



Residents and businesses near **Flatbush-Nostrand Avenue** will gain access to:

**2.2x jobs**

From 363K to 813K

**2x healthcare facilities**

From 423 to 859

**1.4x higher education institutions**

From 12 to 17

**2.3x daycare & pre-K**

From 653 to 1,516

**1.9x cultural institutions**

From 223 to 429

**2.3x working age population**

From 898K to 2.1M

# Project Updates



# Environmental Review



# SEQRA Environmental Review

In October 2025, MTA kicked off the environmental review process under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

- MTA completed the Scoping phase in November, hosting two in-person and two virtual Scoping meetings. Over 500 comments were provided.
- Environmental analyses are now underway
- A final Scoping Document will be issued this year, with a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to follow



Scoping Meeting in Middle Village, Queens

# Property Acquisition

IBX's location **within an existing rail corridor significantly reduces** the need for private property acquisition

- However, a small number of properties will need to be acquired
- MTA is working to identify those properties and is striving to minimize this number to the extent possible
- Acquisition may only begin after the EIS is complete (est. Q4 2026)
- If acquisition is required, MTA will fully comply with the Uniform Relocation Act and all applicable laws governing the use of eminent domain. Elected officials and stakeholders will be kept informed.



# Project Design



# Design Process




- MTA has retained Jacobs and HDR to **begin design** of the IBX project
- Design is a **two-year process** that includes three workstreams:

Due Diligence	Civil Design	System Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surveys</li><li>• Geotech</li><li>• Environmental</li><li>• Structure inspections</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site work</li><li>• Utilities</li><li>• Structures</li><li>• Track work</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stations</li><li>• Operations facility</li><li>• Storage yard</li><li>• Power, train control, communications</li></ul>

- MTA's design team will also assist with procurement of construction contracts

# Due Diligence: Pre-Design In Brooklyn

- Pre-design is when **sites are analyzed in detail**
- This work tells MTA about project feasibility – and **changes to earlier assumptions**
- The design team has distributed flyers and contacted properties close to work sites to ensure coordination and minimal disruption

Field Work Underway	Completion
<b>Geotechnical Investigation</b> Evaluates soil, rock, groundwater conditions	 40%
<b>Surveying</b> Models conditions in 3D	 45%
<b>Structures Inspections</b> Assesses integrity of nearby infrastructure, like bridges	 55%



Soil Boring Operations within New York & Atlantic's Right of Way

# Systems Design: Stations & Urban Realm

Since Fall 2025, MTA's design team has conducted site investigations, developed station prototypes, and analyzed critical factors such as fire and life safety

- **Design is prioritizing** the passenger experience, neighborhood interfaces, accessibility, and connection with other modes of transportation
- This Spring, MTA will host a series of **public workshops** to ask for input on these and related topics:
  - Safety
  - Wayfinding
  - Street lighting
  - Passenger information products
  - Treatments for fencing/barriers



*Prototype of Station Entrance (Illustrative Only)*

# Community Focus Areas



# Stormwater Management

As part of design, MTA and their design team are developing a **resilience plan to mitigate stormwater flooding** throughout the corridor

- MTA continues to **meet with NYCDEP** to coordinate stormwater modeling, existing system connection, and future mitigation plans
- Resilience plan design is prioritizing public safety, operational resilience, and impacts to adjacent neighborhoods, particularly during storm events



*Track Ponding at Entrance to 65th Street Yard*

# Electrical Grid Capacity



MTA and their design team are **working with ConEd** to ensure IBX's electrical needs can be met by the existing grid – and that any grid improvements resulting from IBX also benefit communities

- IBX's electrical design is **prioritizing** public safety and resilience, overall impact, and vehicle performance under different conditions
- Upcoming public outreach will ask for feedback on substation architecture to blend with the existing community fabric

# Next Steps



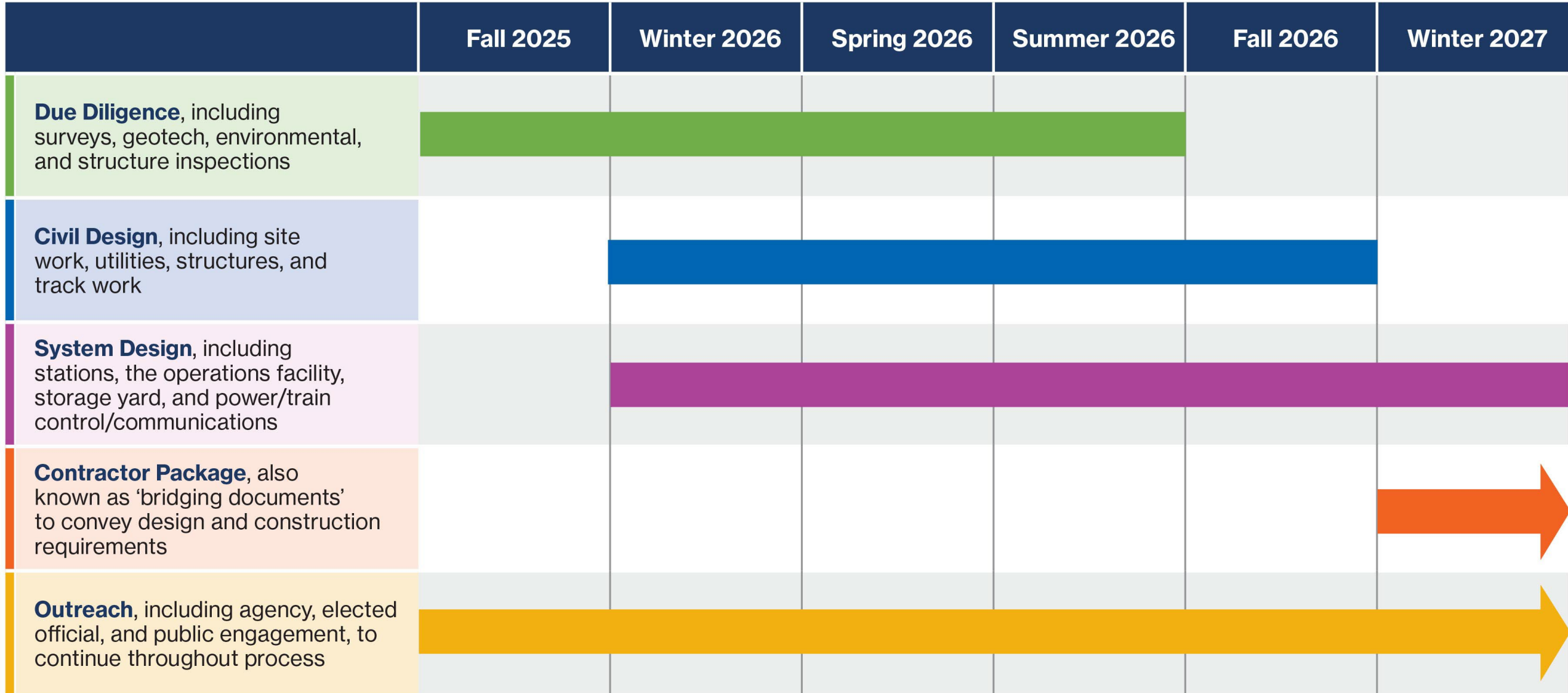
# Upcoming Public Outreach



- MTA expects to ask for your feedback at three key stages over the next year:
  - To inform **design decisions**, including about stations, urban realm connections, and vehicle layout
  - To receive formal comment on the **DEIS** as part of New York's SEQRA process
  - To inform the **draft design** concepts developed during preliminary engineering
- MTA welcomes your input on locations, languages, and groups or individuals to include in this outreach
- To date, MTA has hosted: 12 open houses, 10 pop ups, four SEQRA scoping meetings, and quarterly Community Council meetings

*Open House at the Queens Public Library in Ridgewood*

# Next Steps



# Q&A



# Thank you!





***Scan the QR code to  
share your input!***

## **We want to hear from you!**

Take the IBX survey to share your input on design priorities to help shape the Interborough Express.

*Survey available in English and Spanish.*