



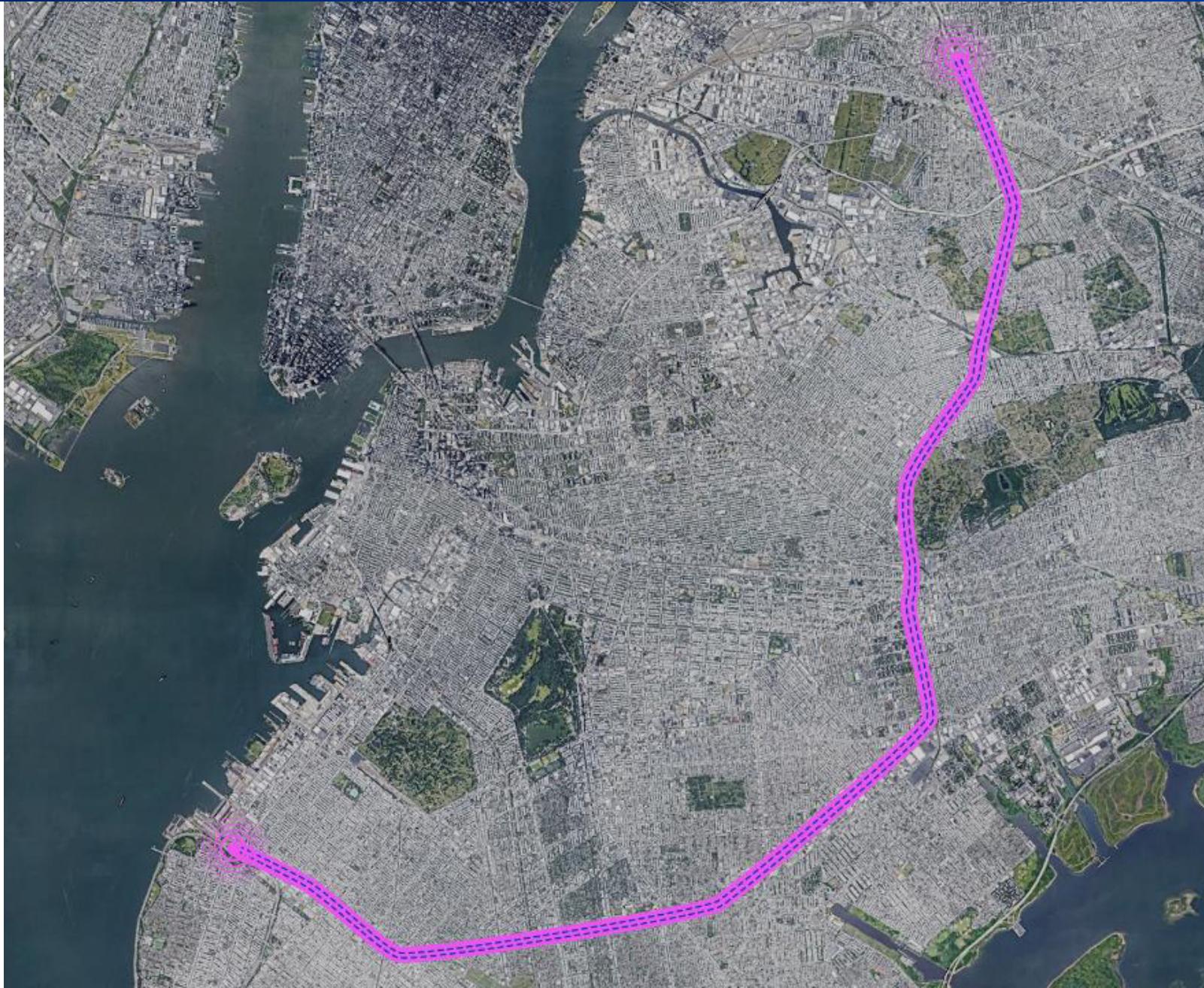
May 19, 2026

Interborough Express

Community Board Briefing –
Brooklyn Community Board 16



**Construction &
Development**



Agenda

01 Introductions

02 Project Overview

03 Access to Opportunity

04 Project Updates

- Review of IBX Corridor
- Environmental Review
- Design

05 Community Focus Areas

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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



Project History

- **1876** Passenger service began as part of the New York and Manhattan Beach Railway
- **1924** Passenger service on the line ceased
- **1996** Regional Plan Association (RPA) releases the Third Regional Plan, proposing a new transit link
- **2022** Interborough Express Feasibility Report released; Governor Hochul directs the MTA to begin environmental review process
- **2023** Planning and Environmental Linkages study released; Environmental review work begins
- **2024** Project receives NYS funding to begin design
- **2025** IBX receives funding in MTA's Capital Plan; Project enters design phase; SEQRA scoping process begins



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

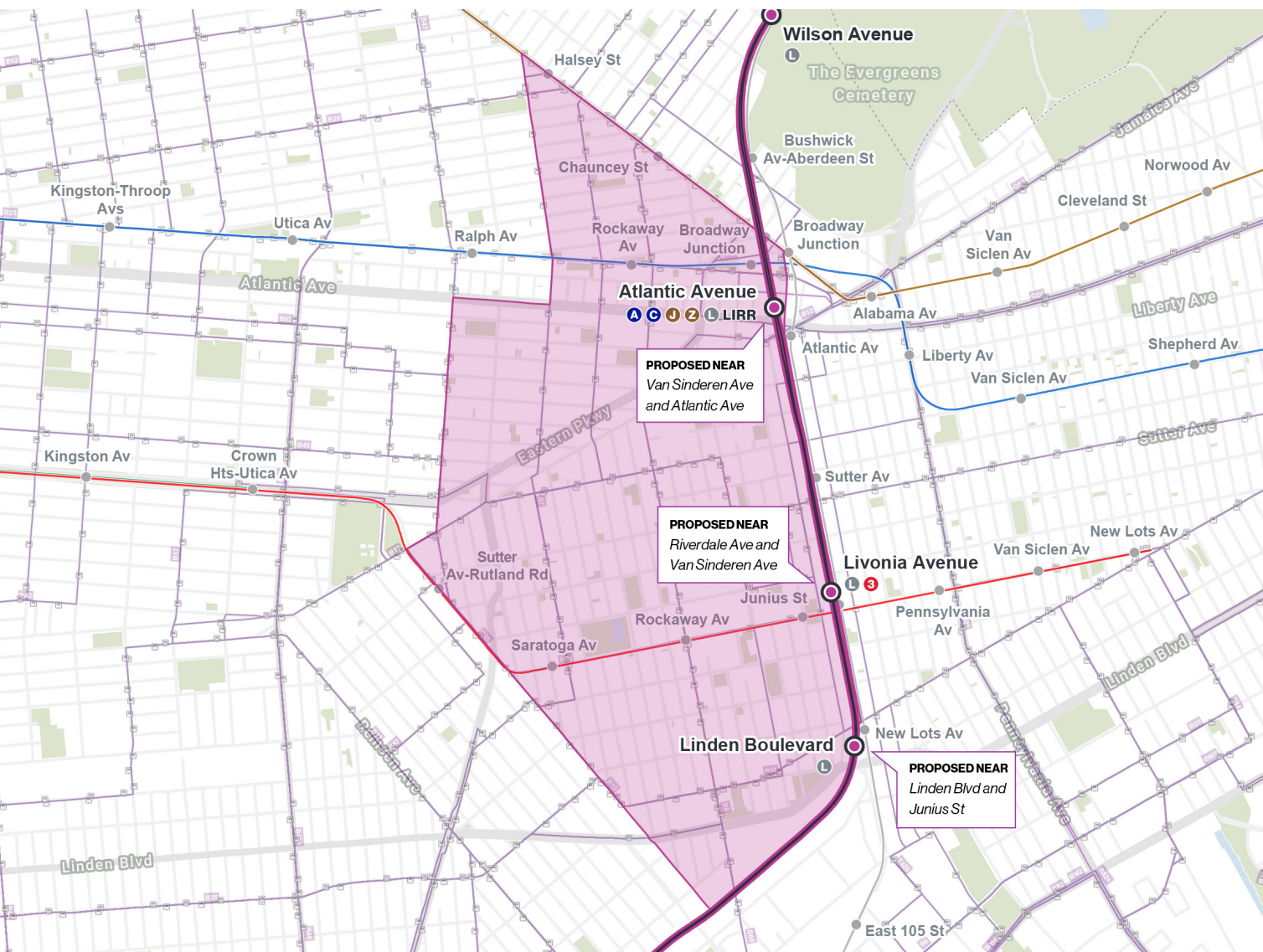
160,000 projected daily weekday riders
32 min estimated runtime



Access to Opportunity



Brooklyn Community District 16



Brooklyn Community District 16 is currently served by:

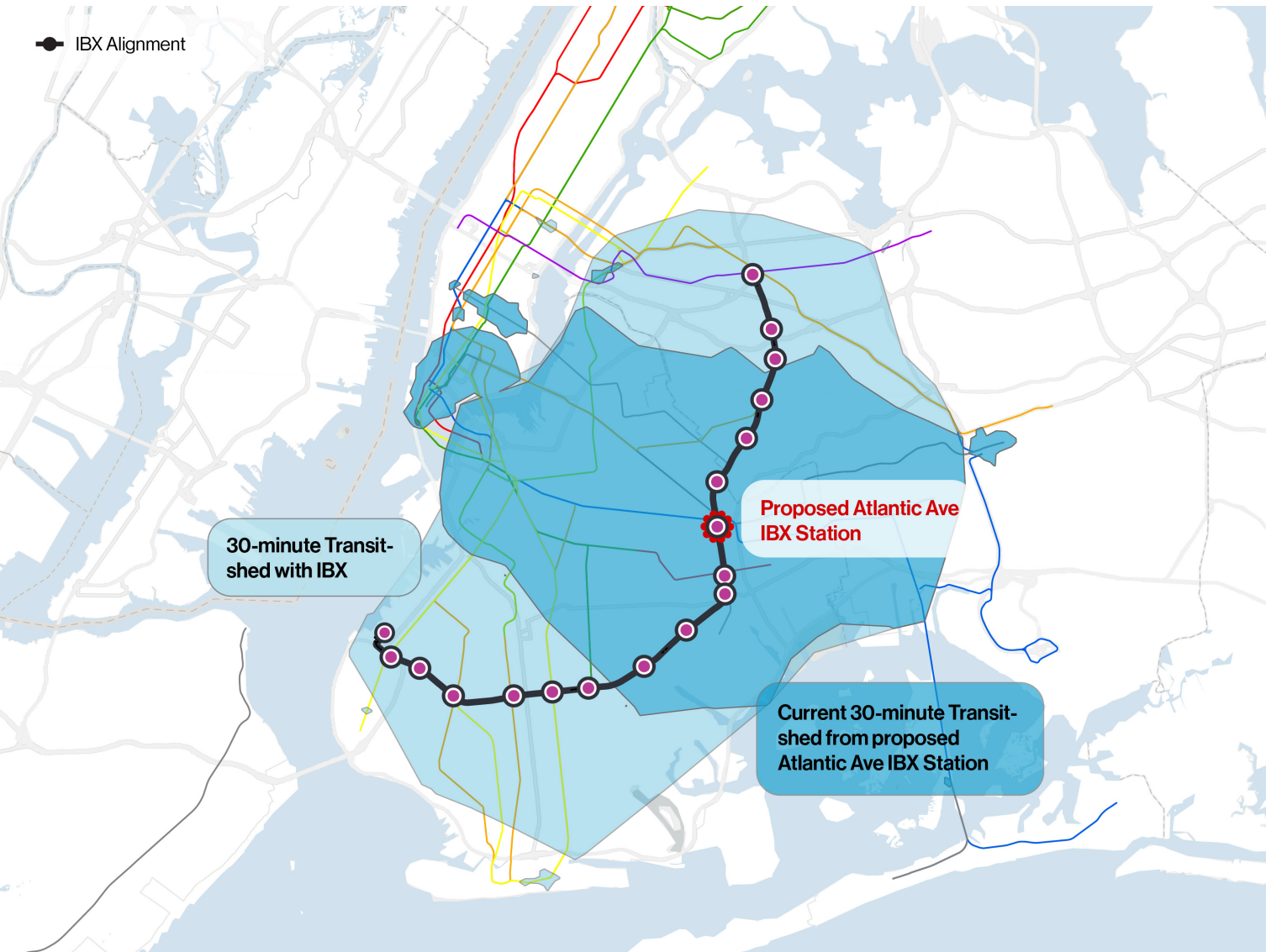
- **17** bus routes (B7, B8, B12, B14, B15, B20, B25, B26, B35, B47, B60, B83, B99, B111, Q24, Q56)
- Subway lines (**AC3JZL**)

IBX will introduce **three stops** at:

- Atlantic Avenue
- Livonia Avenue
- Linden Boulevard

Exact station locations subject to change

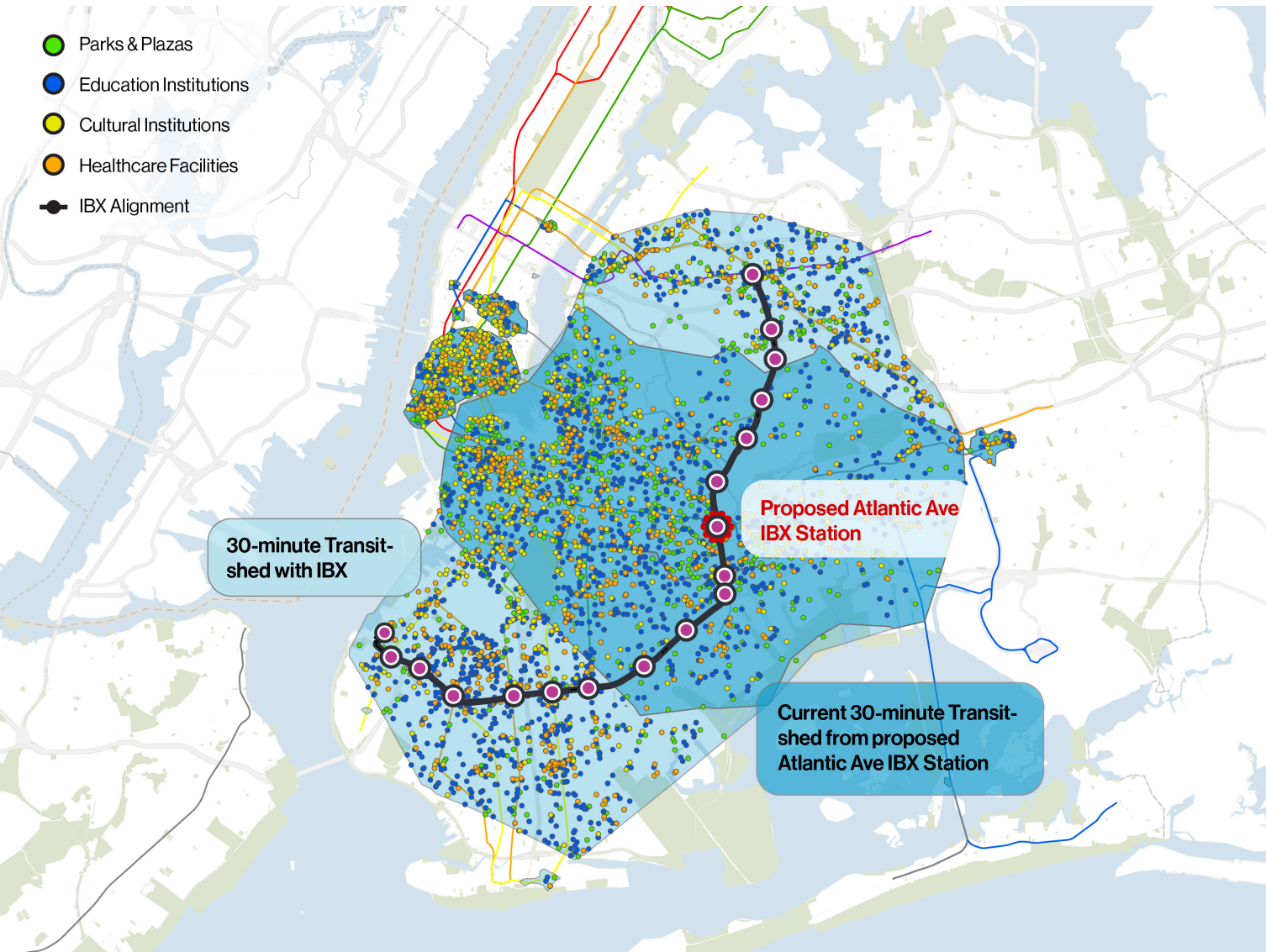
Access to Opportunity: Atlantic Avenue



IBX expands the land area accessible within a 30-minute public transit trip by **82%**

- **Residents** gain access to employment hubs, amenities, and recreation
- **Businesses** reach larger customer bases and talent pools
- Newly accessible **destinations** include:
 - Brooklyn Army Terminal
 - Jamaica
 - Long Island City
 - Midtown
 - Union Square/14th Street

Access to Opportunity: Atlantic Avenue



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

1.8x jobs

From 858K to 1.6M

1.6x healthcare facilities

From 797 to 1,252

1.4x higher education institutions

From 27 to 37

1.9x daycare & pre-K

From 1,070 to 2,036

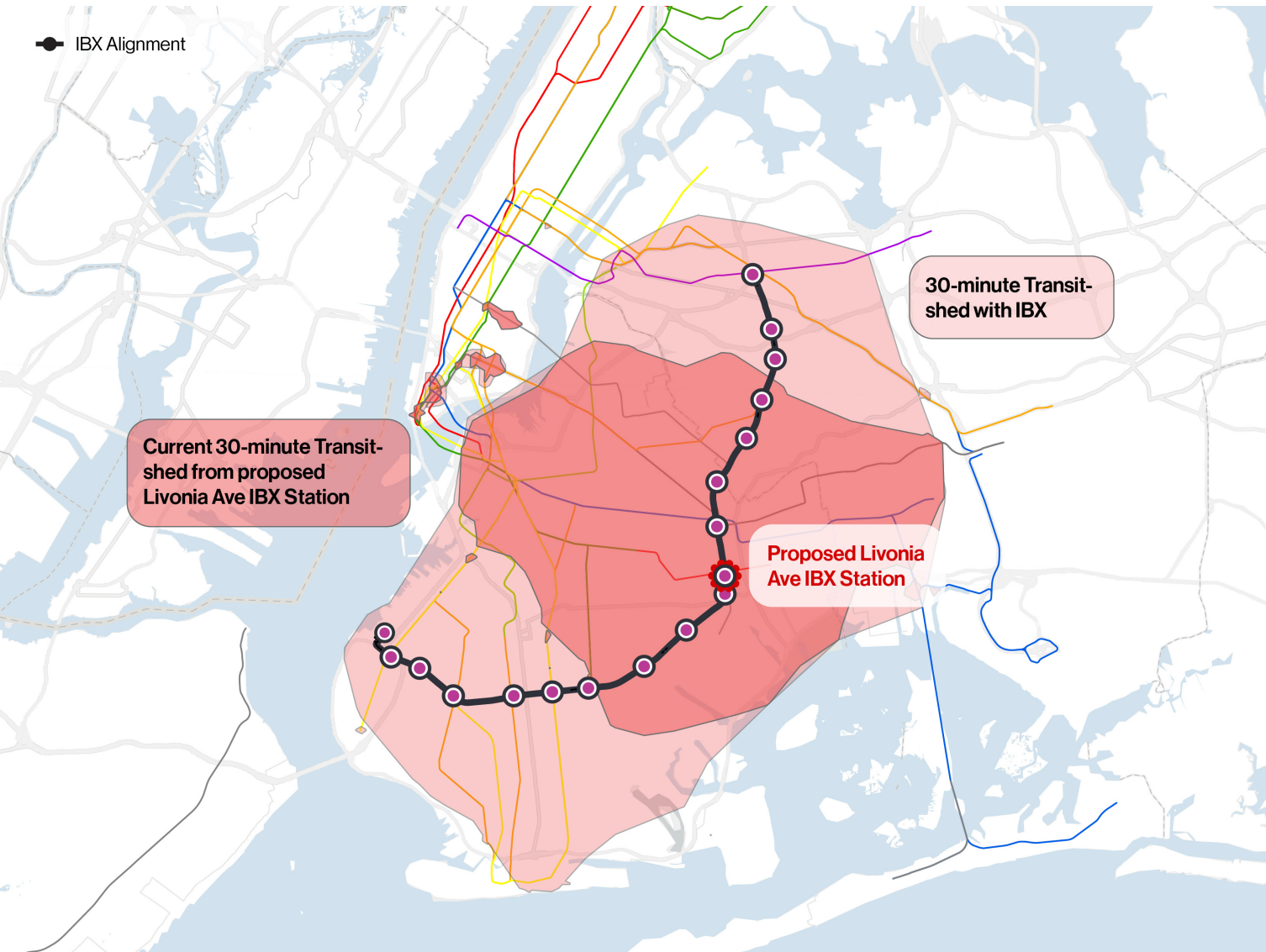
1.4x cultural institutions

From 655 to 900

1.9x working age population

From 2M to 3.8M

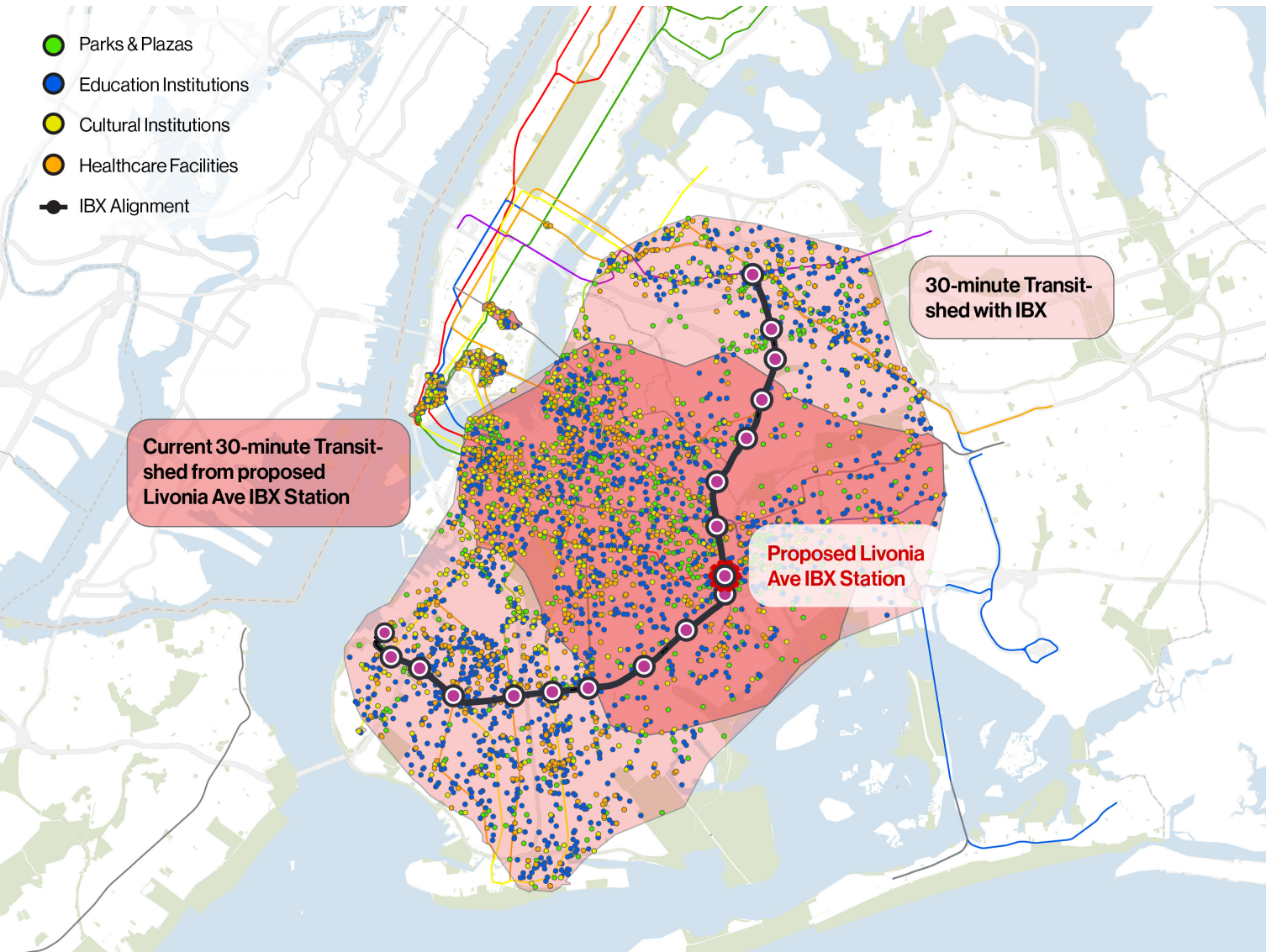
Access to Opportunity: Livonia Avenue



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:
 - Brooklyn Army Terminal
 - Flushing
 - Long Island City
 - Lower Manhattan
 - Midtown

Access to Opportunity: Livonia Avenue



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

2.6x jobs

From 468K to 1.2M

1.8x healthcare facilities

From 599 to 1,104

1.8x higher education institutions

From 16 to 29

2.2x daycare & pre-K

From 853 to 1,900

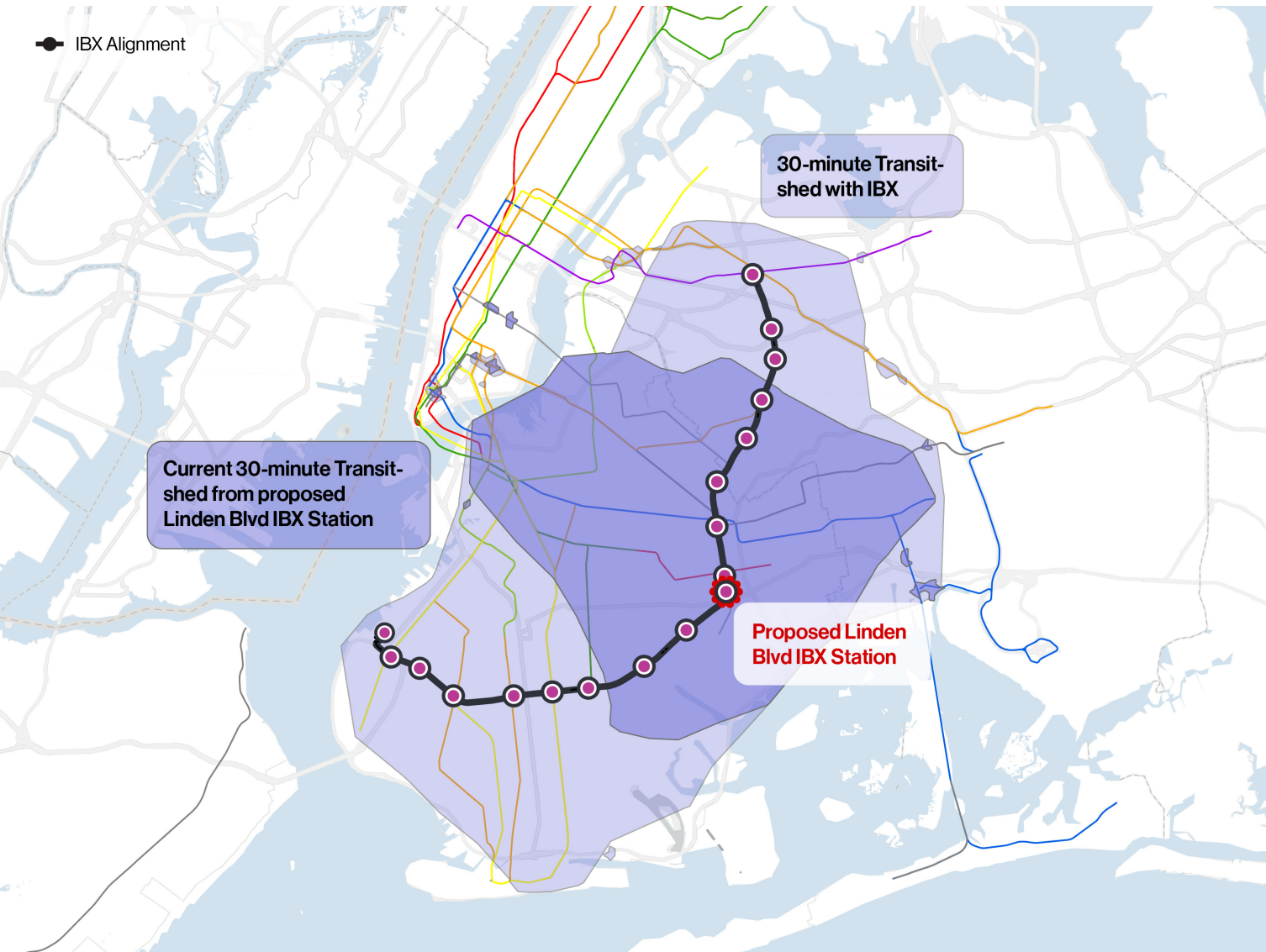
1.9x cultural institutions

From 348 to 659

2.1x working age population

From 1.7M to 3.6M

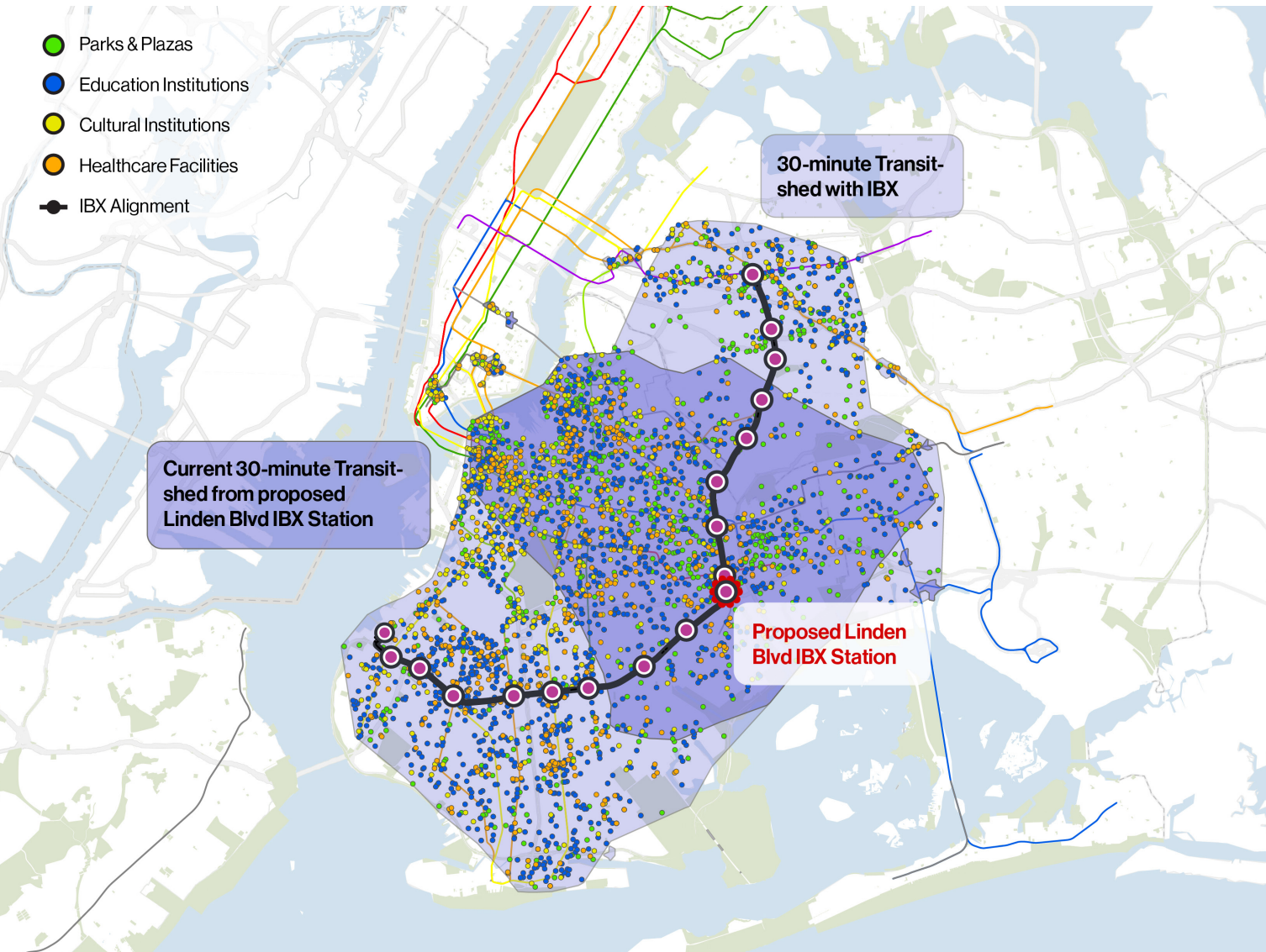
Access to Opportunity: Linden Boulevard



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:
 - Brooklyn Army Terminal
 - Coney Island
 - Downtown Brooklyn
 - DUMBO
 - Long Island City
 - Lower Manhattan

Access to Opportunity: Linden Boulevard



Residents and businesses near **Linden Boulevard** will gain access to:

2.4x jobs

From 445K to 1.1M

1.9x healthcare facilities

From 537 to 1,025

1.4x higher education institutions

From 15 to 21

2.3x daycare & pre-K

From 802 to 1,818

1.9x cultural institutions

From 300 to 580

2.1x working age population

From 1.6M to 3.4M

Project Updates

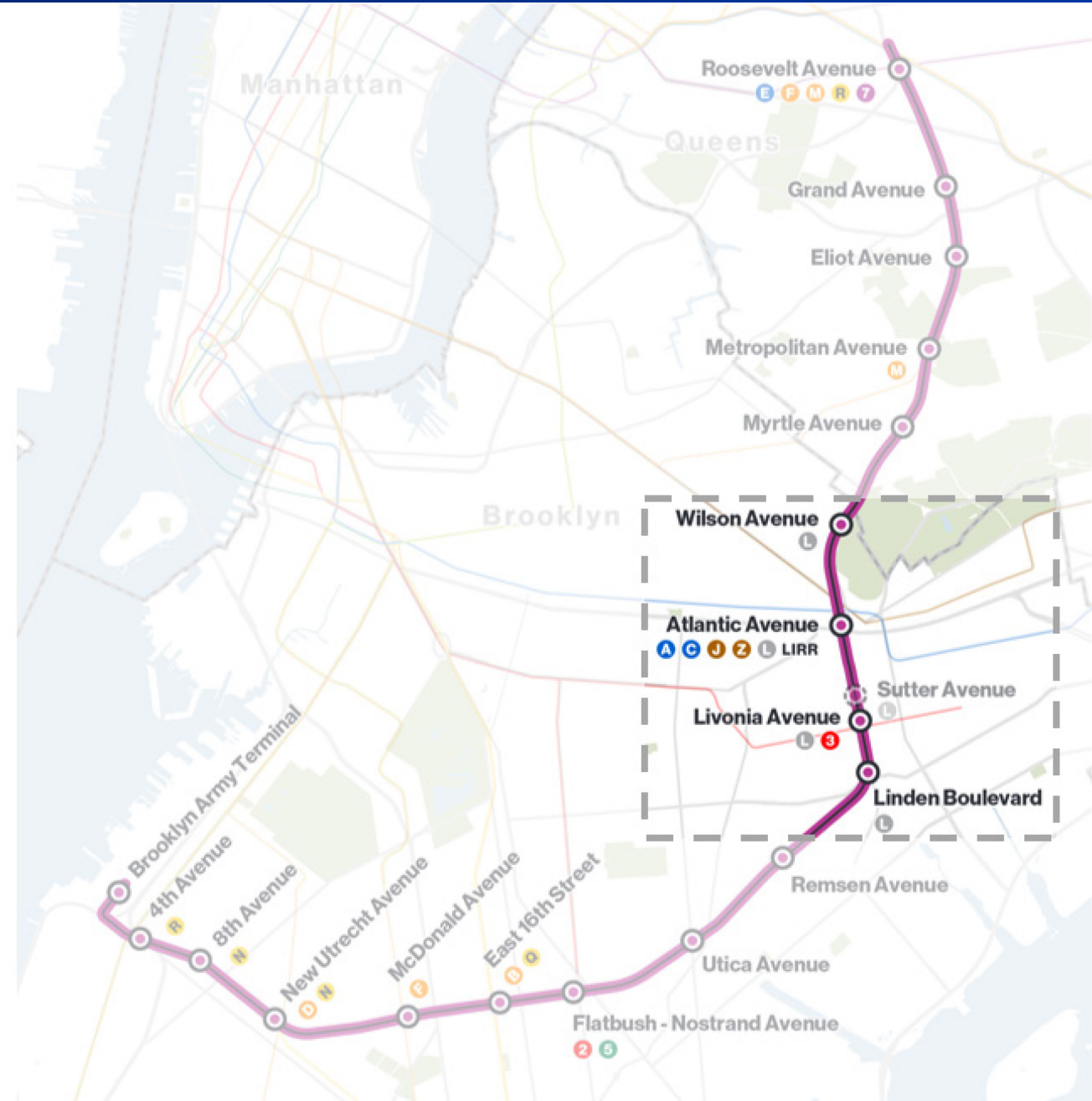


Review of IBX corridor



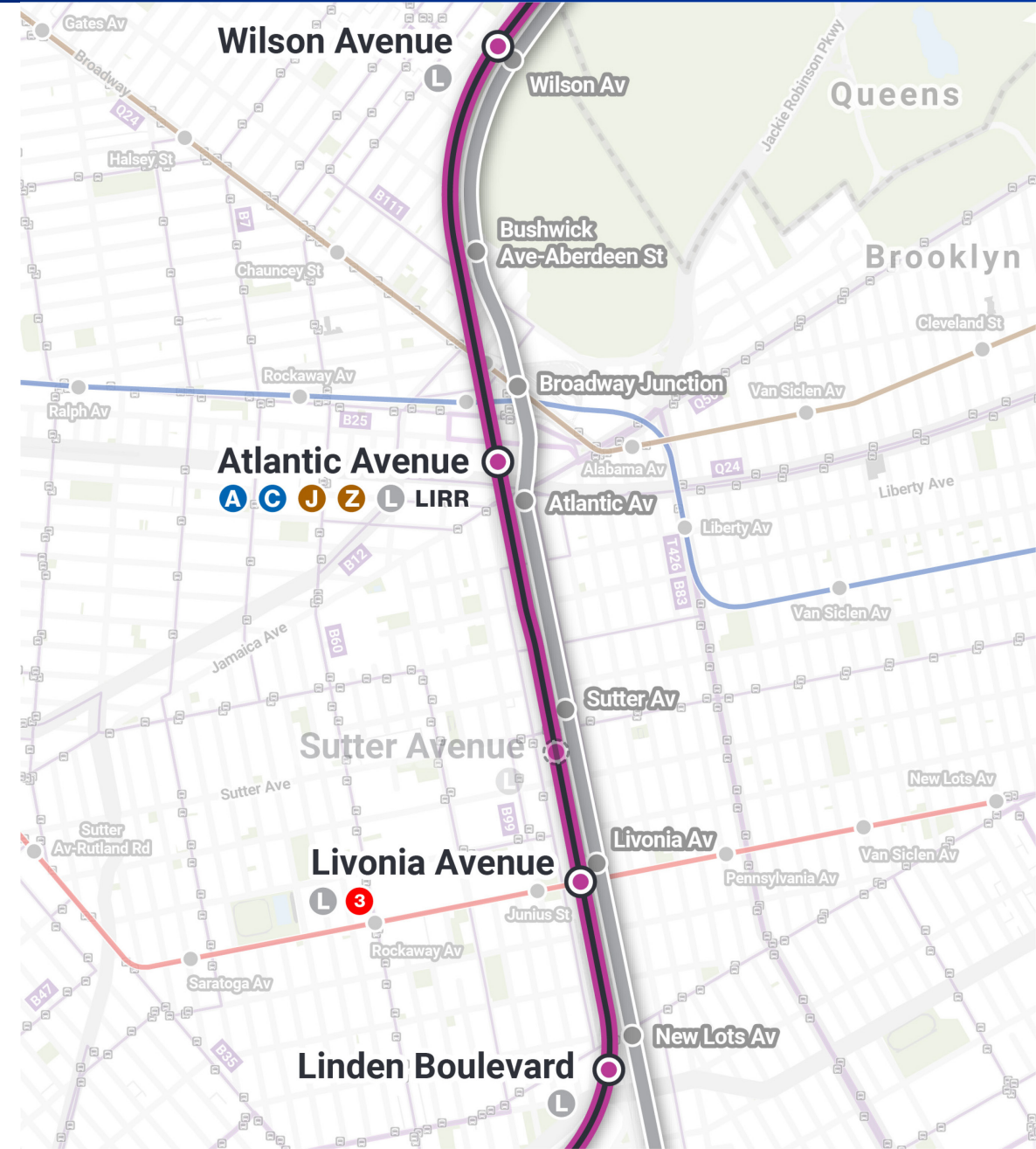
IBX / L Corridor Review

- As IBX design advances, the project team is continually evaluating station locations
- The conceptual design included L train connections at five IBX stations:
 - **Linden Blvd** (New Lots L)
 - **Livonia Ave** L³
 - **Sutter Ave** L
 - **Atlantic Ave** (Atlantic Ave/Broadway Junction ACJZL)
 - **Wilson Ave** L
- This 2-mile stretch is the most crowded and slowest section of the IBX



IBX / L Connections & Transfers

- The proposed solution: While maintaining “local” **L** service at all stations, remove an IBX station to create true “express” service
- Sutter Avenue has been identified as the candidate for removal
 - Its short distance (~3 blocks) to Livonia Avenue IBX **L3** reduces train speeds
 - Its connection to IBX is redundant, with no unique transfer opportunities
- Customers can be served at nearby Livonia Avenue and Atlantic Avenue or via transfers from continuing “local” **L** service while improving overall IBX performance



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 also aware of encroachments into the right of way
- MTA is working to identify these properties and minimize acquisitions 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.



Project Design



Design Process

- MTA has retained an engineering team to **begin design** of the IBX project
- Design is a **two-year process** that includes three workstreams:

Due Diligence	Civil Design	System Design
• Surveys • Geotech • Environmental • Structure inspections	• Site work • Utilities • Structures • Track work	• Stations • Operations facility • Storage yard • Power, train control, communications

- 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
Geotechnical Investigation Evaluates soil, rock, groundwater conditions	95%
Surveying Models conditions in 3D	65%
Structures Inspections Assesses integrity of nearby infrastructure, like bridges	95%



Soil Boring Operations within LIRR Bay Ridge Branch

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

Upcoming Public Workshop Dates

- Join the MTA at one of the six upcoming, in-person, interactive public workshops:
 - Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 7Q (Jackson Heights) – *Completed***
 - Saturday, May 2, 2026, 10AM-12PM – Christ the King (Middle Village) – *Completed***
 - Thursday, May 7, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 235K (East Flatbush) – *Completed***
 - Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 6–8 PM – Maimonides Medical Center (Borough Park) – *Completed***
 - Thursday, May 28, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 88Q (Ridgewood)**
 - Saturday, May 30, 2026, 10 AM–12 PM – East New York Arts and Civic High School (East New York)**

Help Shape the Interborough Express (IBX)

SPRING 2026

Join us for in-person, interactive public workshops about the proposed light rail connection between Brooklyn and Queens

Participants will be able to:

- Share your priorities for stations and train design, and your experience using transit
- Hear background information and recent updates on the project
- Have opportunities to ask the project team questions
- Participate in family-friendly activities – all are encouraged to attend!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING WORKSHOP

- Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 7Q** (Queens: 80-55 Cornish Ave, Elmhurst, NY 11373)
- Saturday, May 2, 2026, 10AM-12PM – Christ the King** (Queens: 68-02 Metropolitan Ave, Middle Village, NY 11379)
- Thursday, May 7, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 235K** (Brooklyn: 5811 Ditmas Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11203)
- Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 6–8 PM – Maimonides Medical Center** (Brooklyn: 4802 10th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11219)
- Thursday, May 28, 2026, 6–8 PM – PS 88Q** (Queens: 60-85 Catalpa Ave, Ridgewood, NY 11385)
- Saturday, May 30, 2026, 10 AM–12 PM – East New York Arts and Civic High School** (Brooklyn: 800 Van Siclen Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11207)

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2026

The environmental review and design processes are both active, and each has public engagement opportunities.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- Nov 2025**: Scoping meetings
- Fall/Winter 2026**: Draft EIS

DESIGN

- Spring 2026**: Input on design priorities
- Fall/Winter 2026**: Feedback on draft design

WE ARE HERE

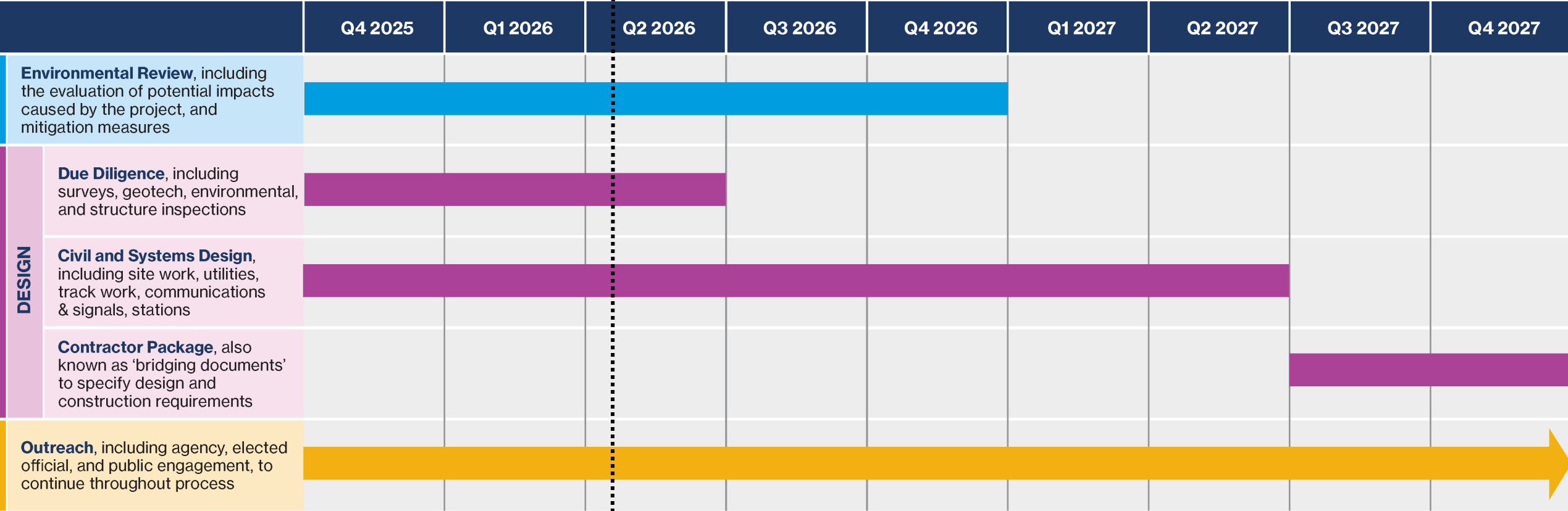
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Scan the QR code for an IBX survey

For more information please visit: mta.info/IBX

For translation or interpretation into languages other than English and Spanish, please contact us with advance notice at IBXoutreach@mtacd.org

Next Steps



We Are Here



***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.

Q&A



Thank you!

