BQX Update

APTA Annual Meeting – Streetcar Subcommittee

October 13, 2019
Outline

1. Context
2. Project Summary
3. Environmental Review
4. Challenges
Context
Context

Brooklyn/Queens Waterfront

- Major rezonings resulting in significant development
  - Long Island City (2001)
  - Downtown Brooklyn (2004)
  - Williamsburg/Greenpoint (2005)
- Since 2000, 120,000 new residents, 170,000 new jobs
- Corridor population growing at twice the rate of City as whole (12.7% between 2008-2015)
- Growing job hubs alternatives to Manhattan CBDs
  - Downtown Brooklyn
  - Brooklyn Navy Yard
  - Long Island City
Context

Brooklyn/Queens Waterfront

- Limited north-south transit options
- Several “subway deserts”
- New commuting patterns
Project Summary
Project Summary

Proposed Alignment

- Red Hook, BK to Astoria, QN
- ~25 stops
- Connects to 14 subway lines
- Serves:
  - Three major employment centers
  - Three subway deserts
  - 40,000 public housing residents

Note: Conceptual Design Only (5%)
Alignment subject to adjustment.
Project Summary

2018 Report

Alignment
- Migrated inland from initial concept
- Unproductive Sunset Park segment eliminated
- Focus on direct streamlined routing

Conceptual Design
- 70% dedicated right-of-way
- Center-running, side-running, and transitway segments
- Impacts to parking, vehicle capacity unavoidable
Project Summary

Conceptual Design

Transitway

Center-running
Project Summary

2018 Report

Ridership
- Projected 50,000 daily riders initially, to increase to 80,000 or more
- Ridership model projects 70% will use BQX to transfer to/from subways or buses
- Reliability and speed drive high ridership

Economic Impact
- 16,000 construction jobs, spurs creation of 4,000 permanent jobs
- Catalyzes nearly $30B in economic impact
- Generates value capture revenue
Project Summary

Capital Cost Estimate

- $2.7B
- $1.3B covered by value capture
- City will pursue other funding sources, incl. federal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trackbed, Guideway, Catenary (OCS), Controls</td>
<td>453M</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Power Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>7M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance Yard</td>
<td>136M</td>
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<td>Newtown Creek Bridge</td>
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<td>Hazardous Materials and Special Conditions</td>
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<td>Vehicles</td>
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<td><strong>Total Construction</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Soft Costs</th>
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<td>Construction Contingency</td>
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<td>Professional Services</td>
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<td>Design Contingency</td>
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<td>Escalation</td>
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<td>Real Estate Acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Soft Costs</strong></td>
<td>1,175,492,652</td>
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**TOTAL COST**                                        | $ 2,726,742,652 |
Environmental Review
Environmental Review

Timeline

2019-21 City Environmental Review (CEQR) EIS

Engaged EIS Consultant

Summer '19

Public Scoping

Spring '20

Fall '19/Winter '20

Pre-scoping Public Outreach

Early '21 DEIS

FEIS Mid '21
Environmental Review

Opportunities

- Build public support through robust public process
- Full evaluation of modal alternatives
  - Streetcar
  - BRT
  - Neighborhood mobility improvements
- Continued technical analysis to refine project proposal:
  - Potential for alignment modifications
  - Operations and Maintenance Facility siting challenges remain
  - Confirm conceptual design
Project Challenges
Project Challenges

Funding

• $1.3 - $1.4B funding gap with value capture
• New Starts
  • BQX should score well but competitive program
  • NYC region applicants include:
    • Second Avenue Subway Phase 2 - $2B sought
    • Gateway Project (Hudson Rail Tunnel) - $6.8B sought
    • PATH to Newark Airport extension
• Other potential options
  • Private investment
  • Federal flexible funding
  • Additional City funds
• Perception among some:
  • Funding for BQX will come at expense of other transit investments
  • BRT would be more affordable
Project Challenges

Public Outreach Timeline

2016
Collected Public Input

- Public workshops
- Stakeholder meetings
- 1,400 ideas received

2017
Technical Studies

Limited public interaction

2018
Conceptual Alignment & Design

2019-20 Vet Concept with Public

- Interactive web portal
- Stakeholder meetings
- Business outreach
- Public workshops
- EIS Scoping meeting
Project Challenges

Political

• Many players
  • Two Borough Presidents
  • Six City Council members
  • Five community boards
  • State/federal elected officials

• Local approvals requiring City Council votes

• Planning/design/construction will span multiple administrations
Project Challenges

Some Inspiration…

14th Street Transit and Truck Priority
Thank You!

Questions?