




Reconnect Campus Plan, Proposed Fall 2024

Pedestrianize 68th Street, Between Lexington and Park Avenues

Goal: To implement in conjunction with DOT's Public Space Equity Program, with support from the MTA (M66 bus reroute), Student Government, Community Board 8, Elected Officials, Advocacy Groups, Nearby Schools, and Vendors

- 
- Campus Overcrowded; Lacks Quad & Communal Spaces
 - Rampant Illegal Parking
 - M66 Bus crawls in Traffic
 - Air Pollution High due to idling congestion

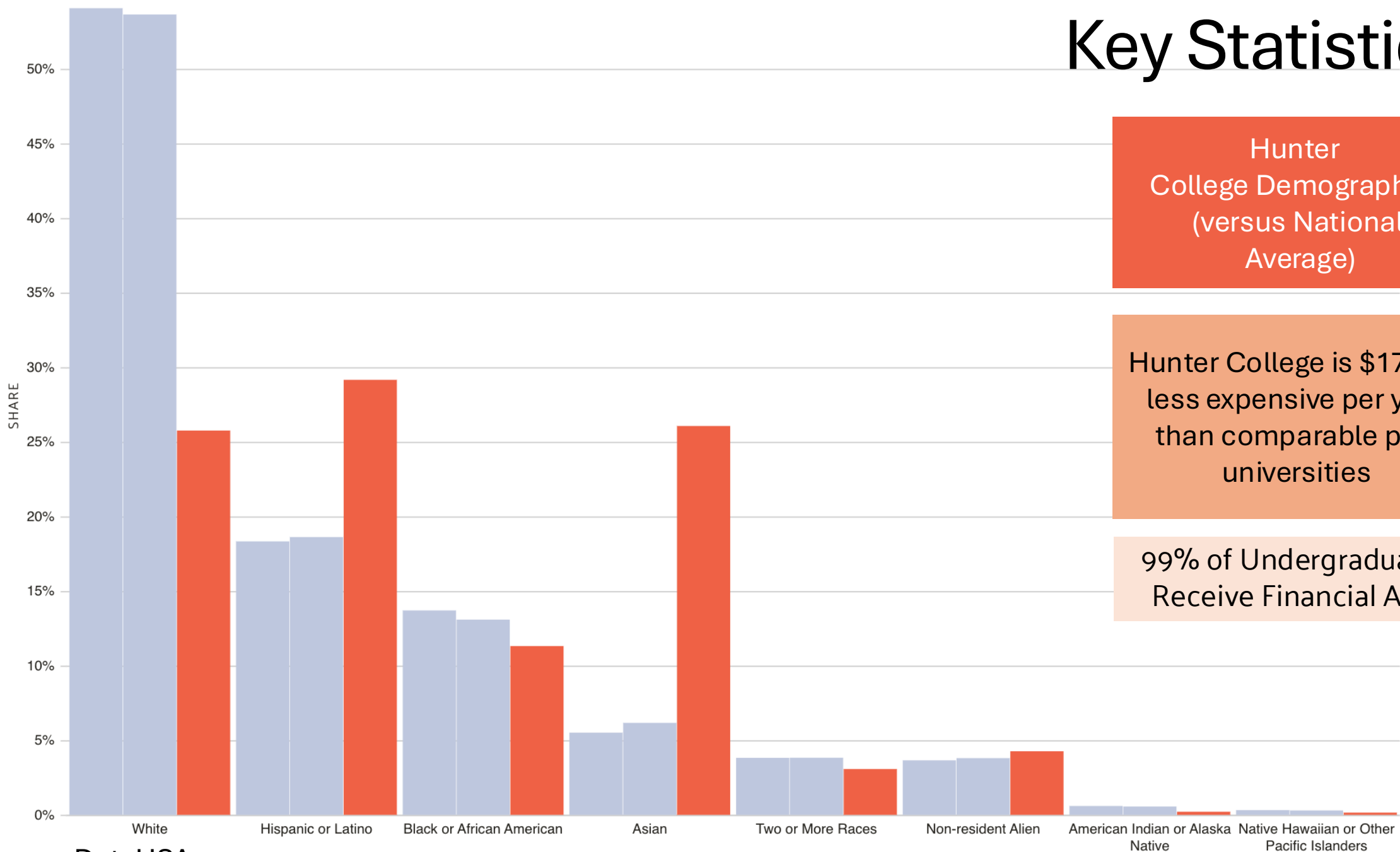
Existing
Conditions

Benefits

- Create Iconic Viewshed and Reconnected Campus Identity
- Invest in an engine of economic mobility for local, working-class students
- Promote Campus Culture with opportunities for spontaneous encounters
- Relieve Substantial Indoor Overcrowding
- Provide a true Public Space for the Community and Students to Mingle
- Enliven the Neighborhood
- Provide 3rd Space for K12 Students at Nearby Schools
- Enhance vending opportunities for Entrepreneurs
- Reduce Air Pollution



Key Statistics

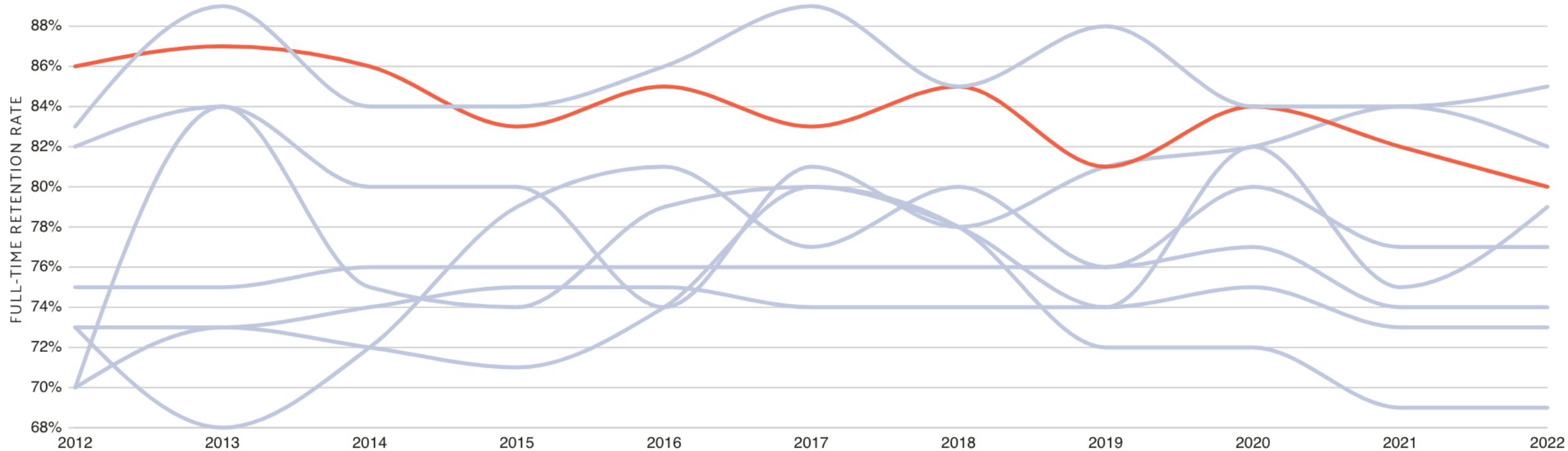


Hunter College Demographics (versus National Average)

Hunter College is \$17,000 less expensive per year than comparable peer universities

99% of Undergraduates Receive Financial Aid

Academic Profile



Hunter College Retention Rate (versus comparable peers)

Hunter College excels
academically and
supports its students
through graduation and
beyond.

Naturally, enrollment has skyrocketed, leaving Hunter bursting at the seams, lacking in geospatial resources that ambitious, hardworking students deserve.

Source: DataUSA



Precedence

CUNY Baruch College's pedestrianization of 25th Street is a tremendous success. By building a thriving public realm for students and the community alike, it reaffirms the potential of underutilized land.



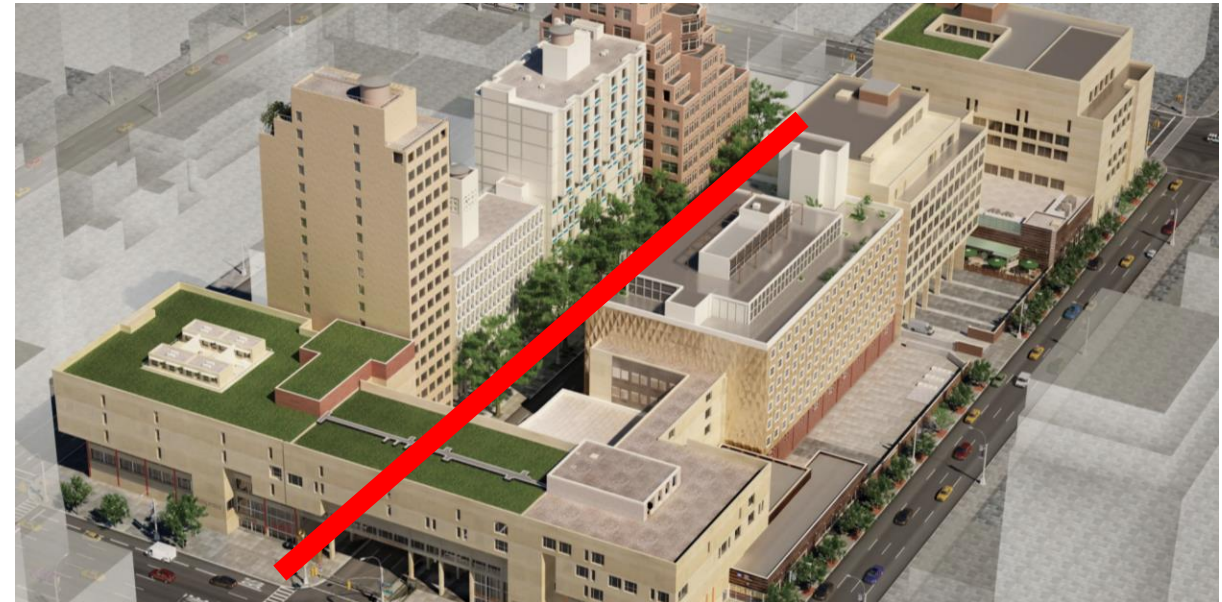
Known as the Clivner-Field Plaza, it spans the block between Lexington and Third avenues. The space was first proposed by Baruch College administrators in 2011. (Office of Councilmember Carlina Rivera)

Eighth Avenue



Precedence

SUNY FIT's low traffic street provides a connecting thread and a 'soft edge' public space to create a distinct campus environment in the heart of a bustling neighborhood.



Times Square Plaza (Manhattan, New York)



After adding more pedestrian space in New York, retail sales increased, according to Sadik-Khan.
Left: Photo by Heidi Wolf/NYC DOT, right: Photo by Julio Palheiro/NYC DOT

Brooklyn Bridge Park



Precedence

Pedestrianizing streets in dense areas with high foot traffic creates thriving spaces providing economic, social, health, and public wealth benefits.

Find address or place



North
Bergen
West New
York
Union City
Weehawken

LaGuardia
Airport

HUNTER
COLLEGE

Manhattan

Jersey City

New York

Liberty
State Park

The Nightingale Bamford School	\$61,655 py
The Dalton School	\$61,120 py
Saint David's School	\$58,800 py
The Buckley School	\$58,500 py

Existing Open Streets

When suffering from systemic, racialized disinvestment¹, it is a moral imperative to reallocate resources.



CURBED



SCHOOLS | UPDATED MAR. 25, 2022

Hunter College Is Falling Down “We’re actually in crisis, and you can’t keep duct-taping things together forever.”

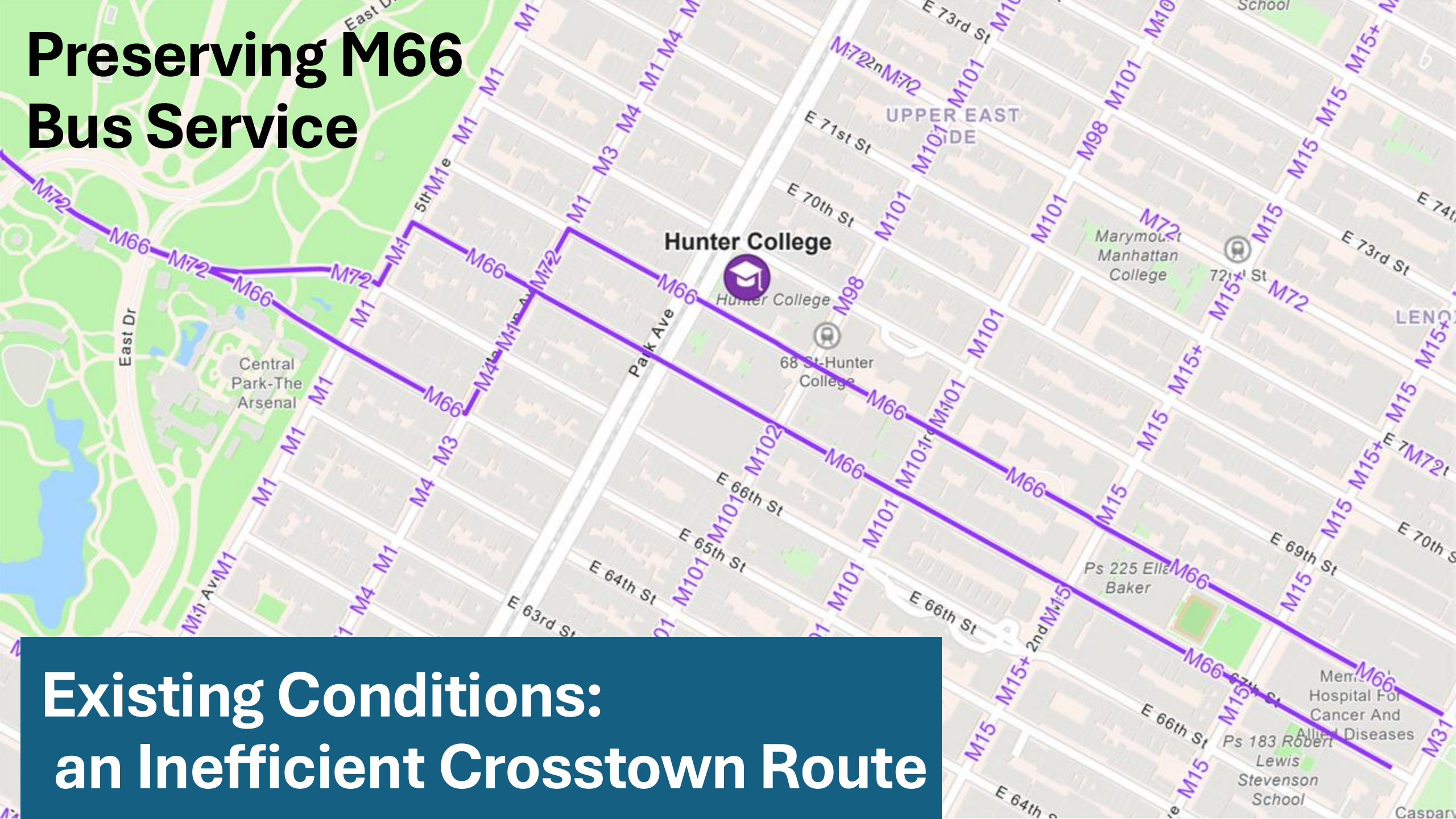
By Willy Blackmore

In early March, it looked as if the main campus of Hunter College, the so-called crown jewel of CUNY, was overrun by rats. State Assemblyman Zohran K. Mamdani tweeted that a student told him no one was allowed to eat below the sixth floor in one building because the infestation was so bad. But Jen Gaboury, a gender studies professor at the school, says this isn’t true: There’s actually a full-on mouse infestation, she says, and rodent species don’t like to share the same space. The campus, which dominates the corner of 68th and Lexington, has so many mice that Gaboury flips over her keyboard every morning to let the droppings fall out,

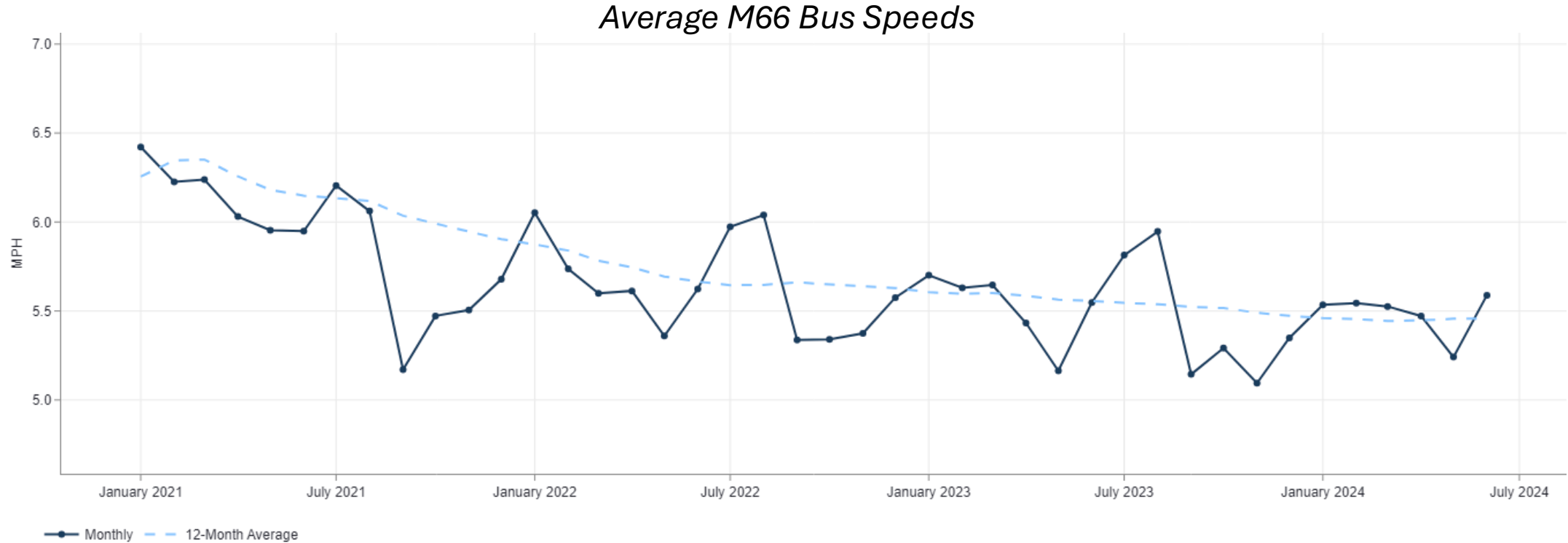
1: The Case for More CUNY Funding, Eric Lach, *The New Yorker*, 03.26.2022

Preserving M66 Bus Service

**Existing Conditions:
an Inefficient Crosstown Route**



M66 Bus Service



- As a commuter school, the M66 is Critical to Retain Connections between Campus and our Homes
- We believe Bus Service should be preserved and enhanced by moving the M66 from 68th to a new **bus only 2-way lane** on 67th Street.
- The rampant illegal parking on our current perimeter streets is an inefficient and destructive use of valuable urban land, and a wealth transfer in the form of private subsidized car storage for elites.

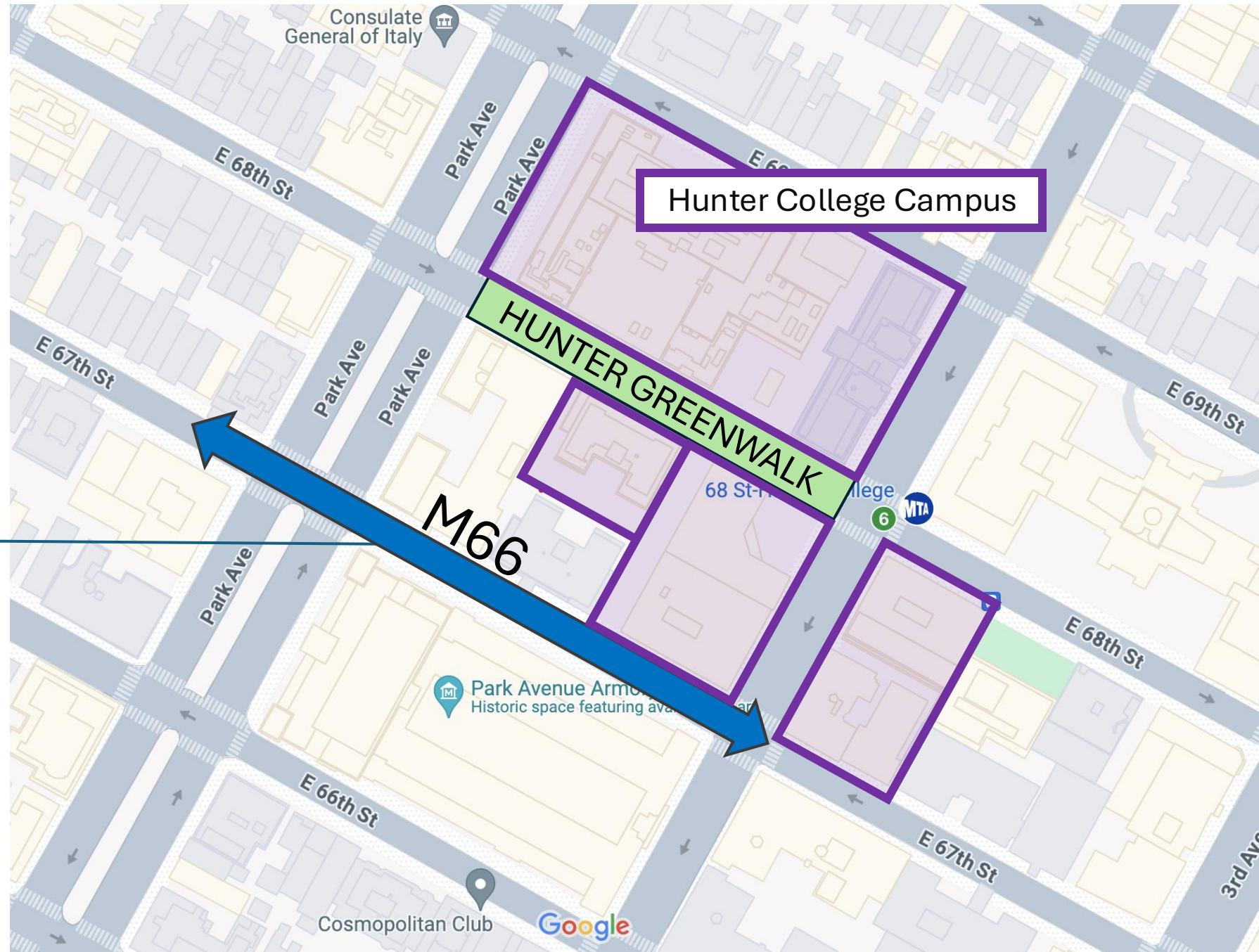
Option A

Fully Pedestrianize
68th Street, reroute
M66 to 67th

Convert
One Parking Lane
to Bus Only Lane
2- way 67th

Pros: Allows reconnection
of Campus, More Space for
People, Faster Crosstown
Bus Connection

Cons: Requires Changing
Street Pattern



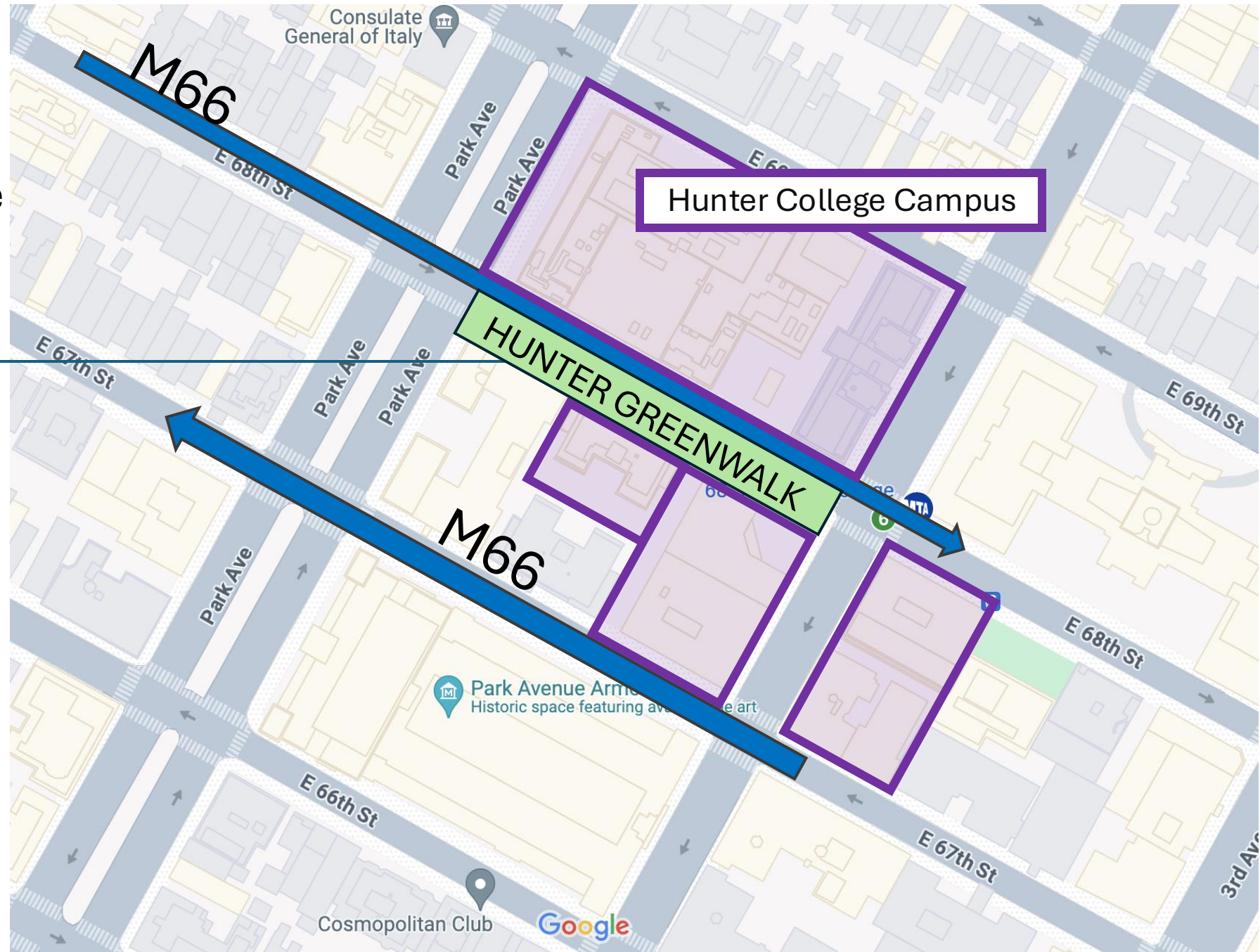
Option B

Retain Existing M66 Route

Shift One Parking Lane to Protected Bus Lane,
Pedestrianize
Existing ROW and
1 Parking Lane

Pros: Quicker
Implementation

Cons: Less space for the
Community, Prevents
Reconnection of Campus



A photograph of a modern building with a glass-enclosed skybridge and a glass-enclosed staircase, with the text "The Care of the Future is Ours" overlaid. The building is a multi-story structure with a mix of concrete and glass. The skybridge is a long, horizontal structure with a glass railing, connecting two parts of the building. The staircase is a large, curved structure with a glass railing, leading from the ground level to the upper floors. The building is surrounded by other city buildings and a street with a bus and pedestrians. The text "The Care of the Future is Ours" is written in a white, serif font, centered over the building. The sky is blue with some clouds.

The Care of the Future is Ours