

A wide-angle photograph of a busy street scene in New York City, featuring the Manhattan Bridge in the background. Pedestrians are walking on the sidewalk, and cars are driving on the road. A large orange traffic barrel is visible in the foreground on the right.

# Manhattan Bridge Crash Response / Safety Improvements

Manhattan Community Board 3 Transportation Committee  
September 9, 2025





# Background / Crash Details

## Location/Background:

- Bowery and Canal St is a busy intersection which includes the exit from the Manhattan Bridge Lower Roadway
- NYC DOT completed a Street Improvement project at the intersection in 2015-16 which expanded pedestrian space, access, and clarified vehicle movements

## 7/19/25 Crash Details:

- Fatal crash involving pedestrian (sitting on bench) and cyclist occurred the morning of Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Vehicle mounted pedestrian island after exiting the MN Bridge Lower Roadway
- Driver was speeding (100+ mph) at time of crash and was severely intoxicated when arrested

## *Cyclist and Pedestrian Killed After Vehicle Jumps Curb in Manhattan*

The vehicle, a stolen rental car, had been traveling west on the Manhattan Bridge before it struck the victims at the base of the bridge in Chinatown early Saturday morning.

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# Crash Data: Bowery and Canal St

- Crashes occurred in 2022 and 2017 resulting in fatalities to Motor Vehicle occupants
  - Crashes also involved speeding and loss of control while exiting the MN Bridge
- On 7/20, a pedestrian was injured by a driver on the NW corner of Bowery and Canal St, driver exiting MN Bridge
- Last 5 years of NYPD data (2020-2024) show 52 injuries and 5 severe injuries (3 pedestrian and 2 MVO) in the overall intersection
- Rear end crashes account for over 40% of motor vehicle crashes (indicative of speeding)
- Evidence of higher speeds on Manhattan Bridge

## Crash Data: Bowery and Canal St

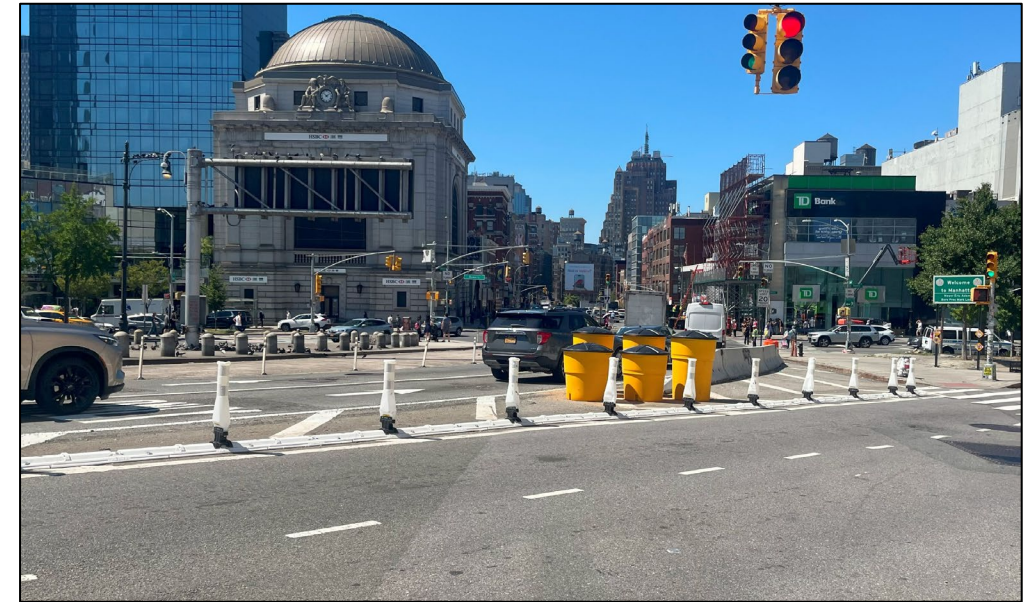
### Injury Summary, 2020-2024 (5 Years)

Mode	Total Injuries	Severe Injuries	Fatalities	KSI
Pedestrian	8	3	0	3
Bicyclist	2	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Occupant	41	2	0	2
Motorized Two-Wheelers	1	0	0	0
Total	52	5	0	5

Source: Fatalities: NYCDOT, Injuries: NYPD FORMS database KSI: Persons Killed or Severely Injured

# Crash Response

- NYCDOT repaired existing infrastructure immediately following the crash
- Targeted enforcement by NYPD in coordination with DOT
  - During week of 7/20, PD issued 314 moving summonses, including 88 for speeding
- In August, DOT installed an updated markings plan, which included;
  - Narrowing existing lanes from MN Bridge lower roadway, to discourage speeding
  - Widened buffer between moving lanes and pedestrian island
  - Refurbished crosswalks and other markings to improve visibility
- Installed jersey barriers and sand barrels in widened buffer, to protect pedestrians/cyclists



Above: Newly installed jersey barriers and sand barrels



# Crash Response, cont'd

- NYC DOT is in the process of lowering the speed limit to 20 mph for vehicles exiting the Manhattan Bridge Lower Level. This requires a 60-day comment period before taking effect, and Community Board 3 was notified on August 8, 2025.
- Installed improved speed advisory signage
- NYC DOT completed the installation of a speed board on the Lower Level of the Manhattan Bridge, near the Bowery Exit.



Above: Improved Speed Advisory signage recently installed

# Future Work / Under Investigation

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## Under investigation:

- Additional barriers on pedestrian island
- Future changes to bridge roadway operation to discourage speeding

## Upcoming:

- Planned in-house street improvement project on Canal St corridor
  - Shared high level engagement and conceptual plans at 8/20 meeting with elected officials, Community Boards, BIDs
  - More community engagement in coming weeks/months

# Thank You!



NYCDOT



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NYCDOT