

CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

330 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 26<sup>th</sup> floor New York, NY 10036  
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512  
[www.nyc.gov/mcb4](http://www.nyc.gov/mcb4)

**LOWELL D. KERN**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

June 10, 2020

Ed Pincar  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Safety Improvements Along Ninth Avenue Intersections**

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at its June 3<sup>rd</sup> Full Board meeting voted with 48 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote, to request that you expedite the installation of four safety improvements along Ninth Avenue:

- 17<sup>th</sup> St: Double curb extension at the SW corner
- 25<sup>th</sup> St: Double curb extension at the SW corner
- 43<sup>rd</sup> St: Single curb extension on side street at the NW corner
- 45<sup>th</sup> St: Single curb extension on side street at the SW corner

As stated in MCB4's current and previous Statement of District Needs, traffic mitigations and pedestrian safety is one of the districts pressing needs<sup>1</sup>. Fear of unsafe traffic was the #1 complaint in a Senior Survey performed by MCB4 in 2016<sup>2</sup>. For these reasons, MCB4 selected these intersections to be studied because they serve senior housing or schools, or pedestrian deaths have occurred in the past at these crossings. MCB4 retained the services of Sam Schwartz Engineering to evaluate the feasibility of shortening the side streets' crossings at these locations. They recommended each location based on the results of their analysis and the considerations mentioned below.

"The locations to analyze were 17<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup>, and 45<sup>th</sup> Streets, all of which are one-way westbound streets. Curb extensions were considered for the west crosswalks to shorten

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www1.nyc.gov/html/mancb4/downloads/pdf/november-2019/cb4-fy2021-sdn-budget-request.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www1.nyc.gov/html/mancb4/downloads/pdf/10%20Oct%2013/SeniorSurveyReport\\_REDUCED.pdf](https://www1.nyc.gov/html/mancb4/downloads/pdf/10%20Oct%2013/SeniorSurveyReport_REDUCED.pdf)

the crossing distance and serve as a traffic calming measure for vehicles turning onto the side streets from Ninth Avenue.

Sam Schwartz considered curb extensions for both the northwest and southwest corners at each intersection by preparing turning analysis in AutoTURN for a fire truck and for a WB-50 truck (42.5' trailer and 55' overall length) since Ninth Ave is designated as a local truck route. Preference was given for curb extensions at the northwest corner due to the greater degree of traffic calming, but with the limitation that no existing parking area is to be removed. The western lane on Ninth Avenue was converted to a Bus Only lane in 2014 north of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, so curb extensions at 43<sup>rd</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> Streets would be limited to the side streets only to avoid a conflict with bus operations."

These recommendations were presented to the Transportation Planning Committee on May 20, 2020 and supported by the Full Board at its monthly meeting on June 3, 2020.

We look forward to seeing these safety improvements implemented along Ninth Avenue.

Sincerely,



Lowell Kern  
Chair  
Manhattan Community  
Board 4



Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee



Dale Corvino  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congressman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, U.S. Senator  
Hon. Richard Gottfried, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker  
Sam Schwartz Engineering

# Memorandum

**Date:** April 17, 2020

**Re:** Proposed Curb Extensions at Various Locations on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Manhattan

At the request of Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) to investigate potential safety improvements along 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sam Schwartz prepared an analysis of the feasibility of painted curb extensions at four locations identified by CB4. The locations selected for analysis were 17<sup>th</sup> St, 25<sup>th</sup> St, 43<sup>rd</sup> St, and 45<sup>th</sup> St, all of which are one-way westbound streets. Curb extensions were considered for the west crosswalks to shorten the crossing distance and serve as a traffic calming measure for vehicles turning onto the side streets from 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.

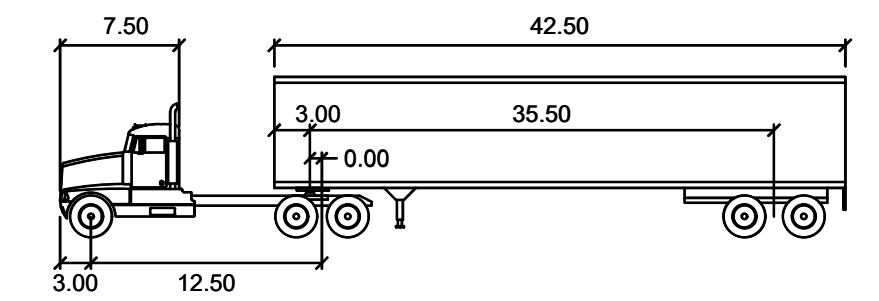
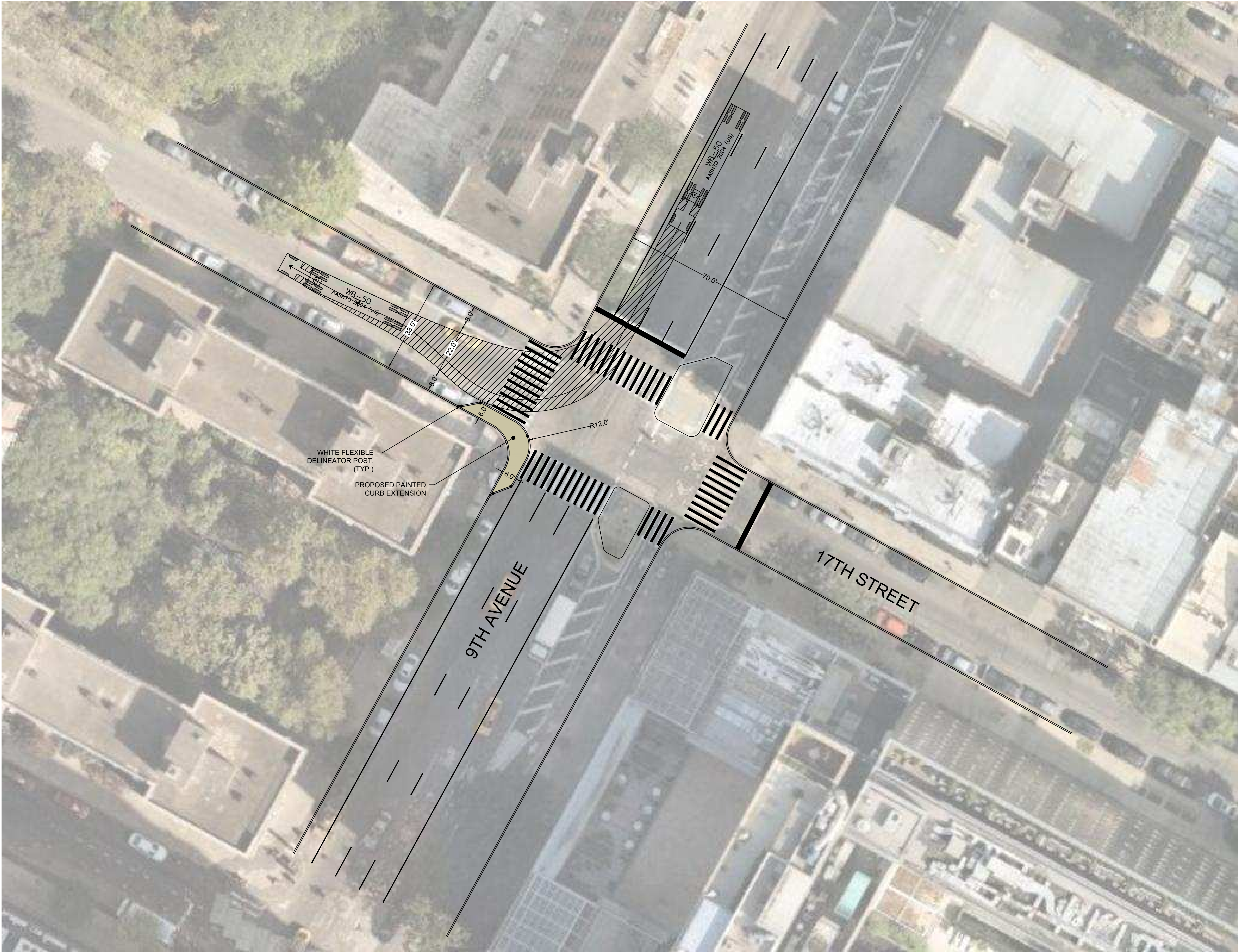
Sam Schwartz considered curb extensions for both the northwest and southwest corners at each intersection by preparing turning analysis in AutoTURN for a fire truck and for a WB-50 truck (42.5' trailer and 55' overall length) since 9<sup>th</sup> Ave is designated as a local truck route. Preference was given for curb extensions at the northwest corner due to the greater degree of traffic calming, but with the limitation that no existing parking area is to be removed. The western lane on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave was converted to a Bus Only lane in 2014 north of 42<sup>nd</sup> St, so curb extensions at 43<sup>rd</sup> St and 45<sup>th</sup> St would be limited to the side streets only to avoid a conflict with bus operations.

Based on the results of our analysis and the considerations mentioned above, our recommendations are as follows:

- 17<sup>th</sup> St: Double curb extension at the SW corner
- 25<sup>th</sup> St: Double curb extension at the SW corner
- 43<sup>rd</sup> St: Single curb extension on side street at the NW corner
- 45<sup>th</sup> St: Single curb extension on side street at the SW corner

We hereby submit this feasibility assessment for NYCDOT review/comment and consideration for implementation along with confirmation by the agency of next steps forward to be taken by NYCDOT, CB4 and Sam Schwartz to facilitate installation of these measures.

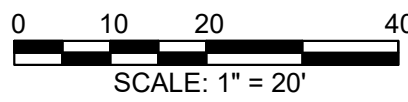




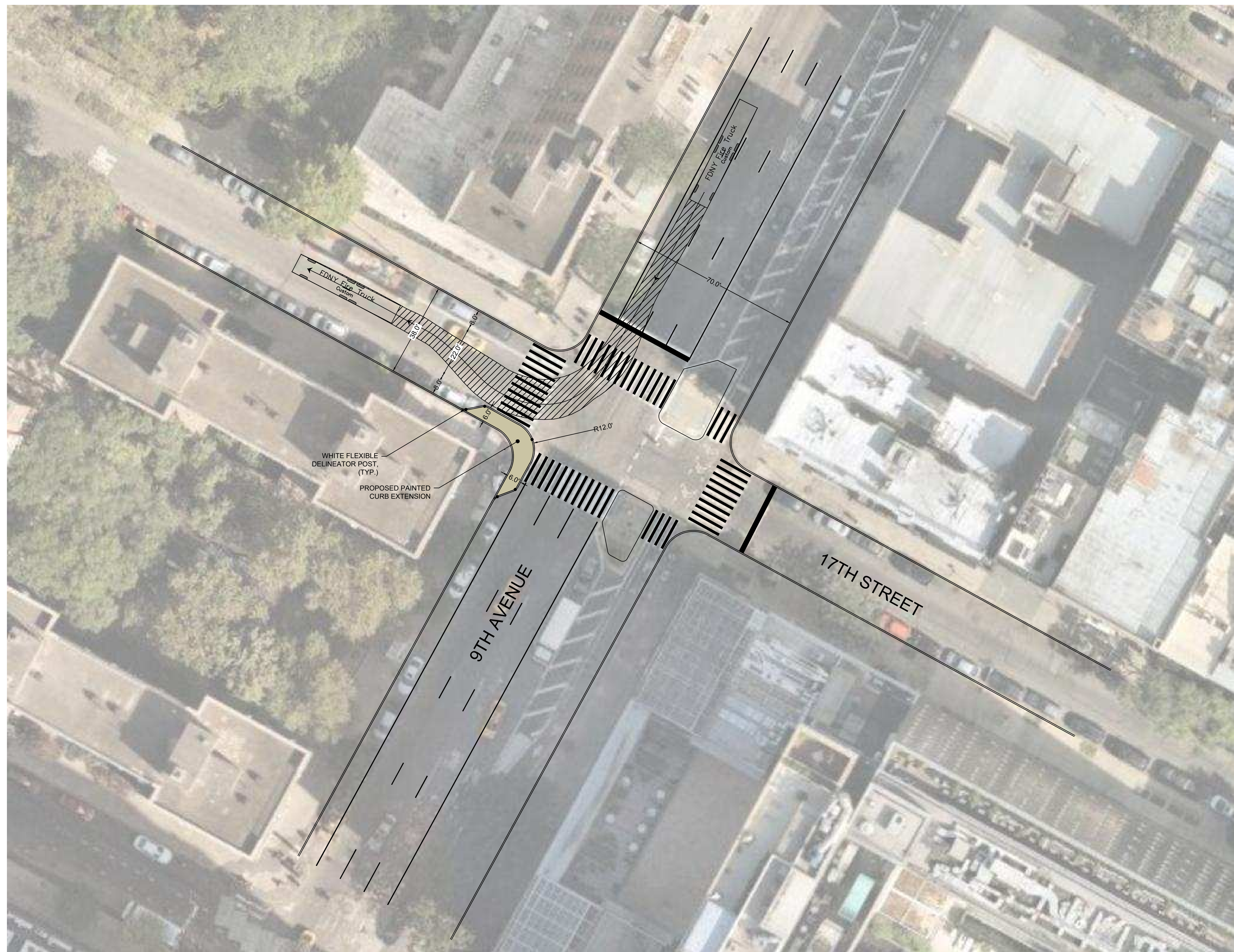
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Tractor Width	: 8.00	Lock to Lock Time	: 6.0
Trailer Width	: 8.50	Steering Angle	: 17.7
Tractor Track	: 8.00	Articulating Angle	: 70.0
Trailer Track	: 6.50		

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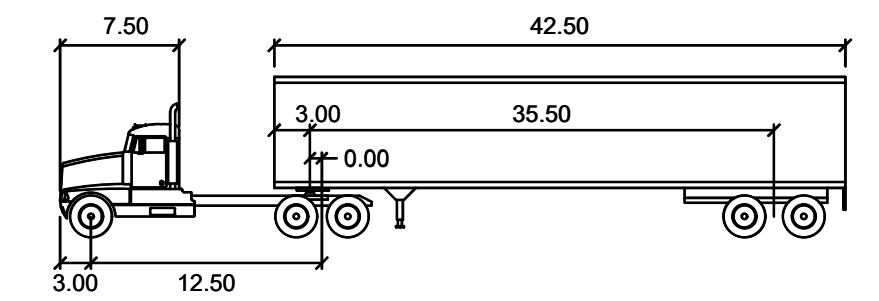
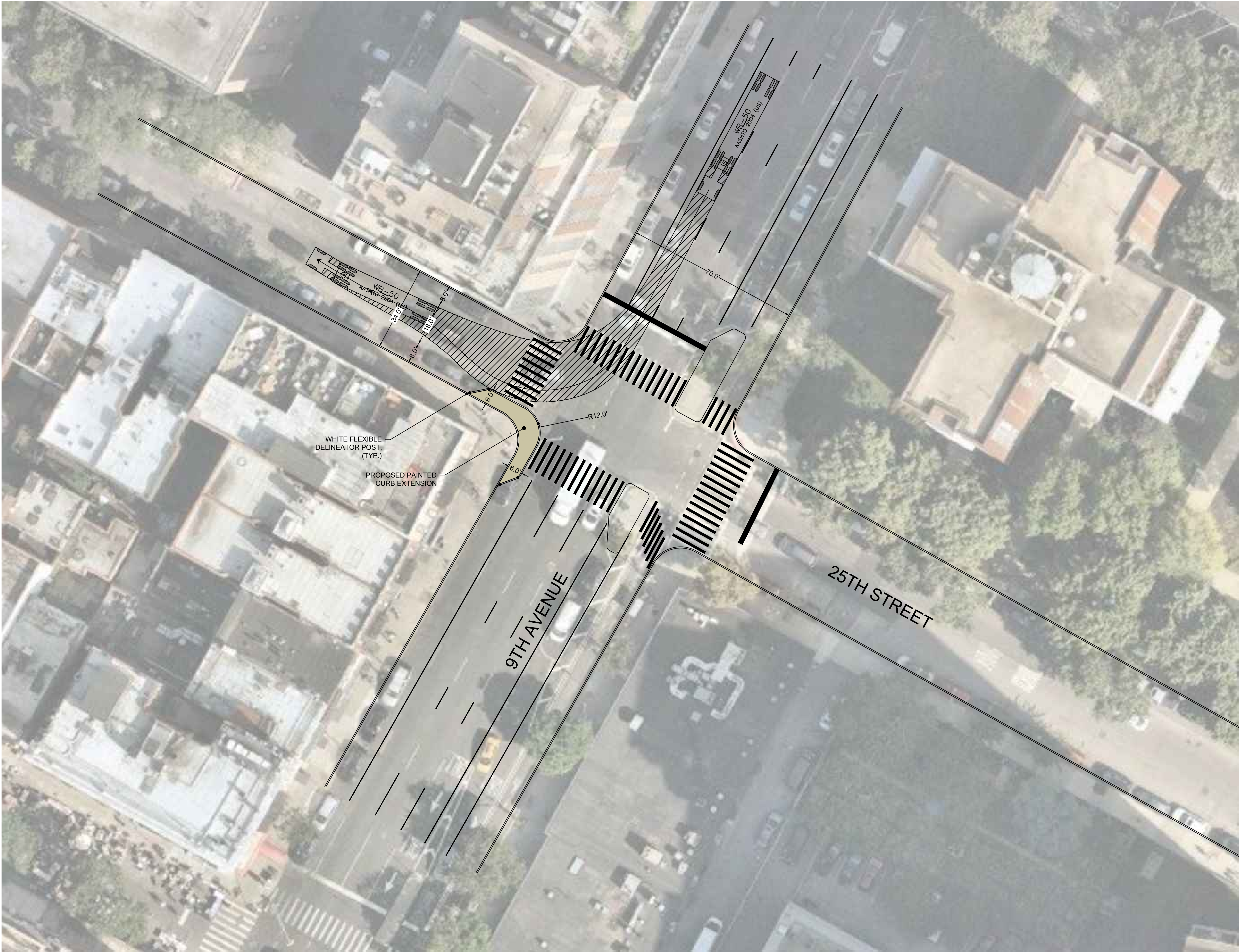
Prepared by:  <b>Sam Schwartz</b>  322 EIGHTH AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10001 TEL: (212) 598-9010	Seal & Signature:
PROJECT TITLE: <b>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</b>	
SHEET TITLE: <b>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 17TH STREET - WB-50</b>	
SCALE:  AS SHOWN	DATE:  April 14, 2020
SHEET NO:  C-001.00-A	SHEET 1 OF 8
DOB REF. NO:	





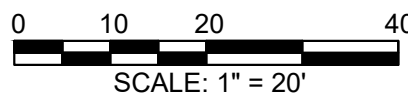






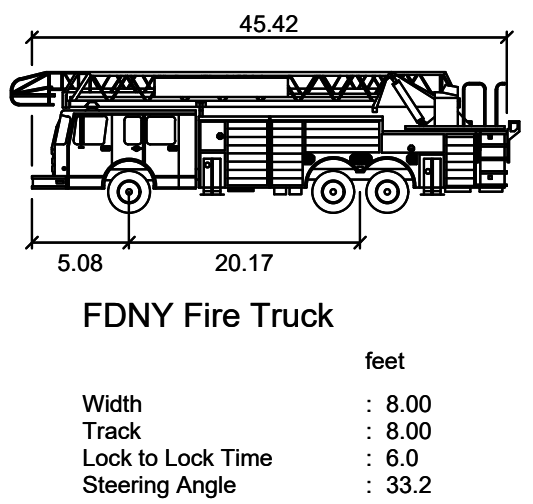
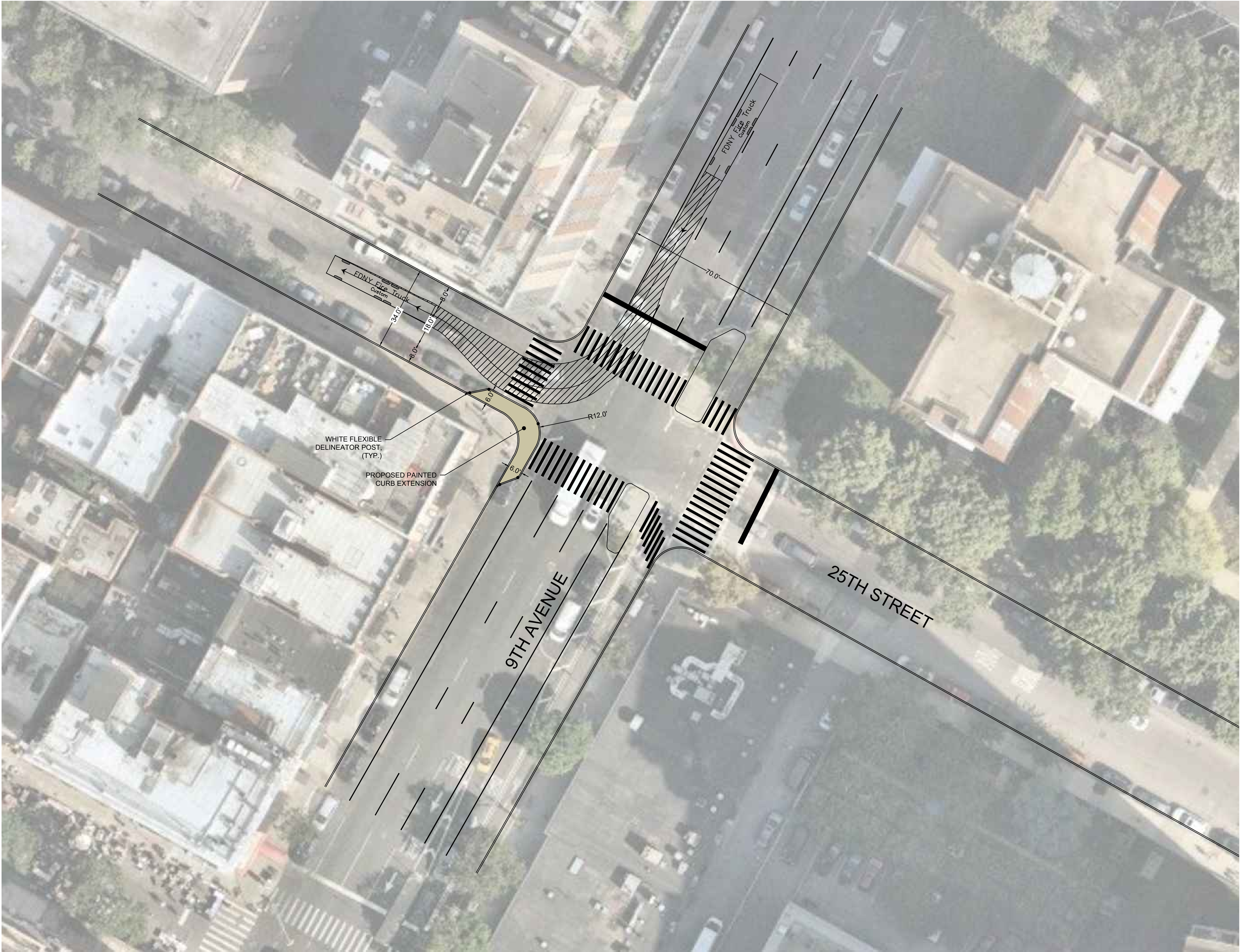
WB-50		feet	
Tractor Width	: 8.00	Lock to Lock Time	: 6.0
Trailer Width	: 8.50	Steering Angle	: 17.7
Tractor Track	: 8.00	Articulating Angle	: 70.0
Trailer Track	: 6.50		

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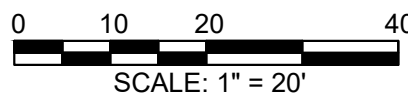


<div>Prepared by:</div> <div><div>Sam Schwartz</div></div> <div>322 EIGHTH AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10001 TEL: (212) 598-9010</div>	<div>Seal &amp; Signature:</div>
<div>PROJECT TITLE:</div> <div>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</div>	
<div>SHEET TITLE:</div> <div>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 25TH STREET - WB-50</div>	
<div>SCALE:</div> <div>AS SHOWN</div>	<div>DATE:</div> <div>April 14, 2020</div>
<div>SHEET NO:</div> <div>C-002.00-A</div>	<div>SHEET 3 OF 8</div>
<div>DOB REF. NO:</div>	



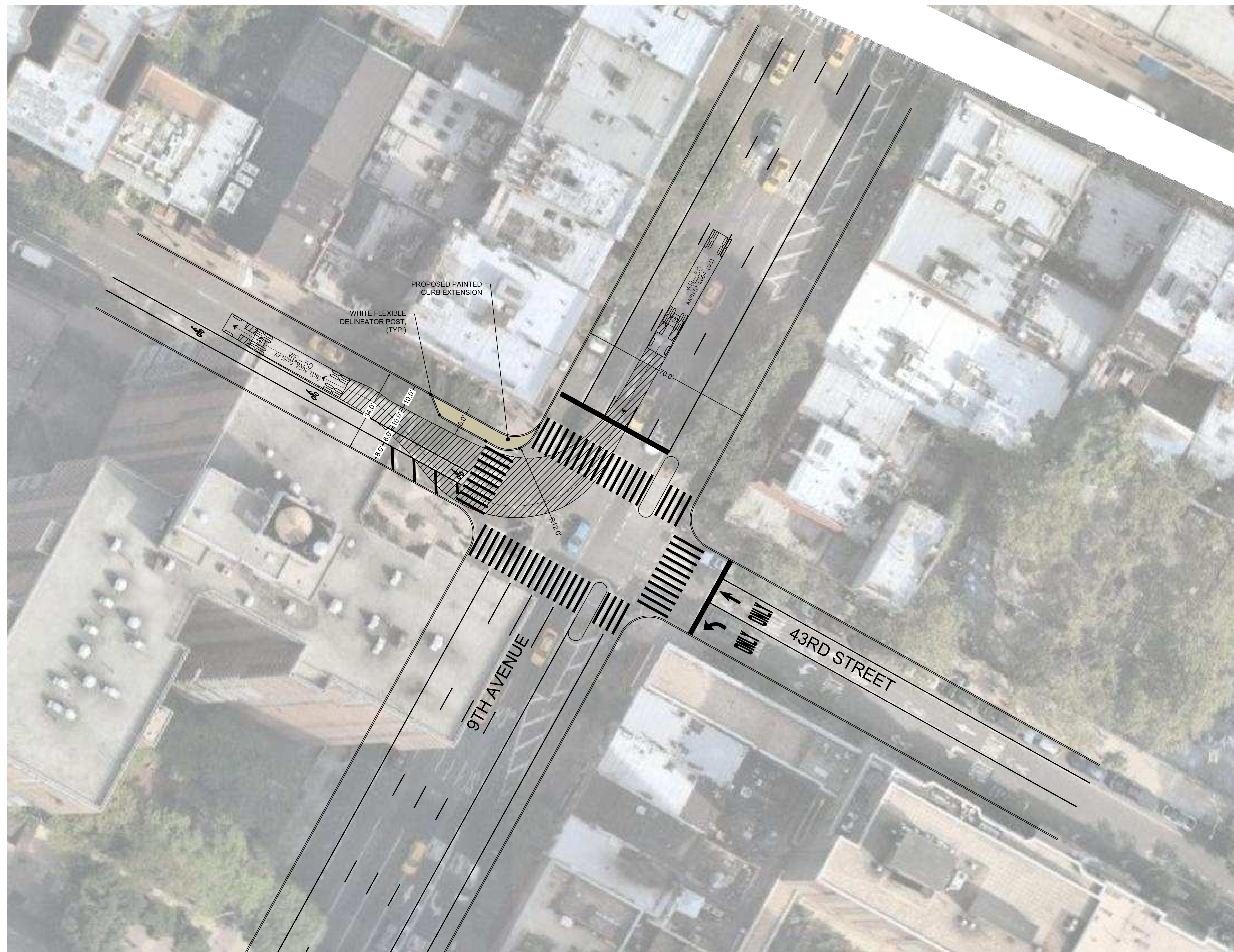


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PROJECT TITLE:  <b>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</b>			
SHEET TITLE:  <b>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 25TH STREET - FDNY</b>			
SCALE:  AS SHOWN		DATE:  April 14, 2020	
SHEET NO:  C-002.00-B		SHEET 4 OF 8	
DOB REF. NO:			





	feet		
Tractor Width	: 8.00	Lock to Lock Time	: 6.0
Trailer Width	: 8.50	Steering Angle	: 17.7
Tractor Track	: 8.00	Articulating Angle	: 70.0
Trailer Track	: 8.50		

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Seal & Signature:
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**Sam  
Schwartz**

322 EIGHTH AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10001  
TEL:(212)598-9010

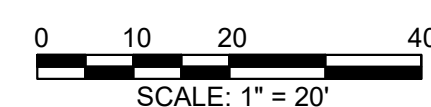
# MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION

SHEET TITLE: SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN  
9TH AVENUE AND 43RD STREET - WB-50

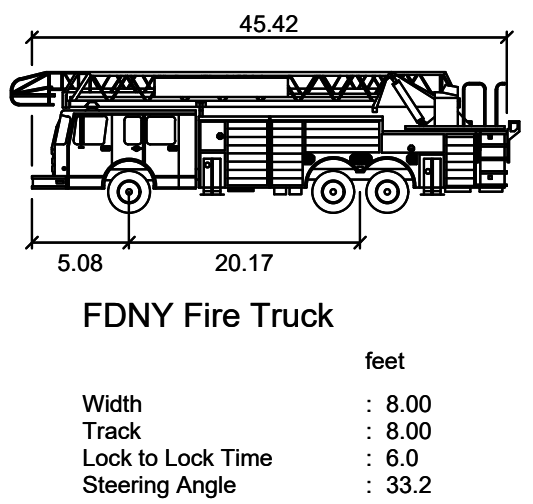
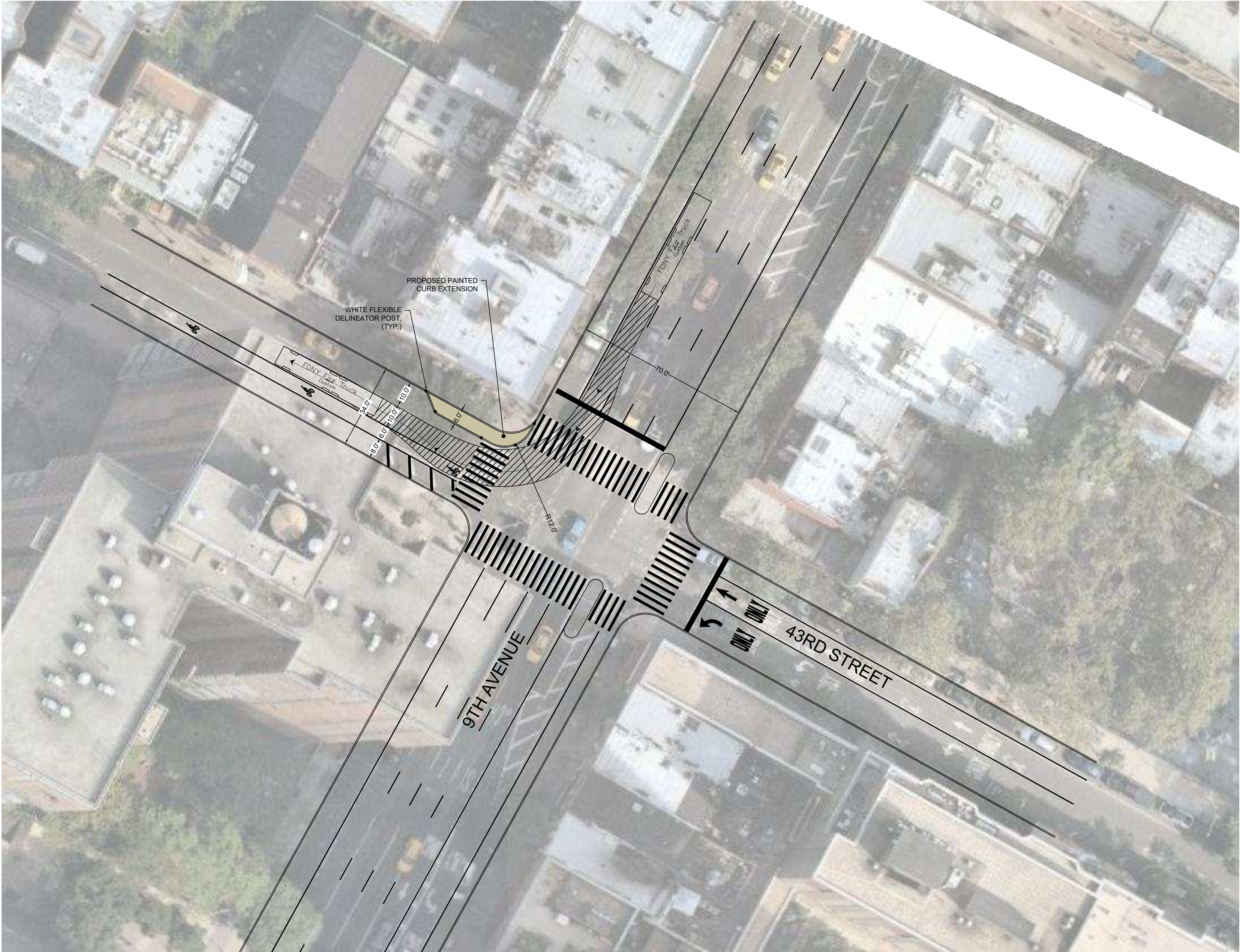
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SHEET NO:	C-003.00-A	SHEET 5 OF 8
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DOB REF. NO:

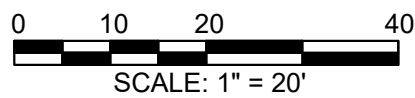






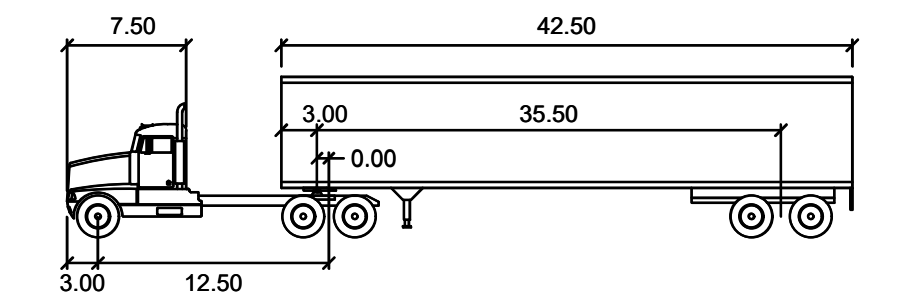
FDNY Fire Truck

Width	: 8.00
Track	: 8.00
Lock to Lock Time	: 6.0
Steering Angle	: 33.2



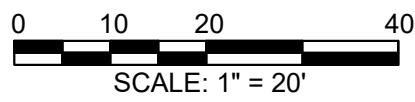
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PROJECT TITLE: <b>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</b>	
SHEET TITLE: <b>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 43RD STREET - FDNY</b>	
SCALE:  AS SHOWN	DATE:  April 14, 2020
SHEET NO:  C-003.00-B	SHEET 6 OF 8
DOB REF. NO:	





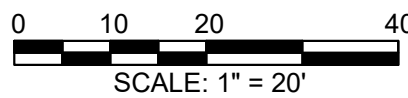
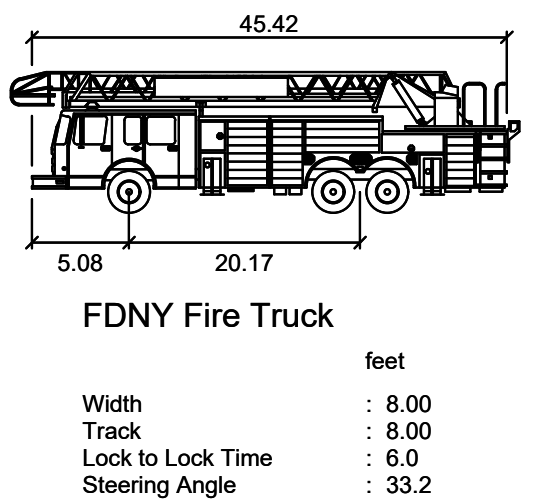
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<div>PROJECT TITLE:</div> <div>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</div>	
<div>SHEET TITLE:</div> <div>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 45TH STREET - WB-50</div>	
<div>SCALE:</div> <div>AS SHOWN</div>	<div>DATE:</div> <div>April 14, 2020</div>
<div>SHEET NO:</div> <div>C-004.00-A</div>	<div>SHEET 7 OF 8</div>
<div>DOB REF. NO:</div>	





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PROJECT TITLE: <b>MANHATTAN CB4 CURB EXTENSION</b>			
SHEET TITLE: <b>SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN 9TH AVENUE AND 45TH STREET - FDNY</b>			
SCALE:  AS SHOWN		DATE:  April 14, 2020	
SHEET NO:  <b>C-004.00-B</b>		SHEET 8 OF 8	
DOB REF. NO:			