



Bus Rapid Transit in New York City

NACTO Workshop
New York NY April 6, 2010

Definition of Bus Rapid Transit

- Flexible, integrated, high performance system with a quality image and a strong brand identity
- Essential elements
 - Speed
 - Reliability
 - Attractiveness



BRT Features



Bus Lanes



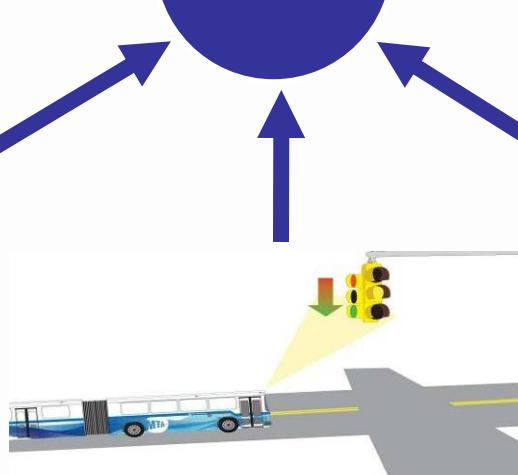
Pre-Payment



Stations



Passenger Info



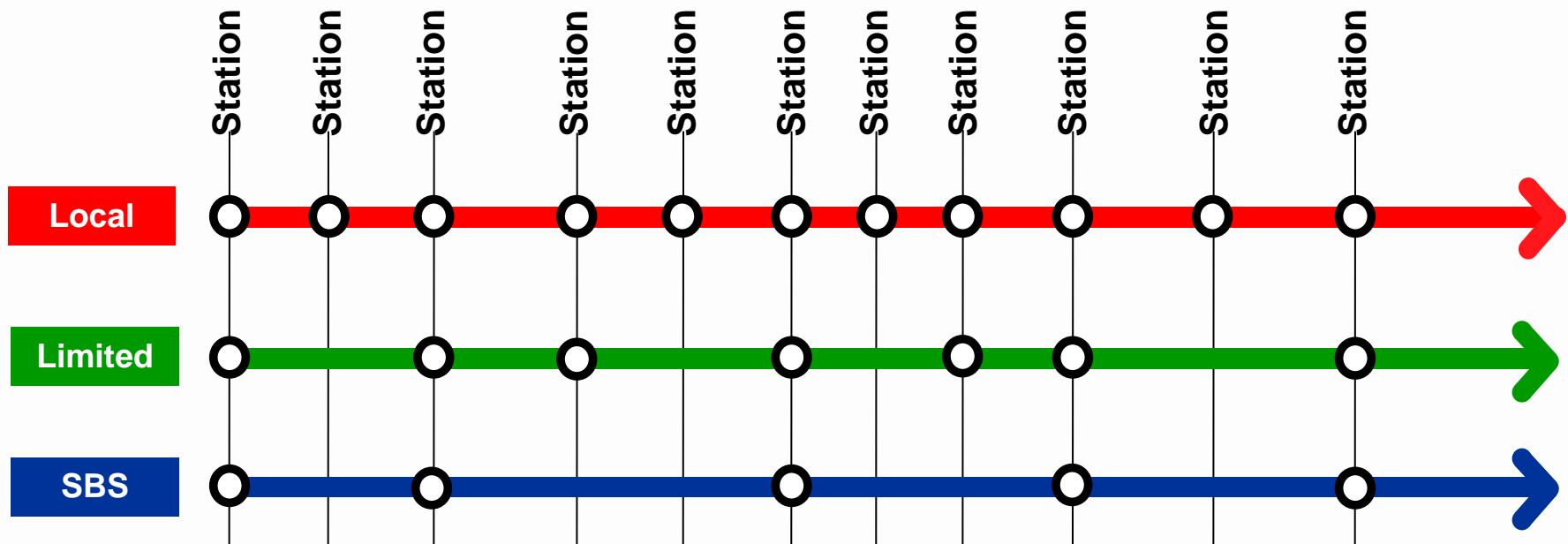
Bus Signal Priority



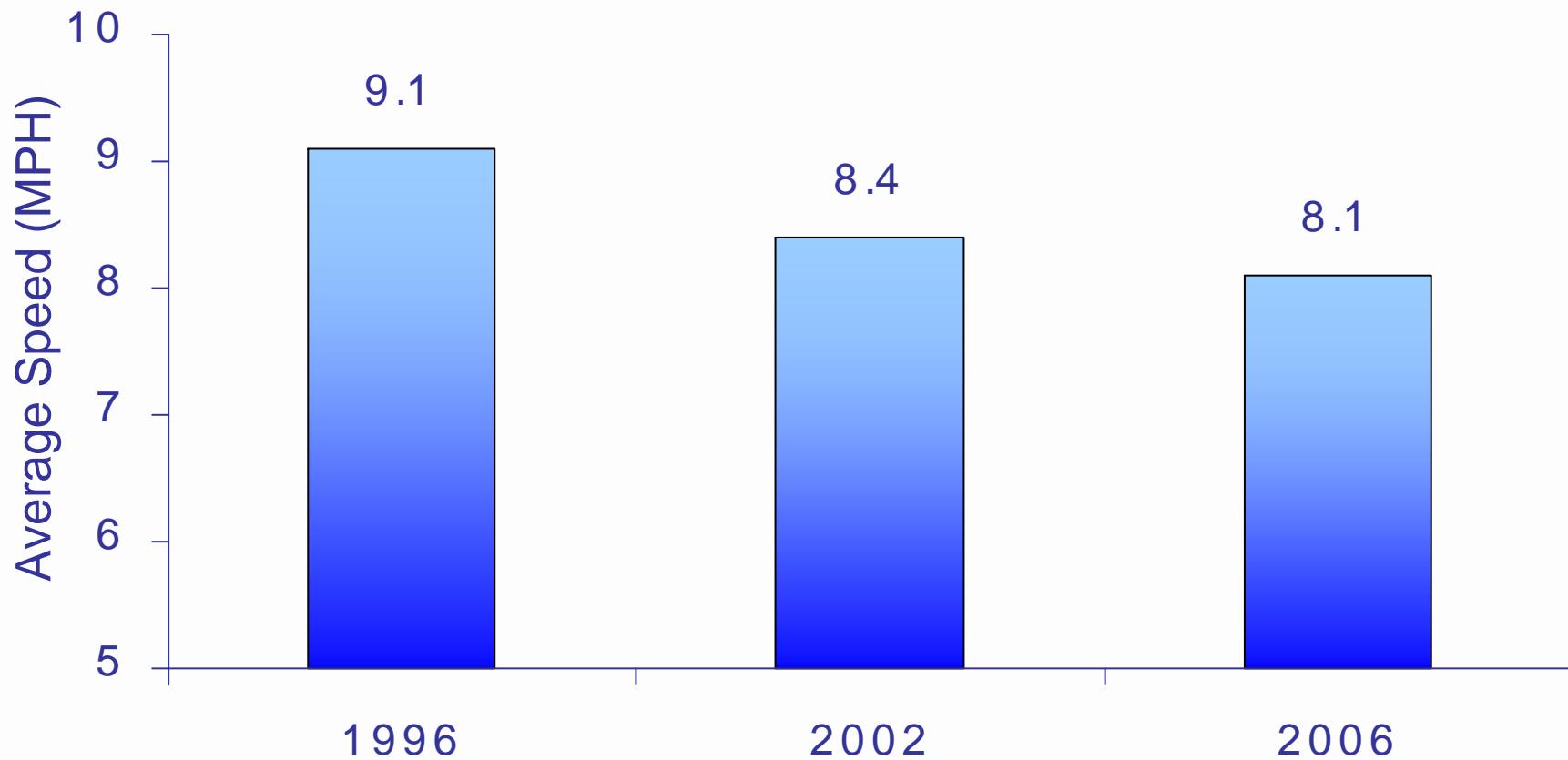
Branding



Fewer Stops

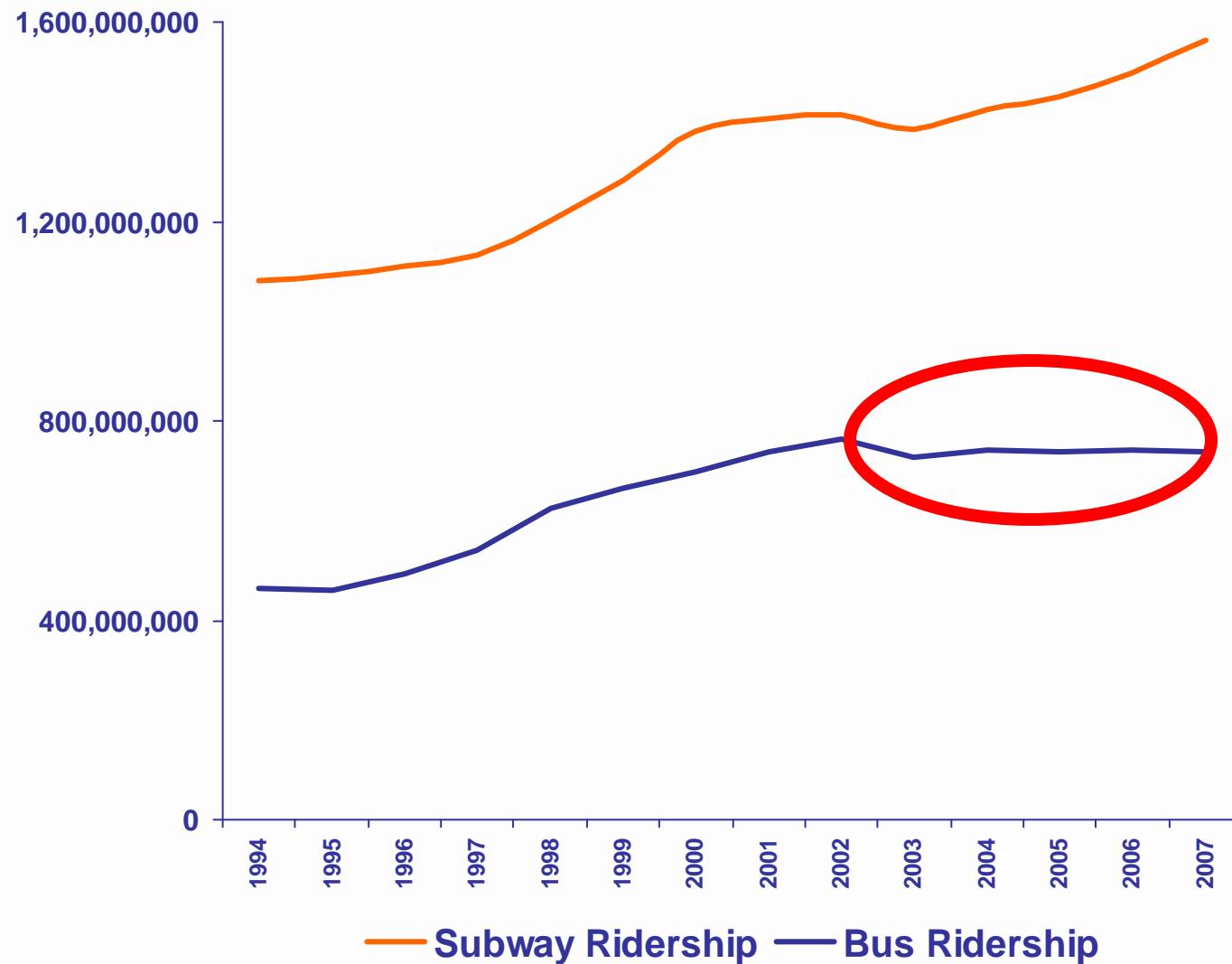


Bus Speeds Dropping in NYC

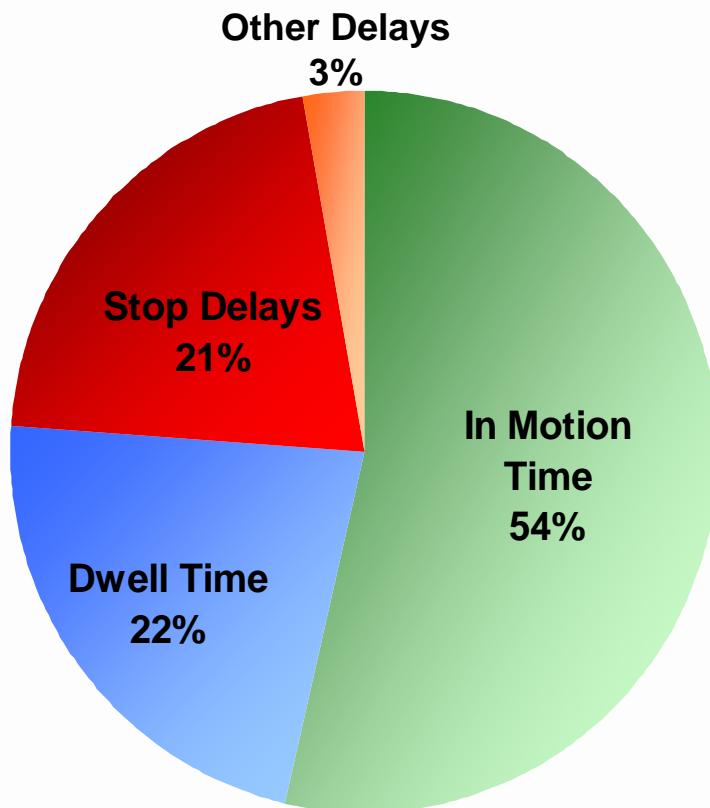




Challenges



Sources of Bus Delay



Phase I BRT Corridors





Bx12 Select Bus Service

Fordham Road-Pelham Parkway







Corridor Ridership

Bus Route	Weekday Ridership (2009)
Bx12	47,793
Bx17	12,431
Bx9	28,900
Bx22	18,312
W60-61 (Westchester Co.)	6,427
TOTAL:	113,863

Expanded/Improved Bus Lanes

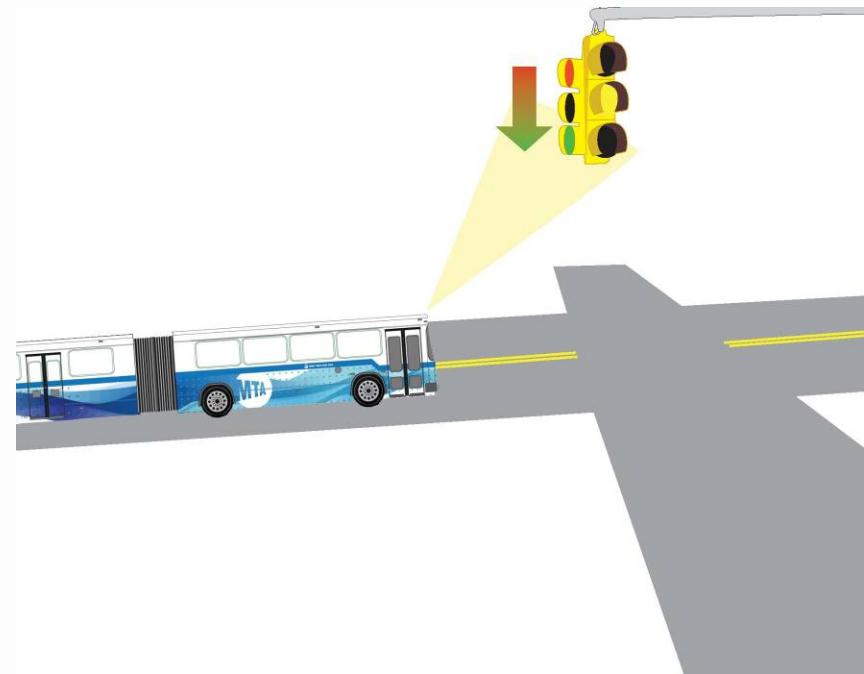
- Expanded:
 - Existing peak period bus lanes expanded to all-day operation
 - Bus lanes extended geographically
- Improved:
 - High visibility red bus lanes
 - Overhead signage
 - Increased NYPD bus lane enforcement

Expanded/Improved Bus Lanes



Transit Signal Priority

- Opticom radio/GPS signal priority system
- Installed at about 20 of 35 intersections.
- Initially weekday peak periods--expanded to weekends
- Early green/extended green available based on existing signal parameters
- Signals timings also optimized



Proof-of-Payment Fare Collection

- Customers pay at fare payment machines and obtain a proof-of-payment receipt before boarding
- Customers board the bus at either door and hold receipt for inspection – receipt valid for 1 hour
- Two types of machines in use
 - Re-purposed MetroCard “express” machine for customers with MetroCards
 - Re-purposed Parkeon multi-space parking meter for customers with coins



Proof-of-Payment Fare Inspection

- Fare inspectors on vehicles and at stations (not police/peace officers)
- On-board cameras to document incidents
- Anyone without receipt is subject to \$100 summons



Leading Bus Interval / Queue Jump

- Provides 6 second advance green for all buses approaching in the bus lane
- Bus lane operates at all times to provide free path for bus
- Currently activated on every signal phase; may be actuated in the future



Customer Ambassadors



On-Board Cameras

- Currently used for security and liability protection
- Potential future uses
 - Bus lane enforcement
 - Running time





Fordham Road Delivery Window



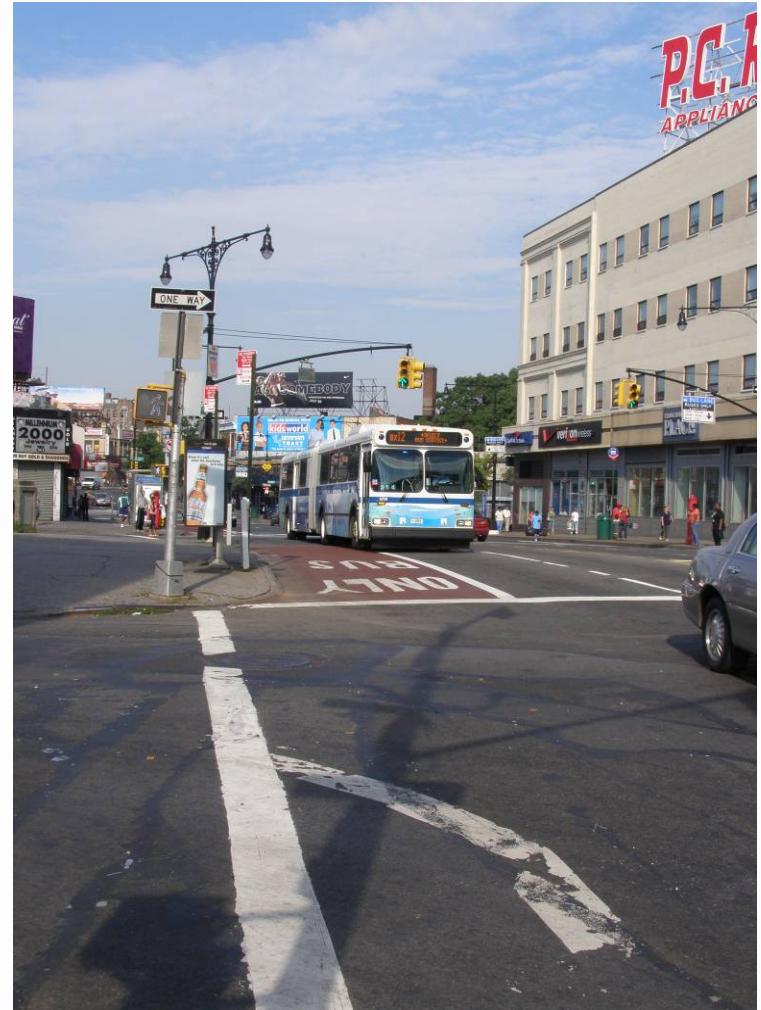
12:00pm-2:00pm: North Side

10:00am-12:00pm: South Side

Bx12 Select Bus Service



Bx12 Select Bus Service



Bx12 Select Bus Service



Bx12 Select Bus Service



Fordham Road SBS: Results

Travel Time: 20% reduction in running time

Ridership: 7% increase from June 2008 to June 2009

Customer Satisfaction: 98% satisfied or very satisfied



Costs

- Capital Costs for this project were very low. Approximately \$10.5 M for a 7-8 Mile corridor.
- The increase in Annual Operating Costs is approximately \$6M. This includes additional service, and new staff for maintaining fare equipment, revenue collection and enforcement.

Results – Fare Collection

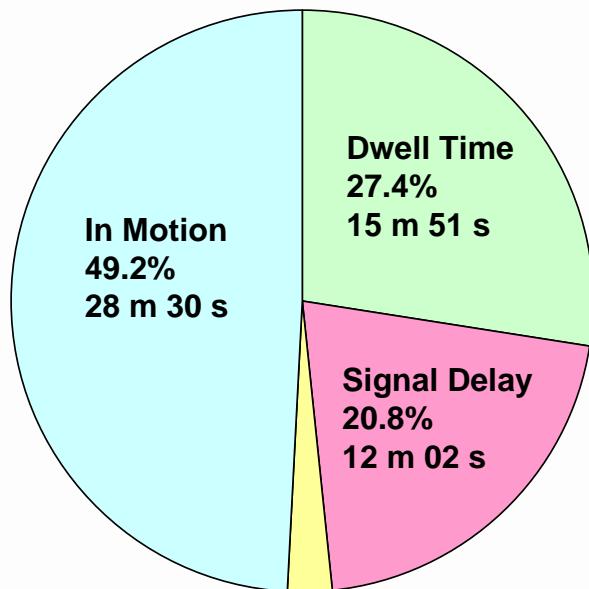
- Both types of machines operating dependably (98% availability)
 - Transaction time for MetroCard machines = 3 sec.
 - Transaction time for Coin machines slower
 - Occasional power issues at stations
- Fare evasion rate comparable to or better than conditions prior to implementation.
 - 6,149 summonses issued to date.

Results – Ridership

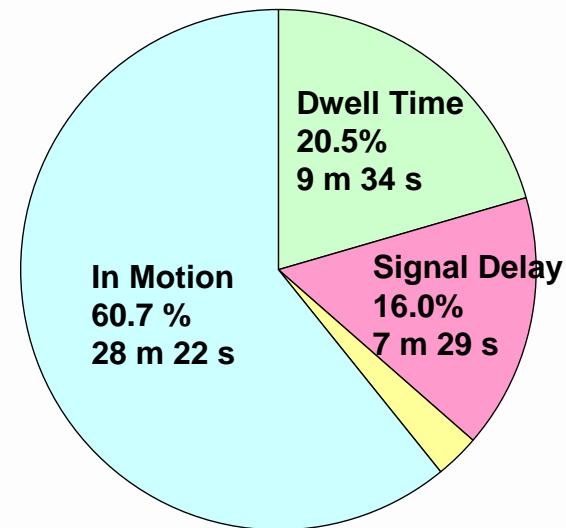
- Corridor Ridership is Increasing
 - Corridor Ridership Increased 7% on an annual basis; system-wide ridership essentially flat
 - MetroCard Fare Collector Sales are 31,000 per weekday
 - SBS Cash Fare Collector Sales are 1500 per weekday (7%)
- Corridor mode share already exceptionally high; fewer than 10% of shoppers on Fordham Road arrive by car

Results – Running Time

Before 57 m 54 s



After 46 m 44 s



Results – Customer Response

- 89% of customers said that SBS service is better than the limited.
- Limited/BRT/SBS 74% of Customers said service improved since two months ago.
- 32% of local customers said service improved
- 30% of customers said that they were riding more frequently than before
- 68% of customers said that paying on the street was more convenient
- 84% of customers said that SBS was faster than the limited

Outreach – Community Advisory Committee

Composed of:

- Elected Officials
- Community Boards
- Major Institutions
- Community Organizations
- Business Representatives

Role:

- To provide opportunities for input as project design and implementation progresses
- To keep key stakeholders up to date on the project
- To provide stakeholders with information to pass on to other constituents about project details and outreach efforts
- To ensure that key issues are not overlooked

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