

Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr
Office of the Bronx Borough President
851 Grand Concourse, 3rd Floor
Bronx, New York 10451

Re: *Boogie on the Boulevard*: Sunday Recreation on the Grand Concourse

Dear Borough President Diaz,

We write to request your support for *Boogie on the Boulevard*, a series of car-free Sundays on the Grand Concourse. We, the undersigned, represent organizations that care deeply about street safety and public health in the Bronx. As you know, your office originally led the push for Car-Free Grand Concourse, a Department of Transportation initiative that no longer takes place. We write to ask you to work with us to reinstate this great Bronx tradition as a concrete step towards a healthier, more active streetscape for Bronx residents.

Today, residents face a two-fold hurdle to using Bronx streets for healthy, active transportation: limited safe bike lanes and public plazas coupled with dangerous traffic and reckless motorists. As a result, the Bronx has New York City's highest rates of obesity and asthma. This is the reality we want to work with you to change.

By transforming the center lanes of the Grand Concourse into a vibrant public space for recreation and community gathering, *Boogie on the Boulevard* will inspire Bronx residents to rethink their public spaces and their transportation choices. Free from car traffic, residents will use the Concourse to play, walk, relax, socialize and ride bikes. Cultural and community partners will use the street to present engaging programming including art-making, music, bicycle clinics and public health services. *Boogie on the Boulevard* will connect the communities along the Grand Concourse, allowing families to socialize along one of our borough's largest public spaces.

With your support, *Boogie on the Boulevard* has the potential to:

- Create a safe space for Bronx residents to exercise and socialize
- Encourage non-polluting, healthy transportation choices
- Showcase the work of Bronx-based arts and culture organizations
- Increase foot and bicycle traffic to boost local businesses

We would love the opportunity to discuss this idea with you further at a meeting in the coming months. Jill Guidera from Transportation Alternatives is happy to help schedule a time that works for our entire coalition. She can be reached at 646-839-6479. We look forward to working with you to make *Boogie on the Boulevard* a reality.

Sincerely,
Bronx Museum of the Arts
Transportation Alternatives
Bronx Department Public Health Office

Montefiore
Bronx Health Reach
BronxWorks

161st Street BID
Boogie Down Rides
Casita Maria Center for Arts and Education
Montefiore School Health Program
AM Barbershop
Angela's Salon
B & B Dental
Dawel el Barber
EM Deli
Grand Concourse Fruit Stand

Bronx Children's Museum
Lincoln Hospital
Bronx River Art Center
Highlife Deli
Law Office of Michael T. Ridge
Amy Multiservice
Andrea's Restaurant
Gonzalez Deli Grocery
Highlife Deli
Nila Eyelashes