

April 2, 2008

Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan
40 Worth Street, Rm 1005
New York, NY 10013

Dear Commissioner Sadik- Khan:

First I want to thank you for your general support of cycling as an ecologically sustainable alternative to motor vehicle travel. Many would say that DOT's mission is strictly to manage and maintain our city streets. You, however, have demonstrated true vision by proving yourself to be a strong and valuable supporter of developing a city-wide network of off-street 'greenway' paths as well. With that, I would like to especially thank you for your continued support of the **East Coast Greenway in New York City**.

We have greatly enjoyed working with CDOT this past year to improve safety and quality-of-experience for our users along our designated 'Current Travel Route'. We feel we have made great progress, but more can be done. **Enclosed with this letter is an itemized list of specific locations along the existing route where we feel CDOT can dramatically improve safety through the implementation of simple low cost improvements such as signs and markings, minor signal timing changes and some asphalt path resurfacing and realignment, all things CDOT can do now with in-house forces... improvements that can be completed within a matter of months gaining both our organizations positive media exposure THIS YEAR.** For each location we have provided an aerial photograph of the proposed project limits, a brief description of the problem and our recommendation for how to fix it.

In addition to making the physical improvements described above, raising public awareness through the publication of a dedicated **User Guide** will give the public the confidence they need to travel this amazing route through NYC. Last year we partnered with NJDOT to produce just such a guide (see sample included with this letter). **It is our hope that this year we can convince a municipal agency sponsor to volunteer to produce such a guide for the New York portion of the ECG. Please consider being that sponsor.**

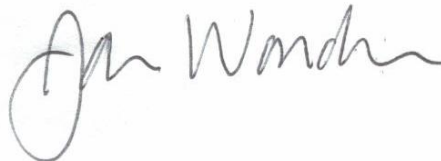
The East Coast Greenway Alliance was founded in 1991 to develop a multi-use pathway from Maine to Florida. Today the Greenway is 20% complete as a firm-surface pathway connecting the major cities of the eastern seaboard. In 2007 we linked these completed pathways with safe on-road routing to complete the ECG route on an interim basis. We have created maps and cue sheets detailing this 3000 mile continuous Current Travel Route which allows users to travel today.

It has been great working with NYC DOT on the creation of a safe and friendly experience for all users of the East Coast Greenway in New York City. We are most impressed with the passion, dedication and technical ability of your bicycle department staff. We would especially like to commend Holly Haff for her enthusiasm and hard work in scouting out a great on-street connector route in the Bronx from Van Cortlandt Park to the Broadway Bridge.

In addition, we want to thank CDOT for including the ECGA web site address on the 2008 NYC cycling map and noting the entry/exit points of our route in NYC.

We are both proud of and inspired by the work we have accomplished so far and look forward to continuing the productive partnership we have forged over the past year with the New York City Department of Transportation.

Sincerely,



Michael Oliva
Mid Atlantic Trail Coordinator
East Coast Greenway Alliance

Jackson Wandres
New York Committee Chair
East Coast Greenway Alliance

Cc. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor, City of New York
Adrian Benepe, Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation
Karen Votava, Executive Director, East Coast Greenway Alliance
Jon Orcutt, Senior Policy Advisor, NYCDOT
Gerard Soffian, Assistant Commissioner, NYCDOT
Holly Haff, Bicycle Program, NYCDOT