February 6, 2024

Communities Over Highways Call for Action

Endless highway expansions are pulling our country into an environmental, budgetary, and public health crisis. It’s time to end this destructive, unsustainable practice and set a responsible course toward a cleaner and more equitable future.

We, the undersigned 206 organizations, call on our elected leaders to prioritize investments in infrastructure that puts communities and people first by divesting from both current and proposed highway expansion projects across the country. We call on our leaders in government to adopt a moratorium on expanding highways and a pause on existing projects until climate, equity, and maintenance goals are met. The highway system we have built in our country is unsustainable, both financially and environmentally, and disproportionately harms low-income and Black and brown communities. We need to remedy these problems with a responsible approach to transportation that centers on community.

Community-first infrastructure means increasing frequent, reliable, and accessible public transportation. It means investing in policies that build homes close to jobs and amenities. It means providing clean air and water and making neighborhoods healthier, quieter, and safer. It means fostering small businesses and creating places for people to gather. Investment in community-first infrastructure impacts more than transportation; it is a solution to improve affordable housing, public health, and the climate crisis while creating hundreds of thousands of well-paying jobs.

While this moratorium is in effect, we call on our leaders in government to redirect funding for highway projects toward community-centered transportation priorities, including:

1. Fix It First: maintain existing roads and bridges before building new, larger ones.
2. Safety Over Speed: retrofit dangerous roads and streets to make them safer for people walking, biking, and driving.
3. Make Transit Work: provide capital and operations funding for reliable, affordable public transportation that connects people to jobs, services, amenities, health care, and each other.
4. Reconnect Communities: dismantle targeted highways and invest in the communities around them to increase opportunity and redress the harms these projects have inflicted.

Federal infrastructure funding must urgently be redirected into community-oriented infrastructure investments. A highway moratorium is the solution for improving public health and addressing climate, racial, and economic justice for our country.
America Walks, initiating organization

America Walks is leading the way in advancing walkable, equitable, connected, and accessible places in every community across the U.S. We are the national voice for public spaces that allow people to safely walk and move and host of the Freeway Fighters Network.

###

Alliance for a Just Society
National

CatholicNetwork US
National

Center for Biological Diversity
National

Center for Progressive Reform
National

Climate and Community
National

Coltura
National

Congress for the New Urbanism
National

Families for Safe Streets
National

GreenLatinos
National

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
National

Movemint Strategies
National

National Organizations for Youth Safety
National

New Urban Mobility Alliance
National

NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council)
National

Parking Reform Network
National

Pedestrian Dignity Project
National

PeopleForBikes
National

PLACE Initiative
National

Shared-Use Mobility Center
National

Sierra Club
National

Sunrise Movement
National

Transit Center
National

Transportation for America
National

Urban Environmentalists
National

Vision Zero Network
National

Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
Tucson, Arizona

Living Streets Alliance
Tucson, Arizona

Pinnacle Prevention
Chandler, Arizona

Tucson Audubon Society
Tucson, Arizona

Active San Gabriel Valley
El Monte, California

Aztlán Athletics LLC
South Pasadena, California

Bike Long Beach
Long Beach, California

BikeLA
Los Angeles, California

CalBike
California (statewide)

California Walks
California (statewide)

Car-Lite Long Beach
Long Beach, California

Civic Thread
Sacramento, California
Climate Resolve
Los Angeles, California
ClimatePlan
California (statewide)
Day One
Pasadena, California
Friends of Great Highway Park
San Francisco, California
Glendale Environmental Coalition
Glendale, California
KidSafe SF
San Francisco, California
Los Angeles Walks
Los Angeles, California
Marin County Bicycle Coalition
Marin County, California
Planning and Conservation League
Sacramento, California
Puente Latino Association Inc
Long Beach, California
Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates
Sacramento, California
Sacramento Transit Advocates and Riders (STAR)
Sacramento, California
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties, California
SPUR
San Francisco, California
Stop the 101 & 280 Widenings
San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, California
Streets For All
Los Angeles, California
Sustainable Claremont
Claremont, California
The Transit Coalition
Los Angeles, California
Transbay Coalition
Oakland, California
Transform
California (statewide)
Walk Long Beach
Long Beach, California
Walk San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action
Denver, Colorado
Call to Action Colorado
Colorado (statewide)
City of Wheat Ridge, District 2
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Community for Sustainable Energy
Colorado (statewide)
Denver Streets Partnership
Denver, Colorado
Larimer Alliance for Health, Safety, & Environment
Larimer County, Colorado
Mayfair Park Neighborhood Association
Denver, Colorado
Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries
Colorado (statewide)
Montbello Neighborhood Improvement Association
Denver, Colorado
North Range Concerned Citizens
Commerce City, Colorado
Our Sacred Earth
Nederland, Colorado
Southwest Organization for Sustainability
Archuleta County, Colorado
Spirit of the Sun
Denver, Colorado
The Green House Connection Center
Denver, Colorado
Unite North Metro Denver
Denver, Colorado
Vibrant Littleton
Littleton, Colorado
Wheat Ridge Active Transportation Advisory Team
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Womxn From The Mountain
Commerce City, Colorado
Fairfield Road Safety Nerds
Fairfield, Connecticut
New Haven Coalition for Active Transportation
New Haven, Connecticut
New Haven Urban Design League
New Haven, Connecticut
Safe Streets Coalition of New Haven
New Haven, Connecticut
Sustainable Streets Norwalk
Norwalk, Connecticut
Transport Hartford
Hartford, Connecticut
BLVD Tampa
Tampa, Florida
Gainesville-Area Action for Environmental Justice
Gainesville, Florida
Palm Beach County Environmental Coalition
Lake Worth, Florida
SCAR of Poinciana
Poinciana, Florida
Idaho Walk Bike Alliance
Idaho (statewide)
Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT)
Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Bike Grid Now
Chicago, Illinois
Commuters Take Action
Chicago, Illinois
Equiticity
Chicago, Illinois
Metropolitan Planning Council
Chicago, Illinois
Neighbors for Environmental Justice
Chicago, Illinois
Coalition Against the Mid-States Corridor
Jasper, Indiana
Health by Design
Indiana (statewide)
Kansas Mobility Management
Salina, Kansas
North Central Kansas Coordinated Transit District
Salina, Kansas
Olathe Public Schools
Olathe, Kansas
Devou Good Foundation
Covington, Kentucky
Newport Biotechnology
Newport, Kentucky
Ride the Cov
Covington, Kentucky
Allendale Strong
Shreveport, Louisiana
Bike Easy
New Orleans, Louisiana
Claiborne Avenue Design Studio
New Orleans, Louisiana
Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance
New Orleans, Louisiana
Louisiana Four Corners Coalition for Transportation Planning Reform
Louisiana (statewide)
LivableStreets Alliance
Boston, Massachusetts
WalkMassachusetts
Massachusetts (statewide)
Detroit Greenways Coalition
Detroit, Michigan
Friends of Slow Streets
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Strong Towns Grand Rapids
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Duluth Waterfront Collective
Duluth, Minnesota
Our Streets MPLS
Minneapolis, Minnesota
AER O&M Environmental Access Committee
Sparks, Nevada
Bike Hoboken
Hoboken, New Jersey
Bike JC
Jersey City, New Jersey
Bike North Bergen
North Bergen, New Jersey
Fund for a Better Waterfront
Hoboken, New Jersey
Hudson County Complete Streets
Hudson County, New Jersey
New Jersey Future
Trenton, New Jersey
New Jersey Policy Perspective
Trenton, New Jersey
SafeStreetsJC
Jersey City, New Jersey
Albany Bicycle Coalition
Albany, New York
Albany Riverfront Collaborative
Albany, New York
Brooklyn Heights Association
Brooklyn, New York
Capital Streets
Albany, New York
Coalition for the BQE Transformation (BQET)
Brooklyn, New York
Covington Associates Consulting | CAC
Buffalo, New York
East Side Collaborative Partnership
Buffalo, New York
Hinge Neighbors Inc.
Rochester, New York
Institute for Public Architecture
New York City, New York
Parks & Trails New York
New York (statewide)
Reconnect Rochester
Rochester, New York
Restore Our Community Coalition
Buffalo, New York
Riders Alliance
New York City, New York
Scajaquada Corridor Coalition
Buffalo, New York
Syracuse Urbanism Club
Syracuse, New York
Walkable Albany
Albany, New York
We Are Women Warriors
Buffalo, New York
Tri-State Transportation Campaign
New York, New Jersey, Connecticut
Bike Durham
Durham, North Carolina
Sustain Charlotte
Charlotte, North Carolina
Bridge Forward Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio
I-475 Neighborhoods Coalition
Toledo, Ohio
Oklahomans for Responsible Transportation
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Tulsa I-244 Removal Project
Tulsa, Oklahoma
1000 Friends of Oregon
Oregon (statewide)
350PDX
Portland, Oregon
AORTA-Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates
Oregon (statewide)
Bend Bikes
Bend, Oregon
Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation (BEST)
Eugene, Oregon
BikeLoud PDX
Portland, Oregon
Bike Walk Roseburg
Roseburg, Oregon
Breach Collective
Portland and Eugene, Oregon
City Observatory
Portland, Oregon
Douglas County Global Warming Coalition
Roseburg, Oregon
Neighbors for Clean Air
Portland, Oregon
No More Freeways
Portland, Oregon
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
Oregon (statewide)
Oregon Environmental Council
Oregon (statewide)
Oregon Walks
Oregon (statewide)
Portland: Neighbors Welcome
Portland, Oregon
Strong Towns PDX
Portland, Oregon
Verde
Portland, Oregon
10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania (statewide)
BikePGH (Bike Pittsburgh)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Connect Urban Erie
Erie, Pennsylvania
Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Roosevelt Boulevard Subway Movement
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Re)Place 345
Dallas, Texas
AURA
Austin, Texas
Air Alliance Houston
Houston, Texas
BikeHouston
Houston, Texas
Community First Coalition
El Paso, Texas
Dallas Bicycle Coalition
Dallas, Texas
Dallas Neighbors for Housing
Dallas, Texas
Eco El Paso
El Paso, Texas
El Paso County, Precinct 2
El Paso, Texas
Fonde Civic Club
Houston, Texas
LINK Houston
Houston, Texas
Reconnect Austin
Austin, Texas
Rethink35
Austin, Texas
Safe Streets Austin
Austin, Texas
Stop TxDOT I-45
Houston, Texas
Sunset Heights Neighborhood Association
El Paso, Texas
Texas Campaign for the Environment
Texas (statewide)

Texas Streets Coalition
Texas (statewide)
Velo Paso Bicycle-Pedestrian Coalition
El Paso, Texas
HEAL Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Utah Rail Passengers Association
Utah (statewide)
Cascade Bicycle Club
Washington (statewide)
Lid I-5
Seattle, Washington
Move Redmond
Redmond, Washington
The Urbanist
Puget Sound, Washington
Transportation Choices Coalition
Seattle, Washington
Greater Greater Washington
Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia
1000 Friends of Wisconsin
Wisconsin (statewide)
350 Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Community Huddle
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Law Office of Dennis M Grzesinski
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Madison Area Bus Advocates
Madison, Wisconsin
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Wisconsin Bike Federation
Wisconsin (statewide)
Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired
Madison, Wisconsin