

Connecticut Livable Streets Campaign

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Steering Committee

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Mark Abraham, Dixwell Community Management Team (New Haven)

Kirsten Bechtel MD, Section of Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Injury Free Coalition for Klds, Yale-New Haven Hospital

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Beth Emery, Transportation Alternatives Middletown

Tom Harned, Elm City Cycling

Doug Hausladen, Downtown-Wooster Square Community Management Team (New Haven)

Chris Heitmann, Executive Director, Westville Village Renaissance Alliance (New Haven)

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Juli Stupakevich, Elm City Cycling

Erin Sturgis-Pascale, Former Ward 14 Alderwoman, City of New Haven

Brian Tang, Elm City Cycling

March 3, 2010

Senator Don DeFronzo
Representative Antonio Guerrero
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Raised Bill No. 5386: "An Act Concerning the Safety of Pedestrians and Cyclists and the Promotion of Healthy Communities"

Dear Senator DeFronzo, Representative Guerrero and members of the Committee:

The Connecticut Livable Streets Campaign (CTLS) advocates for the creation and implementation of a comprehensive vision for safe, livable, walkable, equitable, healthy and economically vibrant streets in Connecticut.

CTLS supports Raised Bill No. 5386 that would establish a competitive grant program to award municipalities for projects that promote healthy communities and improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

This bill is revenue neutral and its passage would present an important opportunity to invest federal dollars in projects that support the long term health and vibrancy of both Connecticut citizens and the Connecticut economy.

Currently, Connecticut lags far behind our neighboring states with respect to resources allocated for walking, bicycling and transit. This lack of investment represents a strategic disadvantage as we compete to develop, retain and attract a young and skilled workforce.

CTLS urges the Committee to pass this bill so that Connecticut can begin to achieve a smarter balance between modes in the funding allocations for transportation in our State, thus creating a more attractive working and living environment for its citizens.

Sincerely,

Erin Sturgis-Pascale
CT Livable Streets Campaign