

# Transportation ALTERNATIVES

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## New Film Shows Route to Livable, Gridlock-Free Streets

### Experts from Downtown to the Bronx, as well as London, Paris and Copenhagen show how to meet the transportation needs of NYC's rapidly growing population

Co-producers Mark Gorton, successful entrepreneur, founder and director of the Lime Group and Paul Steely White, seasoned advocate for livable streets and director of the New York-based thirty-three year-old non-profit Transportation Alternatives announced today that they are releasing a new documentary, *Contested Streets: Breaking NYC Gridlock*. The film explores ways cities around the world are breaking free from the chokehold of traffic, enhancing quality of life and environmental sustainability and allowing room for their economies to grow and flourish. The unusual partnership between the two producers and their organizations has allowed for access to a diverse group of interviews that are collected in this film, which features some of our generation's the brightest minds from the business, transportation and urban planning arenas.

Luminaries and experts appearing on camera include: **Kenneth T. Jackson**, President, New York Historical Society; author, *Encyclopedia of New York*, **Majora Carter**, Executive Director, Sustainable South Bronx, recent recipient of MacArthur Genius Award, **Bob Kiley**, former CEO, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and recent Commissioner of Transport for London, **Kathryn Wylde**, President and CEO, Partnership for New York City and **Fred Kent**, President, Project for Public Spaces.

The film will premiere at the IFC Center on June 27<sup>th</sup> to an audience of elected officials, business leaders, architects and urban planners. The film will be broadcast to a wider audience using a grassroots screening model, recently made popular by such films as *Wal-Mart: The Movie*. Many local groups and private residents are already signed up to host screenings later this summer. And there have been requests for the film from other cities from Philadelphia to Chicago to as far away as Pune, India.

"To accommodate the travel demands of our rapidly growing population, and with subway expansions being so expensive, New York City must find a way to get more transportation performance from the streets. This film features best-practice examples from cities that are far ahead of New York in making this happen," says White.

According to Kathryn Wylde, head of the powerful business group Partnership for New York City and one of the film's stars, "The main complaint in the business community is congestion. I have recently traveled to cities around the world that are getting serious about addressing the problem of congestion. This film showcases how some of these cities have made real strides towards reducing congestion and will spark important conversations about what New York City can do to ease our traffic problems."

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*To attend the screening, obtain a DVD copy of the film or arrange for an interview with the film's stars please contact Dani Simons 646-873-6025 or [events@transalt.org](mailto:events@transalt.org). The film trailer and complete list of the film stars and producers are available at [transalt.org/campaigns/reclaiming/contestedstreets](http://transalt.org/campaigns/reclaiming/contestedstreets).*