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The City of New York



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Chief of Transport
One Police Plaza - Room 1
New York, N.Y. 10038

August 23, 2004

Mr. Paul S. White
Executive Director
Transportation Alternatives
115 West 30th Street - Suite 1207
New York, N.Y. 10001-4010



Dear Paul:

I am writing you to follow up on the conversation I had with Noah Budnick concerning the "Critical Mass" bike rides that have generally taken place on the last Friday of each month. Increasingly large numbers of bicyclists have been riding through Manhattan on an escalating scale, those riders are breaking numerous traffic laws and violations of law that have escalated to levels of Disorderly Conduct and Obstructing Governmental Administration.

Traffic has been significantly impeded, and dangerous conditions, both to the riders, and to other citizens exist. As a Police Department we cannot allow this situation to continue.

Therefore, I am respectfully notifying you that the Police Department must take action against future violators of the law.

It is not our desire to summons or arrest your members. Therefore, we are notifying Transportation Alternatives, a wonderful organization that has the same lawful desires as the Police Department, to notify its members of this situation, so that those who wish to continue to ride "Critical Mass" will obey all traffic administrative and penal laws, and will understand that if the laws are broken, violators will be summonsed or arrested.

I admire your board of officers and law abiding members and I look forward to his continued warm and friendly relationship with you and I thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Michael Scagnelli

Michael Scagnelli
Chief of Transportation