

# Letters

## Bike with Your Pols

I WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU to be more aggressive. As a Republican in the Philadelphia area, I am sick and tired of both parties not doing enough to promote biking. I have taken to DEMANDING my representatives ride a bike to work (if feasible) at least twice a week.

HARRY SMITH

**Editor's Note:** Great idea!

We often invite elected and appointed officials here in New York to go for a bike ride, or a walking tour with us to explore problems that are best viewed as a cyclists or pedestrian. Many street defects and potentially dangerous conditions are best seen on foot or bike and NOT from behind the windshield of a car. We have had more luck

so far with our walking tours, especially in our Safe Routes for Seniors Program, where area seniors join electeds to discuss street conditions and their effects on mobility. We will be working on getting more electeds out on their bikes as the weather gets warmer. We also encourage our members to invite their electeds to take a ride with them.

to try to recover his bike, step one is to make a police report. Make sure to bring any receipts or other evidence of ownership like a photograph of him and the bike. That way, if your son sees someone riding it on the street, he can stop them, call the police and have a record that proves the bike is his. You can find police precinct contact info here: [www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/phone.html](http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/phone.html)

He can also call used bike shops and ask that they keep an eye out for it.

Unfortunately, according to the NYPD, only about 2% of stolen bikes are recovered in New York, but for something so dearly loved, it's worth the effort.

Additionally, if you have homeowner's or renter's insurance, bike theft may be covered, even if it happens outside your home. Check your policy for details. We wish your son the best of luck in finding his bike. □

## Recovering A Ripped-Off Ride

MY SON HAD HIS TRACK BIKE stolen from in front of a New York City cafe yesterday afternoon. It was locked with heavy chain and acme key lock to lamp post. It is a classic Atala frame with Campi components and blue decals. In your experience, what steps can he take in an attempt to recover it if any?

STEVE GOULD

**Editor's Note:** We are so sorry to hear that. If your son wants

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