

Cristina Carnicelli

Occupation: Corporate Video Producer

Age: 35

How long have you been a T.A. member? Since September 2002.

What neighborhood do you live in? What neighborhood do you work in? I live in Long Island City, Queens and I work in Murray Hill, Manhattan.

When did you start volunteering with T.A.? September 2002.

What kinds of volunteer activities have you done with T.A.? I volunteer at the Cool Wednesday Night Mailing Parties, I helped navigate the delivery vans for T.A.'s NYC Century Bike Tour and lately I have been collecting petition signatures for a Car-Free Central Park.

Hours (volunteering) per month: Depends on if you're listening to my conversations with strangers on the street. I'm always campaigning.

What is your personal philosophy? To live simply, and to design your life to exactly what you want it to be.

What upcoming projects are you working on (both with T.A. and T.A. relevant projects)? A top 10 list of Bumper Stickers bicyclists would have, if bicycles had bumpers!! I write a lot of letters to city agencies, newspapers, and Community Boards. I would



Always campaigning. Cris talks up the cause even when she's not volunteering for T.A.

really like to organize a Queens Action Committee for T.A.

What do you think about Volunteer night? It's a great place to be around other cyclists, find out about rides and events, and keep up on cycling advocacy in the city. Plus, Annie [T.A.'s volunteer coordinator] is truly a great person to know.

You're Mayor/Director of T.A./God/etc for a day, what do you do? Enforce speeding regulations, ban single occupancy vehicles in

the city, designate a whole lane to cyclists on 2nd Avenue [in Manhattan] and end the ridiculousness of 2nd Avenue being both a truck route and a bike route.

Share some thoughts about working with other T.A. volunteers and staffers: The volunteers are a diverse group who are united by their shared commitment to cycling and pedestrian advocacy in the city. You meet people at T.A. who you may never have met in a different setting. The staff all seem to truly enjoy their jobs, and while that is essential for all of us; it makes them especially effective advocates.

Issues that concern you as a cyclist in NYC: Car Culture!! I can go months without being in a car, and it seems absurd to me that this city, which is so suited for cycling, is overrun with vehicles. Worse than that, the lack of awareness and safety that drivers show is frustrating, especially when drivers antagonize cyclists and pedestrians with their

1500 pound, 6 cylinder death traps.

Pollution is another concern. Some days the grit literally sticks to my skin, which can't be a very good sign for my lungs.

Thoughts on T.A. as an organization: Volunteering for T.A. has been incredibly rewarding. It is a very effective organization that truly does have the ear of the Department of Transportation and other relevant city agencies. As a volunteer I have been able to be a part of making great changes for the people of New York. □

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