



T.A. is building a new campaign to hold deadly drivers accountable. Page 12

Provocateur..... 2
 Publisher's Letter..... 3
 Letters..... 4
 Cycling News..... 5
 Reclaiming the Streets..... 9
 In Focus: Traffic Justice..... 12
 Sensible Transportation..... 15
 Safe Seniors..... 16
 Parks..... 17
 Safe Streets..... 18
 Committee Updates..... 19
 Best and Worst..... 21
 Volunteer Profile..... 23
 Bike to Transit..... 24
 Commuter Profile..... 25
 About T.A..... 26

Reclaim: THE MAGAZINE OF TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to reclaim New York City's streets from the automobile, and to advocate for bicycling, walking and public transit as the best transportation alternatives.

WINTER 2008 — VOL. 14 NO. 1

ISSN #1524-1912, published quarterly by Transportation Alternatives. Subscriptions available for \$30/year, \$40 (outside U.S.). Reprints (except graphics), with T.A. credit, allowed without permission.

PUBLISHER: Paul Steely White

MANAGING EDITOR: Wiley Norvell

DESIGNER: Sarah Lang

CONTRIBUTORS: Masami Adachi, Graham Beck, Noah Budnick, Ken Coughlin, Brooke Dubose, Kate Edmundson, Emmanuel Fuentebella, Peter Goldwasser, Ethan Kent, Lindsey Lusher, Oksana Mironova, Ken Missbrenner, Luc Nadal, Wiley Norvell, Amy Pfeiffer, Karla Quintero, Caroline Samponaro, Will Sherman, Bancha Srikacha, Paul Steely White, Joseph Yacca

MESSENGER SERVICES: Thunderball, 212-675-1700

T.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Neysa Pranger, *President*; Ken Coughlin, Laurie Davidowitz, Walter Hook, Daniel Kaizer, Laurence Levi, Rich Kassel, Steve McMaster, Jeff Prant, Kate Slevin, Paul Steely White

T.A. STAFF: Paul Steely White, *Executive Director*; Graham Beck, *Communications Coordinator*; Noah Budnick, *Deputy Director*; Kate Edmundson, *Design Director*; Peter Goldwasser, *UWS Streets Renaissance Campaign Director*; Mike Infranco, *IT Director*; Nathan John, *NYC Streets Renaissance Campaign Coordinator*; Fred Kaimann, *NJ Coordinator*; Abby King, *Membership Coordinator and Bookkeeper*; Lindsey Lusher, *Pedestrian Advocate*; Oksana Mironova, *Volunteer and Membership Outreach Coordinator*; Wiley Norvell, *Communications Director*; Nora Peña, *Events Coordinator*; Amy Pfeiffer, *Director of Planning*; Ali Qadeer, *Web Coordinator*; Karla Quintero, *Deputy Director of Planning*; Caroline Samponaro, *Bicycle Campaign Coordinator*; Will Sherman, *Public Space Advocate*

COVER PHOTO: Will Sherman (front), Carly Clark (back)

127 W 26 St, Ste 1002, NY NY 10001-6808
 Tel: 212-629-8080 Fax: 629-8334, info@transalt.org, transalt.org

RECLAIM!

IN EARLY 2004 I JOINED AN amazing organization on the ascent: Not just an advocate for bicycling anymore, Transportation Alternatives was an authoritative voice for pedestrians and a leading force for better transit and overall transportation reform too. I am proud that over the past four years T.A. has continued a steep upward trajectory, making our mission to “reclaim New York City streets from the automobile” more attainable than ever before.

With a Mayor, a DOT, a business and health community now leading and supporting ever growing efforts to form bike-, pedestrian-, and transit-oriented streets, our mission has gained powerful allies over the past few years. We are now poised at the brink of a momentous shift in how we New Yorkers – the most influential local citizenry in the world – conserve and experience our precious public space.

This shift will happen this spring and summer on New York’s main streets with wider sidewalks, attractive pedestrian plazas, and more copious and better-designed bike lanes and bike parking. It will happen with long overdue parking reforms, efficient surface transit and congestion pricing. And it will happen with more New Yorkers than ever before walking, talking and bicycling in the streets – coupled, in small groups and en masse. In 2008, with our minds and bodies, we are reclaiming our city from the motor-car.

It is fitting that this historic year of street makeovers comes on T.A.’s 35th anniversary. To both mark and abet this special time, our communications are getting a makeover too. Go to Transalt.org to find a fully upgraded website featuring an easier to use, sleek new design; a brand new Action Center connecting you to issues and policy makers; searchable indices of our presence in the local and national media; and, of course, hundreds of pages of resources about bicycling, walking and public transit in NYC. The new Transalt.org will seamlessly allow T.A. members and activists to more directly communicate with decision-makers, amplifying our voice on critical campaigns.

You’ll also notice our spiffy new logo at the top of your screen and on the cover of the

magazine you’re holding. A modern, memorable representation of Transportation Alternatives allows us to stand out—and better visibility means better advocacy. When we seek out new allies and members, respond to press inquiries or strive to influence policy makers, our image will now match our reputation for bold, progressive, city-changing work.

Unveiling the new T.A. logo has in turn stoked our imagination for what this magazine can be. When *Transportation Alternatives Magazine* debuted in the summer of 1995, it was an outgrowth of *Auto-Free Press* and *City Cyclist*, two T.A. publications that once graced free newsstands at NYC bike shops and counter-cultural hubs. It was a harbinger of T.A.’s expansion from a cycling organization to one that advocated for pedestrians and transit riders as well. John Kaehny, our Executive Director at the time, proclaimed the shift:

“Cycling does not exist in isolation. Indeed, our cycling experience has made us aware of the overwhelming biases that grant so much public space and consideration to motorists and so little to cyclists, walkers and neighborhoods.”

Reclaim further extends our reach, informing and stoking the imaginations of the increasing number of New Yorkers demanding livable streets and healthy public spaces.

With your help, 2008 will be seen as the year when the spirit of this reclamation burst out and gave all New Yorkers a yearning for what Transportation Alternatives members have desperately wanted since 1973: a city where living is not compromised by too many cars.

Sincerely,

Paul Steely White
 Executive Director
 Transportation Alternatives