

April 6, 2021

Mondaire Jones
Member of Congress
222 Mamaroneck Ave Suite 312
White Plains, NY 10605

Dear Congress Member Jones:

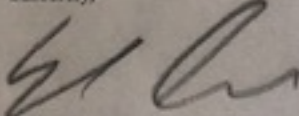
Please include the Route 9 Active Transportation Project in your Community Project Funding request.

The key problem this project solves is **safety**. There are about 150 crashes each year on Route 9 in the 5 villages. Implementing the plan will reduce the number and severity of crashes by completing the sidewalk network, building more and safer crosswalks, adding protected cycling lanes, better geometry for motor vehicle lanes (and adds shelters and benches to Bee Line Bus stops).

The enhanced safety unlocks additional benefits:

- People currently too scared to walk and bike will be able to **get out of their cars for local trips**. Notably, there are **23 schools** on and near Route 9.
- Establishes **independence** for people who can't drive (poor, young, disabled, elderly)
- Advances **social equity** by opening affordable transportation options for low income households
- Putting exercise into daily routines, which boosts **physical and emotional health**
- Leads to interactions that build **community cohesion** (restoring the social fabric torn by COVID)
- People walking and rolling shop locally, **spending more money in local businesses** over time
- **Boosts business** because more shoppers can fit in downtowns when less cars are used
- Links our 5 downtowns, **tourist destinations** (Sunnyside, Lyndhurst, Mario Cuomo Tappan Zee Bridge, Philipsburg Manor, Old Dutch Church, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery and Old Croton Aqueduct Trail), and the Sleepy Hollow Hotel & Conference Center (DoubleTree Hotel)
- **Fills a big missing link** in the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail (in Tarrytown between Franklin St and Lyndhurst) to create even more transportation and recreation options
- **Cuts pollution** (air, noise and water) and helps us meet **climate emission reduction** goals

Sincerely,



Emily Sobol
Chair of the Irvington Safe Routes Walking School Bus Committee
12 Ilinka Lane, Irvington, NY 10533