



Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance Stand On Sheridan During Rush Hour

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July 21, 2009

On Wednesday, July 15, 2009, 5:30 pm, members of the Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance posed for an unusual group photo. The group, which is advocating for the removal of the 1.25 mile Sheridan Expressway in the South Bronx, posed smack dab in the middle of the highway at rush hour.

The Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance is a coalition of community-based and city-wide organizations advocating for the removal of the Sheridan Expressway and the creation of affordable housing, open space, businesses, and jobs in its place. The removal of the Sheridan is currently under consideration by the New York State Department of Transportation as Alternative 1E in its Bruckner-Sheridan Interchange Environmental Impact Study.

"There are 28 acres of potential under this pavement," said Adam Liebowitz of THE POINT CDC. "This area of the Bronx is in desperate need of open space and housing. Obviously, there's no desperate need for the road."

"We are standing in the middle of the highway, at peak rush hour, in the peak direction – I can't visualize better proof that this is as unnecessary as a road can get," said Julien Terrell of Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice.

"The majority of traffic we're seeing is cars, not trucks. These are cars going from the city to the North Bronx or Westchester, which means they could use the Bronx River Parkway if the Sheridan were taken down," stated Melanie Bin Jung of the Alliance.

Nine years ago the Alliance staged a similar photograph where members sat on the Sheridan at 5:45 pm on a weekday for an article entitled "Boondoggle Highway" by *The New York Post*. The Alliance includes Mothers on the Move, Nos Quedamos, Sustainable South Bronx, the Pratt Center for Community Development, THE POINT CDC, Tri-State Transportation Campaign, and Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice.

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All Pictures Courtesy of the Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance.



Clockwise from top: Julien Terrell of YMPJ, Kyle Wiswall of TSTC, Adam Liebowitz of THE POINT CDC, Anna Vincenty of Nos Quedamos, Melanie Bin Jung of SBRWA, Joan Byron of PCCD.



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