



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **Pedestrian Deaths/Injuries Fuel Silent Epidemic on LI Streets**

## ***2023 Walk Bike LI Summit Examines Why and How to End It***

Hauppauge, NY (May 11, 2023): While the coronavirus contagion recedes, the “epidemic” of pedestrian injury/death on Long Island streets is getting worse. One victim’s mom is joining forces with the [New York Coalition for Transportation Safety](#) (NYCTS) on June 8<sup>th</sup> at the 2023 Walk Bike LI Summit at Farmingdale State College to talk about the tragic loss of her 13-year old son, who was struck by a vehicle in 2019 while riding his bicycle home, and what she and other safety advocates have done in recent years to stop these preventable tragedies on our streets. [Event](#) is FREE and open to the public.

Nassau and Suffolk counties have some of the highest rates of pedestrian injury and death in the state and even the nation. Several of our roads have been deemed “death corridors.”

The NYCTS educates Long Islanders of all ages about the New York State laws in place meant to keep us all safe whether we walk, bike, ride a scooter or e-bike, or even drive a car. This education augments the push for improved roadway design that our engineering partners work toward and better adherence to all traffic and safety laws that our enforcement officers oversee. Representatives from these sectors will talk about innovative approaches both in place and hoped for that will reverse the raging epidemic of death and injury on our Long Island roadways.

### **2023 Walk Bike LI Summit Details**

**When: Thursday, June 8, 2023 | 2 to 4:30 p.m.**

**Where: Farmingdale State College | Ballroom**

**Campus Center, 2350 Route 110, Farmingdale, NY 11735**

### **Who:**

**Diana Alati, Families for Safe Streets | Mother of 13-year old bicyclist struck and killed in Levittown**

**Daniel Flanzig, Esq. Attorney Defending Injured Bicyclists**

**Matthew Carmody, Traffic Engineer**

**Paul Steely White, Executive Director, Parks and Trails New York**

**Dr. Kazem Oryani, Roadway Design Engineer, Farmingdale State**



**Rosemary Mascali, Active Transit Advocate, Let's Move LI**

**Why: Raise awareness about this “epidemic” and learn what’s being done to reverse it**

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**About [New York Coalition for Transportation Safety](#) and [Walk Safe LI](#)**

*Walk Safe Long Island (WSLI) is a pedestrian and cyclist safety campaign that aims to teach Long Islanders about walking and biking safely through law-based education. WSLI is overseen by the New York Coalition for Transportation Safety with assistance from the Long Island Health Collaborative. Efforts funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee.*

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**About New York Coalition for Transportation Safety (NYCTS)**

NYCTS is a non-profit, statewide organization established in 1982 with the mission to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities occurring on our roadways through outreach and education programs aimed at pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Since 1987 NYCTS has received grants from federal, state, local and private agencies to develop and conduct public information and education campaigns in a variety of localities. Types grant funded activities conducted by the NYCTS include assembly programs for children in grades K-12, bicycle safety programs, pedestrian safety programs, school bus safety programs, mature driver and pedestrian programs, bilingual (English/Spanish) programs, programs for children with special needs, classroom instruction in travel training for young people with disabilities, child passenger safety seat installation, and more.

[NYCTS Website](#) | [NYCTS Facebook](#) | [NYCTS Twitter](#) | [NYCTS Instagram](#)

**About Walk Safe Long Island (WSLI)**

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New York State is taking numerous measures to tackle the issue of pedestrian and cyclist safety, all of which culminate in the New York State Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP). The plan emphasizes making streets safer by implementing the “Three Es—” engineering, enforcement, and education. Walk Safe Long Island is part of the third “E,” education.

[WSLI Website](#)

**About the Long Island Health Collaborative (LIHC)**

LIHC is a partnership of Long Island’s hospitals, county health departments, health providers, community-based social and human service organizations, academic institutions, health plans, local



government, and members of the business sector, all engaged in improving the health of Long Islanders. Collaborative members are committed to improving the health of people living with chronic disease, obesity, and behavioral health conditions in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

[LIHC Website](#) | [LIHC Facebook](#) | [LIHC Twitter](#) | [LIHC Instagram](#)