



FROM: Campaign for New York's Future

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For Immediate Release

LEADERS OF CAMPAIGN FOR NEW YORK'S FUTURE TO JOIN MAYOR BLOOMBERG IN ALBANY TO CALL FOR URGENT ACTION ON PLANYC

Broad Coalition's Advocacy Effort Is Aimed at Creating a Cleaner, Healthier and More Livable New York

NEW YORK, May 14, 2007 – Leading members of the Campaign for New York's Future, a broad coalition of 80 environmental, public health, civic, labor, community and business organizations, will today join Mayor Bloomberg in separate meetings with Governor Eliot Spitzer and State legislators to help call attention to the urgent need for action on the Mayor's PlaNYC initiative during the current legislative session.

The Campaign for New York's Future, which was formed in response to Mayor Bloomberg's visionary PlaNYC initiative, has grown to become an unprecedented coalition of organizations, from corporate to environmental justice advocates, and from century-old citywide institutions to recently-formed neighborhood grassroots groups.

On Monday, the Campaign will stand with the Mayor in voicing its full support of his efforts to provide New Yorkers with the greenest, healthiest and most livable city in the United States.

Among the Campaign for New York's Future members joining Mayor Bloomberg are: Marcia Bystryn, Executive Director, League of Conservation Voters; Bob Yaro, President, Regional Plan Association; Peter Slocum, Vice President, American Cancer Society; Louise Vetter, CEO, American Lung Association of the City of New York; Gene Russianoff, Senior Attorney, NYPIRG Straphangers Campaign; Ramon Cruz, Policy Analyst, Environmental Defense; Peggy Shepard, Executive Director and Co-founder, WE ACT for Environmental Justice; and Richard Schrader, New York Legislative Director, Natural Resources Defense Council.

"The Straphangers Campaign strongly supports the bold vision of Mayor Bloomberg's plans to tackle New York's environmental woes. We are especially excited about his proposals to provide billions of dollars to fund fixing and expanding the metropolitan-area's transit network. The first to benefit would rightly be those in neighborhoods that now have limited options, like Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, where I grew up," said Mr. Russianoff.

“The Mayor has demonstrated that he understands the depth of the challenge and has created a plan that resonates throughout our neighborhoods. It is important for all of us to stand with him in demanding improved air quality, reduced asthma prevalence, more access to open space and clean, reliable energy,” said Ms. Shepard of WE ACT.

Ms. Vetter of the American Lung Association of the City of New York added, “Science has conclusively demonstrated the devastating health effects of air pollution on lung health. This package of initiatives represents a clear commitment to improving the life and breath of New Yorkers and would leave our children with a cleaner, healthier city.”

Said Mr. Slocum of the American Cancer Society, “PlaNYC offers the promise of a healthier city, with lower cancer risks, thanks to cleaner air and lower obesity rates, as all communities get access to safe, attractive parks that encourage family exercise. We applaud the Mayor’s sense of urgency and hope to create that same sense among New York’s State Legislators.”

Bob Yaro, President of Regional Plan Association said: “PlaNYC 2030 charts a visionary course for the future of New York City and the entire metropolitan region, and we are determined to help the Mayor and all New Yorkers seize this historic opportunity.”

“Now is the time for New York City and State to unite in the fight against global warming,” said Andy Darrell, director of Living Cities program at Environmental Defense, a national non-profit environmental organization headquartered in New York. “The proposed plan would deliver clean air, energy efficiency and technology innovation for millions of New Yorkers. It provides a model for how all of New York State's cities can lead the world in creating a healthy, low-carbon future. It deserves support now.”

Ms. Bystryn said, “More than anyone else in the United States, Mayor Bloomberg has defined an environmental agenda to include energy and transportation policy, infrastructure development and affordable housing. In doing so and with Albany’s assistance, he positions New York to be a truly sustainable city.”

Concluded Mr. Schrader of NRDC, “More energy efficient homes and workspaces, along with highly efficient, cleaner power plants, and more fuel efficient cars are critical to meeting our growing energy needs, lowering energy bills, and reducing global warming pollution. We cannot start soon enough on implementing the Mayor’s PlaNYC initiatives.”

The Campaign for New York's Future is a coalition of civic, business, environmental, labor, community and public health organizations that support the goals and strategic direction of PlaNYC. Our goal is to make every neighborhood in NYC a great place to live and work, as well as make a significant contribution to fighting climate change. The coalition aims to encourage public debate – as well as fair and effective action – now and in the years to come. We recognize the need to both seize the opportunity for immediate action and to insure that this long-term plan evolves with continued dialogue and changing conditions.

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