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***4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Free Day Long Island Scheduled For September 22  
International event will be celebrated at locations across Long Island***

Long Island will once again join in the celebration of Car Free Day at events across Long Island, Suffolk County's Car Free Day LI Summit at Suffolk County Community College, and the Wyandanch Plaza Car Free Day Celebration, as well as the Rate the Ride, annual cross-island bus event.

Car Free Day is an international event that encourages drivers to leave their cars at home for a day on Thursday, September 22. Car Free Day LI is organized by a broad-based group of Long Island leaders from major employers, business, civic and environmental groups, universities and municipalities.

Long Islanders are once again being asked to use more sustainable travel choices on the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Free Day Long Island, such as transit, carpooling, bicycles, walking and telecommuting, or just driving less that day, to help reduce traffic, conserve energy, reduce harmful emissions, improve fitness, reduce parking problems and save money. Participants are also eligible to win raffle prizes including commuter bikes, gift cards, transit passes and theater tickets. Commuters, students and residents can pledge to go car free or car-lite at the Car Free Day LI website ([www.carfreedayli.com](http://www.carfreedayli.com)). To date, over 2,800 Long Islanders have already pledged. In 2015, almost 3,000 Long Islanders pledged to be car free or car-lite, saving 78,000 miles of driving and 39 tons of CO2 emissions.

Several events are being planned in support of the event. The LI Bus Riders Union will host their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Rate the Ride event on September 19 & 20, highlighting the many Long Island locations accessible by NICE Bus and Suffolk County Transit buses.

On September 22, Suffolk County and Suffolk County Community College will jointly host a Car Free Day LI Summit at the Suffolk County Community College Ammerman Campus in Selden, at Brookhaven Gym, 11-1pm. Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone and SCCC President Shaun McKay will kickoff the event and speakers will discuss several sustainable transportation options including Bus Rapid Transit and bike sharing.

Later that evening, the Wyandanch Plaza Association and the Town of Babylon will welcome commuters and residents on their way home, from 5:30-7:30pm, with music and refreshments at the Car Free Day LI Celebration at Wyandanch Plaza, steps from the Wyandanch Village transit oriented development, and the Wyandanch LIRR station and Parking Facility, and Suffolk County Transit bus stop. Exhibitors including 511NYRideshare, Transit Solutions, Sustainable Long Island, and Commuter Benefit Solutions will provide information on sustainable transportation alternatives.

More information about Car Free Day LI and these events is available at the Car Free Day LI website.