



CITY OF NEW HAVEN
JUSTIN ELICKER
MAYOR

CITY HALL

JUSTIN MCCARTHY
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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April 24th, 2026

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President of the Board of Alders
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear President Walker-Myers,

On September 19th, 2026, the 16th annual Closer To Free Ride will be held to benefit the Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. Over the years the event has grown in popularity and impact. Due to the growing size, we anticipate the rolling closure for this event to be more of a disruption to vehicular travel and have thus submitted it to the honorable Board for consideration as a traditional closure. As the riders clear each intersection the route will open back up to vehicles but with the growing popularity and number of participants this may take longer than we usually allow for the standard rolling closures. In addition, the full closure of Central Ave between Chapel and West Haven line has also been requested to facilitate setup, load in, start and finish of the many other distances that arrive throughout the day.

The application requires full Board of Alder approval for this closure, and I therefore request your consideration of the request.

Very truly yours,

Rebecca Bombero
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer