Welcome to Cross River Partnership’s Fortnightly Update

Green Transport Week
This week provides CRP with an opportunity to celebrate sustainable travel, even more so than we usually do! Throughout our Healthy Streets Everyday programme, we are working with our partners to encourage and share knowledge of improving streetscapes for more pedestrian and cycle-friendly neighbourhoods and streets and reducing car-free behaviour, with a focus on School Streets to encourage clean air and active travel for children.

Clean Air Villages relies on engaging with businesses to inspire sustainable behavioural changes and implement new low or zero emission delivery methods. Introductions of cargo bikes have encouraged zero emission deliveries for businesses such as Cooper’s Bakehouse. CAV3 will build on this by continuing to work with businesses, but additionally working with hospitals (where feasible) and communities.

Read more here
High Streets as Havens: Re-opening Businesses Safely and Sustainably - LiveShare session

Register your place at our next LiveShare session, where we will be joined by Camden Town Unlimited and London & Partners for an informative discussion on the successes and challenges of re-opening the High Street two weeks after the easing of lockdown in England. We look forward to seeing you there!

Missed our last LiveShare event? Watch the whole discussion here, with contributions from Transport for London and Sustrans on active travel and its essential role as we emerge from lockdown.

CRP Welcomes Midtown BID as its Latest Member

CRP is extremely honoured to announce Midtown BID joining its Board as a partnership member alongside the existing 18 Business Improvement Districts, 8 Local Authorities and other strategic agencies involved with supporting London out of lockdown, safely and sustainably. Midtown BID will deliver projects with CRP on healthy walking, cycling, working and living, as we emerge from the first phase of the COVID-19 crisis. Midtown BID is already developing their Covid-19 RISE strategy to work not just towards recovery, but with the purpose of renewing the district longer term as we all work towards creating a successful future together. Midtown’s footprint extends into the London Borough of Camden and the London Borough of Islington, 2 of CRP’s existing 8 Local Authority members.

“Midtown BID are delighted to be joining the Cross River Partnership and the alignment of many shared goals, initiatives and objectives. We look forward to being an active participant in both current and future projects as we all work towards establishing a renewed and reinvigorated city.”

Debbie Akehurst, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Midtown BID.

SEUL Continues to Win Awards!

CRP’s Smart Electric Urban Logistics (SEUL) project continues to be celebrated for its innovation and achievements in using technology for good. It has won prizes in the Global Good Awards in both the Tech for Good and Innovation categories following the project’s recent conclusion. SEUL has already helped
deliver air quality improvements through reduced emissions from electric trucks in central London. We look forward to attending the delayed awards ceremony, either virtually or in person, later this year!

SEUL is also the platform for our latest innovation project, EV Fleet-centred Local Energy System, working with UPS, UK Power Networks Services and Moixa, with funding from UKRI Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.

For further information, please contact CRP Project Manager Tom-Linton Smith: tomlintonsmith@crossriverpartnership.org

Celebrating the Windrush generation
22nd June marked 72 years since the HMT Empire Windrush landed at Tilbury Docks, East London in 1948. The Westminster City Council’s BAME Network celebrated the event with a virtual event of poetry, music and personal stories. The event explored some amazing personal life stories of this generation, such as Sam King, the first Black Mayor of Southwark. It is inspirational how this generation of migrants still has so much influence in our cities and culture in Britain today. The influence of Caribbean culture can also be seen in the food, music and art we consume. They also rebuilt institutions such as the NHS which we have been especially indebted to during the COVID-19 crisis.

Whilst they fought against and faced many prejudices and discrimination, it is important to note that more needs to be done in the fight against institutional racism. We should be proud of their achievements and embrace their contributions to British culture, and aim to continue to promote inclusion and equality though our work.

Thank you to the Westminster City Council BAME network for hosting this celebration.

For further information, please contact CRP Project Support Assistant Chioma Wuche: chiomawuche@crossriverpartnership.org

Celebrating SME enterprise day - showcasing great work from London businesses!
27th June, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises day, was a time to reflect on how SMEs have positively contributed to our local communities. Throughout projects at CRP, we have worked closely with businesses of all sizes.

During the CAV2 project, CRP worked with SME cargo bike provider ecofleet, in their local borough in Wandsworth. Parcels Not Pollution, delivering in Shepherds Bush during the pandemic, involves many different SMEs, rising to the challenges of air pollution in London to help provide alternative solutions for all. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many businesses have adapted to new ways to deliver their products, an example being the cargo bike on Pavilion Road, utilised by London Cheesemongers. Brixton businesses Abdul’s Fruit and Veg and Healthy Eaters have
switched to EV to ensure they are contributing to cleaner air in their local community. We are looking forward to carrying on working with SMEs in CAV3, so if you are a small enterprise looking to improve local air quality in your community please get in touch!

Join the movement of businesses tackling air pollution
The Business Clean Air Taskforce has announced the launch of the Business for Clean Air (B4CA) initiative. Business Clean Air Taskforce are a group of businesses convened by Global Action Plan and Defra, to help move towards cleaner air for all. Signatories include LeasePlan, Uber and Landsec. Clean air and building back better matters now more than ever. This initiative is aimed at large businesses - if you are interested, sign up here.

Clean Air Villages: June update
Clean Air Villages 3 (CAV3) is tailored to improve air quality whilst supporting businesses, communities and hospitals as we emerge from lockdown.

CAV3 is a Defra-funded air quality project working with businesses, communities and hospitals in pollution hotspots across London, to promote behaviour change around individual and collective action that will improve air quality. CRP has now met with all CAV3 partners to discuss a strategy for implementation of the project on a local level. Tailored action will be taking place within each 'village' area to promote behaviour change around improving air quality. Cross-borough activities are also taking place, and CRP is developing ideas on air quality monitoring, hosting LiveShare events and expanding the CRP Clean Air Villages Directory into the new 'villages'.

For further information, please contact CAV Project Manager Kate Fenton: katefenton@crossriverpartnership.org
The CRP Clean Air Villages Directory is expanding!
We are excited to announce that the CRP Clean Air Villages Directory is expanding across new village areas for Clean Air Villages 3! The Directory is a free platform, promoting businesses who deliver their products/services using zero or ultra-low emission methods. The distance from the vehicle dispatch point to the Clean Air ‘Village’ centre is highlighted to support local businesses, whilst also aiming to reduce congestion. To be eligible to join the Directory, a business must deliver in at least one of the pollution hotspots for the Clean Air Villages project and meet the eligibility criteria.

For further information please contact CRP Project Officer Rachael Aldridge: rachaelaldrige@crossriverpartnership.org

Flip the switch on Climate Change
The digital launch of London Climate Action week is 1st - 3rd July, which will convene London’s diverse sectors and experts to discuss the national and international response to COVID-19 climate policy and promote a Green Recovery. Through business and government leadership, a series of events focusing on green investment, collaboration vs competition and solutions to adaptation will be held. A key area of focus is to decarbonise our transport sector. In 2018, only 0.5% of all licensed vehicles in the UK were ultra-low emissions vehicle. CRP’s projects collaborate across communities and businesses in London to reducing their transport related air pollution and encourage the uptake of low-emission alternatives.
A big welcome to CRP's new Project Officer Stav Friedman!

What an exciting time to be joining the CRP Team! As London businesses and communities are getting to grips on life post-lockdown, now is the time to really push for practices that are healthier for both people and planet. I’m enthusiastic about the opportunities that CRP can provide communities through the Clean Air Villages project and look forward to tackling the challenges of businesses engagement while remote working.

The team has been incredibly welcoming, and I’m looking forward to diving into partner meetings, brainstorming sessions and project ideation. If you’re keen to discuss how CRP can help your community or business district improve their air quality, contact CRP Project Officer Stav Friedman: stavfriedman@crossriverpartnership.org

Dates for the Diary:

- 2nd July: High Streets as Havens: Re-opening businesses safely and sustainably. CRP. More information here.
- 2nd July: Bridging the fossil fuel production gap for a just, sustainable, and resilient recovery. More information here.
- 12th July: Transport and infrastructure: building the path to recovery. CBI. More information here.