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2nd annual 'Circle the City' to create

car-free corridors in Boston on two upcoming Sundays

Posted by [Matt Rodheleau](#) June 28, 2013 04:00 PM

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By [Matt Rodheleau](#), Town Correspondent

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On two upcoming Sundays, traffic will be shut down and parking restricted along one-and-a-half-mile stretches of two busy Boston roadways as part of a yearly initiative that aims to promote healthy, car-free activities and to unite neighbors with area parks.

On July 14, the second annual "Circle the City" will create a car-free corridor along the outbound side of Huntington Avenue, or Route 9, between Belvidere

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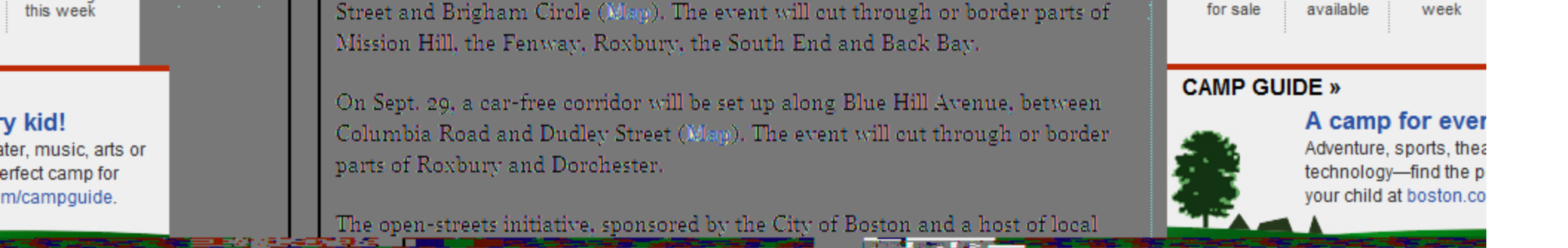
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Street and Brigham Circle ([Map](#)). The event will cut through or border parts of Mission Hill, the Fenway, Roxbury, the South End and Back Bay.

On Sept. 29, a car-free corridor will be set up along Blue Hill Avenue, between Columbia Road and Dudley Street ([Map](#)). The event will cut through or border parts of Roxbury and Dorchester.

The open-streets initiative, sponsored by the City of Boston and a host of local

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"I hope our residents will take advantage of the opportunity to walk and play together on car-free streets," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said in a statement.

Last summer, the three "Circle the City" events were held. The first, in Forest Park, did not involve street closures. The other two did and were held in Jamaica Plain and along the Rose Kennedy Greenway in downtown Boston. An estimated 6,500 people attended.

"I'm looking forward to a second year of transforming our streets to give residents a chance to get out and get active," Menino added. "Open streets on Huntington and Blue Hill Avenues brings this great, free program to new neighborhoods."

Organizers said cross traffic will be allowed at a "limited number of points" along the stretch of closed roadway. The events are planned "to ensure that people have alternative travel routes," organizers said.

"Our dates have been researched to account for conflicts with other city events. We are doing our best to meet with neighborhood representatives to encourage engagement and ensure all are informed," organizers said. "Traffic will be monitored so that any traffic impacts are minimized."

To see a list of traffic and parking restrictions and programming for the Sept. 29 event, click [here](#) and [here](#).

A similar list of traffic and parking restrictions for the Sept. 29 event has not yet been released.

"Circle The City is not a parade, nor is it a race," organizers said. "It's a chance for residents to get out and get active together."

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unique opportunity to safely enjoy the streets and explore new
and parks."

"With 'Circle The City: Open Streets, Open Parks' events, Boston
around the world that are creating temporary open space in the
communities to celebrate the opportunity to get out and active t
organizers said. "Circle The City' builds community, encourage
supports local business and promotes safe physical activity linki
neighborhoods and parks for a healthy, vibrant Boston."

Partners and sponsors of "Circle the City" include the Boston Co
Food and Fitness, the Boston Cyclists Union, the Emerald Neck
Conservancy, LivableStreets Alliance, Sustainability Guild Inter
Fenway Alliance and the Museum of Fine Arts, the Barr Found
Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

Last spring, the America's Great Outdoors initiative named Circ
one of five nationally-selected "2012 Urban Signature Projects,"
the Environmental Protection Agency, which, through its New
nominated the Boston open streets event for the distinction.

For more information, visit the event website, www.circlethecity.org,
[Facebook Page](#). For more information on Open Streets initiative
visit www.openstreetsproject.org.

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