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I hope this
is helpful to
you
JHK

CROWN

N E W S

November 24, 1997

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To Todd Stern:

In light of your interest in climate change, we thought it important to send the enclosed book describing a primary contributor to global warming: the automobile.

Now in its third printing, Asphalt Nation: How the Automobile Took Over America and How We Can Take It Back documents how the world's car emission's account for almost half of the carbon dioxide involved in global warming--and how U.S. cars account for half that fleet as well as more than a third of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Equally important, it assesses the economic value of curbing auto-dependency and presents policies to do so.

Author Jane Holtz Kay is a prizewinning journalist who has written on the built and natural environment for publications from the *Christian Science Monitor* and *Boston Globe* to *The New York Times*. (A summary of her views of on the automobile's implication in global warming also appears in *The Nation* magazine this week.)

Asphalt Nation has received favorable reviews from *The New York Times* ("succeeds in proving that it is possible to get where we are going without destroying where we live") to *Business Week* ("thought provoking and perceptive") to *Sierra* magazine ("Kay gives us further inspiration to demand a change, and the facts we need to make that demand credible"). *Worldwatch Magazine* called it "...a potent amulet against the temptation to follow America's car-dependent route."

A lively and readable work for a mainstream audience, Asphalt Nation has been listed as a must read in *USA Today's* Best Bet and the *Utne Reader's* selections column.

"The book belongs in all the schools and in the hands of every beleaguered citizen," wrote Ray Bradbury. We think it belongs in the hands of climate control advocates.

The author is available at 1-617-426-7261.

ASPHALT NATION

HOW THE AUTOMOBILE
TOOK OVER AMERICA
AND HOW WE CAN
TAKE IT BACK

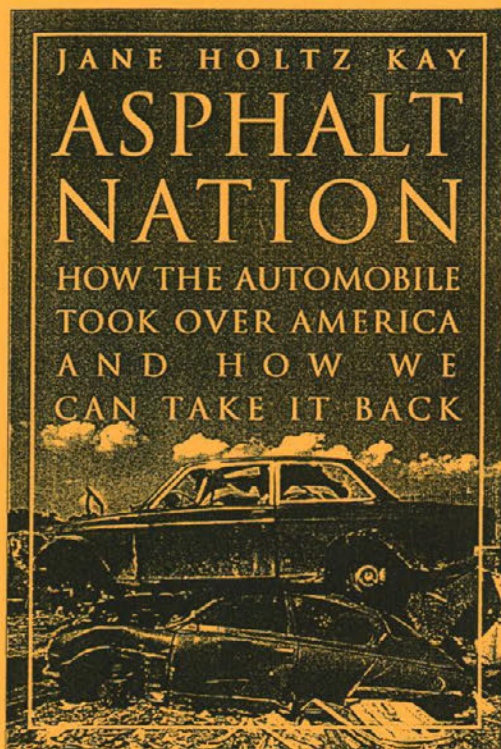
ASPHALT NATION is a major work of environmental and urban studies in the tradition of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and Jane Jacobs' *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*.

The automobile was once seen as a boon to American life, eradicating the pollution caused by horses and granting citizens new levels of personal freedom and mobility. But it was not long before the servant became the master—public spaces were designed to accommodate the automobile at the expense of the pedestrian, mass transportation was neglected, and the poor, unable to afford cars, saw their access to jobs and amenities worsen. Now even drivers themselves suffer, as cars choke the highways and pollution and congestion have replaced the fresh air of the open road.

Today, our world revolves around the car—as a nation, we spend eight billion hours a year stuck in traffic. In **ASPHALT NATION**, Jane Holtz Kay effectively calls for a revolution to reverse our auto-dependency. Citing successful efforts in places from Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon, Kay shows us that radical change is not impossible by any means. She demonstrates that there are political, architectural, personal, and economic solutions that can steer us out of the mess. **ASPHALT NATION** is essential reading for everyone interested in the history of our relationship with the car, and in the prospect of returning to a world of human mobility.

JANE HOLTZ KAY is the author of *Lost Boston* and *Preserving New England*. She is the architecture critic for *The Nation* and has written for *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Architecture*, and other publications. She lives in Boston.

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JANE HOLTZ KAY

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