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**Taking back our streets during COVID-19**

Lilian Coral and Lilly Weinberg, Knight Foundation [web@knightfoundation.org]

Sent: Monday, May 25, 2020 10:59 AM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

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Dear Sarah,

City streets could help pave the way for economic and social recovery after COVID-19. In communities across America, streets are being leveraged to serve people — not cars — and are transforming into new public spaces, corridors to downtown, and more. What lessons have been learned from this shift, and how can we continue this momentum as we rebuild our cities?

On Tuesday, we invite you to join us for *Coast to Coast*, Knight's weekly, 30-minute show that explores building engaging communities amid rapid change. We'll interview two experts on community design: Chelina Odbert, Knight Public Spaces Fellow and executive director of KDI Design, and Raphael Clemente, executive director of the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority.

[Episode 4: Taking back our streets during COVID-19: new possibilities for public space, our downtowns and recovery](#)

(Tues, May 26, 1- 1:30 p.m. ET)



Chelina Odbert is an inaugural Knight Public Spaces Fellow. Odbert is co-founder and executive director of Kounkuey Design Initiative, a nonprofit design firm that prioritizes community participation in public space development — designing side-by-side with residents. Odbert emphasizes that public space design must integrate not only environmental, but also social and



economic strategies to address community inequities.

Shortly after starting college in 1987, Raphael Clemente took off on a decade-long adventure as a competitive cyclist, racing throughout the world. The experience gained “on the road” led to an intense interest in how streets and public spaces are designed and built and the associated effect on cities and communities. Clemente worked in both the public and private sector before being hired with the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in 2006. The DDA Board appointed Clemente as its Executive Director in 2011.



[Click here](#) to register for the *Coast to Coast* on May 26 at 1 p.m. ET. As always, *Coast to Coast* is live Tuesdays at 1 p.m. ET.

Thanks,

Lilian Coral, Director/National Strategy and Technology Innovation, Knight Foundation  
Lilly Weinberg, Director/Community Foundations, Knight Foundation



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