Twitter Thread by Sarah ■

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Here's the simple truth that most folk don't believe: traffic isn't inevitable.

We're not stuck with a set number of cars on our roads. We can control more than simply which streets cars can and cannot travel on and who has to suffer congestion.

We can give people the option to leave their car at home for one, some or all of their journeys.

We can build neighbourhoods that allow people to get rid of their cars altogether.

We can free ourselves from the car trap.

How do we do it? By providing alternatives.

Safe, effective, efficient and reliable public transportation.

Safe, direct, protected cycle routes.

Pleasant places to walk.

The next time you go for a drive -- look around you.

Every person you see on a bike, on a bus, or on their feet is someone who made the decision not to use a car.

Because of that choice, there's one less car in the queue ahead of you.

Maybe tomorrow you'll be the one choosing to travel by different means.

And if you do so, you'll be helping reduce traffic, congestion and air pollution in your city. You'll be part of the solution.

Maybe that's just not possible for you -- that's okay. It's not possible for everyone, especially with the infrastructure we have now.

But it is possible for you to contact your local authority and share your support for better infrastructure. That makes you part

of the solution

But the next time you see someone talking about traffic like it's just something we have to endure, remember -- traffic is a choice.

It's a choice made over and over again by all kinds of people. From the politicians who fund new roads to the planners who build for cars instead of people, to the dad who drives his kid to school when he knows he could easily walk it instead.

We all need to start making different choices.

And when that's impossible, we need to hold those making it that way accountable. Hold their feet to the fire until they give us more options.

Traffic isn't inevitable. Traffic, and all the bullshit that comes with it, is a choice.

Make a different one.