

## Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **STATEMENT FROM KEEP NYC CONGESTION TAX FREE SPOKESMAN JOSHUA BIENSTOCK**

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“With inflation at a 40-year high and struggling New Yorkers paying some of the highest taxes in America, President Joe Biden and Governor Kathy Hochul are moving forward with the most regressive tax scheme imaginable in the form of a \$9-35 daily congestion pricing tax that will punish low-income New Yorkers living in transit deserts and slow New York City’s desperately needed economic recovery. This new tax will be counterproductive and downright mean-spirited.

“Adding a paywall to enter New York City’s ailing core business districts south of 60th Street in Manhattan will not only inhibit the return of employees to office spaces, it will redirect traffic, including carbon-belching trucks, into other neighborhoods. London has already learned this lesson the hard way after enacting its own congestion pricing tax.

“Regular commuters didn’t cause the surge in Manhattan traffic; shared ride services like Lyft and Uber — transportation of the wealthy — are the culprit. Now, President Biden and Governor Hochul want the little guy to pick up the tab.

“It’s wrong and it’s foolhardy. We urge elected leaders to stop this idiocy dead in its tracks.”

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[Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free](#) represents a diverse coalition of civic, business, and labor organizations and businesses throughout New York City. We share a simple vision: to keep our city congestion tax free.