

*The New York Times*, in an editorial today, albeit without acknowledgment, adopted two key recommendations of our [Alternative Approaches](#) report. **Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free** welcomes this development and urges *The New York Times* to continue to review our material. Attribution not required.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/22/opinion/22mon4.html?ref=opinion>

Editorial

## Mr. Mayor, for Your Consideration

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There's a little dance that visitors and even many longtime New Yorkers do on emerging from the subway. A step forward, two back, one to the side, a glance up the street, then down — until, with any luck, bearings are found. So imagine the simple genius of the city's latest innovation, directional decals on the sidewalks outside subway exits.

We applaud Mayor Michael Bloomberg for acting on the idea, which was offered by a Times reader last year. Mr. Bloomberg has shown that he's not afraid to try what works, something he demonstrated again recently with his bold congestion pricing proposal, which would charge a weekday toll to most drivers on Manhattan's busiest streets. While that complex issue is being hammered out by an appointed commission, we'd like the mayor to consider a few other easy, common-sense changes to bring order to the streets of the Apple:

**Taxi stands.** Anyone who has tried to get a taxi in New York in the rain, particularly at rush hour, knows that the system is broken. Hailers maneuver along the street, and to alternate corners, to get an edge over other taxi-seekers who have been waiting longer. Taxis waste gasoline, and needlessly spew out fumes, as they cruise for fares. Taxi stands, which work just fine in Paris, could be strategically placed around New York. People and cabs would line up. It would be civilized.

[The paragraph on "Residential parking permits, for a fee." may be viewed on the web ([link above](#)); it is not included in the Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free "Alternative Approaches" report]

**Take away parking permits from city employees.** Those vehicles that cavalierly park in front of hydrants or bus stops all too often do so with the impunity that comes with a privileged card placed on the dashboard. Virtually every city agency issues these permits, and there is no reliable count of how many are floating around. But they number in the thousands, including a lot of counterfeits. It's time to end the free parking. This is New York, not Monopoly