

“only NYC residents will pay the full freight of this misbegotten tax.”



A Reader comments

on *Congestion Zone Drivers Earn More \$\$\$: Report*

posted: 9:32 AM, December 12, 2007 by Michael Clancy

http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/archives/2007/12/ a_new_report_f.php

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Comments

Having just read the Independent Budget Office report, your article is disingenuous. The report finds that a majority of those commuting by car come from outside the city. **Remember that only NYC residents (of all five boroughs) will pay the full freight of this misbegotten tax. Those commuting from New Jersey, Long Island, Westchester, Rockland, Connecticut, etc. will be able to deduct it from their bridge and tunnel tolls, thus paying NOTHING. And taxis and limos, 30% of the traffic burden in the zone, also pay nothing but serve the well-off in the parts of the city best served by public transportation.** Meanwhile, NYC residents pay the taxes that build and repair these roads, while commuters no longer even pay a commuter tax, while using all city services. (As an aside, the appropriate figures to use are median incomes, not mean incomes, as means are skewed by the very rich.) Before a single city taxpayer is dunned for this regressive tax, every city, state, and federal government parking permit must be rescinded, which would get traffic off the roads as well as out of bus stops, cross walks, fire hydrant areas, no-parking zones, and off sidewalks. We all need to get to work; if the city is afraid to confront it's own, putting them on the public transportation they tout for the rest of us, then they need to reconsider this transparently elitist express service for the well-to-do and well-connected with their endless belief in their own entitlements.

Posted by: Susan at December 12, 2007 2:58 PM