

NYC residents get it! Read the comments on this *Daily News* article on how officials look to make phony guarantees about about congestion tax dollars without ensuring they'll not reduce other funds current devoted to mass transit.

Thank you Patricia and Susan!

DAILY NEWS

Congestion cash would go for mass transit upgrades under proposed plan

By PETE DONOHUE

DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Thursday, January 17th 2008, 4:00 AM State and city officials are hashing out a plan to ensure congestion pricing money pays for mass transit upgrades - and mass transit upgrades only, sources said Wednesday.

Under the developing plan, net proceeds from new tolls for motorists entering a large section of Manhattan would be put in a "lock box" administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, sources in City Hall and Gov. Spitzer's office said.

The mayor has pointed at projects like the Second Ave. subway and the Long Island Rail Road extension to Grand Central Terminal as examples of upgrades that will be needed if the city is to thrive and handle expected population growth.

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patricia dolan Jan 17, 2008 6:47:20 AM

Can anyone really believe that the legislature will really establish a tamper-proof "lock box" to protect the tax dollars raised by a congestion price plan? Look no further than the lottery dollars that were supposed to support education. --patricia dolan

Susan22 Jan 17, 2008 10:24:05 AM

Remember, money is fungible. If they put the tolls in a "lock box" what is to prevent the legislature from voting less support to transit in the future, without actually touching the "lock box"? Think of the lottery, which was touted as money for education--what a joke! The city had to go to court for a decade to even begin to get fair funding. The legislature will never ensure that these tolls go to mass transit over and above what it would already get.

See entire article and – more importantly – these comments at

http://www.nydailynews.com/news/2008/01/17/2008-01-17_congestion_cash_would_to_go_for_mass_tra-1.html