

New Yorkers Speak Out Against the Congestion Tax

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NYERS ON NEW FEES:

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Does anyone really believe that the \$8 tax that Mayor Bloomberg wants to charge people for the privilege of driving in Manhattan won't go up every year ("Faith, Fees & NY Pols," Editorial, March 25)?

If you believe that, he has a bridge to sell you. **Bloomberg's congestion-pricing plan is just another way to drive people out of the city.**

In a city that already is overtaxed to the point of extinction, congestion pricing could be the final nail in the coffin.

After the miraculous comeback under Rudy Giuliani, Bloomberg is single-handedly trying to ruin the city.

Bret Wallach
Hicksville

After Bloomberg's congestion pricing goes into effect, everything in the city will cost more because the tax will be passed on to all products and services by the businesses affected.

NJ residents are a large source of revenue, but, with the congestion pricing, they will hold back on coming into the city to spend their money.

Sal Rentas
Manhattan

Just as the state lottery was sold on a false promise that the funds would be used for education, NY politicians cannot be trusted to use congestion-pricing funds for mass transit.

Any legislation implementing congestion pricing should have a provision granting any citizen or group the right to sue to enforce such earmarks - and the right for courts to issue injunctions to enforce same.

Brian D. Graifman
Hicksville

If we are really so worried about congestion, why aren't there more places to park a bike besides a nearby pole, and why don't we have more bike lanes?

Why do so many city employees have parking passes, which contribute to the congestion?

And why are these politicians so eager to force a tax on the middle class during a time of economic woe? Do they want anyone to remain in the city besides the rich and the people too poor to move out of the city?

These politicians should look into the city budget, item by item, to find the money necessary to support mass transit. We deserve better than to be treated this way.

Jessica Gonzalez
Manhattan

Here we have an economy that's on a downward spiral, jobs are being lost on Wall Street and what do these clowns decide to do? Tax the public.

The funniest part of this outrageous tax is that it's aimed at the middle class - the people who pay for everything that makes the city run.

Maybe billionaire Bloomberg should start thinking like a working stiff to get an idea of how he can help them.

Chris Michaels
Morganville, NJ