

## **Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free Applauds San Francisco For Rejecting Golden Gate Congestion Toll**

### **Statement by Corey Bearak**

NEW YORK, August 14, 2008 - [Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free](#) today applauded the City of San Francisco for rejecting a congestion pricing tax and encouraging alternative methods to improve traffic flow and congestion.

"The main news is that San Francisco is no longer pursuing congestion tolling," said Jose Luis Moscovich, executive director of the San Francisco Transportation Authority.

Like New York City, the city of San Francisco's adoption of the driver's tax had been a condition of a \$158 million federal transportation grant that included money to renovate Doyle Drive, the southern approach to the famous Golden Gate bridge span.

San Francisco expects to better manage traffic conditions with the installation of new parking meters and "intelligent" traffic signals. New York has many alternative plans that should be considered including raising parking meter rates in Manhattan, creating more taxi stands and putting in place a series of other measures could achieve the same level of traffic reduction.

"Good for the Golden State! Congestion pricing is nothing more than an inequitable tax that seriously impacts city residents and businesses. There are better, less onerous, solutions to reducing traffic congestion and they should be explored before rushing to tax working citizens. There is zero public confidence in congestion pricing schemes, and it is fitting that most cities allow this flawed regressive tax to die."

### **ABOUT [KEEP NYC CONGESTION TAX FREE](#)**

[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. Our members oppose the \$8 fee (\$21 for trucks) the Mayor proposes to impose on drivers entering Manhattan below 86th Street. Our members urge New Yorkers to deliver a simple message to our legislators: "Say no to the fee the Mayor wants to charge us to enter Manhattan." Many supporters and coalition members propose alternatives to the congestion tax that better address traffic issues in our entire city and provide new sources to support mass transit. For more information, visit [keepnycfree.com](http://keepnycfree.com).