

Keep NYC Free

www.keepnycfree.com

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It can be done without tolls

Statement by Keep NYC Free

Let the conversation begin and clearly recommendations by the Commission on MTA Financing require much discussion. We find it extremely disappointing that the commission's proposals essentially let Albany and City Hall off the hook. Our coalition [plan](#) makes both the State and the City step up to the plate. Significantly, it identifies specific revenues that empowers the city and the state to devote funds to that core responsibility. In addition, we propose measures that raise significant funds to support mass transit, both operating and core capital program needs.

Today's economic climate needs no initiatives that would choke our local economy. Imposing tolls where New Yorkers cross for free risks serious economic results. MTA, Port Authority and NYMTC data show the deleterious impact that higher tolls on tolled crossings imposes.

The fairness argument raised during the misguided attempts to impose the congestion tax still applies to any imposition of a toll tax. Bottom line, tolls choke the economy and the city and state must no longer avoid their duty to pay up for transit. These remain key weaknesses of the commission proposal.

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ABOUT KEEP NYC 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 taxing New Yorkers to cross our free East River and Harlem River crossing – either via tolls or a “congestion tax”. Many supporters and coalition members propose alternatives that better address traffic issues in our entire city and provide new sources to support mass transit. For more information, visit keepnycfree.com.