

Keep NYC Free

www.keepnycfree.com

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The Pretender

Keep NYC continues to [debunk all](#) arguments that any [congestion tax](#), makes sense with regard to [revenue](#) or even relieves congestion. It remains important to do so as those who would prefer the congestion [tax](#) seem to never waste an opportunity to talk it up. The Municipal Arts Society earlier this month put out an email also [posted](#) to its website, supporting the current version of the [congestion tax](#). At the same time, it ignored other revenues. Of note and discussed at a State Assembly hearing one week after the MAS missive, includes the capture of the increased real estate value from transit projects. A colleague who read the missive chimed in, “What about using the \$6.2 billion the state is getting from settlements (with major financial firms)!” Indeed, some argue using that state surplus for transit projects.

More importantly, the MAS focus on a same old plan [repackaged](#) in another attempt to buy off constituencies misses an opportunity to promote sensible revenues to help fund transit needs.

Keep NYC Free already outlined [sound revenue streams](#) for transportation. Keep NYC Free calls on MAS and all others involved with Move NY to embrace these sensible funding [alternatives](#).

We already know that these [taxers](#) tried to advance their scheme as a cure all to pedestrian fatalities. Keep NYC exposed that [myth](#).

[As we stated earlier this year](#), “[D]espite the claims we submit [nothing](#) justifies a scheme that likely [results](#) in little or [no](#) net revenues after including the costs of administration. And that goes before the truly negative [economic costs](#) of this blatant tax scheme. No amount of messaging can correct this [faulty](#) policy.”

The same day I received the MAS message, I enjoyed Jackson Browne (opening for John Fogerty) and heard him sing these words, “They say in the end it's the wink of an eye,” from the [song](#) that gives title to this commentary.

