

**On October 4, 2021, Keep NYC Free submitted a [letter](#) to the editor of Newsday in response to its October 3 editorial, "Give green light to tolling plan." Below is what appeared. [View](#) it on line. On the next page, view how it appeared in the print edition**

**Newsday, Letters to the editor, Thursday, October 7**

### **Congestion pricing a terrible idea for LI**

The editorial about congestion pricing in Manhattan fails to consider important factors that should halt the idea in its tracks ["Give green light to tolling plan," Editorial, Oct. 3].

Long Island working-class drivers and small businesses will get no benefit and will be burdened with yet another senseless cost, which would also reroute carbon-belching truck traffic into low-income communities. They should oppose the tax.

Taxing trips below 60th Street also flies in the face of efforts to revitalize midtown and downtown commercial districts hit by COVID-19 vacancies. These are state economic engines that we need up and running. Why not instead lobby for Metropolitan Transportation Authority funding from the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill when it finally passes? It would save an estimated half-billion dollars that setting up the camera system would cost.

In London, a congestion tax was put into effect; although it was mostly an early success, it has had issues of late. Commuter vehicles aren't the problem anyway; for-hire cars such as Uber and Lyft are major culprits.

— Joshua E. Bienstock, Westbury

## LETTERS

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— JOSHUA E. BIENSTOCK,  
WESTBURY

The editorial on congestion pricing is way off base. I have been a Pepsi distributor for more than 45 years. The plant and warehouse are in the Bronx. Every day, we drive into Manhattan to deliver our goods to theaters, hotels, delis, drugstores, etc., in midtown.

We pay enough in taxes.