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“New Yorkers Sound Off:”

Why Go Ahead With Congestion Pricing When MTA Just Had \$25 Billion Fall Into Its Lap? WCBS-TV Reporter Marcia Kramer interviews members of the public and public officials

A WCBS-TV Channel Two News [report](#) by Marcia Kameron found New Yorkers questioning the Congestion Tax with the MTA “awash with cash from the federal government.

CBS2’s Marcia Kramer reported, “To many commuters, it’s just plain fuzzy math. They want to know why the MTA needs to go ahead with congestion pricing when the money the agency has received from the feds in pandemic relief and infrastructure funds is like manna from heaven — nearly \$25 billion that fell out of the sky and into their laps.”

“I don’t think they should do that because this year they get a lot of money and last year they didn’t have much stuff to worry about. They should have a surplus,” Queens Village resident Cleveland Russell said.



“I don’t think so. It’s too much money as it is going to New York City, so to charge us just to drive into the city at certain hours, I think that’s robbery. They shouldn’t allow it to happen,” added Rilla Williams of West Hempstead.

“It’s a concern because I have constituents who have to go to the city for health care reasons. I think the conversations about discounts, we’re pushing to make sure that its accessible for those who are financially disincentivized,” Assemblywoman Michaele Solages said.



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This regressive scheme does nothing to address the transit deserts in the outer reaches of the City; it disproportionately burdens those in these transit deserts who rely on cars for their every day needs. **Better ways exist to truly address congestion in the central business district, and certainly to raise the dollars we need.**

View the better ways that make sense to truly address congestion in the central business district and raise the dollars needed to resource the MTA to not only pay for needed repairs but also increase access and make the entire system more accessible and equitable for the entire city.

View the entire report (video), “New Yorkers Sound Off:” Why Go Ahead With Congestion Pricing When MTA Just Had \$25 Billion Fall Into Its Lap?” which appeared on November 16, 2021

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View the Appleseed [report](http://www.keepnycfree.com) for Keep NYC Free at <http://www.keepnycfree.com>.