

Keep NYC Free

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NYS CANDIDATES MUST OPPOSE TOLL-TAX VOTERS WILL SHUN THE THE “TOLL-TAXERS”

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free calls on candidates for Governor and other state offices to recognize the ideological-driven congestion tax as folly. “With some five months to go before the gubernatorial primaries, we really need to hear where the candidates stand on this unfair, inequitable and (revenue) inefficient toll-tax,” stated Senior Advisor Corey Bearak. This election year, expect voters to not support candidates who seek to limit access by middle class and working families to midtown and downtown Manhattan.

Rather than this regressive toll-tax that fails to contain congestion, we need our public officials to focus on rebuilding the economy after multiple COVID-19 shutdowns. A congestion tax would massively increase traffic north of 60th Street in Manhattan, redirect carbon-belching trucks into communities of color, and, perhaps most urgently, seriously inhibit the reinvestment and economic recovery that much of midtown and lower Manhattan needs.

Why proceed with a toll-tax when it introduces a never ending array of concerns, starting with its unfairness and inequity, its inability to realize the revenue, the absence of ANY plan to address the transit deserts in the outer reaches of New York City, to the failure to look at better resource alternatives to improve public transit to the deleterious economic impacts, and spending many millions to address an expected influx of complaints if the scheme comes online?

Better ways exist to truly address congestion in the central business district, and certainly to raise the dollars we need. Keep NYC Free advocates "clean" alternatives that also obviate any need for almost 1/2 billion dollars in contracts to “handle” toll-tax complaints when that money would be better spent on public transit!

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