

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

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PRESIDENT BIDEN TO LOW-INCOME NEW YORK CITY COMMUNITIES: CHOKE ON SMOKE

Ignores Findings by The Black Institute on Cost of Congestion Pricing Tax on New York Communities of Color

New York-May 9...President Joe Biden and other advocates of a \$23 Congestion Pricing Tax south of 60th Street in Manhattan have completely ignored an 85-page study recently compiled by The Black Institute, showing that Congestion Pricing would disproportionately affect New Yorkers of color — in cost, air quality, and quality of life.

The study, titled “Just Call It a Black and Brown Tax”, is available [here](#).

“President Biden, Governor Kathy Hochul, and Mayor Eric Adams are so greedy for new tax revenue that they don't seem to care that a Congestion Pricing Tax would hurt Black and brown communities most,” said Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free spokesman Joshua Bienstock. “This study reinforces this ill-conceived Congestion Pricing scheme picks on communities of color economically and environmentally. Congestion Pricing wouldn't just divert carbon-belching truck traffic into lower-income communities already suffering some of the highest youth asthma rates in America, it would predominantly target Black and Brown drivers for revenue, be they for-hire vehicle drivers or commuters to Manhattan living in New York transit deserts. The plan is as unfair to communities of color as it is counterproductive to New York's efforts to get workers back into Manhattan offices, following Covid-driven workplace habit changes. The more one looks at this plan, the more one realizes what a mess it really is.”

The planned Congestion Pricing Tax would erect a paywall to enter Manhattan south of 60th Street by vehicle – the very area of the City to which officials want businesses and workers to return. Both Mayor Eric Adams and State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli have lamented the massive loss of State and City tax revenue from Manhattan's core business districts in recent years. A Congestion Pricing Tax paywall would logically make things worse.

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[Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free](#), a diverse coalition of civic, business, and labor organizations and businesses throughout New York City, argues that implementing a tax on vehicles traveling south of 60th Street in Manhattan will, among other things, permanently damage efforts to revitalize the two districts.