

# Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Statement: Nonsensical Congestion Pricing Tax Carve Outs Would Benefit Wealthier New Yorkers Over Working Class Drivers: Group**

*New York-Oct. 4...* New York's unelected Traffic Mobility Review Board readily admits that about half of all vehicle traffic south of 60th Street in Manhattan is caused by for-hire vehicles like Uber and Lyft and by Yellow cabs. Working class New Yorkers can't afford such transportation luxuries. Why then would the Traffic Mobility Review Board, in its ever-evolving wisdom, exempt cabs and for-hire vehicles at the expense of lower-income New Yorkers simply looking to get to work? The Board is now suggesting a dedicated rider fee of between \$1 and \$2.75 for New Yorkers riding in taxis or For-Hire vehicles south of 60th Street, while ordinary New Yorkers — who can't afford those services — will be stuck with a fee of up to \$23 for entering the paywalled zone by car.

“Any public figure suggesting that the Congestion Pricing Tax is about anything but money is being manifestly untruthful. This is nothing but the picking of pockets that can't afford to be picked, showing the City's and State's true colors. It's all about the *benjamins*, and New Yorkers know it. Heaven help the little guy.”

- Joshua Bienstock, spokesman, Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free.

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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.