



Steven Traube, the owner of Wall St Grill, as one of the plaintiffs' representatives, emphasized the negative impact of congestion charges on his business. He estimated that congestion will lead to a 40% increase in costs, forcing him to cut employees and working hours by about 45%. The case of Traub reflects the challenges faced by many merchants who rely on Manhattan passenger flow.

The plaintiff requires that a comprehensive environmental impact study (EIS) must be completed before implementing any congestion fee plan. They questioned the congestion fee plan and stressed that it has a significant impact on the environment, transportation and especially enterprises in the central business district. In addition, the congestion fee plan does not fully consider the changes in traffic patterns after COVID-19, including the impact of sidewalk scaffolds and open New York plans on traffic.

Congressman Palladino strongly opposed the New York City congestion fee plan, pointing out that despite the sufficient MTA budget, this policy will still hurt people from restaurant attendants to hotel operators. At present, many lawsuits against this policy, including the teachers' federation, show general dissatisfaction. City Councilor Zhuang Wenyi is concerned about the adverse impact of the congestion fee plan on immigrants, the elderly, the disabled and other ethnic groups, and believes that "the extra cost will cause certain obstacles to their access to necessary medical services". She advocates reducing the burden on low- and middle-income families and small enterprises, and opposes increasing economic pressure on these groups.

Kalman Yeger, a member of Poh Park, a Republican city councilor, David Carr, and Kathryn Freed, a former Chinatown City Councilman, also attended the rally and opposed the congestion fee plan.

Li Kaiming, a community activist, pointed out that Chinatown business owners generally believe that the congestion fee plan will destroy small family businesses and increase operating costs. They are worried about the decrease in customer flow and the decline in the value of real estate, forcing the sale of property. At the same time, "leasing legal restrictions will exacerbate the housing crisis and pose a disastrous blow to small family businesses." News from New York



Anti-congestion fee organizations and small business owners joined hands to protest against congestion fees.