

New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 7, 2024

Statement by Susan Lee, President, New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax on the Siena Poll

Q34. On another topic, in June, Governor Hochul put the congestion pricing toll plan for Manhattan on hold but did not indicate when it would go into effect. Which of the following two choices is closest to how you feel about congestion pricing :																											
	Party			Gender			Ideology			Union HH		Region			Ethnicity			Age			Religion				Income		
	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind/Oth	M	F	Lib	Mod	Conserv	Yes	No	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black/ Afr	Amer	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath	Jewish	Prot	Other	<\$50K	\$50K-\$100K
It should be implemented as quickly as possible	22%	29%	9%	21%	21%	23%	37%	17%	15%	21%	22%	29%	21%	16%	22%	24%	22%	27%	22%	19%	21%	21%	14%	30%	19%	20%	25%
It should be permanently scrapped	59%	56%	68%	54%	63%	57%	47%	64%	64%	58%	60%	62%	68%	50%	55%	66%	65%	57%	63%	59%	59%	66%	62%	54%	50%	61%	61%
Vol: In the middle	2%	2%	1%	6%	2%	3%	2%	4%	1%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%
Don't know/Refused	17%	13%	22%	19%	14%	18%	14%	15%	21%	20%	16%	7%	8%	31%	20%	8%	11%	15%	12%	19%	17%	10%	22%	15%	29%	16%	11%

SNY0724 Crosstabs.xlsx

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The [Siena Poll](#) demonstrates New Yorkers understand that the regressive, inequitable, unfair and unsustainable Congestion Toll-tax scheme fails on EVERY level. New Yorkers know Congestion Pricing as bad public policy would harm public health and the environment, set back our economy and — despite its name, would not even alleviate congestion and push it to other New York City neighborhoods. They want this paused scheme scrapped in its entirety.

Despite its name this Congestion Pricing toll-tax achieves nothing of any consequence with relieving congestion. It even falls short of its claims concerning the environment; instead it negatively impacts public health: just look at the MTA’s own Environmental Assessment and its revision. The “re-evaluation” approved in June by the federal government shows MTA increased its spending on “mitigation” from \$100 million to over \$300 million. That evidences the plan causes pollution and harms public health.

New Yorkers of all income levels know this toll-tax scheme kills our economy. It not only increases the operating costs and reduces the incomes of small businesses, this toll-tax increases the costs of goods and services to everyone, not just residents of the toll-tax scheme zone, but **everyone** whether they remain at home due to a disability, are a pedestrian, cyclist, public transit user, ride in FHV’s and/or yellow taxis, or drive their own car will bear increased costs.

New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax strongly supports the Governor’s pause and looks forward to working with her office, State Legislators and all those like-minded to otherwise impose a tax on entry or re-entry to the zone to support the New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax 5-point [plan](#) to Save Public Transit,” <bit.ly/Save-Transit> especially as a starting point.

As to new revenues that can be proven necessary, look at this “[menu](#)” <bit.ly/ALT_Funds> of one dozen alternatives that also leverage in total more than \$60M in borrowing.

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New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax is a coalition of residents from diverse neighborhoods around New York City who have initiated a lawsuit to demand that the Federal Highway Administration perform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to show the real impacts of Congestion Pricing (CP) on our communities. The federal government and the Metropolitan Transit Authority rushed an incomplete Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) instead of applying the more extensive and comprehensive EIS. An EIS would properly examine the three E’s: Environmental Impacts, Economic Hardship, and Equity.