## Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## STATEMENT FROM KEEP NYC CONGESTION TAX FREE SPOKESMAN JOSHUA BIENSTOCK

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"New York State is sitting on <u>billions of dollars</u> in federal revenues yet to be earmarked while, at the same time, there is enormous concern from the New York State Comptroller and New York City Mayor that New York City's core business districts will remain largely dormant for years following workplace changes prompted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Common sense suggests that excess dollars be used on capital — rather than operational — projects. It further suggests that adding a \$9-\$35 paywall to enter Manhattan South of 60th Street in the form of a Congestion Pricing Tax would be seriously counterproductive toward the City's long-term revitalization effort of its core business districts.

"The smart play would be investing many of those dollars into mass transit infrastructure and repealing efforts to implement the Congestion Pricing Tax paywall. We urge prescient New York State elected leaders to step in now, before Congestion Pricing permanently damages New York's economic recovery."

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<u>Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free</u> represents a diverse coalition of civic, business, and labor organizations and businesses throughout New York City. We share a simple vision: to keep our city congestion tax free.