

New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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March 20, 2025

Use the time wisely

Collaborate on Plan that Moves Beyond Regressive, Unfair, Inequitable Toll-Tax

Statement by Susan Lee, President, New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax

The extension Secretary Sean Duffy affords Governor Kathy Hochul and the MTA provides plenty of time to collaborate with the federal government over funding for the nation's largest public transportation network. Public transit fuels the City economy which fuels the state economy, which fuels the U.S. economy. Last Spring, Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax (“New Yorkers”) proposed “[A 5-point Plan to Save Public Transit](#)” that must be the basis for the collaboration we strongly recommend.

This path avoids any need to pursue pending litigation to rescind the failed, regressive and harmful congestion pricing toll tax. Representatives of New Yorkers met earlier this month to present the 5-point Plan and a “[menu](#)” of one dozen alternative resources identified by Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free. Our coalition of residents and businesses from diverse neighborhoods around New York City meanwhile maintains its lawsuit to demand that the FHWA require an Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”) that showed the real impacts of Congestion Pricing on our communities and businesses. Our grassroots group also asserts pending state and federal claims that New York State law requires a review relative to small businesses and job retention.

New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax looks forward to all stakeholders collaboratively building a better road to cleaner air and improved mass transit in an equitable manner that doesn't burden environmental justice communities and hard working New Yorkers.

As we previously [stated](#), “Rescinding this congestion pricing toll-tax that has been picking their pockets and cutting into their pocketbooks helps marginalized New Yorkers – whether or not they commute or live in or outside the congestion zone. The rescission of the Congestion Pricing Toll Tax protects Environmental Justice Communities including the Lower East Side, Chinatown, and the South Bronx which faced increased traffic and pollution and incidence of asthma.”

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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.

