

New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax

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63% of New Yorkers Oppose Congestion Pricing Tax: Siena Survey

New York – April 22... By a 63% to 25% margin, New Yorkers oppose the soon-to-be-implemented \$15 congestion pricing tax on vehicles driving south of 60th in Manhattan, the Siena College Research Institute (SCRI) [has found](#).

According to SCRI director Steve Greenberg: “A majority of Democrats, two-thirds of independents and three-quarters of Republicans oppose the soon-expected congestion pricing toll plan, as do approximately two-thirds of downstaters and a majority of upstaters,” Greenberg said. “Nearly one-third of New Yorkers say they will either travel less to Manhattan or find ways other than driving to get there.”

“This survey makes it perfectly clear: New Yorkers do not want the congestion pricing tax to move forward,” said Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free spokesman Joshua Bienstock. “The plan is catastrophically flawed. It will increase traffic and particulate matter in the air of low-income communities, and it will reduce by 14 % the number of people traveling into Manhattan, at the very same time in which the city and state are trying to get shoppers and office workers to return there. The only winners in this fiasco are government bureaucrats and Uber and Lyft drivers who cut a deal with the City and State. The taxpayers themselves are being screwed.

“When 63% of New Yorkers oppose something, one would think Governor Hochul and her colleagues would listen up,” Mr. Bienstock continued. “New Yorkers will not forget their refusal to heed them at the polls this November. There will be a price to pay, and not just by New York drivers.”

“On this Earth Day, let’s also not forget this toll-tax scheme flunks on public health and protecting the environment,” concluded Mr. Bienstock. “This tax scheme proposes no measures that address asthma where it impacts most: air pollution hot spots including The South Bronx, East Harlem, the Lower East Side, South Jamaica and Bedford-Stuyvesant. The MTA’s plan will only worsen the health and our quality of life of many New Yorkers, especially in environmental justice communities. It remains a phony plan that irresponsibly uses falsehoods about congestion reduction and the environment to support a regressive, inequitable, unfair and unsustainable toll-tax.”

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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.