

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

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KEEP NYC CONGESTION TAX FREE: HOCHUL'S DEFIANCE IS A TAXPAYERS' NIGHTMARE

New York, NY — Apr. 21...Governor Kathy Hochul's refusal to comply with a federal order to shut down New York City's controversial congestion pricing toll-tax is a slap in the face to drivers and working families across the five boroughs, the group Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free today charged. Despite a clear directive from the U.S. Department of Transportation to stop toll collection by April 20, Hochul is doubling down — keeping the cameras on and sucking a daily toll-tax from the license plates of financially struggling New Yorkers.

“Governor Hochul's actions are not just defiant — they're detrimental,” said Joshua Bienstock, spokesperson for Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free. “By ignoring federal orders, she's burdening commuters with an unjust toll-tax and risking critical federal funding for our state. It's a reckless power play.”

The congestion toll-tax scheme, which Hochul shelved in June 2024 under public pressure, was cynically revived after Election Day 2024, and it continues to face citizen-led legal challenges. The federal government's recent revocation of approval makes clear what New Yorkers already knew: this program is unlawful, unfair, and unwanted.

“This isn't about easing traffic — it's about squeezing taxpayers,” Mr. Bienstock added. “It's political theater at our expense.”

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Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free 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.