

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

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CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR AGREE: CONGESTION PRICING TAX NEEDS TO BE DELAYED OR OUTRIGHT REPEALED

Post-Covid Manhattan Can't Afford It

New York-June 16...Democratic and Republican candidates for governor all agreed in recent debates that a Congestion Pricing Tax would seriously hamper efforts to revitalize Manhattan's core business districts. And a majority of candidates called for outright repeal of the Congestion Pricing initiative at the forums, the group Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free today noted.

The Congestion Pricing Tax — a \$9 to \$35 paywall to enter Manhattan south of 60th St by vehicle — was approved in Albany before Covid-19 laid waste to billions of dollars worth of Manhattan office and retail space and changed commuting habits, possibly forever. It was also passed before runaway crime in New York subways began scaring commuters out of subways and subway stations.

Congestion Pricing was moreover approved at a time when MTA capital dollars — so often wasted by inefficient work rules and gross overcharges — were scarce. Today, New York State is sitting on [billions of dollars](#) in federal revenues and other available capital dollars.

“A Congestion Pricing Tax simply isn't needed, and more importantly, it would damage New York's economic recovery efforts and cost the City and State billions in lost real estate tax revenue going forward,” said Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free spokesman Joshua Bienstock. “It would pollute low-income neighborhoods with even more carbon-belching truck traffic and hurt low-income New Yorkers living in transit deserts the most. It's time to admit that Congestion Pricing is simply not viable here.”

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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.