Notice the no-bridge toll alternative LA got "paid" to do.

- No one would have complained if the city plan charged more money for so-called HOTT lanes.
- This just speaks to the bogus emphases of USDOT, City Hall and the Congestion Tax pushers who claimed non congestion-tax alternatives would not qualify New York for the federal money. <u>They *refused*</u> to consider other alternatives to qualify NYC for the federal award.
- The USDOT award to Los Angeles makes plain that New Yorkers were told a big lie because certain folks pushed a congestion tax.
- If blame for the loss of federal funds falls anywhere, it falls right on the shoulders of the congestion tax pushers.

See this excerpt from Kirsten Danis' Daily News article:

L.A. drives away with N.Y.C. cash

By Kirsten Danis Daily News Staff Writer

Saturday, April 26, 2008

L.A. got our money!

Los Angeles snagged a \$213 million federal grant to help speed traffic along its clogged highways - winning a big chunk of the \$354 million New York had to give up when the Legislature killed congestion pricing.

New York had been guaranteed the pot of cash to set up a congestion pricing system but lost it when Albany killed the plan behind closed doors without voting this month.

Turmail said DOT has not yet decided what cities will split the remaining \$141 million.

L.A. will use the money to buy 80 buses and convert 85 miles of high-occupancy vehicle lanes into "high-occupancy toll" lanes, which let single drivers zoom in HOV lanes if they pay a fee.

Read the entire article and some insightful reader comments at: <u>http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2008/04/26/2008-04-26_la_drives_away_with_nyc_cash.html</u>