

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free

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LONDON OFFICIALS CAUGHT FABRICATING CONGESTION PRICING TAX EMISSION BENEFITS

Follows Study Showing INCREASED Traffic in London's Residential Neighborhoods

New Yorkers Being Sold Bill of Goods: Group

New York-Nov. 28...London traffic officials have been [caught fabricating](#) environmental benefits from its increasingly controversial congestion pricing tax, the very model New York “progressives” cite in advancing New York City’s pending \$23 charge (estimated) on vehicles traveling south of 60th Street in Manhattan, the Group Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free today reported.

The U.K.’s Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) has found that London Mayor Sadiq Khan’s Transport for London agency has systematically misled the public about potential air quality benefits of the congestion paywall. This comes on top of studies showing that traffic has actually [increased](#) in many parts of London due to its ever-more-costly congestion tax. London’s driving tax has increased five-fold since it was implemented in 2003, with drivers now paying £25 (\$31.50) to drive in the city’s central business district during peak hours.

“New York elected leaders favoring the congestion pricing tax are selling the public a bill of goods — they are intentionally misleading us about the effects of congestion pricing,” said Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free spokesman Joshua Bienstock J.D., LL.M. “We know, for example, from the MTA’s own studies, that congestion pricing in New York will actually increase dangerous, airborne particulate matter in some of the city’s lowest income communities where children already suffer among the highest asthma rates in the country. We also know that, as in London, auto congestion will skyrocket in other parts of Manhattan and in other boroughs once the congestion tax is implemented. Meanwhile, the MTA blew through billions of dollars in federal Covid funding due to cost overruns and it fails to collect hundreds of millions of dollars in revenues annually due to runaway fare-beating and other crimes.”

Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free argues that a Congestion Pricing Tax is unfair and unnecessary. The tax would disproportionately target lower-income New Yorkers, increase air pollution in inner city communities, and slow the Covid-19 revival of Manhattan’s core business districts. The group has also warned the public that a congestion pricing tax is just the tip of the iceberg for new driving taxes all across the state and nation.

As a case in point, Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free notes that New York State began [electronically levying speeding fines](#) last Friday on Interstates 84 and 87.

“Make no mistake about it: Big Brother is getting ready to trod all over the freedoms of the car-riding public,” Mr. Bienstock continued. “The ‘progressives’ never meant the congestion pricing tax to be a one-off; this is a systematic, long-term plan to make driving in New York affordable to the few at the price of the many. If we’re going to avoid this slippery slope, we better do it now.

“And here’s the scariest part,” Mr. Bienstock said. “London’s transport system is run a hundred times better than New York’s. Imagine how badly the perennially incompetent MTA could screw things up.”

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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.