

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 23, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President, United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

Congratulations on your inauguration and officially taking office this week. As you begin your second term as President of the United States, we write to you as a bipartisan group of New York City elected representatives from the federal, state, and city level.

As you know, on January 5, 2025, the State of New York and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) implemented a New York City congestion pricing program tolling vehicles entering Manhattan's Central Business District below 60th Street. This tax is yet another cash grab that is expected to funnel \$1 billion annually to a mismanaged and bloated agency that has treated New York commuters as bottomless ATMs. As you have also previously expressed, this congestion fee will hurt our city's economy and the working families we collectively represent.

Many of our constituents will not benefit from the alleged transportation system improvements as promised, and they do not feel safe riding mass transit after reports of rising crime including stabbings, shootings, and a woman horrifically set fire on the subway, leaving them little choice but to drive to Manhattan. This program will especially hurt our first responders, hospital personnel, and restaurant workers who work odd hours and shifts.

We stand ready to work with your Administration and request that you direct your Department of Transportation to explore reversing the Biden Administration's approval of this first in the nation program, which was done without so much as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).


It is clear to us that the Environmental Assessment (EA) conducted was not a sufficient mechanism to enforce the requirements of NEPA and ensure an adequate analysis of a program of such vast scale and impact. The MTA has made clear in repeated public statements that their goal was an expedited EA process which would arrive at a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in the fastest possible timeframe. We understand their urgency is driven by severe capital constraint, but we find it impermissible that President Biden's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) would diminish its role in deference to a local transportation authority's fiscal needs with little regard for the negative impact it would have on workers, businesses, and residents. Requiring an EIS will ensure the full impact of this congestion tax can be thoroughly assessed, particularly how redirected traffic and pollution will affect the quality of life in the neighborhoods we represent.


We look forward to working with your Administration for the betterment and quality of life for our constituents.


Sincerely,


Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Vito J. Fossella
Staten Island Borough President



Michael E. McMahon
District Attorney, Richmond County



Stephen T. Chan
17th Senate District

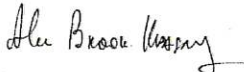

Simcha Felder
22nd Senate District



Jessica Scarcella-Spanton
23rd Senate District



Andrew Lanza
24th Senate District

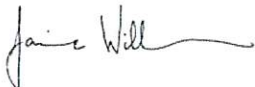

Kalman Yeger
41st Assembly District



Michael Novakhov
45th Assembly District

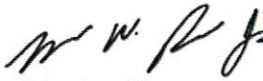

Alec Brook-Krasny
46th Assembly District



Simcha Eichstein
48th Assembly District



Lester Chang
49th Assembly District



Jaime Williams
59th Assembly District



Charles Fall
61st Assembly District



Michael Reilly
62nd Assembly District



Sam Pirozzolo
63rd Assembly District



Michael Tannousis
64th Assembly District



Vickie Paladino
City Council District 19



Kristy Marmorato
City Council District 13



Robert Holden
City Council District 30



Joann Ariola
City Council District 32


Susan Zhuang
City Council District 43


Inna Vernikov
City Council District 48


Kamillah Hanks
City Council District 49


David Carr
City Council District 50


Joseph C. Borelli
City Council District 51