

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 31, 2022

Carl Weisbrod  
Chair  
Traffic Mobility Review Board  
CBD Tolling Program  
2 Broadway, 23rd Floor  
New York, NY 10004

John Banks  
President Emeritus  
Real Estate Board of New York  
570 Lexington Ave  
New York, NY 10022

Scott Rechler  
Chair  
Regional Plan Association  
One Whitehall St, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10004

John Samuelsen  
International President  
Transport Workers Union of America  
501 3rd St NW, #9  
Washington, DC 20001

Elizabeth Velez  
President and Principal  
Velez Organization  
110 William St  
New York, NY 10038

Kathryn Wylde  
President and CEO  
Partnership for New York City  
One Battery Park Plaza, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Chair Weisbrod and Members Banks, Rechler, Samuelsen, Velez, and Wylde:

We are a coalition of businesses, associations, and elected officials who are deeply concerned about the Central Business District (CBD) Tolling Program. Given the pandemic that just occurred, we urge you to postpone this program until our region has completely recovered.

The New York metropolitan area is still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, which killed more than 80,000 of our family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Compared to before the pandemic, our region has still not recovered. Subway ridership and restaurant reservations, for example, are still down by nearly one third.

We all have different concerns about precisely how our industries and constituents will be affected by the new Congestion Tax, expected to be up to \$23 dollars a day for commuters and potentially much higher for commercial traffic.

Beyond affecting drivers and the transportation industry, this new toll will increase labor costs for employers and the price of goods and services for residents of the CBD.

Inflation is nearly nine percent and even higher in many sectors. This new tax will be an added financial burden on a broad cross section of our region at a time when the price of everyday necessities is becoming worryingly out of reach.

Given the potential negative impact on our already hard-hit consumers, workers, and small businesses, as well as the increased traffic and pollution in outer boroughs, we ask you to consider delaying any potential tax until our region can recover, the economy improves, and public safety is restored. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress

/s

Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr.  
State Senator  
New Jersey Senate

/s

Joe Lagana  
State Senator  
New Jersey Senate

/s

Lisa Swain  
Assemblywoman  
New Jersey General Assembly

/s

Chris Tully  
Assemblyman  
New Jersey General Assembly

/s

James Tedesco III  
County Executive  
County of Bergen

/s

John J. Ruocco  
Mayor  
Borough of Hillsdale

/s

Scott A. Luna  
Mayor  
Borough of Lodi

/s

Dianne Camelo Didio  
Mayor  
Borough of Oradell

/s

Thomas Papaleo  
Mayor  
Borough of River Edge

/s

Timothy Dooley  
Mayor  
Hampton Township

/s

Jason Schlaffer  
Mayor  
Town of Newton

/s

Ray Arroyo  
Mayor  
Westwood NJ. Governing Body

/s  
Michael Laffan  
Vice President  
ABC Bus Company

/s  
Brian Sampson  
President  
ABC Empire State Chapter

/s  
Michael Fogarty  
President  
American Limousine LLC DBA RMA Worldwide

/s  
Bill Sullivan  
Executive Vice President of Advocacy  
American Trucking Associations

/s  
Ryan Bowley  
Executive Director  
ATA Moving & Storage Conference

/s  
Louis Bookoff  
CEO  
Busie

/s  
Jason Craig  
Director of Government Affairs  
C.H. Robinson

/s  
Christopher Bockus  
Vice President of Operations  
DavEl BostonCoach

/s  
David Benedict  
President  
David Thomas Trailways

/s  
Jonathan R. DeCamp  
Vice President  
DeCamp Bus Lines

/s  
Jay Erlich  
CEO  
Europe Limousine Service Inc.

/s  
Toni DeLisi  
Executive Director  
Fair Lawn Chamber of Commerce

/s  
Patricia Cowley  
Executive Director  
Greater NJ Motorcoach Association

/s  
Iveliz Castellano  
President  
JC Tours Inc.

/s  
John Blair  
President  
Motor Truck Association of Connecticut

/s  
Alison Sherman  
President  
Klein's Bus Service, Inc.

/s  
Gary D. Krapf  
President  
Krapf Coaches

/s  
Jeff Nyikos  
President  
Leros Point to Point

/s  
Jeff Rose  
President  
Limo Association of New York

/s  
Stephen Spencer  
President  
London Towncars, Inc.

/s  
Anthony Terranova  
President  
M&S Parking

/s  
Jessica Walker  
President and CEO  
Manhattan Chamber of Commerce

/s  
Lisa Plasse  
President  
Midland Park Chamber of Commerce

/s  
Cheryl Berkman  
President and CEO  
Music Express

/s  
Robert Alexander  
President  
National Limousine Association

/s  
Lew Dubuque  
Northeast Region Vice President  
National Waste & Recycling Association

/s  
Gail Toth  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Motor Truck Association

/s  
Tracy Denora  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Warehousemen & Movers  
Association

/s  
Jeff Williams  
Director of Public Policy  
New York Farm Bureau

/s  
Patrick Hyland  
Executive Director  
New York Metropolitan Trucking Association

/s  
Michael Fazio  
Executive Vice President  
New York State Builders Association

/s  
William H. Whalen IV  
Executive Director  
New York State Movers & Warehousemen's  
Association

/s  
Brian Reeves  
President  
New York State Vegetable Growers Association

/s  
Ashley Ranslow  
New York State Director  
NFIB New York

/s  
John W. Kennedy  
CEO  
NJ Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc.

/s  
Tom Bracken  
President and CEO  
NJ State Chamber of Commerce

/s  
John Dickinson  
Chairman  
Northeast Dairy Producers Association

/s  
Michelle Petelicki  
President  
Panorama Tours, Inc.

/s  
James J Dugan  
President  
Safety Bus Service, Inc

/s  
Tim Stout  
President  
Stout's Charter Service

/s  
Kendra Hems  
President  
Trucking Association of New York

/s  
Melanie Thiel  
Executive Director  
Washington Business Improvement District

CC: New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, New York State Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie, New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board Members, New York Congressional Delegation, United States Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg.