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Richard J. Marquis  
New York Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building,  
11A Clinton Ave, Suite 719  
Albany, NY 12207

June 11, 2023

**RE: Central Business District Tolling Program - HDA-NY**

Dear Mr. Marquis:

We write to request that the Central Business District Tolling Program include exemptions for residents of the Congestion Business District (CBD).

While we support Congestion Pricing, we also believe that it should be modeled after London, Singapore and Stockholm as stated by the MTA. As such, we believe that the Manhattan program should mirror the programs which exempt persons residing in the CBD.

There is a wide range of economic backgrounds of the residents in the CBD, all of whom will be disproportionately burdened by congestion pricing. Many low to moderate income residents who live in transit deserts rely on cars to get to doctor appointments, to and from work, childcare and more, often outside of the CBD zone. Congestion pricing would unjustly impose a new financial burden on them. Additionally, many of the more financially stable residents already pay additional taxes simply to live in the CBD (e.g., ground leases in Battery Park City).

Without an exemption for residents of the CBD, the cost of living will rise even more in an area that is already pricing people out due to rising housing costs. The examples from other cities show that the environmental benefits of congestion pricing can be obtained while still exempting residents.

We urge you to listen to the residents of the CBD and the legislators who are calling for local exemptions from the toll. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Hon. Charles Fall  
New York State Assembly Member  
Assembly District 61



Hon. Grace Lee  
New York State Assembly Member  
Assembly District 65



Hon. Deborah Glick  
New York State Assembly Member  
Assembly District 66



Hon. Christopher Marte  
City Council Member  
NYC Council District 1



Vittoria Fariello  
Democratic District Leader  
Assembly District 61



John Dellaportas  
Vice President  
The Battery Alliance



Britni Ann Erez  
President  
Battery Park City Neighborhood Association



Justine Cuccia  
Co-Founder  
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CC: Allison L.C. de Cerreño, Ph.D., Chief Operating Officer, MTA Bridges and Tunnels  
Nicholas A. Choubah, P.E., Chief Engineer, New York State Department of Transportation  
William Carry, Assistant Commissioner for Policy, New York City Department of  
Transportation