



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

Senator Addabbo: Statement on Congestion Pricing Issue

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR. February 20, 2025

As the representative of New York's 15th Senate District, I have consistently voiced concerns regarding the implementation of the Central Business District Tolling Program, commonly known as congestion pricing. While the contradictory program aims to reduce traffic congestion and simultaneously bolster funding for our public transit system from vehicles paying the toll, it also poses significant financial challenges to various groups, including local businesses, taxi drivers, truck operators, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities.

In April 2023, I introduced legislation (S.6388) to delay the enforcement of this tolling program, emphasizing the need for a more comprehensive assessment of its potential impacts on communities, especially those in transit deserts with limited transportation alternatives. The abrupt financial burden on residents and businesses could deter visitors, affecting local economies and the livelihoods of many.

I believe the recent legal battle over whether to halt congestion pricing, and thus placing its future into uncertainty, means we should start thinking about a possible, viable alternative. This looming interruption in congestion pricing provides a crucial opportunity for all stakeholders to engage in meaningful dialogue, ensuring that any future alternative measures are equitable, realistic, sustainable and considerate of the diverse needs of our communities, while addressing the funding needs of public transportation.

I remain committed to collaborating with federal, state, and local officials to develop rational solutions that address the demands of our transportation infrastructure, without disproportionately impacting vulnerable populations or businesses. Together, we can work towards a balanced approach that supports both our transit systems and the well-being of all New Yorkers.