

Russell Squire
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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

December 19, 2022

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

Richard Davey, President
MTA New York City Transit
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Ed Pincar, Commissioner
Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

RE: Identification of policy recommendations to City and State agencies regarding parking issues pertaining to Congestion Pricing

Dear Chair Weisbrod, President Davey, and Commissioner Pincar,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on December 14, 2022, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 34 in favor, 9 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS; New York State established a Central Business District Tolling Program, enacted into law in the FY 2020 New York State Budget; and

WHEREAS; the Congestion Pricing Environmental Assessment acknowledges that there may be some increase in parking demands immediately north of the toll zone boundary; and

WHEREAS; residents of Community District 8 have concerns that parking demand will increase near subways and in other areas within Community District 8, particularly near express subway stops; and

WHEREAS; the Congestion Pricing Environmental Assessment further found that increases in parking demand Community District 8 would be accommodated by existing off-street parking, and through upward adjustments to parking garage fees if capacity constraints were to occur; and

WHEREAS; there has been a recent reduction in the number of garage parking spaces in Community District 8, in the lower East 60s, due to facilities being sold, torn down, or being converted to other uses; and

WHEREAS; the Congestion Pricing Environmental Assessment noted that it was unlikely that new garages would be built north of 60th Street due to a lack of available sites, a decades long trend toward lower parking demand, and zoning that doesn't require most developments north of 60th Street to include off-street parking; and

WHEREAS; residents of Community District 8 have expressed concern that there will be an influx of new vehicles entering and looking for parking in Community District 8 to avoid paying the toll; and

WHEREAS; there are existing parking facilities with one-way entrances and exits that would make it impossible to avoid crossing the toll zone boundary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan supports the following policies to address issues related to parking that will result from implementation of congestion pricing:

1. The MTA and/or NYCDOT should annually measure and report to CB8 the number of street and garage spots, the number of vehicles registered to addresses, and the prices of monthly garage spaces on each of the following sets of blocks: 60th to 69th Street, 70th to 79th Streets, 80th to 89th Streets and 90th to 96th Streets;
2. If for any set of blocks monthly garage rates increase by more than the citywide average, or if the ratio of vehicles registered compared to garage spots increases, then the MTA shall present solutions to improve parking availability that do not rely on further increases to monthly garage price rates;
3. The MTA shall present exemptions from the congestion fee for individuals that enter parking garages that have entrances on one side of the toll zone boundary and exit onto the other side of the toll zone boundary.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Chair

Alida Camp and Craig M. Lader

Alida Camp and Craig M. Lader
Co-Chairs, Congestion Pricing Task Force

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District