



THE COUNCIL
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GALE A. BREWER

COUNCIL MEMBER, 6TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

DISTRICT OFFICE
563 COLUMBUS AVENUE, AT 87TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10024
TEL: (212) 873-0282
FAX: (212) 873-0279

CITY HALL OFFICE
250 BROADWAY, ROOM 1875
NEW YORK, NY 10007
TEL: (212) 788-6975
FAX: (212) 513-7717

GBrewer@council.nyc.gov
www.council.nyc.gov

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July 18, 2023

Mr. Janno Lieber
Chair and CEO
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. Lieber,

I write regarding upcoming meetings of the Traffic Mobility Review Board (TMRB), the six member panel that will issue a recommended tolling structure for congestion pricing, known formally as the Central Business District Tolling Program (CBDTP). While these meetings are open to the public, it has come to my attention that there will not be a public comment period. Instead, the TMRB will rely on previous public comment submitted nearly 12 months ago.

This letter is a formal request to add a public comment period on the TMRB's recommended toll rates along with any potential discounts, credits, and/or exemptions. The 2022 public comment period sought feedback on the MTA's Environmental Assessment (EA), which evaluated the effects of implementing congestion pricing compared to taking no action. The EA was released on August 10, 2022 and the month-long public comment period opened the same day. Public comment was intended to inform the Federal Highway Administration's review of the CBDTP's overall appropriateness.

A public comment period that focuses on recommended tolling rates, discounts, and exemptions is appropriate. It is distinctly different from last year's public comment period on the EA. Further, as recently as May 12, 2023, the office of Gov. Kathy Hochul stated a public comment period on recommended toll rates would take place "before any tolling structure is adopted." (See enclosure).

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Gale A. Brewer

Enclosure