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Carl Weisbrod
Board Chair
Traffic Mobility Review Board
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Chair Weisbrod:

We are writing to request that the Traffic Mobility Review Board make crossing credit discounts as small as possible for New Jersey-New York toll-payers. While it is important that reasonable accommodations are made to ensure no one suffers any significant financial hardship as a result of the Congestion Pricing Program, crossing-credits should not be provided at the expense of residents of the west side in the Central Business District.

To discourage traffic in the CBD from the Lincoln Tunnel and the Holland Tunnel, any crossing credits offered for drivers using those tunnels must also be offered for drivers using the George Washington Bridge. If a greater discount is given to the tunnels than the George Washington Bridge, drivers may decide it is worth paying the discounted toll to enter the CBD.

In addition to standardizing these crossing credits, the TMRB should limit them as much as possible. It is crucial that drivers are still discouraged from entering the CBD and any significant discount would work against that end. The CPP does not intend to simply dissuade drivers from entering the CBD, but also to build the infrastructure for a robust public transit system as an alternative for drivers.

As the TMRB constructs the tolling model for the CPP, we urge that the goals of the CPP are prioritized, which is to improve the health, safety, and economy of the residents in the CBD by discouraging car use within the CBD borders.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tony Simone
Assemblymember

Brad Hoylman-Sigal
State Senator

Deborah J. Glick
Assemblymember

Erik Bottcher
Council Member