



Can Congestion Pricing Fix Traffic Woes?

By Daniel C. Vock

An idea that flopped a decade ago—to charge people who drive into the center of New York City—now has powerful backers.

One day soon, drivers in New York City may be charged a toll to enter the heart of the city, the part of Manhattan from Wall Street to Central Park. Imposing such a fee would not only aim to cut traffic, it would also raise much-needed revenue to fix the city's struggling subway system.

If the idea takes hold, it would be the first time a US city imposes tolls to drive on its most congested roads. A handful of large cities in other countries—including London, Singapore, Stockholm, and Milan—use similar “cordoned” toll systems.

New York City itself debated the idea a decade ago when Michael Bloomberg was mayor, but the proposal languished in the state legislature. This time, though, there's a key difference: It's Governor Andrew Cuomo, the state's most powerful politician, pushing the idea—and amid a new

sense of urgency to address the city's increasingly clogged roads and frequently failing subways.

“As New Yorkers, we face two serious transportation crises on a daily basis—one above ground and one below,” wrote Fix NYC, a group appointed by Cuomo to flesh out how congestion pricing would work, in a report released last month.

New York is one of the most traffic-choked cities in the world. The average speeds of taxi cabs in Midtown, its most congested area, fell from 6.5 mph in 2010 to 4.7 mph in 2016. That's only slightly faster than walking.

Meanwhile, Cuomo declared a state of emergency for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the state-controlled agency that runs subways and buses in the city. Subway ridership is at an all-time high, but the system, which relies heavily on track laid in the 1970s and signals that predate World War II, has struggled to keep up. The MTA said last summer that it would need \$836 million in new money just to start addressing its most urgent needs.

Fix NYC suggests that the money collected from the new tolls would go to pay for those



subway improvements. But the group stresses that the MTA should start improving its service before the tolls are introduced, and it says the tolls should be gradually rolled out. The plan calls for imposing truck tolls of \$25.34 and car tolls of \$11.52, and it

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West End Connection, Amtrak Empire Tunnel
Amtrak Contract No: X036-18030
Bid Date: March 1, 2018

Description of project:
The rehabilitation of the track infrastructure along the AE Line in Manhattan between MP 0.00 and MP 11.0 and the construction of a new storage yard at 72nd Street.

Many bidding opportunities available.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com

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Equal Opportunity Development and Compliance for the Rehabilitation of Electrical and Mechanical Systems of Madison Avenue Bridge over Harlem River
NYSDOT Contract No: HBX644S
Bid Date: March 13, 2018

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Clearing and Grubbing, Concrete, Graffiti Removal, Bridge Machinery, Demolition, Barrier, Interior Plumbing and Finishes, Field Office, CPM Scheduling, Electrical, Bridge Control Systems, Lead and Asbestos Abatement, Civil General Contracting, Construction Engineering, Dumpster, Fencing, Fuel, Haul and Dispose, Miscellaneous Metals, MPT, Office Trailer Fit Out, Painting, Rebar, Sandblasting, Signs, Structural Steel, Surveying, and Trucking. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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Route 1 and 9 (Pulaski Skyway) Rocker-Bent Investigation Contract
NJDOT Contract No: 051183160
Bid Date: March 29, 2018

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Bearings, Civil General Contracting, Construction Engineering, CPM Scheduling, Dumpster, Fencing, Field Trailer, Fuel, Haul and Dispose, Miscellaneous Metals, MPT, Office Trailer Fit Out, Painting, Piles, Rebar, Sandblasting, Signs, Striping, Structural Steel, Surveying, Temp Shoring Towers, Testing and Trucking. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

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Coney Island Yard Complex Long Term Flood Mitigation
MTA NYCT Contract No. C-34836
Bid Date: February 14, 2018

Description of project:
Creation of a 12,000 LF flood protection wall (sheet piles, micropiles, jetgrout, and concrete), new drainage, upgraded pump stations, new drainage outfalls into Coney Island Creek, flood gates, vehicular gates, bridge hardening, and upgrades around the 100-acre NYCT Coney Island Yard Facilities in Brooklyn, New York; creation of a cable bridge across all three yards; communications, signal, and power work throughout all three yards, including new ductbanks and manholes; emergency alarm and telephone; trackwork in affected areas of construction; structural repairs to the historic Traction Motor Shop including upgrade to the exterior building wall.

Many bidding opportunities available.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com

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Replacement of 12 Traction Elevators
MTA NYCT Contract No. E-34027
Bid Date: February 13, 2018

Description of project:
The general extent and scope of work under this contract consist of the replacement of Twelve (12) Traction Elevators at Three Stations, 168th Street, 181st Street, and 191st Street Stations on the Broadway-7th Avenue Line (IRT), in the Borough of Manhattan.

Many bidding opportunities available.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com

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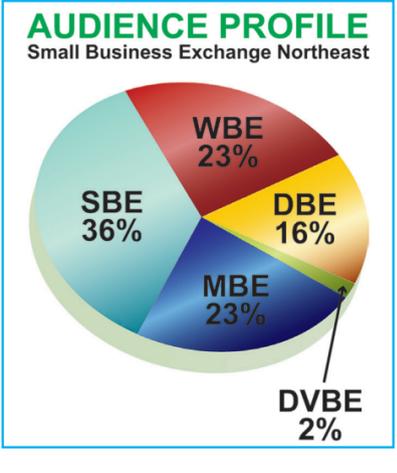
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Harmon Shop Replacement Phase V Stage 2
MTA Metro-North Contract No. 81933
Bid Date: February 2018

Description of project:
This contract for Phase V Stage 2 will be for, but not limited to, all required site and track work; the demolition and disposal of the remaining west half of Building 6 including Building 5 (Main Shop and Storeroom) and any other miscellaneous structures; and construction of a new 6-track, double-ended EMU Running Repair and Support Shop. This new EMU Running Repair and Support Shop will include a ground floor with ten (10) married pair vehicle repair positions, and a partial second floor, which includes component repair workshops and multiple office areas.

Many bidding opportunities available.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com



NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2018

Cattaraugus County PTAC, Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce
Contact: Jennifer Talarico, 716-551-3240, jennifer.talarico@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
The Small Business Administration, Cattaraugus County Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), and Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce present a workshop for small business entrepreneurs that have an interest in selling their goods and services to the government. You will learn about the programs available and how to do business with the government from a local PTAC professional.

ExporTech™ Spring 2018
Thursday, March 8, 2018, 8:00 am–5:00 pm
Hampton Inn, 42 Lower Mountain View Drive, Colchester, VT
Main Sponsor(s): Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center
Contact: Lisa Henderson, 802-299-1456, lhenderson@vmec.org
Fee: Free; registration required
Growth opportunities in global markets, but are you struggling to carve out the time and resources to seize them? ExporTech™ could be your answer! If you are ready to invest the time, the twelve-week ExporTech™ program can unlock your export growth potential. The Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center and its resource partner are hosting ExporTech™ Spring 2018 from March to May at the Hampton Inn in Colchester, Vermont. ExporTech™ helps small- and mid-sized Vermont manufacturers and companies expand sales through exporting. For more information, visit https://www.vmec.org/event/exporttech-spring-2018/#

HUBZone: and Certifying Your Business
Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 10:00 am–12:00 pm
TechPlace, 74 Orion Street, Brunswick, ME
Main Sponsor(s): Eastern Maine Development Corporation, Maine Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)
Contact: bryand.wallace@emdc.org
Fee: Free; registration required
Maine PTAC Procurement Counselor Bryan Wallace offers a free training session on the HUBZone Program. This US Small Business Administration government contracting program was created to stimulate economic growth in certain urban or rural geographic areas. Eligible small businesses can gain preferential treatment in the federal marketplace. Small businesses with an office located in Bath, Brunswick, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Durham, Freeport, Harpswell, Lisbon, or Topsham may be eligible to participate in the HUBZone Program. Maine PTAC is part of a nationwide network. Hosted by Eastern Maine Development Corporation, this program serves Maine-based companies that are interested in selling products or services to local, or federal government agencies.

Selling to the Government Workshop
Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 9:30 am–10:30 am
East Aurora Hampton Inn, 49 Olean Street, East Aurora, NY
Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration,

