

May 2, 2018

Speaker Corey Johnson
New York City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Speaker Johnson,

We are writing regarding the urgent need for increased funding to support New York City's transportation infrastructure. Recently introduced legislation, Intro. 857, which would create new fees for residential parking permits, offers an important opportunity to help meet this objective.

Intro. 857 dictates that the new parking permit fees, "shall be credited to the general fund of the city of New York." We recommend that the Council instead dedicate any new user fees on motor vehicles like this to a fund specifically supporting New York City's vital transportation infrastructure.

The New York Building Congress represents more than 550 constituent organizations, collectively comprising over 250,000 skilled tradespeople and professionals, including contractors, architects, engineers, unions, real estate managers, developers, and owners. On behalf of our membership, the NYBC advocates in support of public policy that helps our members: by promoting smart capital spending, encouraging creative public-private partnerships, and stimulating economic and infrastructure growth.

The City faces a crossroads: in order to increase economic mobility for all of the City's residents, accommodate a swelling population, and continue to remain economically competitive, much of the City's mass transit, roads and bridges urgently need to be improved and expanded. Funding for the Brooklyn Queens Connector, improvements to key roadways to permit better bus and pedestrian access, new mass transit connections including the Gateway Program, and vital improvements to local and State roadways all face enormous funding gaps. A dedicated user fee from parking permits could provide a small but meaningful contribution to this funding gap.

A recent Building Congress report, *How to Save New York City's Infrastructure: Dedicate Revenues*, enclosed here, provides a variety of suggestions to employ user fees in support of core city infrastructure. We believe this legislation provides a meaningful opportunity to continue this conversation.

Now is the time to think creatively about how to support the transportation networks that interconnect New York City's diverse and growing population and facilitate economic mobility. We look forward to speaking with you and the City Council about this in the near future.

Very Truly Yours,

Carlo A. Scissura, Esq.
President & CEO, New York Building Congress

cc: Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez
Council Member Vanessa Gibson

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Encl.