



**Policy Statement of the New York Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association Regarding the Proposed NYC Congestion Pricing Proposal
March 17, 2008**

The New York Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association appreciates the opportunity to provide professional input on the proposed Congestion Pricing proposal for New York City. We are a professional and educational association of more than 1,450 planners working in New York City, Long Island, Westchester, and the lower Hudson Valley.

As presented in previous testimony and policy statements, the professional planners of the New York Metro Chapter recognize that the City's transportation network is a valuable, but limited resource, attempting to meet nearly unlimited demand. The responsibility of the community is to maintain this resource for the benefit of all users; however in turn, it is the responsibility of all users to support the system. We support a carefully thought out congestion pricing plan since such a plan can reduce the negative effects of auto-dependency and can provide funds for mass transportation. The New York Metro Chapter continues to express strong support for the proposed congestion pricing plan.

We recommend the elected officials and policy makers throughout New York City and New York State support this sound example of forward thinking transportation planning that will simultaneously sustain our city's growth and the quality of urban spaces for its residents.