



2012 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE • BETHLEHEM, PA 18017
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August 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Tom JeBran and I am writing to respectfully request full exemption in regards to the Central Business District Tolling Program (CBDTP). I am the president of Trans-Bridge Lines a third generation, family owned motorcoach company that has been in business since 1941. Our company has maintained service without receiving operating subsidies from taxpayers for decades. We are a New Jersey corporation and our headquarters is located in Bethlehem, PA. We offer commuter and fixed route transit service from the Lehigh Valley area and also Bucks County, PA, Hunterdon and Warren counties in New Jersey to Port Authority, Manhattan, Cruise Terminal and Wall Street along with Tour and Charter service. Trans-Bridge also works closely with New Jersey Transit and while not under contract we operate several leased buses on a New Jersey route to the Port Authority.

Motorcoach travel is one of the most fuel efficient modes of transportation by getting approximately 280.1 miles per gallon. Not only does this form of travel reduce congestion on our roads and highways, but one coach has the potential to replace up to 50 cars. We are doing exactly what the law intends to do. We are taking cars off city streets, lessening the carbon footprint, and we are trying to do this without compromising the economic benefits. By accessing fees on our buses, we will have no other choice but to raise our fares to cover the extra expense. Quite frankly, I am afraid that our customers will no longer be able to afford to travel which could very well mean less tourists and revenue for New York City, which is one of the most popular national tourism and commuter destination.

We transport commuters, hospital staff, construction and trade workers along with other profession staff daily and these riders will face increased commuting costs.

In the year 2019, Trans-Bridge Lines transported 1,089,044 passengers to and from the Port Authority Bus Terminal, Cruise Terminals, Wall Street and operated 126 Charters carrying approximately 6,300 passengers. In 2020, we had to make the inconceivable decision to shut down all of our services because of COVID-19 from March 20, 2020 until June 8, 2020. We are up and running now and passengers depend on our service! Motorcoach transportation is a vital form of transit and our companies and customer should not be penalized by additional costs that the tolls will incur.

Please realize that motorcoach travel is part of the solution for your long term plans of clean transportation and reducing the number of cars on the road. The riding public is served by the private motorcoach industry as well as the public agency operated companies. We should be treated as part of the solution and with parity as Mass Transit entities.

Please take all of this into consideration and offer private motorcoach companies full exemption from the congestion pricing plans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Thomas G. JeBrans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "JeBrans" clearly legible.

Thomas G. JeBrans
President
Trans-Bridge Lines, Inc.