

N.Y. snubs Bloomberg traffic plan

by UPI

NEW YORK -- New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's well-publicized plan to ease the city's traffic congestion has been shot down by the state legislature. Bloomberg's office created a video that was posted on the Youtube Internet site, ran cable TV ads and the mayor made numerous neighborhood speeches about the plan. But the New York Times said state legislators didn't appreciate the bullying nature of the proposal, which would have attracted as much as \$500 million in federal aid. Assemblyman Richard Brodsky, D-Westchester, who questioned much of the plan, told the newspaper if Bloomberg had cooperated more with the legislature, he could have made more progress. "When it came time to deal with people he didn't control, he didn't know how to do it," Brodsky said. At a Tuesday afternoon news conference in Brooklyn, an angry Bloomberg said the state legislature lacked "guts," the Times said. Bloomberg had proposed an \$8 car toll and a \$21 toll for trucks entering Manhattan in a bid to reduce traffic and also reduce exhaust emissions.

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