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## Spatial Economics Research Centre

Tuesday, 15 May 2012

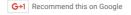
## **Road Pricing**

A new report from the IFS makes the case for road pricing:

"Such a move would generate substantial economic efficiency gains from reduced congestion, reduce the tax levied on the majority of miles driven, leading many (particularly rural) motorists better off, and provide a stable long-term footing for motoring taxes without necessarily raising net additional revenue from drivers," the IFS said.

No arguments here, but the political economy remains horrible: economic efficiency arguments are a hard sell relative to emotive ones around freedom impact on business etc. I don't know if there is any evidence to suggest that the argument that this would replace other vehicle excise taxes would be enough to placate those so bitterly opposed. Depressingly, I suspect not.

Posted by Prof Henry G. Overman on Tuesday, May 15, 2012



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