



MTA Press Releases

[Select Language](#) | ▼

Press Release

June 18, 2008

[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Verrazano-Narrows Bridge Westbound Roadway Work Complete All Staten Island-bound Lower Level Lanes Re-opened to Motorists

MTA Bridges and Tunnels announced today that the entire lower level to Staten Island is now open to motorists, ahead of the July 3rd target date. Construction on all westbound lanes has been completed and all three lanes of the roadway have been restored to normal operation and newly striped. Any further westbound lane closures will be temporary and during off-peak hours.

"We appreciate the patience of our customers and the community during this critical construction," said David Moretti, Acting President of MTA Bridges and Tunnels. "Our first priority is always safety, and lane closures and shifts in traffic patterns were necessary."

Since the start of the project the MTA, customer, community and elected officials' concerns, negotiated contractor incentives totaling \$6.6 million to complete the work more than six months ahead of the original schedule. The Brooklyn-bound roadway work, which began later, is also scheduled for early finish by Labor Day. The new deck approaches, which replaced 43-year-old roadways, cost \$64.7 million.

The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, which opened to traffic on November 21, 1964, carried 71 million vehicles in 2007.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels' facilities, which connect the five boroughs of New York City, are the Triborough, Throgs Neck, Bronx-Whitestone, Henry Hudson, Verrazano-Narrows, Cross Bay Veterans Memorial and Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Bridges, and the Queens Midtown and Brooklyn-Battery Tunnels. The agency is the largest toll authority in the nation, helping more than 825,000 vehicles and more than a million people reach their destination each day.

[Photo link](#)

Caption: Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, view from Staten Island.