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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA Bridges and Tunnels Requests Proposals for Cashless Tolling Study

MTA Bridges and Tunnels has issued a Request for Proposals to study the feasibility of cashless or barrier-free tolling at its nine crossings. Responses are due by August 22. The study's primary objectives are to explore the technical, physical, safety and revenue protection elements of implementing such a system.

This study will also address the unique challenges of cashless tolling in a New York City operating environment, e.g., certain toll plazas that were built and configured in the mid-1930s and have outlets that lead to local streets rather than highways. Cashless toll collection permits vehicles to proceed through the tolling point without passing through a tollbooth, using readers mounted on overhead structures to collect from E-ZPass customers and license plate cameras to collect from others. The study is expected to take approximately 14 months to complete.

Among the additional key concerns to be addressed by the consultant hired are:

- employee and customer safety issues
- identification of methods for off-site collection of tolls
- estimated capital cost of new toll plazas and toll collection system
- cost-benefit analysis
- collection of delinquent accounts and enforcement issues
- possible adjudication methods for tolling disputes
- estimated operating costs

The agency operates and maintains seven bridges and two tunnels that link New York City, handle 850,000 vehicles daily and collect more than a \$1 billion annually in tolls. By law, MTA Bridges and Tunnels provides revenue to the transit services of the MTA, which is currently approximately 60 percent of the toll revenue collected. Since 1996, Bridges and Tunnels has collected tolls from its customers electronically via E-ZPass tags mounted in windshields, in addition to accepting cash and coin at staffed tollbooths. Today, nearly 75 percent of all transactions are made using E-ZPass. All facility tollbooths currently have gate-arms that lift when a valid tag is detected.

Interested parties may obtain further information regarding this RFP at: <http://www.mta.info/bandt/procure/rfppage.htm>

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.

Photo Caption: Bronx-Whitestone Bridge toll plaza.



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