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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Queens Midtown Tunnel Only One Lane Open in Each Direction for Roadway Work Weekend of Oct. 4–5

Necessary roadway work in the Queens Midtown Tunnel will require that only one lane instead of two will be open in each direction from 12:01 AM on Saturday, October 4th through Sunday, October 5th until 2 PM. One tunnel tube will be closed and all traffic will use the remaining tube (with two-way traffic) during this 36-hour period.

"There will be signs alerting motorists, and we will closely monitor the scene during the weekend to ensure minimal inconvenience to our customers," said Theresa Smith, Acting General Manager of the tunnel.

There will also be a detour indicated on the Queens side of the tunnel to direct traffic at 50th Avenue before the 11th Street entrance ramp (which will be closed) onto the 21st Street entrance ramp instead. The contractor for the work, Tully Construction of Flushing, Queens, will provide flag men as necessary to assist with traffic flow throughout the closure.

The project includes general paving and pothole repair, some removal of old concrete, replacement with fast-setting concrete, re-covering with asphalt and, re-stripping of lanes in the tube and the plaza area. Paving work will also be done on portions of the plazas serving each end of the tube.

"We appreciate the patience of our customers and neighbors while we get this job done," said Chuck Garber, Facility Engineer.

Opened to traffic in 1940, the tunnel contains two parallel tubes, each serving two lanes of traffic beneath the East River. Average traffic is 86,100 vehicles on a weekday. The Queens Midtown Tunnel serves as a major connection between midtown Manhattan and Queens, as well as the gateway to the Long Island Expressway. The facility crosses between the Murray Hill section of Manhattan and the Hunters Point/Long Island City section.

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: Queens Midtown Tunnel's Queens plaza entrance.

