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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA Bridges and Tunnels Ready for "4th of July" Weekend Traffic

Traffic-wise, Independence Day kicks off on Thursday, July 3rd and MTA Bridges and Tunnels' nine crossings are prepped and ready for customers who will be hitting the road in advance of the holiday.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels will suspend all routine maintenance work beginning at 12 noon on Thursday, July 3rd until Monday morning, July 7th. The agency's nine crossings will also have extra staff on hand to assist with increased holiday weekend traffic, especially at the Cross Bay Veterans Memorial and Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial Bridges as beach season launches into full swing at the Rockaways.

"We are suspending all temporary closures related to construction and maintenance to maximize service for the holiday weekend," explained David Moretti, Acting President of MTA Bridges and Tunnels. "We wish our customers a safe and happy Independence Day."

The day preceding 4th of July weekend is typically among the heaviest traveled of the year, and this year volume is expected to reach in excess of 900,000. Independence Day itself is one of the least traveled days of the year: in 2007 only 599,553 vehicles made trips using the agency's bridges and tunnels.

If planning to use the MTA's bridges and tunnels this holiday, here are a few tips for smart travel:

- Beat the rush: Leave as early as possible for your destination and check weather forecasts that may affect travel and roadway conditions. Specific information on bridges and tunnels, as well as public mass transit, is available at: www.mta.info
- Motorists can save time, money and gas by using E-ZPass at all MTA Bridges and Tunnels' toll plazas. E-ZPass is also accepted at other toll facilities throughout the region.
- Customers should look for signs directing them to **E-ZPass** or **Cash Only** lanes as needed.
- Avoid delays in the toll lanes by mounting your E-ZPass on the windshield after you buckle up and before you drive away from the curb.
- Motorists who pay the toll in cash can speed their trip by having the exact amount ready before they get to the toll plaza.

The cash toll is \$5.00 for the Triborough, Throgs Neck and Bronx-Whitestone Bridges and the Brooklyn-Battery and Queens Midtown Tunnels; \$10.00 roundtrip on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge (collected in the Staten Island-bound direction); \$2.75 on the Henry Hudson; and \$2.50 at the Cross Bay and Marine Parkway Bridges.

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: The Bronx-Whitestone Bridge with background fireworks display.



