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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Cross Island Parkway Ramp And Throgs Neck Bridge Lane To Reopen Monday

MTA Bridges and Tunnels announced today that the northbound Cross Island Parkway ramp to the Throgs Neck Bridge and a third northbound lane will reopen Monday, Aug. 10 at 12:01 AM. The ramp and one of three northbound bridge lanes have been closed since a construction site fire on July 10th.

While work continues, the ramp will operate with one lane instead of two, eliminating a merge and allowing cars direct access to a dedicated bridge lane. The lane will initially be marked by concrete barriers and then road delineators. Trucks entering from the Clearview Expressway will return to their usual location in the center lane for travel over the bridge.

"We appreciate the patience of our customers during this period," said Susan Kupferman, MTA Bridges and Tunnels President. "Safety is always our highest priority and the necessary repairs have been made to allow a return to near normal operation. As with any change in traffic configuration, everyone should expect a period of adjustment, but the good news is there will be access from the Parkway, and the third lane to the Bronx will be open."

As construction along the right edge of the bridge continues, the northbound lanes will be slightly narrower than usual, and oversized and overweight trucks that normally cross at night with an escort are still prohibited. The construction, which involves both finishing repairs to the fire damaged area and the continued replacement of the northbound deck on the 48-year-old bridge, will be completed in the fall.

The agency and the New York City Fire Department found that the fire was caused by a spark from a contractor's torch that ignited construction material on scaffolding below the bridge. Bridges and Tunnels Chief Engineer Tom Bach said that an on-site independent safety monitor, paid for by the contractor, will continue to report directly to the Authority until all work is completed. The contractor, E.E. Cruz, is being held responsible for the accident and for all costs incurred. The contractor employees directly involved in the accident were removed from the project. Bach said that all of the Authority's other bridge construction projects have been reviewed by an outside safety consultant to ensure that those operations are safe.

The Throgs Neck Bridge carries between 110,000 and 120,000 vehicles a day, including significant truck traffic.