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Press Release

July 10, 2009

[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Update On Throgs Neck Bridge Fire

MTA Bridges and Tunnels Engineering, Operations and Health & Safety personnel are working with the New York City Fire Department to assess conditions at the Throgs Neck Bridge following an early morning fire, which has closed the bridge in both directions. There were no injuries reported.

We are working as quickly as possible to complete an inspection that will determine if there is any structural damage caused by the fire. We will provide updates throughout the day and hope to minimize disruption to the evening commute to the extent possible. Motorists are being diverted to the RFK and Bronx-Whitestone bridges as an alternate but traffic is heavy throughout the area.

The fire began shortly after 5:00 a.m. this morning in scaffolding under the northbound (Queens to Bronx) side of the bridge, where there is an ongoing deck replacement project, scheduled for completion in 2011. The work is being performed by contractor E.E. Cruz of Holmdel, N.J. As part of that effort, crews from subcontractor Corcon, Inc., of the Bronx, were working with welding equipment until 4:00 a.m. today. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

The 48-year-old Throgs Neck Bridge, which connects Queens and the Bronx, carries an average of 112,000 vehicles daily.