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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

### New Traffic Pattern At Bronx-Whitestone Will Result in Three Lanes Opened in Each Direction During Peak Driving Hours Beginning Mon., Nov. 8th Through Next February

***Motorists Should Expect Lane Closures In Both Directions Fri., Nov. 5th Through Sun. Nov. 7th While New Traffic Configuration Is Put in Place***

There's good news ahead for Bronx–Whitestone travelers. A new traffic configuration being put in place over the weekend will result in all three bridge lanes being opened in both directions during peak driving hours beginning Monday, Nov. 8th. This new traffic pattern will remain in place throughout the holiday season and into early 2011.

Work on the four–year, nearly \$200 million project to replace the original 71–year–old bridge roadway near the Bronx end continues on schedule and is currently approximately 65 percent complete.

The following lane closures are necessary this weekend to establish a new roadway traffic pattern:

**Fri. Nov. 5th to Sat., Nov. 6th from 11 PM to 7 AM:  
2 northbound lanes to the Bronx and 1 southbound lane to Queens.**

**Sat., Nov. 6th 7 AM to 10 PM:  
1 lane in each direction**

**Sat., Nov. 6th to Sun., Nov. 7th from 10 PM to 5 AM:  
2 lanes in each direction**

**In addition, one southbound lane to Queens will be closed from 7 AM to 3 PM Mon., Nov. 8th through Fri., Nov. 12th.**

Motorists are advised to use the Throgs Neck Bridge while this work is being done.

"We appreciate our customers' patience while we are doing this important work, which includes replacing 1,785–feet of 1930's era roadway and constructing a new roadway superstructure," said Acting Facility Engineer Christopher Saladino. "Once the work is completed, the bridge will be stronger and viable for decades to come."

The project was awarded to Conti of New York, LLC in 2008 and is expected to be completed in 2012. To date, 15 new double–arch concrete piers have been built beneath the Bronx side of the bridge. These will help support wider, 12–foot lanes and emergency shoulders.

In 2009, some 117,000 average daily vehicles used the Bronx–Whitestone Bridge, which connects the Bronx to Queens and Long Island. The 2,300–foot–long, 74–foot wide suspension span was the fourth longest in the world when it opened a day before the New York World's Fair on April 30, 1939.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels' facilities, which connect the five boroughs of New York City, include the Robert F. Kennedy, Throgs Neck, Bronx–Whitestone, Henry Hudson, Verrazano–Narrows, Cross Bay Veterans Memorial and Marine Parkway–Gil Hodges Bridges, as well as the Queens Midtown and Brooklyn–Battery Tunnels.



*Newly reconstructed roadway near the Bronx end heading to the Bronx. Work is part of a nearly \$200 million project to widen and reconstruct the approach roadway.*