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Press Release

September 22, 2010

[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

### New Traffic Pattern To Begin Tuesday on Henry Hudson Lower Level To Manhattan

A new traffic pattern on the lower level of the Henry Hudson Bridge leading southbound into Manhattan will go into effect on **Tuesday, Sept. 28th**, reducing the number of lanes on the bridge from four lanes to three in order to include an emergency roadway shoulder and make the remaining lanes slightly wider.

The new pattern is being put in place in anticipation of gateless operations at the Henry Hudson Bridge, which will result in motorists driving non-stop through E-ZPass lanes. Camera equipment, new computer software and overhead gantries are being installed to equip toll lanes for gateless operation.

The re-striping of the southbound roadway will result in slightly wider lanes and, for the first time, a new 8-foot wide striped emergency breakdown lane on the far right hand side of the bridge heading southbound.

"The new configuration, along with the new shoulder that will allow us to safely remove disabled cars from traffic for the first time, will result in a smoother transition for drivers coming from the southbound two-lane Henry Hudson Parkway and onto the bridge," said MTA Bridges and Tunnels President Jim Ferrara.

The gateless pilot program is the first phase in MTA Bridges and Tunnels' all electronic tolling (cashless) pilot, which was announced earlier this year by MTA Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Jay Walder.

Gateless operations at the Henry Hudson are expected to begin late this year or early next year. During the first phase of the project there will be no change in the way cash tolls are collected. MTA Bridge and Tunnel Officers will continue to collect cash tolls in specifically-marked cash only lanes.

In 2009, the Henry Hudson Bridge, which connects the Riverdale section of the Bronx to the Inwood section of in Manhattan, carried an average of 62,000 vehicles daily.

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, and the Queens Midtown and Brooklyn-Battery Tunnels.



*Aerial view of Henry Hudson Bridge, which connects the Bronx and Manhattan*