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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Work Resumes On Throgs Neck Bridge Paint Project

Work has resumed on the \$47 million Throgs Neck Bridge project designed to clean and repair the steel at the Bronx approach and remove the last original lead paint on the 52-year-old span.

The project, which includes cleaning, repairing and repainting 2.5 million square feet of steel, began last June and is expected to be completed in 2014. A total of about 45,000 gallons of special bridge paint will be used to protect the span's steel against corrosive salty, seawater.

"The good news is that when the work is finished the Throgs Neck Bridge will be completely free of the original lead paint; the bad news is that the abrasive blasting needed to do this work can be noisy and we ask for our Bronx neighbors' patience while it is being done," said Facility Engineer Ed Knightly.

Ahern Painting, of Queens, placed equipment barges adjacent to the bridge complete with compressors, blasting equipment and dust collectors and installed shroud-like environmental containment around the bridge structure to contain all materials during the cleaning and painting. All work is performed in accordance with Federal, New York State and New York City regulations. Environmental monitoring of air and noise levels and visible inspection of the containment system is conducted throughout the project.

Abrasive blasting to remove the old paint began again about 2,000-feet from the Bronx anchorage on March 26. The contractor will be working Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. through the end of the paint season in November.

"Painting is critical to keeping bridges in a state of good repair," said Bridges and Tunnels Director of Bridges East Raymond Webb, "and once this project is completed the bridge will not need repainting for another 20 years."

This is the final piece of an overall \$100 million paint program at the Throgs Neck Bridge that began in 2006. To date, the bridge's suspended spans, towers and the Queens approach structures have been cleaned, repaired and repainted.