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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Six Lanes Available At Bronx-Whitestone Bridge's Queens Approach Roadway During Peak Drive Times To Ease Holiday Traffic

Eds: Updates With New Start Date

MTA Bridges and Tunnels announced Friday that all six roadway lanes at the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge's Queens approach will be open for the next month to ease traffic during peak holiday travel time.

Weather permitting, beginning **Wed., Dec. 11 through Jan. 15** the permanent lane closure on the approach will be removed during peak morning and afternoon drive times, and the roadway will have all six lanes; three northbound to the Bronx and three southbound to Queens. The northbound lanes will be split around a work zone, with two lanes to the right and one to the left of the construction area.

The reopening of all six lanes during peak drive times was originally scheduled for **Mon., Dec. 9** but contractors were unable to install the new traffic pattern due to dense fog and rain.

One lane in either direction may be closed during **off-peak hours** to allow contractors E.E. Cruz/Tully to get ready for the next stage of roadway work that will begin on Jan. 16. Peak morning hours are between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. and peak afternoon hours from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"We appreciate our customers' patience while this necessary work is done and wish all travelers using the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge a happy, healthy and safe holiday season," said Raymond Webb, Bridges and Tunnels Director of Bridges East.

The 42-month, \$109 million reconstruction and rehabilitation project was awarded in July 2011. The project includes reconstructing the bridge's support foundations, adding six double arch piers, a new abutment to support wider, 12-foot lanes and safety shoulders, and reconstruction of 1,010-feet of approach roadway and the southbound 14th Avenue exit ramp.

The project is expected to be completed in 2015.