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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Reconstructed Rockaway Point Boulevard Overpass at Marine Parkway Bridge Opens to Traffic

Design/Build Method Speeds Work for Reopening Ahead of 2015 Thanksgiving Holiday

MTA Bridges and Tunnels announced today the opening of the newly reconstructed Rockaway Point Boulevard Overpass at the Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge, completed on schedule in advance of Thanksgiving 2015.

Traffic was shifted from the temporary overpass, which had been in service since the spring, when contractors erected it in adjacent to the original overpass. The temporary structure allowed rebuilding to proceed without loss of traffic capacity and with minimal impact to the Breezy Point and Rockaway communities.

The \$13.9 million project, awarded to John Picone Construction and designer KS Engineers in January 2015, employed the design/build method of construction, effectively accelerating the work and condensing it into one season rather than several.

"I'm pleased to say we made good on our promise to reopen the permanent overpass by Thanksgiving," said William McCann, Director of Bridges South.

"The project team earned high marks for their efficient work and dedication to meeting this important deadline," said Rockaway Bridges Facility Engineer Lloyd Drummond.

Replacement of the old overpass roadway, built in 1967, was timely and necessary. The concrete roadway slab and supporting steel had suffered deterioration from the salty sea-air environment. The new Rockaway Point Boulevard Overpass features a galvanized steel superstructure and new concrete deck and other upgrades such as safety impact devices and guiderails on the ramps and roadways leading to it.

Brighter longer-lasting LED lights will be added beneath the overpass and on light poles. Remaining work under this contract will entail rehabilitation of the nearby Jacob Riis Pedestrian Path.

With the exception of several overnight closures of the Marine Parkway Bridge in the Brooklyn-bound direction, motorists were not significantly inconvenienced.

The temporary overpass will be demolished before the end of the year. This work will require one full overnight closure of the Marine Parkway Bridge, with detours to the Cross Bay Veterans Memorial Bridge except for emergency vehicles and the Q35 bus.

