As an integral part of New York City’s Department of Transportation, the Division of Bridges has a two-fold mission: to maintain an optimal transportation network by ensuring smooth mobility on the city's bridges, and to ensure the safety of the public.

The New York City Department of Transportation’s Division of Bridges is comprised of four major bureaus. The Chief Bridge Officer is responsible for formulating policy and providing executive direction. He oversees all aspects of the design, construction, rehabilitation and reconstruction, maintenance, operation and administration of the 794 bridges (including 5 tunnels), and 53 culverts presently under the jurisdiction of the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT). In addition to broad supervision, the Chief Bridge Officer also provides overall executive and administrative direction for the Division of Bridges, and ensures that all contractors are promptly paid.

Reporting to the Chief Bridge Officer, the Community Affairs Unit maintains liaison with all stakeholders: elected officials, community boards, community groups, and civic/neighborhood associations. The Unit takes a pro-active approach in addressing design issues and coordinating construction by working with communities throughout the life of a project. The unit is committed to strategic community interaction that considers the cultural and linguistic diversity of the city and employs a variety of communication tools including social media to ensure the delivery of timely information. This enables the Division to proceed with its capital program as well as on-going maintenance projects with community input and full awareness. Partnering with stakeholders creates opportunities for success.

The Bureau of Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations employs over 530 engineering, professional, administrative, and skilled trades employees in the maintenance and smooth operation of New York City’s elevated infrastructure, and in specialized skilled trades and contract supervision functions. It is composed of seven major sections:

The Flag Engineering section is an engineering group that reviews, routes, and tracks hazardous or potentially hazardous safety and structural conditions (“flags”) in or on the city’s 794 bridges (including 5 tunnels). The Flags staff is on call 24 hours a day to respond to bridge emergencies. The section can be alerted to flag conditions by city and state inspectors and other sources, such as the Communications Center. All conditions undergo an evaluation involving review of the flag report and photographs of the condition, and, if necessary, a visit to the site. Subsequently, a “flag packet” describing the type of repair or response that is required is created and routed to an appropriate group, in-house or contractor, for elimination. The section monitors the status of each flag, reporting on all activities on a monthly basis.

The Bridge Repair section is composed of two major units. Bridge Repair performs repairs to resolve flagged conditions. Flag repairs include structural and safety work, such as the repair of steel members damaged by corrosion or accident impact, the replacement of box beams and bridge railings, the replacement of roadway gratings, repairs to traffic control devices, brick and masonry repairs, concrete deck repairs, and the rebuilding of wooden walkways. Much of this work is performed in the off-hours, either to accommodate traffic or in response to emergencies.

This section also rehabilitates and replaces damaged, worn, or defective components whose failure can affect service. This type of work, known as corrective repair, primarily involves the electrical, mechanical and operational control systems for the twenty-four movable bridges, as well as the travelers (movable underdeck access platforms) on the four East River bridges. The Bridge Repair Section is also responsible for the lubrication of the movable bridges as well as the mechanical components and the main cables of the East River bridges.

The East River and Movable Bridges Preventive Maintenance unit administers federal funds for selected preventive maintenance activities on the East River and movable bridges. This unit is
also responsible for highly specialized work such as the lubrication of cables inside anchorages, cleaning and lubrication of solid rod suspender bearings, operation and maintenance of travelling platforms on the East River bridges, and selected projects to replace the wearing surface on suspended spans. Work is performed with a combination of in-house and contracted personnel.

The Preventive Maintenance section is a vital part of the overall bridge program. This section is responsible for functions including debris removal; mechanical sweeping; drain cleaning; and emergency response, such as snow removal, oil/cargo spills, and overpass hits. The section also performs some corrective repair work such as asphalt deck repairs, sidewalk patching, and fence and guide rail repairs. Preventive Maintenance is responsible for conducting the Department's anti-icing operations on the four East River bridges.

The Bridge Inspections and Bridge Management section has performed three essential functions since its establishment: Bridge Inspections, Bridge Management, and Research and Development. In 2016, the Section developed the new capability to perform In-Depth Inspections.

The Inspections Unit inspects the city's bridges in accordance with state and federal standards; monitors bridge conditions with a high hazard potential, such as temporary repairs, outstanding flags, and fire hazards; responds to emergency inspection requests from NYCDOT and external sources; recommends repairs and remedial measures for hazardous conditions; generates flag and inspection reports for the Division; engages in special programs such as non-destructive monitoring of sensitive bridge components by advanced techniques; supervises inspections by consultants working for the Division; conducts inspections and inventories of expansion joints; and inspects non-structural cladding. In 2016, the inventory of bridges exclusively inspected by the Unit was increased by several structures owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

In-Depth Inspections are more detailed in scope than the federally-mandated biennial and interim inspections. Their findings can be used for advanced structural analysis, ultimately resulting in a legally binding load-rating of the structure. In 2016, two in-depth inspections teams were staffed and fully equipped. To that end, the Bridge Management Unit acquired a LIDAR high-definition laser scanning system. The system supplements In-Depth Inspection reports with high-precision 3-D laser scans of bridges. The scans can be used to verify existing drawings or provide as-built drawings where none currently exist. Once the scans are processed, 3D CAD models can be generated. The 3D models can then provide cross sectional details, accurate vertical clearance measurements or even before and after scans for bridges that are frequently damaged by impacts from trucks. The first in-depth inspection reports have already been transmitted to the Load Rating Unit within the Bureau of Engineering Review and Support.

The Bridge Management Unit develops and maintains the database for the City's bridge inventory, condition ratings, and inspection information. The unit is also responsible for maintaining records of privately-owned bridges in the City. The database is the source of information used in a variety of reports, including the present Bridges and Tunnels Annual Condition Report. This unit uses the bridge and span condition database to determine current and future needs for bridge rehabilitation, bridge component rehabilitation, flag forecasting, inspections and monitorings.

This Section is also responsible for investigating new materials and methods to improve existing bridge conditions. It sponsors a series of lectures by experts on subjects relevant to design, construction, and maintenance, such as seismic retrofitting of bridges, salt substitutes, cathodic protection against corrosion, concrete patching materials, new paint strategies, non-destructive bridge testing, and deck resurfacing. The unit also participates in research programs with interested transportation and infrastructure entities. In conjunction with the Port Authority, MTA Bridges and Tunnels, and NYS Bridge Authorities, it sponsored a report on suspension bridge cables that led to a federal project for the entire United States. A number of articles on bridge management are published by the unit in technical journals in the United States, Japan, France,
and elsewhere. This section created the system for generating bridge inspection reports with portable computers; a similar system is now being adopted by the NYSDOT.

**Bridge and Tunnel Operations** is responsible for operating the 24 City-owned movable bridges that span city waterways. This section operates under a variety of federal mandates that call for 24-hour coverage at many locations; its mission is to provide safe and expedient passage to all marine and vehicular traffic under and on movable bridges. In calendar year 2016, Bridge Operations effected a total of 5,485 openings, 4,636 of which allowed 8,103 vessels to pass beneath the bridges. The remaining 849 openings were for operational and maintenance testing. The section also operates the city’s five mechanically-ventilated tunnels, performing electrical maintenance and arranging for roadway cleaning.

The **Bridge Painting** section’s function is to maintain the protective coating of the City’s bridges. The section is divided into two programs, the in-house (expense) program and the capital program. The capital program oversees total paint removal and repainting, performed by contractors; this is done at twelve-year intervals on bridges measuring more than 100,000 square feet of painted area, and bridges over railroads. In-house personnel provide the inspection services on East River Bridge preventive maintenance contracts for quality control purposes. The in-house program is responsible for full steel painting of bridges measuring less than 100,000 square feet, and bridges that are not over railroads. This includes local surface preparation of deteriorated areas and overcoating of the entire bridge. In addition, the in-house program is responsible for salt splash/spot painting.

Salt splash/spot painting is performed four years after full steel painting, and again four years later. After another four years, we once again perform full steel painting. The interval between full steel applications remains twelve years.

Members of the in-house program respond to emergency flag repairs alongside the in-house repair forces, to perform surface preparation prior to, and painting upon completion of, the steel work. In-house painting personnel also perform environmental clean-up after the iron workers finish their repair work.

The engineers and inspectors of the **When and Where Unit** supervise the contractors’ repairs of structural and safety flags citywide under both marine and general repair contracts, as well as a capital contract. The use of these contracts allows the unit greater flexibility in deploying the contractors’ resources as necessary, and in obtaining a variety of construction equipment and materials that are not readily available to in-house forces. In addition, the unit responds to bridge emergencies during both working and off-hours, providing on-site inspection to verify field conditions, taking measurements for repairs and providing emergency lane closures. Some of the repair work is performed during night hours to reduce the impact on traffic and on public safety.

The overall mission of the Bureau of Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations is to maintain the structural integrity of elevated structures and tunnels and to prolong their life by slowing the rate of deterioration. While our objective may be seen as “maintaining the status quo” of the infrastructure, we continue to take a new look at our methods, procedures, and general focus as we formulate our operational plans for the next several years.

As more bridges are rehabilitated, it becomes incumbent upon us to protect the government’s investment in the infrastructure by developing and implementing a more substantive preventive maintenance program to keep these bridges in good condition.

The Deputy Chief Engineer for Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations also acts as the **Deputy Chief Bridge Officer**, assuming the responsibilities of the Chief Bridge Officer in that person’s absence.
The Bureau of Bridge Capital Design & Construction is made up of four major groups:

The **East River and Movable Bridges Group** is responsible for all design and construction activities for all rehabilitation/reconstruction work that is planned, or currently taking place on the four East River Bridges, as well as all City-owned movable bridges and tunnels. This involves overseeing and supervising design consultants who prepare plans and specifications for bridge rehabilitation/reconstruction projects on the four East River Bridges and all Movable Bridges, as well as overseeing and supervising contractors, Resident Engineers and Inspection Consultants, and Construction Support Services Consultants during the construction phase.

This Group consists of two major sections: **East River Bridges**, and **Movable Bridges**. Each of these areas is headed by a Director to whom Section Heads or Engineers-in-Charge report. Each is assigned a specific bridge, or bridges, where they are responsible for all design and construction activities. The Directors, in turn, report to the Deputy Chief Engineer of the Bureau.

The **Roadway Bridges Group** is responsible for both design and construction activities for all rehabilitation/reconstruction work that is planned, or currently taking place on all City-owned, non-movable bridges, with the exception of the four East River Bridges. This involves overseeing and supervising design consultants who prepare plans and specifications for bridge rehabilitation/reconstruction projects, as well as overseeing and supervising contractors, Resident Engineers and Inspection Consultants, and Construction Support Services Consultants during the construction phase.

This Group covers two major geographic areas; **Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges**, and **Bronx, Queens and Staten Island Bridges**. In each geographic area, the workload is divided by Community Board. Engineers-In-Charge report to the Directors of each major area, who, in turn, report to the Deputy Chief Engineer of the Bureau.

**Component Rehabilitation** is the revamping or replacement of damaged, worn or defective bridge components. This type of work is performed primarily on those structures not classified as being “deficient,” but which contain specific components that have low condition ratings. By rehabilitating these components, the Division can ensure that these bridges remain in “good” or “very good” condition; usually extending the bridge’s useful life by up to 10 years. Section Heads or Engineers-in-Charge report to the Director of Component Rehabilitation. Each is assigned a specific bridge, or bridges, for which they are responsible for all component rehabilitation activities. The Component Rehabilitation Program is an ongoing program with cumulative effects. Each Fiscal Year, a number of bridges are selected for inclusion in the program and construction is completed on others. For the ten year period ending fiscal year 2019, the program will obligate approximately $179.1 million.

The **Design-Build/Emergency Contracts Group** provides technical and procurement expertise related to the following areas: preparing Emergency Declarations for unsafe conditions that require immediate remediation; assisting the Chief Bridge Officer in the contractor selection process for declared emergency situations; providing technical expertise related to the development, procurement and administration of Design-Build contracts throughout the various areas of the Division; preparing and administering Design-Build agreements; and supervision of Design-Build project design, construction, and inspection services.

The **Engineering Review and Support Bureau** is responsible for providing Division-wide engineering support services. The following areas make up this Bureau: **In-House Design, Engineering Support, Engineering Review, and Quality Assurance**.

**In-House Design** staff (comprised of the Structural, Electrical, and CADD Groups) prepare plans, specifications, and estimates for bridge rehabilitation/replacement projects that enable the Division to restore bridges considered “structurally deficient,” to a “very good” condition rating. This unit also handles urgent Division projects, as well as special repair projects of the Bureau of
Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations. Over the last 10 years, In-House Design has completed contract documents for the following replacement/rehabilitation/demolition projects: Belt Parkway Bridge over Paerdegat Basin, 145th Street Bridge over Harlem River, Greenpoint Avenue Bridge over Newtown Creek, Bryant Avenue Bridge over Amtrak and CSXT, Henry Hudson Parkway Viaduct over Amtrak from West 72nd Street to West 82nd Street, Henry Hudson Parkway Viaduct over Amtrak from West 94th Street to West 98th Street, and the demolition of the Siah Armajani Lighthouse and Pedestrian Bridge. In-House Design also provided plans, working drawings, and shop drawings for in-house built projects such as the Hamilton Avenue Asphalt Plant conveyor supports, the concrete barrier at Cross Bay Boulevard from the Addabbo Bridge to East 1st Road, the pedestrian fencing at the Navy Street Pedestrian Bridge, and the bridge railing at Van Name Street Bridge. The Section has also developed NYCDOT standard pedestrian fencing drawings for bridges.

The Electrical Group reviews and/or prepares contract documents for the electrical and street lighting work for all projects in the Division’s capital program. They further review plans and specifications prepared by consultants and review test results of electrical systems conducted by vendors on the movable bridges.

The Engineering Support Section is comprised of four units: Specifications, Survey, Records Management, and Special Projects.

The Specifications Unit prepares and reviews contract bid documents and specifications for all Federal and City-funded, private developer, City-let in-house and consultant-designed bridge and various other construction projects, processes the contracts for bidding, after ensuring that they comply with the City, New York State and Federal standards, prepares, reviews, and transmits advertisement packages, addenda, maintains and updates City-let bridge construction boiler plates in compliance with FHWA and NYSDOT Engineering bulletins and instructions, and updates and maintains an inventory of all NYC and NYS special specifications used in bridge and other construction projects. This Unit approves and issues item numbers for newly written special specifications for the city funded projects. In addition, it prepares “Revisions to NYSDOT Standard Specifications” (R-pages), which are compiled from NYSDOT Engineering Bulletins and Engineering Instructions, and reviews contract drawings for compliance with contract bid proposal books.

The Survey Unit performs field surveys and visual inspections of bridges and retaining walls, monitorings of cracks and longitudinal and transverse movements in bridge structures as well as foundation settlement. This unit surveys bridge girder alignments and twisted movements in steel girders and floor beams due to damage by oversized trucks or fires. It also prepares and verifies elevations in the field to find existing vertical clearances of bridge structures.

The Records Management and Electronic Media Unit establishes drafting guidelines for contract plans and digital media standards for the archiving of bridge records. It reviews design, as-built and shop drawings prepared by consulting firms and the in-house design group, in various formats including hardcopy and electronic media such as pdf and CAD files. This unit maintains original plan files, updates the record drawings database and converts original drawings into electronic media in retrievable formats. It also responds to requests received from private companies and public and other agencies for information regarding record drawings of City-owned bridges.

The Special Projects Unit reviews contract bid documents and specifications for public and private agencies to ensure compliance with City, State and Federal standards and guidelines.

The Engineering Review Section consists of eleven units: Structural Review, Retaining Wall, Bridge Hold, Cost Estimate, Other Agency/Private Developer, Scope Development, Overweight Truck Permit, Geotechnical, Land Use Planning, Load Rating, and Utilities.

The Structural Review Unit reviews all City-let bridge construction contract drawings, oversees seismic design requirements for City-let contracts for bridge projects, reviews load rating reports and design calculations and ensures that the work to be performed conforms to NYCDOT requirements. This unit establishes design standards, including seismic requirements.
The Retaining Wall Unit is responsible for inspecting City-owned retaining walls, identifying walls in poor condition, and creating an inventory of all City-owned retaining walls. Retaining walls in poor condition requiring immediate attention are referred to in-house repair staff or When and Where contractors. Data on poorly rated retaining walls are developed into scope packages and forwarded to the New York City Department of Design and Construction for permanent rehabilitation with DOT funding. Walls of questionable ownership are researched for ownership and jurisdiction. A consultant has been assisting the unit in the inspection, condition assessment, temporary repair design, inventorying and budgeting for the permanent rehabilitation of the retaining walls.

The Bridge Hold Unit was established in February 2011, based on OCMC requests to review construction permit applications for any proposed work located within 100 feet of any City-owned bridge structure. The permit applications may also originate from other City agencies, private developers, and utility companies. The Unit reviews the proposed work to ensure that it does not compromise the integrity of the structure and that it is in compliance with Agency requirements. Based on the review’s recommendations, the hold will be released or rejected.

The Cost Estimate Unit reviews and oversees design and construction cost estimates of City projects.

The Other Agency/Private Developer Unit currently provides engineering review supervision of projects from other agencies and private developers such as the Atlantic Yards Project, the Eastside Access Project, the Riverside South Project, the Amtrak Gateway Tunnel project passing under the 11th Avenue viaduct, the Empire Outlet Project in Staten Island, the Hudson Park and Boulevard Project, the Hudson Yards Development Corporation Projects (Related) between 10th Avenue and 11th Avenue and 30th Street and 33rd Street, and the Extell Temporary Access Road. In addition, the unit conducts non-bridge engineering projects, such as the review of large character balloons for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, and art work installations proposed for bridge structures.

The Scope Development Unit reviews inspection reports, as-built drawings, and structural condition ratings, performs field inspection of bridges to develop the scope of work for the rehabilitation of deficient bridges, and initiates the procurement of Design Consultant contracts. The Unit is also responsible for reviewing of quarterly budgetary plans for bridge rehabilitation projects and coordinates these reviews with the Bureau of Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations, and the Capital Procurement and Capital Planning Sections.

In New York City, overweight and over-sized trucks threaten public safety and our transportation infrastructure. The trucks’ longer breaking distances and reduced stability, combined with their greater mass, can lead to severe crashes. Studies have also found that the useful life of pavement can be reduced by up to 25 percent if just one to three percent of trucks are overweight. The Overweight Truck Permit Unit, in coordination with the Division’s Truck Permit Unit, reviews the engineering aspects of overweight and over-dimensional truck and self-propelled crane permit applications, to ensure the safety of City owned bridges. Reviews routes proposed by the truck permit applicants, determines the number of City-owned bridges to be crossed over/under on the route, and determines if the proposed route is acceptable or not, considering the bridges’ condition. Recommends alternate routes if needed. Reviews and recommends load posting signs for City owned bridges. The Unit also reviews resurfacing, snow removal and other heavy equipment permit requests from within the Agency and from other agencies.

The Geotechnical Engineering Unit provides geotechnical-engineering services. This unit reviews bridge rehabilitation/reconstruction project reports, soil investigation/geotechnical foundation reports, City-let bridge construction contract drawings and other agency/private developers’ geotechnical work which impacts City-owned projects.

The Land Use Planning Unit reviews and maintains a database of easement issues, right-of-way, and Uniform Land Use Review Procedures. This unit also reviews Design reports and
Environmental Impact Statements of various other Agency projects with respect to their impact on City-owned bridges.

The Load Rating Unit was established in February 2015. Based on the in-depth inspection data received from the Inspections Unit of the Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations Bureau, this unit performs the load rating analysis and maintains the record of safe load carrying capacity of City owned bridges. This information will be used: to determine which bridges have substandard load capacities that may require posting or other remedial action, to assist in the most effective use of available resources for rehabilitation or replacement, or to assist in the overload permit review process.

The Utilities Unit coordinates all issues related to utility design as they affect City-owned bridge projects and related projects.

The Quality Assurance Section ensures that materials installed for the Bridge Rehabilitation Program meet contractual requirements and are incorporated in strict compliance with plans and specifications. This section operates under its own formulated Quality Assurance Plan that is based on NYSDOT requirements and procedures. Quality Assurance has contractually retained the services of private inspection/testing firms. The provision of services required for various projects is better coordinated through this centralized method, which is also timely and cost effective.

Off-site Quality Assurance services relative to a wide variety of basic and manufactured construction materials including concrete, asphalt, soils, reinforcing steel, bridge bearings, timber, structural steel and precast/prestressed structural components for all bridge projects, irrespective of the funding source, are handled by this section. Through its engineers at bridge construction sites, Quality Assurance ensures that only acceptable materials are incorporated into rehabilitation/reconstruction work in strict accordance with plans, specifications and acceptable construction practice. Current major projects include the Brooklyn Bridge, Belt Parkway Bridge over Gerritsen Basin, Belt Parkway Bridge over Mill Basin, Protection Against Marine Borers, City Island Bridge over Eastchester Bay, Harlem River Drive over East 127th Street Viaduct, Macombs Dam Bridge, Roosevelt Ave Bridge over Van Wyck Expressway, Trans-Manhattan Expressway Connector Ramp, Restoration of the Electrical and Mechanical Systems for 12 Movable Bridges, Westchester Avenue Bridge over Hutchinson River Parkway, Metropolitan Avenue and Fresh Pond Road over LIRR, the rehabilitation/reconstruction of eight culverts, and the Restoration of Tunnel Systems at the Battery Park Underpass and West Street Underpass. In addition, the Section provides services to the Component Rehabilitation Section and the Bridge Painting Section on an as-needed basis.

The Section is currently involved in extending its services for inspection of concrete at batching plants for the Sidewalk and Inspection Management Citywide Concrete Program via its contract with a City-contracted inspection firm.

Through its Environmental Engineering Unit, Quality Assurance also oversees the implementation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement on bridge construction projects involving the removal and disposal of lead-based paint. The unit’s active involvement in training the supervisors and overseeing the abrasive blasting operations has resulted in the successful completion of various paint removal projects. This unit also oversees the proper and safe disposal of other hazardous waste and regulated waste encountered during construction activities.

In addition to enforcing the lead paint removal protocols, the unit manages other environmental concerns. These issues include, but are not limited to, asbestos abatement, soil sampling, groundwater sampling, remediation of contaminated soils and groundwater, worker exposure to environmental contaminants, management of waste oil, storage of hazardous waste, management of storm water runoff, soil erosion controls, management of concrete washout wastewater, site safety, and OSHA compliance. Typically, the unit participates in the design stage to ensure that any environmental issues are addressed during the construction phase of the project. During construction, the unit provides on-site quality assurance oversight and
environmental management to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and contract documents. The role of this unit in ensuring public safety has been recognized and commended by the community.

The unit continues to monitor impacts to the City’s waterways for numerous projects. This includes dredging and dewatering activities, such as the Belt Parkway Bridges project and the reconstruction of the City Island Bridge. This work often includes dewatering of cofferdams and drill casings, dredge spoil dewatering, and treatment of water for discharge to recharge basins or to surface waters. Potential contaminants such as turbidity, pH, and suspended solids are monitored for compliance with regulatory standards.

The unit is responsible for site-specific discharge monitoring in conjunction with the NYS SPDES Discharge Permits for discharges at the Eastern Boulevard Bridge, Hunters Point Avenue Bridge, Greenpoint Avenue Bridge, Cropsey Avenue Bridge, Manhattan Plaza Underpass, Battery Park Underpass, and the Metropolitan Avenue Bridge. The unit continues to provide environmental oversight and compliance on major capital projects such as Macombs Dam Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, Belt Parkway Bridges over Mill Basin and Gerritsen Inlet, the Harlem River Drive over 127th Street Viaduct, as well as the Component Rehabilitation and Roadway Bridge projects.

The unit is currently monitoring completed mitigation projects such as the Floyd Bennett Field Wetland Mitigation and the Wetland Mitigation at Bergen Beach, which were initiated to compensate for disturbance of wetlands during construction activities such as at the Belt Parkway bridges. Wetland mitigation projects were also completed at Turtle Cove in the Bronx as part of the City Island Bridge Reconstruction project. Future wetland mitigation will take place as part of the Unionport Bridge reconstruction in the Bronx and the culvert reconstruction projects on Staten Island.

The unit also oversees and provides quality assurance management of field coating application on bridge construction and maintenance projects. These responsibilities oversee quality of materials and equipment being used on projects and provide inspection oversight to ensure that proper SSPC or NACE steel cleaning and painting guidelines and standards are followed.

The Bureau of Management and Support Services provides essential administrative and analytic services to each of the operational bureaus of the Division of Bridges. The Bureau is divided into six primary sections: Office of the Executive Director, Administration and Finance, Project Delivery, Capital Procurement, Capital Coordination, and the Truck Permit Unit. Each highly-specialized section is designed to address those issues and requirements that are critical to the operation of the respective Bureaus within the Division.

In addition to the Division-wide responsibility for conflict resolution, Equal Employment Opportunity enforcement, confidential investigations, Bridges’ litigation claims, 311 Siebel complaints, Bridges’ Engineering Service Agreements, space allocation, and special projects, the Executive Director oversees, on an executive level, the following areas and functions:

The Senior Director of the Administration and Finance Section oversees and administers all administrative/personnel-related functions for the Division, acting as a liaison with the Central Personnel Coordinator in NYCDOT Personnel including, but not limited to, recruiting for vacancies (this includes reviewing for completeness and submitting the necessary paperwork, and reviewing and distributing candidates’ resumes); maintaining all Managerial Position Descriptions; maintaining all Division organization charts; scheduling training; confidential investigations; maintaining records of IFA-funded positions; initiating and assisting in resolving disciplinary/grievance actions; serving as Conflicts of Interest and Financial Disclosure Officer; collecting and reviewing managerial and non-managerial performance evaluations; absence control; providing interpretive advice to Division management regarding City and Agency policy and procedures; and overseeing telephone and facility-related issues for personnel located at 55 Water Street and 59 Maiden Lane in Manhattan.
The Senior Director of the Administration and Finance Section also oversees the following three units:

The **Analytic Unit** prepares comprehensive bi-weekly and monthly reports that address major issues confronting the Division; compiles statistical data detailing the Division’s productivity; processes and monitors all FOIL requests; frames issues in which oversight assistance is required for use by the Division, NYCDOT Executive Management and the Mayor’s Office; and prepares the City Charter-mandated *Bridges and Tunnels Annual Condition Report.*

The **Vehicle Coordination Unit** tracks the placement and condition of all vehicles under the jurisdiction of Bridges. It maintains a database and prepares reports containing this information; provides information and reports to appropriate inquiring Divisions and Agencies such as the Auditor General’s Office, NYCDOT Legal Department and NYCDOT Litigation Support Services; coordinates the assignments of vehicles and their movement throughout various borough field locations and job sites; prepares reports on Vehicle Status and replacement; prepares reports for the purpose of tracking Overnight Vehicle Assignments for all Division vehicles; receives and routes vehicle Accident Reports, Police Reports and Security Incident Reports relating to vehicle accident, theft and/or vandalism; coordinates priorities for vehicle and equipment repair with Fleet Services; prepares reports and memoranda regarding vehicle safety issues and communication procedures for the NYCDOT Communication Center; and collects required documentation from field personnel for checking Driver Certifications with the Department of Motor Vehicles and EZ Pass.

The **Finance Unit** oversees the Division's entire expense budget process including, but not limited to, base-line preparation, spending plans, overtime control, financial plan changes, and budget modifications. The unit further oversees all Division-wide fiscal activities, including the establishment and monitoring of all IFA-related project budgets, while simultaneously ensuring that the budget and plans represent the Division's priorities.

The **Senior Director of the Capital Coordination Section** is responsible for preparing, coordinating and updating the capital budget and capital program initiative within the Division of Bridges. Currently, the Division’s Ten Year Capital Plan is worth approximately $8.6 billion. This plan is designed to rehabilitate the City's bridges. Responsibilities include: administering and participating in the development and implementation of planning capital projects; acting as liaison with oversight agencies, DOT Administration and all responsibility centers within Bridges; reviewing and processing transfer of fund requests in an attempt to resolve funding issues; and maintaining the Division’s registration report for all current year capital contracts. In addition, this section coordinates the Division’s submission of Initial Financial Plans, Annual Financial Plan and Construction Management Plans prepared by Project Managers that must be submitted to the Office of Finance, Contracts & Program Management.

The Senior Director of the Capital Coordination Section also oversees the following three units:

The **Project Delivery Section** monitors and collects data for all current and future capital Bridge projects from the identification and initiation phase through design and construction completion. The unit serves as a liaison with internal Agency divisions, sharing project schedule data related to procurement registration, Capital Commitment Plan forecasts, and project status.

The **Capital Consultant Section** serves as a liaison between the Division of Bridges and the Office of the Agency Chief Contracting Officer, other Agency Divisions, and the various consulting firms involved with the procurement process. The duties of this unit include: overseeing the Division’s capital consultant contract procurement from scope to registration and preparing status reports. Certificates to Proceed [CPs] are a critical component for the registration of any Construction, Consultant Programs, Force Account, Change Order and Engineering Service Agreement and assigned ESA tasks. Coordinating the submission of New and Revised Certificates to Proceed for submission to the Capital Budget is overseen by this Unit.

The **Capital Contract Change Order and Force Account Section** serves as a liaison between the Division of Bridges and the Office of the Agency Chief Contracting Officer, other Agency Divisions, the public and private railroads; processes the Division’s change orders through
registration, and coordinates Railroad Force Account Agreements and railroad invoice payments for Division construction projects.

*Railroad Force Account Agreements* are a vital component in the rehabilitation/reconstruction program since train traffic affects 318 (40%) of City-owned bridges. The Railroad Coordinator provides a single point of contact for all railroad issues. The coordinator informs managers of “typical” railroad problems and attempts to avoid them through proactive measures. Upon registration of the railroad force account contracts between the City of New York and the respective railroad, Notices to Proceed [NTPs] are issued, and invoices are generated. The invoices, once approved by the engineers for the railroad and the corresponding DOT Project Manager, are sent to the Railroad Coordinator for processing and actual payment by the New York City Comptroller’s Office.

Due to the nature of bridge construction projects, change order work is often on the critical path. Any delay in the issuance of a change order affects the overall project, and adds substantial overruns to the final cost. A tracking process for change orders has been implemented that significantly reduces the time for the approval process.

The *Truck Permit Section* issues approximately 1,000 Annual Overweight Load Permits (mostly renewals), and approximately 49,000 Daily Oversize/Over-dimensional/OD permits (including OD permits for film production vehicles and Supersize Truck Permits), and 250 Annual Self Propelled Crane Permits, all in accordance with the New York City Department of Transportation Policy and Procedures and the New York City Traffic Rules and Regulations section 4-15.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS

Bridge Capital Design & Construction

   East River Bridges

   Movable Bridges

Roadway Bridges

   Brooklyn and Manhattan Roadway Bridges
   Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island Roadway Bridges

Design-Build/Emergency Contracts

Component Rehabilitation

Engineering Review & Support

   In-House Design

   Engineering Support

   Engineering Review

   Quality Assurance

Bridge Maintenance, Inspections & Operations
East River Bridges

BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Arguably the most influential bridge in American history, the Brooklyn Bridge remains one of New York City’s most celebrated architectural wonders. Designed by the brilliant engineer John Augustus Roebling, and completed by his equally ingenious son Washington Roebling and daughter-in-law Emily Roebling, this elegant structure was, at the time of its completion in 1883, the longest suspension bridge in the world. The bridge remains the iconic representative of the hybrid suspension/stay system worldwide. It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1967.

From one end to the other, the Brooklyn Bridge measures 6,016 feet, including approaches. The bridge has a 1,595.5-foot long main span and 933-foot long side spans. Both the Manhattan and Brooklyn approaches consist mostly of masonry arches and a few simple span steel structures, and are an integral part of the bridge. In early 1950, to reduce congestion, and to improve traffic flow, a system of elevated ramps (Ramps A to J) was constructed at the Manhattan side, connecting the bridge to the FDR and local streets. Additional approach ramps to the FDR Drive opened to traffic in 1969. The bridge supports six lanes of H15 vehicular traffic, with a walkway/bikeway promenade situated at the middle of the bridge. On a weekday, the Brooklyn Bridge carries some 102,219 vehicles, 3,640 bicyclists, and 10,000 pedestrians. The $936 million reconstruction commenced in 1980 with Contract #1, and continued with Contract #6, which was substantially completed on January 5, 2017. This contract included the rehabilitation of both approaches and ramps, the painting of the entire bridge, as well as the seismic retrofitting of the structural elements that are within the Contract #6 project limits.

Work completed on the bridge to date includes reconditioning of the main cables, replacement of the suspenders and cable stays, rehabilitation of the stiffening trusses, and the replacement of the suspended spans deck and the four travelers.

Contract #6

A Notice to Proceed for this $508 million project was issued to the contractor with a start date of January 19, 2010. The ramps and approaches to the Brooklyn Bridge were in need of rehabilitation and repair, to improve safety and reduce congestion along both the Brooklyn-side and Manhattan-side approaches, particularly from the FDR Drive. With stimulus money from the federal government’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the ramps in Brooklyn and Manhattan were rehabilitated and widened and the entire bridge was repainted to prevent steel corrosion on the structure.

The approach roadway to the Brooklyn Bridge was aging, with a failed membrane system and deteriorated closure walls. The existing roadway pavement above the historic arch blocks and masonry structures was rehabilitated. A precast concrete roadway slab was installed in segments, over sprayed-on waterproofing membrane. Rusted historic railings at Franklin Square, York, and Main Street structures, some from the original bridge construction, were refurbished and reinstalled. The existing ramp from the FDR southbound roadway was widened from one to two lanes to reduce bottlenecks and pinch points in traffic flow. All steel structures, including the
ramp structures and the main span, were painted, restoring them to the Brooklyn Bridge Tan color, as chosen by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

On all the bridge approach structures on both the Manhattan and Brooklyn sides, the existing deck was removed by lifting out sections and replacing them panel by panel with precast concrete-filled steel grid deck panels. This approach greatly reduced noise from drilling and jackhammers, and also increased the reliability of the start and end times of construction activities every night.

Painting work, to prevent steel corrosion and improve aesthetics, occurred in negative-pressure containment units that progressed along the bridge structure. All three Brooklyn-bound travel lanes were maintained during the course of this work, and painting took approximately six years to complete. Equipment was placed underneath the FDR Drive, and on land abutting the Brooklyn tower. Dust collection, vacuum and recycle units were employed to minimize environmental air quality risks, and there has been continuous air and noise monitoring during operations. All painting work has been conducted in accordance to the US Environmental Protection Act and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation requirements. Noise generated by these units conformed to the NYC Noise Code standards adopted in 2007.

In order to facilitate the reconstruction and associated painting work, the contractor mobilized in the area known as the Brooklyn Banks and Red Brick Park, between Pearl Street and Park Row on the north side of the Manhattan approach of the Brooklyn Bridge. The area was closed to the public starting June 2, 2010. The security plan for this area required that the Red Brick area be completely closed to the public for the duration of adjacent work. Pedestrian access between Pearl Street and the Rose Street/City Hall area was maintained through a walkway adjacent to the banks along Avenue of the Finest.

On the Brooklyn side, two lanes of free-flowing traffic were created at the Cadman Plaza exit, and approach roadways were rehabilitated to replace the membrane system and deteriorated closure
walls. On the Manhattan side, rusted railings and safety barriers were replaced, and two lanes of free-flowing traffic were created from the southbound FDR Drive onto the Brooklyn Bridge.

The contract allowed for 24 full weekend closures over the duration of the contract; however, the contract also contains clauses that encourage fewer weekend closures with monetary compensation. Although the promenade remained open, there were sections immediately over the painting area, which were narrowed by a foot on each side to facilitate work.

In 2010, after mobilization, the contractor started work on the ramp foundation; installed protective shielding under the Brooklyn main and Brooklyn side spans, the Franklin Square structure, and some of the Manhattan ramps; installed vertical walls at both sides of the Brooklyn and Manhattan-bound roadways at the Brooklyn main and Brooklyn side spans; began the set-up of the containment for the lead paint removal at all of these locations; and proceeded with blasting and painting activities. Other activities included detailed surveying, installation of super slabs and the fabrication of precast members.

Lead paint removal operations were conducted in a Class 1A containment unit. Rigid containment walls, HEPA filters, and negative air pressure were used to prevent material release. Ambient air quality readings were conducted during lead paint abatement work. Airborne lead levels were continuously monitored using high-volume total suspended particulate samplers at multiple locations in Brooklyn and Manhattan. Additional in-depth testing for volatile organic compounds was conducted at five locations in the summer of 2011.

In March 2012, airborne particulate samples were collected in accordance with regulatory guidelines, at locations where dust was most likely to be deposited during dust-generating activities. Additional tests were replicated in June 2012 for respirable silica, suspended particulates and asbestos. All results were acceptable according to standards set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the American Conference of Industrial Hygienists.

In 2011, painting was completed at the Franklin Square structure and continued at the Manhattan ramps and Brooklyn main and Brooklyn side spans with continuous installation of protective shielding and containment. Painting of the truss top struts was also started at the Brooklyn-bound Manhattan side span. The following construction work was started in 2011: on the Manhattan approach, activities included Brooklyn-bound roadway removal, waterproofing and
super slab installation, Franklin Square floor beam replacement, south cantilever beam excavation and repair, and arch block strengthening. On the Manhattan ramps, work included bearing replacement, widening, and deck replacement, and fascia removal. Asbestos abatement work took place in the Brooklyn maintenance shop. Electrical work was also in progress with activities that included light pole and abandoned equipment removal, temporary lightning installation, and temporary power provisions. Other activities included detailed surveying, testing and repairing of dry-standpipe system, fabrication of precast and steel members.

In 2012, work continued on the Manhattan side of the bridge, including deck replacement on ramps and the south cantilever, super-slab installation and arch block strengthening. Painting under the Brooklyn main and side spans was completed, as well as the top struts along the Brooklyn-bound roadway. Painting of the Manhattan main and side spans started in 2012 and continued through 2013.

In Brooklyn, new shielding was installed under the Prospect and Washington Street structure in anticipation of deck removal. In addition, preparatory work was ongoing for superstructure replacement of the York and Main Street structures.

Asbestos abatement was completed in the Brooklyn maintenance shop and was in progress in the Manhattan arch blocks. By the end of 2012, 321 bearings were replaced under the Manhattan ramps and the flag repairs on the suspended spans were in progress.

In 2013, lead-based paint removal and new coating applications were completed on the Manhattan main and side spans including all four stiffening trusses, the under-deck system, and the promenade. The main bridge vertical protective shield systems were removed. Painting of the main cables, suspender cables and overhead struts continued and was approximately 60% complete. In addition to the Main Bridge painting, paint removal and coating application continues on the Manhattan side ramps and was also approximately 70% complete.
2013 saw significant progress for structural rehabilitation work, which included: completion of the Brooklyn-bound orthotropic deck panel installation at the Franklin Square Structure; the installation of the new concrete-filled grid deck systems at the outbound York Street, Main Street and Park Row structures as well as Prospect Street, Washington Street and the maintenance shop deck systems for both inbound and outbound directions. Concrete-filled grid deck installation for the inbound York Street, Main Street, North Cantilever and Franklin Square structures was begun. The approach super slab installation was completed in the outbound direction and was about 20% complete inbound. The main bridge structural steel flag repairs continued to be identified by biennial and special inspections.

In 2013 three significant traffic improvements were implemented that changed exits from one-lane exit to two-lane exits, thereby reducing queuing-related congestion. In May 2013, key access ramps to and from the Brooklyn Bridge and the FDR Drive were expanded. Each of the two enhanced ramps now accommodates two traffic lanes and simplifies traffic patterns, easing notorious traffic bottlenecks for many of the 102,219 vehicles that cross the bridge daily as the bridge rehabilitation continues. The first ramp, connecting the exit from the bridge’s Manhattan-bound lanes with the FDR Drive, was expanded from one to two lanes, easing backups that often extend across the bridge. The second ramp, connecting the southbound FDR Drive with the approach to the bridge’s Brooklyn-bound lanes, was also expanded from one to two lanes, easing congestion and reducing the impact of cars that aggressively cut into the queue of cars at the entrance to the ramp. The work on a third ramp, connecting the bridge’s Brooklyn-bound lanes to Cadman Plaza West and Old Fulton Street in Brooklyn Heights, which was also expanded to two travel lanes, was completed in September 2013.

Noise monitoring and mitigation efforts continued for all night-time project operations with ongoing community and sensitive receptor coordination.
In 2014, lead-based paint removal and new coating applications were completed at the Manhattan ramps and approach structures. Subsequently, primary protective shield removal commenced at the Manhattan ramps and is in progress. Painting of the overhead struts and promenade approach railing was completed, while painting of the main cables and suspender cables continues and is at approximately 80% complete. Additionally, abrasive blast cleaning and painting began at the Brooklyn approach structures, with a portion of the Prospect Street structure completed.


In response to residents’ concerns about airborne silica, a type of dust that is emitted during concrete demolition operations, the project team conducted a series of tests to monitor the levels of this substance in the air in January 2014. In addition to three types of silica, the tests also monitored for general respirable dust. Monitors were placed in four locations near concrete demolition operations occurring at the Main Street and York Street structures on the Brooklyn approach. Two monitors were placed within 50 feet of the construction activities themselves, one was placed at ground level north of the activity, and another placed directly in front of a residential building just south of the work. Analysis was undertaken by the project’s environmental experts using procedures established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH). All results were well below the permissible exposure levels as established by the NYS Department of Labor Public Employee Safety and Health and threshold limit values established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygenists.
2015 saw the completion of the majority of the painting portion of Contract #6. The contractor finished the abrasive blast cleaning and painting of all the structural steel at the Prospect Street, Washington Street, and Sands Street Structures, as well as the promenade support steel at the York Street and Main Street Structures at the Brooklyn Approach, in addition to completing the coat application at the main cables and suspender ropes throughout the suspended spans. Steel repair painting, both for contract repairs and incidental and flag repairs, progressed systematically throughout the suspended spans as well as the Franklin Square and Park Row Structures at the Manhattan Approach. Touch-up painting of the completed suspended spans and approach ramps and structures continued to the end of the painting season.

Significant portions of the structural rehabilitation of the bridge were completed during 2014. Orthotropic deck panels were installed at the inbound Franklin Square Structure, and were aligned and welded in place. Replacement of the superstructure and installation of concrete-filled grid deck panels was completed for the inbound York Street and Main Street structures. New concrete-filled grid-deck panel installation was completed for the Sands Street structure in both directions as well as at the inbound Park Row structure. Approach SuperSlab installation is complete at both inbound approaches. Asphalt paving and road striping is complete at both inbound and outbound approaches, leaving only the outbound Cadman Plaza exit. Bearing replacement continued at the Brooklyn approach structures, with 652 of 666 bearings replaced by the end of 2015. Several operations still remain in Manhattan: these include the remaining installation of super slabs on the Manhattan-bound roadway, grid deck installation at the Park Row structure, and pier replacement at Ramp C. The latter two operations continued through the end of 2015.

Beginning on March 26, 2015, and lasting through December, 2015 the Brooklyn Bridge promenade was reduced in width for pedestrians and cyclists at various locations. This closure was necessary to perform steel improvements at tower locations as well as structural joint repair on the Brooklyn and Manhattan Approaches. At the towers, the work zone was in effect continuously during this period. Pedestrians and cyclists were directed to cautiously share the narrowed pathway.

Brooklyn Bridge Promenade. Narrowed Path in April 2015. Trolley on Brooklyn Bridge, Circa 1907. (Credit: Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Reproduction #LC-DIG-ds-00182 (digital file from original item) LC-USZ62-69823 (b&w film copy neg.).)

Structural repairs continued to be identified by biennial inspections and the construction consultants. Repair work is nearly complete and removal of the underdeck shield system commenced in 2016. Over 5,000 incidental steel defects were identified that could not be anticipated prior to the removal of the existing paint. Approximately 4,050 of them have been corrected to date. Not all of the identified steel repairs will be completed in this contract. Multiple unforeseen factors have served as major obstacles, including the discovery of additional deterioration of bridge elements, discovery of a former trolley structure thought to be removed over 50 years ago, the cancellation of full weekend closures due to additional citywide events, and the Superstorm Sandy construction embargo.

Steel Repair Process: Although Deteriorated Steel is Often Apparent Right Away, Many More Instances are Encountered Only After Removing the Paint. In Some Cases the Location of Deterioration is Painted Along With The Healthy Steel and its Location is Documented for Later Repair. Iron Workers Then Return to Those Locations and Replace the Deteriorated Sections With New Steel. The New Steel is Then Painted Over Again for the Final Protective Coating.
Drumgoole Park, a public park located on Frankfort Street between Park Row and Gold Street was reopened to the public as of October 6, 2015. The park was closed because of its proximity to rehabilitation work being performed on the Brooklyn Bridge.


2016 saw the completion of Ramp C masonry pier replacements and the reopening of the Manhattan waterfront esplanade. Bearing installations were completed as well as concrete barrier installation and paving of Ramp I and Exit Road F/FS. In addition, 2016 saw the commencement of the Brooklyn tower fender system reconstruction and the restoration of the Manhattan parking lots. The project was substantially completed on January 5, 2017.

February 2016: Franklin Square Structure. (Franklin Credit: Maria Mikolajczyk) Diver Geared up for Underwater Repairs to Steel Sheet Piling at Fender System. Divers About to Descend. March 2016: Driving Steel Sheet Piling at the Fender System. Steel Sheet and Braces in Place for Cofferdam Reconstruction at Fender System. Installation of Bored-In Piles at Ramp C Pier Replacement. May 2016: Waterproof Concrete Placement at Fender System Cofferdams. View of Ramp C Piers from Brooklyn Shore.

Resident Engineer Anthony Grosso Leads an FHWA Tour of the Main Bridge Steel Repairs in June 2016. Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer on the Bridge Cable in August 2016. Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer, Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, and Deputy Director of In-House Painting Earlene Powell at the Bridge Tower Top. (Credit: Bonny Tsang)

On September 8, 2016, a Guy-Wire Connected to a Street Lamp Over the Brooklyn-bound Traffic Snapped Under the Weight of the “Love Locks” Clipped to it, Shutting Down a Lane for Two Hours While Repairs were Performed. In October 2016, the Division Posted 16 Signs on the Lampposts and Along the Walkway Warning Lovers That Attaching “Love Locks” Onto the Bridge Could Leave Them Facing a $100 Fine. The Locks Pose a Danger to the Infrastructure and the Cars on the Brooklyn Bridge – More Than 34,200 Locks Were Removed Since the Division Began Keeping Count in 2013. 2,923 Love Locks Were Removed From the Bridge From January through April 2016, and Another 3,072 Between September and November 2016. October 2016: View of Ramp C Piers from Brooklyn Bridge. November 2016: Asphalt Placement at Fender System.
Contract #6A

The contract will rehabilitate the stone walls at the approach spans and ramps. The areas on the Manhattan approach are Ramps C, D, F, G, H, and I, and the Park Row Walls. The areas on the Brooklyn approach are York Street, Main Street, Prospect Street, Washington Street, and Sands Street.

The masonry façade at the east abutment of Prospect Street under the Brooklyn approach suddenly collapsed in July of 2014. Immediate measures were taken to inspect and evaluate the collapse. All additional loose masonry cladding was removed from the abutment wall, including a portion of the wingwall. The remainder of the east wingwalls were found to be in good condition, but based on the condition of the east wall, the decision was made to secure the masonry to the existing walls. The condition of the Washington Street abutment façade was assumed to be similar to Prospect Street and a decision was made to remove the portions of the masonry cladded walls below the bridge seat and along the sidewalks. All of the loose and unsecured stone was removed to a staging area for possible reinstallation.
The scope of work for this project will include: Manhattan Approaches (Ramps C, D, F, G, H, and I) - the removal and replacement of masonry cladding at the walls and abutments including the removal and resetting of capstones; the removal and replacement of sidewalks along the walls; the repair of spalls on the walls as necessary; Park Row Walls - the replacement of the masonry stones wall façade at the west abutment; the repair of spalls on the walls as necessary; the repointing of the masonry stones at the east abutment; cleaning, repointing and anchoring of the masonry stones at the northwest and southwest wingwalls; Prospect Street - the replacement of the masonry stones at the wall façade at the east abutment; repointing of the masonry stones at the west abutment; the removal and replacement of the masonry stones at the southeast wingwall as required with remaining areas to be anchored; the repair of spalls on the walls as necessary; Washington Street - the replacement of the masonry stones at the wall façade at the east and west abutments; cleaning and repointing of the masonry stones at the round column and cross girder on the north side of the west abutment; cleaning, repointing and anchoring of the masonry stones at the northeast and southwest wingwalls; the repair of the spalls on the walls as necessary; replacement of windows with double hung aluminum frames and iron bars security guards; installation of roll-up door and two doors on the abutment; Sands Street - anchoring of masonry stones at the north wall adjacent to the structure.

During the design phase, the original stone quarry from the 1800’s that sourced granite for the original construction was located and was confirmed as remaining in operation. Where possible all existing granite will be reused and where new granite is needed, as much as possible it will be sourced from this quarry. The estimated construction start date is summer 2017.

**Contract #7**

The scope of work for Contract #7 includes the rehabilitation of the approach arches, towers and ramp structures on the Brooklyn Bridge. The work is currently estimated to begin in mid-2019.

The Manhattan Approach is a continuous arch masonry structure consisting of brick, granite, limestone and infill concrete. The arches run between the Manhattan Anchorage at the east and Park Row at the west, and have been grouped into Blocks A to E. The Manhattan Approach arches carry six lanes of traffic and the promenade for pedestrians and bicyclists. During the construction contract #6, a waterproofing membrane has been installed beneath the new roadway deck, which appears to have arrested the water infiltration into the arch block walls.

The Brooklyn Approach is similar in construction to the Manhattan Approach except for the irregular geometry due to the local streets and Brooklyn Queens Expressway intersecting in highly skewed angles. The approach consists of three groups of brick arches with stone masonry facades. The group of arches called Block I, with individual arch spans of about 30 feet, extends between the Brooklyn Anchorage and the York Street Bridge, which spans the Brooklyn Queens Expressway. Block II, with individual spans of about 25 feet, extends between York Street and Main Street. Block III extends between Main Street and Prospect Street.
Manhattan Approach: Arch Blocks E, D, Rose Street Structure, and Vandewater Street Arch.

Brooklyn Approach: Arch Blocks I, II, and III.

The current project (Contract #7) is needed to correct structural deficiencies related to the substructures of the bridge, including the masonry approaches, towers and approach ramps. Specifically, the project will address the rehabilitation of the interior brick walls, floors, foundations and granite façade of the masonry arches of the Manhattan Masonry Approach, as well as the
brick infill walls of the granite façade arches. Similarly, the project will address rehabilitation of the masonry towers and substructure strengthening of the Approach Ramps to correct existing structural deficiencies. On the Brooklyn Masonry Approach, the project will address rehabilitation of the granite masonry infill walls and facades as well as rehabilitation of the Washington Street abutment. Finally, the project also includes the rehabilitation of a few suspended span components such as the roadway expansion joints, and footpath widening.

The Brooklyn Bridge is one of New York City's most popular tourist destinations, as well as a major transportation corridor. The existing promenade, shared by pedestrians and cyclists, is narrow and heavily crowded with tourists and mobile vendors vying for space with commuters and recreational users. The promenade, which was part of the original bridge, narrows to just 10 feet across in places from 17 feet at its widest point. In August 2016, the Agency’s Transportation Planning and Management Division began a seven-month $370,000 engineering study to assess how much weight the bridge can carry and consider options for expansion, such as the structural feasibility of constructing additional space above the roadways on the existing truss system. The goals of the study are to relieve overcrowding, enhance the visitor experience, and to greatly reduce conflicts between and improve safety of cyclists, pedestrians, and visitors on the promenade.

MANHATTAN BRIDGE

The youngest of the three NYCDOT suspension bridges that traverse the East River, the Manhattan Bridge carries some 483,249 commuters – 87,046 vehicles, 6,203 bicyclists, and 390,000 mass transit riders - between Manhattan and Brooklyn daily. It connects Canal Street in Manhattan to Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn. The bridge’s total length is 5,780 feet long abutment to abutment at the lower level, and 6,090 feet on the upper roadways portal to portal; its main span length is 1,470 feet and each of its four cables is 3,224 feet long. There are 7 spans in the Manhattan approach, three suspended spans and 7 spans in the Brooklyn approach. It was designed by Leon Moissett and first opened in 1909. The bridge supports seven lanes of vehicular traffic, a Class 1 bikeway, a walkway, as well as four transit tracks upon which four different subway train lines operate. The Manhattan entrance to the bridge is distinguished by an elaborate arch and colonnade (which was designated a City Landmark in 1975), designed by the architectural team of Carrère and Hastings, who also designed the main branch of the New York Public Library.
Manhattan Bridge in 2014 and 2016. (Credit: NYSDOT) Brain Tolle Designed Small Replicas of the “Miss Brooklyn” and “Miss Manhattan” Statues That Stood at Brooklyn Approach to the Manhattan Bridge Until the 1960’s. The Statues Were Installed at the Flatbush Avenue Extension and Tillary Street in Late December 2016. The Resin Statues Rotate on Two Lamppost-Like Arms and are Illuminated From Within at Night. They are Set Back From the Entrance to the Bridge. This Project was Part of the Percent for Art Program. (Credit: Wendy Feuer)

The $900.52 million reconstruction program commenced in 1982 with Contract #1, and will continue with Contract #15 for structural and component rehabilitation. Work completed on the bridge to date includes reconstruction of the south and north upper roadways, re-anchoring the north interior main cable, reconstruction of the north and south subway lines, installation of a truss stiffening system to reduce twisting, restoration of the Manhattan Plaza, including the historic arch and colonnades, reconstruction of the south walkway, installation of a new north bikeway, replacement of the lower roadway, rehabilitation of the Brooklyn Plaza, rehabilitation of the existing main cables with new wire wrapping and a neoprene barrier to insulate from weather, and replacement of the vertical suspenders.

January 2016: Commissioner Polly Trottenberg Thanking Division Staff Clearing the Bridge After Storm Jonas. Commissioner Polly Trottenberg on October 28, 2016 at the Manhattan Bridge – She Joined the DOT and NYPD Street Teams Engaged in a Citywide “Day of Awareness,” Distributing Palm Cards to Educate Drivers and Other New Yorkers at High-Priority Vision Zero Target Areas. Commissioner Polly Trottenberg With the Bridges Team: Highway Repairer Jonathan Adorno, Assistant City Highway Repairers Howard Francis, and Johnny Segure, Supervisor Highway Repairer Salvatore Mazzatenda, and Assistant City Highway Repairer Erick Benitez. December 2016: - After Biking Over the Manhattan Bridge, Commissioner Polly Trottenberg Thanked Highway Repairers Jonathan Adorno and Crystal Hawkins Removing Debris From the Bicycle Path.
The scope of work for the upcoming structural and component rehabilitation will include: replacement of the south fascia railing and fencing; replacement of the finger joints in the south upper roadway with modular joints; rehabilitation of the drainage troughs and grating in the south upper roadway; rehabilitation of the masonry and cable housing at the anchorage; rehabilitation of the truss gusset plates at the approach and suspended spans to improve the load rating to HS20; replacement of the work platform at the anchorages; rehabilitation of the joints in the south upper roadway approach spans; refurbishing the existing fire standpipe system; and strengthening of the subway floorbeam connections in the approach spans.

The scope also includes the removal and replacement of the tower ornamental cornices, globes, cable collars and brackets. These features of the bridge are constructed from cast iron and are quite heavy. They are installed at the top of the towers and are exhibiting severe structural and connection problems. These elements are cracking and the connection bolts are severely corroded and/or missing. They have been red flagged under the biennial inspection program and need to be replaced. The Notice to Proceed for construction is expected in early 2018.
Ornaments on the Manhattan Bridge Towers Were Flagged as Potentially Hazardous and Removed by In-House Ironworkers in October and November. (Credit: Bojidar Yanev) Using Spider to Remove Ornament at Cable C West. (Credit: Samuel Teaw)

**ED KOCH – QUEENSBORO BRIDGE**

At the time of its opening in March 1909, the Ed Koch - Queensboro Bridge (popularly referred to as the 59th Street Bridge), was the longest continuous cantilever-truss bridge in the world. While its starring role in the hierarchy of bridges has since been eclipsed by longer and larger structures, the Queensboro Bridge’s importance to the mobility and unity of New York City remains undimmed. The current upper roadways carry four traffic lanes to accommodate both buses (only at rush hours) and passenger cars (H-15 type). The lower level (also known as the inner roadways) carries four additional lanes permitting HS-20 trucks. Two individual outer roadways were adapted to a single lane for pedestrians and bicycles on the north cantilever side, and a Queens-bound vehicular lane allowing H-7.5 vehicles only on the south cantilever side, respectively.

The bridge was designated as a national landmark on November 23, 1973. The $998 million reconstruction commenced in April 1981 with Contract #1, and will continue with Contract #10 for the replacement of the upper roadways.
Work completed on the bridge to date includes the rehabilitation of the lower inner roadways, the lower outer roadways, the restoration of the Guastavino arches and the Bridgemarket area, rehabilitation of the overhead sign structures in Manhattan, the upgrading of roadway lighting by replacing all low-pressure sodium lights on the bridge and ramps with high-pressure sodium lights (which will be updated with low energy LED lighting), the replacement of the aviation lights, the geometric improvement of Crescent Street, bikeway and walkway improvement, repair of the south upper roadway concrete overfill and overlay, the promenade platform, the traveler platform, the sidewalk between 61st and 62nd Streets, and the underside of the 59th Street overpass, as well as the rehabilitation of the Sanitation Department area’s arch infill, modifications to the maintenance facility beneath the Manhattan approach plaza, and the restoration of the kiosk in the plaza on the Manhattan side of the bridge. This small historical structure was in an advanced state of disrepair and had been damaged by repeated vehicular impacts. The work on this vital link between Manhattan and the outer boroughs will enable this 75,000-ton workhorse to better provide the citizens and commerce of New York City with a second century of reliable, prosperous transport. The Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge carried 174,447 vehicles and 3,239 commuter bicyclists per day in 2015.

**Contract #10**

The Department plans to replace the south and north upper level roadways of the bridge. The existing decks consist of a concrete-filled grid deck system, which are supported on the original steel stringers. The current upper roadway deck has provided over 30 years of service on this heavily-travelled bridge. Project goals include installation of a lighter deck system on the main bridge to lessen the dead loads on the truss members as they are sometimes taxed by loads in excess of their inventory levels. Reducing the weight of the deck system will increase the service life of the bridge. In addition to being light, the proposed deck system will allow staged installation to permit maintenance of traffic during construction, and it will be durable, providing a 75-year service life. In addition, the concrete overfill in the Manhattan and Queens approach spans will be removed and replaced.

The Notice to Proceed for construction is expected in the fall of 2017. Completion of the project is anticipated to be in early 2022.
Movable Bridges

As NYCDOT completes reconstruction work on the East River Bridges, more attention is being devoted to other key City-owned bridges, such as the movable bridges. Building on the success of the East River Bridge projects, the Department is implementing many of the innovative concepts originated during the rehabilitation of East River Bridges on these other major reconstruction projects.

BATTERY PARK UNDERPASS AND WEST STREET UNDERPASS (MANHATTAN) – EMERGENCY CONTRACT

The Battery Park Underpass is a two-span rigid frame reinforced concrete tunnel structure connecting eastbound and westbound traffic between the FDR Drive and West Street (Route 9A) at the southern end of Manhattan. The West Street Underpass is a one-span rigid frame reinforced concrete tunnel structure connecting southbound traffic from West Street heading toward the entrance to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel (Hugh L. Carey Tunnel).

On October 29, 2012, the New York Metropolitan area was impacted by Hurricane Sandy, causing flooding, loss of power and damage to many components of New York City’s infrastructure. On October 30, 2012, a site inspection by the Department revealed major damage to both underpasses. Specifically, certain electrical, mechanical and structural issues with regard to the tunnels had to be addressed.

Salt water penetrated the electrical and mechanical equipment in both underpasses, including but not limited to, motors, lighting and pumps. It is therefore, necessary to solicit the services of a specialty contractor to perform all necessary repairs.

Due to the potentially serious danger to life and public safety posed by the current condition, it is
critical that the repair work be performed as expeditiously as possible.

On November 7, 2012, in the interest of public safety, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law and Section 315 of the New York City Charter, the Department declared that an emergency exists relative to the Battery Park Underpass and West Street Underpass on Route 9A in Manhattan.

A Letter of Intent for the emergency repairs of these underpasses was issued to the contractor with a start date of February 17, 2015. The scope of work includes replacement of all of the exhaust fans, motors, sump pumps, traffic signals/VMS, heating and ventilation units, fire and CO monitoring control systems, and the street lighting and emergency response systems. The project will be constructed in four phases and was in the second phase in Fall 2016. The scope of work also includes the installation of a SCADA system (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) for the remote monitoring and control of all systems. Construction is expected to be complete in July 2018.

METROPOLITAN AVENUE BRIDGE OVER ENGLISH KILLS (BROOKLYN), GRAND STREET BRIDGE OVER NEWTOWN CREEK (BROOKLYN/QUEENS), GREENPOINT AVENUE BRIDGE OVER NEWTOWN CREEK (A.K.A. J. J. BYRNE MEMORIAL BRIDGE (BROOKLYN/QUEENS), PULASKI BRIDGE OVER NEWTOWN CREEK (BROOKLYN/QUEENS), BORDEN AVENUE BRIDGE OVER DUTCH KILLS (QUEENS), HUNTERS POINT AVENUE BRIDGE OVER DUTCH KILLS (QUEENS), UNION STREET BRIDGE OVER GOWANUS CANAL (BROOKLYN), CARROLL STREET BRIDGE OVER GOWANUS CANAL (BROOKLYN), THIRD STREET BRIDGE OVER GOWANUS CANAL (BROOKLYN), NINTH STREET BRIDGE OVER GOWANUS CANAL (BROOKLYN), THIRD AVENUE BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN), MADISON AVENUE BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN), 145TH STREET BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN), MACOMBS DAM BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN), AND WEST 207TH STREET/WEST FORDHAM ROAD BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN) (A.K.A. UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BRIDGE) – EMERGENCY CONTRACT

On October 29, 2012, the New York Metropolitan area was impacted by Hurricane Sandy, causing flooding, loss of power and damage to many components of New York City’s infrastructure. On October 30, 2012, a site inspection by the Department revealed major damage to the operational portions of these bridges. Specifically, certain electrical and mechanical issues parts had to be repaired or replaced immediately.

Salt water penetrated the electrical and mechanical equipment in the bridges, including but not limited to, motors, electric relays, lock control devices, gates, pier lights, and pumps. It was therefore, necessary to solicit the services of a specialty contractor to perform all necessary repairs.

As the procurement proceeded, the groupings of bridges were changed. The Metropolitan Avenue Bridge was bid separately due to the number of openings. All of the other bridges were bid together.
The Metropolitan Avenue Bridge over the English Kills is located between Queens and Brooklyn and is a double-leaf trunnion bascule that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 450 to 500 times per year for marine traffic, primarily taking barges of fuel oil to a facility south of the bridge. This is heating oil for homes and businesses in the New York City area. As a result, the majority of the openings occur in the winter months. All of the mechanical and electrical systems of the Metropolitan Avenue Bridge were flooded. The high water levels completely filled both bascule pits and submerged all of the operating, tail lock, and emergency hydraulic machinery. Additionally, the main electrical room was flooded with approximately three feet of water and the emergency generator located on the exterior of the building was flooded.

The Grand Street Bridge over the Newtown Creek is located between Queens and Brooklyn and is a rim-bearing swing bridge that carries two lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 3 times per year. The bridge was subject to extreme surge tide.

The Greenpoint Avenue Bridge over Newtown Creek is located in Queens and is a double-leaf trunnion bascule that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge was subject to an extreme surge tide and minor repairs are necessary. The navigation lights on the fender system were flooded.

The Pulaski Bridge over Newtown Creek is located in Queens and is a double leaf trunnion bascule that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge was subject to heavy winds. Minor repairs are required to the warning gate arms damaged during storm.

The Borden Avenue Bridge over Newtown Creek is located in Queens and is a single-leaf retractile span that carries two lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge and its mechanical and electrical systems were subject to heavy flooding.

The Hunters Point Avenue Bridge over the Dutch Kills is located in Queens and is a single-leaf rolling bascule bridge that carries two lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge was subject to heavy flooding as well as high winds. The warning gate arm was damaged due to high winds.

The Union Street Bridge over the Gowanus Canal is located in Brooklyn and is a double leaf rolling bascule that carries two lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 36 times per year. The bridge was subject to heavy flooding.

The Carroll Street Bridge over the Gowanus Canal is located in Brooklyn and is a single-leaf retractile span that carries one lane of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge and its mechanical and electrical systems were subject to heavy flooding which resulted in extensive damage.

The Third Street Bridge over the Gowanus Canal is located in Brooklyn and is a double-leaf rolling bascule that carries two lanes of vehicular traffic along with two sidewalks. The bridge and its mechanical and electrical systems were subject to heavy flooding.

The Ninth Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal is located in Brooklyn and is a tower-drive vertical lift bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 600 times per year. The bridge and portions of its mechanical and electrical systems were subject to minor flooding.

The Third Avenue Bridge over the Harlem River is located between Manhattan and the Bronx and is a center-bearing swing bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 4 times per year. The bridge was subject to flooding of the land on either side of bridge as well as the center pivot fender system.

The Madison Avenue Bridge over the Harlem River is located between Manhattan and the Bronx and is a rim-bearing swing bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 8 times per year. The bridge was subject to flooding of the land on either side of bridge as well as the center pivot fender system.

The 145th Street Bridge over the Harlem River is located between Manhattan and the Bronx and
is a rim-bearing swing bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 6 times per year. The bridge center pivot pier was subject to an excessive high tide.

The Macombs Dam Bridge over the Harlem River is located between Manhattan and the Bronx and is a rim bearing swing bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 20 times per year. The bridge was subject to an extreme surge tide, and the center pivot pier and fender were flooded.

The West 207th Street (University Heights) Bridge over the Harlem River is located between Manhattan and the Bronx and is a rim-bearing swing bridge that carries four lanes of vehicular traffic and two sidewalks. The bridge opens approximately 23 times per year. The bridge was subject to an extreme surge tide and the center pivot pier and fender were subject to flooding. The traffic signal assembly was subject to high winds and was damaged.

The level of repair varies from bridge to bridge. In general, the work entails the rehabilitation of the mechanical and electrical systems that are used to operate the movable spans, provide navigational lighting to guide mariners in the waterway and provide vehicular traffic control when a bridge opening is necessary.

Common to all the bridges will be the need for the maintenance and protection of traffic. This shall primarily consist of daily temporary lane or shoulder closures to allow contractor access to the bridge for material delivery and equipment usage. For the structures that have extensive damage to the electrical system, full roadway closures will be performed to allow the operating systems to be tested. This will be done at night and occur over a period of evenings. On bridges that have sidewalks, at least one walkway will be maintained through the contract.

Also common to all the bridges will be the local removal of hazardous or asbestos containing materials. Areas where suspect materials that may contain lead, PCB and/or asbestos have been identified based on visual inspection. Testing will be performed as part of the contract prior to the start of work to confirm their presence. This will include PCB caulking, lead paint and/or asbestos containing material in various components. If testing proves their presence exists, abatement will be done before repairs occur to the mechanical and electrical systems.

These bridges provide a necessary service in compliance with federal law which requires that the bridges be operational for marine traffic. It is critical that the repair work be performed as expeditiously as possible.

On November 20, 2012, in the interest of public safety, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law and Section 315 of the New York City Charter, the Department declared that an emergency exists relative to these 15 movable bridges in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens.

As of May 28, 2013, all Hurricane Sandy-related damages on the Pulaski Bridge and Greenpoint Avenue Bridge were repaired by the in-house bridge maintenance group. As such, these two bridges were eliminated from the first group of bridges, leaving only the Metropolitan Bridge in this category.

A Letter of Intent for the emergency repairs of the Metropolitan Avenue Bridge over English Kills (Brooklyn) was issued to the contractor with a start date of June 23, 2014. The contractor performed the following work: repaired/replaced various components of the bridge operating machinery; repaired/replaced the tail lock machinery; replaced the existing hydraulic machinery; replaced the bridge’s span brakes; replaced the primary and secondary motors, resistors, brakes, limit switches, encoders, tachometers, motor control centers, drive cabinets and other miscellaneous electrical equipment damaged by Hurricane Sandy; replaced the bridge’s fire alarm and security system; replaced the light fixtures, channel flood lights, electrical receptacles, and channel navigational lights; replaced damaged conduits, junction boxes, and wiring that were damaged due to flooding; installed new sump pumps; installed a new generator, load bank and other associated wiring; repaired damaged barrier gates; repaired the bridge’s central joint to
address the expansion issue during hot summers; and removed falling tiles from the control house.

The electrical equipment room was sealed to prevent damage from future flooding, and an alternative power source was raised to a higher platform to enable the operation of the bridge in case of main power failure. The emergency repair project was substantially completed on May 6, 2016.

The second group of bridges consists of Macombs Dam Bridge over Harlem River (Bronx/Manhattan), 145th Street Bridge over Harlem River (Bronx/Manhattan), Third Avenue Bridge over Harlem River (Bronx/Manhattan), Madison Avenue Bridge over Harlem River (Bronx/Manhattan), Hunters Point Avenue Bridge over Dutch Kills (Queens), Carroll Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal (Brooklyn), Ninth Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal (Brooklyn), Third Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal (Brooklyn), Union Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal (Brooklyn), West 207th Street/West Fordham Road Bridge over Harlem River (Bronx/Manhattan), Borden Avenue Bridge over Dutch Kills (Queens), and Grand Street Bridge over Newtown Creek (Brooklyn/Queens). A Letter of Intent for the emergency repairs of the second group of bridges was issued to the contractor with a start date of December 15, 2014.

In April 2015, all Hurricane Sandy-related damages on the Union Street Bridge were repaired by the in-house bridge maintenance group. As such, contract work on this bridge was eliminated from the second group of bridges.

The contractor performed the following work on the Grand Street Bridge in 2015: cleaned the center pivot and flushed the grease; repaired the southwest sidewalk hatch; and repaired the access platform under the bridge. The following work was performed in 2016: replaced the
channels on the center pivot wheels; installed electrical components in the control house; completed asbestos abatement; and installed the temporary operating system.

The contractor performed the following work on the Carroll Street Bridge in 2015: installed a new temporary operating system; removed the existing operating machinery from the control house; repaired the deteriorated sections of the existing rail tracks; removed the existing conduits and wiring in control house and pier; and repaired the leaking control house roof. The following work was performed in 2016: demolished the existing conduits and wiring in the control house and pier; casted, poured, and tested the new hoist; rehabilitated 80% of the machinery; installed new navigation lights and their respective conduit and wiring; and erected a new steel platform in the control house.

The contractor performed the following work on the Ninth Street Bridge in 2015: removed the span locks, including the motors, limit switches, brakes, and gear reducers driving the limit switches; and replaced the navigational lights on the fenders along with conduit, junction boxes and wiring. The following work was performed in 2016: replaced the span locks, including the motors, limit switches, brakes, and gear reducers driving the limit switches; completed 90% of the electrical installations, including conduit, junction boxes and wiring; installed and tested the flood barrier system; installed and tested the new generator; installed HVAC systems; waterproofed the generator house; and performed intermediate bridge balancing.

The contractor performed the following work on the Borden Avenue and Hunters Point Avenue Bridges in 2016: completed asbestos abatement work; continued the electrical installation of wiring and conduit; and removed the mechanical machinery and sent it to the manufacturer for rehabilitation.

The contractor performed the following work on the Third Street Bridge in 2016: accepted bridge turnover from NYCDOT; began mechanical component removals; and began installation of the temporary operating system.

The contractor performed the following work on the Third Avenue Bridge in 2016: completed installations of new electrical components in the Bronx side electrical vault, including the new sump pump with appurtenances and new grounding lugs; installed and tested the new flood barrier system; and performed bridge system testing. Work at this bridge was completed in October.

The contractor performed the following work on the Madison Avenue Bridge in 2016: installed and tested the flood barrier systems on the Bronx and Manhattan sides; made repairs to the electrical equipment in the Manhattan side transformer vault; replaced the navigation lights, and installed the new sump pump in the Manhattan side transformer vault.

The contractor performed the following work on the 145th Street Bridge in 2016: began the rehabilitation/cleaning of the mechanical components on the center pivot pier; installed all navigation lights, including conduit, wiring, and fixtures; removed the existing submarine cables in the east channel (from the Bronx side to the center pier); installed new submarine cable conduit and cable in the east channel; terminated new submarine cables into the Bronx side gate house and the control room on the center pier; and re-installed the submarine cable control cabinet on the center pier platform.

The contractor performed the following work on the Macombs Dam Bridge in 2016: excavated, formed, and poured new generator platform footings; erected the steel for the new platform; performed CO2 blasting for rehabilitation/cleaning of the mechanical components on the center pivot pier; and installed all navigation lights, including conduit, wiring, and fixtures.

The project is being funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The work on all twelve bridges will be performed under a single construction contract, and is expected to be complete in December 2017.
Belt Parkway Bridge Over Mill Basin (Brooklyn)

Opened on June 29, 1940, the Mill Basin Bridge is adjacent to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and the Gateway National Recreation Area. It is the only movable bridge on the Belt Parkway. The current clearance over Mean High Water is 35-feet. When the Mill Basin Bridge was constructed during the first half of the 20th century, New York City’s inland waterways were among the most heavily navigated thoroughfares in the country. However, as maritime traffic in New York City steadily decreased since the mid-1960s, the need for movable bridges lessened as well. In 1941, during its first full year of operation, the Mill Basin Bridge was opened 3,100
times; by 1953, that figure decreased to 2,173; by 2016, the number of openings declined further to a total of only 127 openings.

In addition, significant and costly traffic congestion results from the operation of this outmoded drawbridge. In 2015, the Mill Basin Bridge carried 141,303 vehicles per day. The average opening and closing time for the bridge (and others like it) is ten minutes. Thus, this structure’s operation has a negative and significant effect on the efficiency of New York City’s vehicular traffic flow.

In 2016, on a New York State-mandated scale from 1 to 7, this bridge had a condition rating of 3.209, or “fair.” While the bridge is not in any immediate danger of structural failure, its reconstruction is required in order to maintain mobility and public safety on this vital artery.

The existing Mill Basin Bridge is 864-feet long and 14 spans, including double movable leaf bascule spans and a steel superstructure, supported on reinforced concrete pier on timber piles, and abutments supported on pre-cast concrete piles. The existing structure and immediate approaches will be demolished and replaced.

The replacement will be a 2,645-foot long, 17 span, 60-foot high fixed bridge. It will consist of a steel composite superstructure and reinforced concrete substructure on piled footings, and will be constructed on a new alignment set on the north side of the existing bridge and partially overlapping with the existing bridge. The new bridge and approach will have three 12-foot wide traffic lanes, a 12-foot wide right shoulder on the bridge, a 10-foot wide right shoulder on the approaches, and a minimum left shoulder in each direction. The eastbound side will carry a dedicated pedestrian/bicycle path along the south fascia. The new bridge will be a fixed structure with a 60-foot vertical clearance over Mean High Water, obviating the need for opening and closing the structure to accommodate tall vessels. The new design of the bridge will result in increased sight distances, an increase in lane width from 11-feet 4-inches to 12-feet, and the inclusion of safety shoulders in both directions. The channel will remain navigable during construction, and the clear channel width will remain the same after the new structure is in place. A new fender system will be installed to protect the bridge substructure from marine traffic. The reconstruction of the Mill Basin Bridge (part of the second Belt Parkway Group) is scheduled to last approximately 4 years. A Notice to Proceed for the replacement of this bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of June 22, 2015.
BROADWAY BRIDGE OVER THE HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN)

Broadway extends from the southern tip of Manhattan, through the Bronx and terminates in Westchester County. The Broadway Bridge, a lift type movable bridge crossing the Harlem River, is located between West 220th Street in Manhattan and West 225th Street in the Bronx. The bridge carries Broadway over the Harlem River. The bridge provides vehicular, subway, pedestrian and bicycle access across the river between the Inwood section (New York County) and the Marble Hill section (New York County) which is surrounded by the Kingsbridge section (Bronx County). In 2015, the bridge carried 33,897 vehicles per day. The superstructure consists of east and west steel thru-trusses, girder/floor beam systems at track and roadway levels and cantilevered sidewalks. Three tracks of the IRT subway are carried on its upper deck and a five-lane two-way roadway with sidewalks on either side is carried on its lower deck. The two roadways each measure 34 feet and the sidewalks are 7 feet wide.

The vertical lift bridge is the third movable steel structure at this location. The original steam powered single-deck swing span built in 1895 carried only highway and pedestrian traffic. The first swing span was moved to a new location and still exists as the University Heights Bridge. The second structure was built in 1905 to accommodate the extension of IRT subway into the Bronx from Manhattan. The second bridge was again a double deck swing span to carry the subway line on the upper deck and highway traffic on the lower deck. The current structure, a double deck vertical lift bridge to carry the subway and vehicular traffic, was built in 1960.

The bridge underwent a protective coating project to protect the steel components of the bridge against the effects of corrosion. This project was completed in October 2003 at a cost of approximately $8.7 million.

The bridge also underwent component rehabilitation, including miscellaneous steel repairs, grating replacement, sealing and waterproofing of its deck, repair of spalled concrete pavement, new expansion joints and new median barrier at an approximate cost of $2.14 million. This project was completed in May 2004.

Currently in its final design phase, the reconstruction of the bridge is scheduled to start in April 2018. The project’s scope of work includes a major rehabilitation of the roadway deck, superstructure steel and substructure elements of the vertical lift span, as well as the approach spans. It will also include the replacement and rehabilitation of the electrical and mechanical components of the vertical lift span, the installation of bicycle lanes, repointing of the granite on the river piers, rehabilitation of the control house, machinery houses, gate house and gateman’s shelters, and installation of pigeon-deterrent measures. Construction is expected to be complete in April 2021.
2015: Northbound and Southbound Roadways. South and North Piers.

2015: Span 2 Right Sidewalk, Beginning and End Approaches, Framing Span 2. 2016: Pier 1, Finger Joint at Southbound Roadway - Misaligned Fingers. (Credit: NYSDOT)

Existing Roadway Looking North and Proposed Bicycle Lanes.
BRUCKNER EXPRESSWAY (NORTHBOUND & SOUTHBOUND SERVICE ROAD) OVER WESTCHESTER CREEK (UNIONPORT BRIDGE) (BRONX)

A bridge has been located in this location since the late 19th century: the original swing-type bridge was built around 1872, replaced by a new double-leaf bascule bridge in 1918. The current double-leaf trunnion bascule bridge was built in 1953, and underwent major modifications in 1971, including the demolition of the north side of the bridge, to allow for the construction of the overhead Bruckner Expressway. The approach roadways, ramp structures, and south bascule span were altered accordingly to accommodate two way traffic. The resulting condition placed a maze of elevated highways around the legacy double leaf bascule. In addition to maintenance over the years, several enhancements were made in the 1990’s. The mechanical and electrical systems and traffic control devices were rehabilitated. The bascule span open deck grating and grating support channels were replaced in the late part of 1997 and early part of 1998.

The Unionport Bridge lies in the midst of the Bruckner Expressway (I-278) interchange which is comprised of the Bruckner Expressway (I-278), the Cross Bronx Expressway (I-95) and the Hutchinson River Parkway. Along with providing a connection to the Bruckner Interchange and Cross Bronx Expressway, the Unionport Bridge also connects the local streets including Brush Avenue, east of the bridge, and Zerega Avenue, west of the bridge. It is an important link between the Unionport section and Schuylerville sections of the Bronx. This 17-span structure (three waterway spans and fourteen concrete approach spans) carries five lanes of the Bruckner Boulevard Expressway service road traffic over Westchester Creek. The bridge is the only crossing of Westchester Creek readily accessible to the local residential, industrial, and commercial areas on either side of the creek. The bridge is equally important to the local non-driving community. Westchester Creek is a barrier not just to trucks and automobiles, but also to pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders who do not have the option of using the elevated expressways. This bridge opens for important fuel oil deliveries up to 300 times a year. The bascule span open deck grating and grating support channels were all replaced by Division staff during the late part of 1997 and early part of 1998. In 2015, the bridge carried 62,410 vehicles per day.

Unionport Bridge in 1953 and 2009. 2015: Span #9, Open Deck Grating at Westbound Roadway, Looking Ahead and Right. Loose and Bouncing Plates. Plastic Delineator Posts Mounted to the Concrete Median are Missing the Majority of Posts Due to Vehicular Impacts. Span #9 Right Sidewalk, Looking Back. Asphalt Tiles Over the Bascule Span are Severely Deteriorated and Exhibit Several Missing Tiles. (Credit: NYSDOT)
The project is in its final design phase for the replacement of the existing bridge with a new wider bridge. Due to overhead and lateral site constraints, other movable bridge types such as swing spans or vertical lift bridges were not deemed feasible. The new, wider roadway maximizes use of the space between the elevated structures. The single leaf bascule built in the open position, offset from and behind the existing bascule, will allow traffic to continue on a skewed alignment across the existing bridge as the new span is built. The resulting twin bascules will allow one span to be taken out of service if required for future maintenance or reconstruction while providing ample room for traffic on the remaining span.

The project’s scope of work includes: a complete replacement of the bascule, flanking, and approach substructures and superstructures, providing six 12-foot travel lanes with shoulders on both sides of the bridge; a new 12-foot bicycle/pedestrian path and a 8-foot sidewalk, separated from traffic with a barrier; replacement of the existing mechanical and electrical systems for the bascule span; reconstruction of the bridge operator and control houses, and replacement of the existing fender system, sheeting, dolphin clusters, drainage system, street lighting, traffic signal facilities, and gates. All asbestos containing materials, contaminated soils, lead paint, and other regulated materials will be removed and discarded. The new west and east approaches and ramps will be constructed with new modular retaining walls and filled with soil at grade. The new protected bicycle/pedestrian path will close a gap between the Hutchinson River Greenway east of the bridge and the existing bikeway network west of the bridge. Additional improvement measures will be implemented at the Brush Avenue intersection to enhance safety and operation. Construction is anticipated to start in summer 2017, and to be completed in summer 2021.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS

Proposed Twin Single Leaf Bascule (Looking North).

Phase 1 – Construct South Leaf.  Phase 2 – Construct North Leaf.

Current and Proposed Control House.

Looking West – Towards Current And Proposed Bridge.

Looking East – Towards Current And Proposed Bridge.
MACOMBS DAM BRIDGE OVER THE HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN)

The Macombs Dam Bridge, which has one of the longest swing spans in the world, was opened in 1895, and was designated a City landmark in 1992. It connects West 155th Street in Manhattan with East 161st Street and Jerome Avenue in the Bronx. The bridge and the West 155th Street Viaduct carry two lanes of traffic in each direction. The bridge is comprised of the 155th Street Viaduct; the swing span over the Harlem River; the Jerome Avenue approach spans; and the four Major Deegan Expressway access ramps. The 155th Street Viaduct serves as the western approach to the bridge in Manhattan and provides connections to West 155th Street, Macombs Place, and Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard. The main swing span over the Harlem River is 408 feet long and provides two shipping channels each with 150 feet of horizontal clearance.

In 2015, the bridge carried 38,556 vehicles per day. The $145 million reconstruction of this landmark bridge, which was completed in May 2007, included the West 155th Street viaduct, the west approach plaza over the Harlem River Drive and Seventh Avenue, the swing span over the Harlem River, the deck and camelback trusses over Metro-North Railroad and Conrail, the Major Deegan interchange (consisting of the east approach and four ramps), and the Jerome Avenue viaduct. The rehabilitation work not only strengthened the structure, it returned the bridge’s appearance to its turn of the century grandeur.

The current construction project will rehabilitate the West 155th Street Viaduct and the fender system. The scope of work includes replacement of columns, floorbeams, girder ends, bearings, expansion deck joints above floorbeams, cross frames and lateral bracings, and the ornamental brackets. Based on coordination with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, components that are replaced will be reconstructed in kind to the extent possible, with the new members built up from bars, plates and angles that are similar to the original construction, so that the new components will be virtually indistinguishable from original components, with the exception that the new components will be constructed with bolts and not rivets.

The existing swing span fender is misaligned with the swing span in open position, and the timber cribbing is under attack by marine borers which could lead to the failure of the timber cribbing and
the collapse of the stone fill. In 2016, the contractor installed formwork around the perimeter of the existing fender, filled the voids in the fender with sand-cement grout, and bonded the existing timber and rock into one solid mass. Remaining work includes the construction of a fender extension on the northeast corner. In addition, in connection with the fender repair, the work activities will include removal of debris located on the river bottom in the channels adjacent to the swing spans. A Notice to Proceed for this rehabilitation project was issued to the contractor with a start date of July 27, 2015. Construction is anticipated to be substantially complete in January 2018.

Aerial View. West 155th Street Viaduct. The Timber Fender.

MADISON AVENUE BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER (BRONX/MANHATTAN)

The Madison Avenue Bridge connects the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, and was constructed in 1910 with reconstruction projects in the 1960’s and 1990’s. The structure consists of a swing span with two flanking spans, two approach ramps on the Manhattan side and one approach structure on the Bronx (at 138th Street). The swing span is 307.6 feet long, supported on a center pier and two rest piers.

A project for electrical, mechanical, and miscellaneous operating system-related work is necessary, as the bridge is currently operating with very old machinery components, along with a temporary electrical system known as the “Interim Drive System” installed during the 1994 rehabilitation contract. Some of the machinery components currently in service are over 100 years old and have far exceeded their service life. Moreover, the bridge does not have any backup operating system which renders the bridge inoperable in case of failure of any component of the Interim Drive System. The preliminary design phase of this project began in early 2011, and was completed in January 2016. The scope of work will also include the structural rehabilitation of the gate houses, repairs to the traffic gates, and the replacement of the deck overlay on the swing span. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2017. In 2015, the bridge carried 40,432 vehicles per day.

PARK AVENUE TUNNEL OVER 34TH STREET (MANHATTAN)

The Park Avenue Tunnel was originally built as an open cut in 1836 to accommodate horse drawn trolley cars between East 33rd Street and East 42nd Street. In 1854, a five course brick arch roof was constructed and the underground tunnel was used by the New York and Harlem River Railroad steam engine trains from East 42nd Street to its terminal then located at East 30th Street and Park Avenue. In 1870 the rail road was converted to electric powered trolleys.

The tunnel in its present form was converted to vehicular traffic only in 1917, when trolley tracks were covered with fill and roadway pavement was built. In its present form, the tunnel is located under the center mall of Park Avenue South. The roadway width inside the tunnel varies from 19'-2" to 22'-5" and used to carry a single lane of traffic in each direction. As of summer 2008, the traffic in the tunnel is restricted to only a single northbound lane.

Some rehabilitation work was completed on the tunnel in November 2005. That contract included the rehabilitation of the fans and the ventilation system. A Notice to Proceed for this rehabilitation project was issued to the contractor with a start date of July 25, 2016. The scope of work encompasses complete rehabilitation of the civil and structural components of the tunnel, including: removal and replacement of the tunnel and approach roadway pavements and curbs; removal of the existing corrugated metal cladding and stainless steel gutters at the brick arch section; waterproofing the brick arch from the inside of the tunnel; strengthening the brick arch section of the tunnel with shotcrete reinforced with lattice girders; removal and replacement of the roof slab and stringers at the Park Avenue median and the south side of 34th Street; repairs to the concrete tunnel roof and beams at the south and north portal sections; repairs to the joints at the tunnel abutment walls; repairs to the stone masonry walls and parapets of the south open approach; repairs to the concrete walls at the north portal section and installation of architectural precast concrete wingwall fascia panels to simulate south open approach masonry wingwalls; repairs to the concrete walls and metal picket fence at the north open approach; replacement of the catch basins and manholes; replacement of the storm sewer line; cleaning and painting the steel stringers; repairs to the damaged sections of the iron fence; cleaning and painting of the iron fence; lead abatement of various tunnel components; replacing in kind missing sections of the stone parapet walls located at the south portal and at the north end of the east wingwall of the south open approach at the Park Avenue median; modifying the parapet wall at the north portal;
milling and re-grading at the 33rd and 40th Street intersections; providing a concrete median and picket fence extending from the south wingwall to the pedestrian refuge area at 33rd Street; providing a traffic railing along Park Avenue at both wingwalls of the north and south open approaches; extending the median refuge area at 38th Street; installing a concrete barrier with integrally cast stone masonry veneer at the 34th and 38th Streets median refuge area; and cleaning the exposed walls and ceiling associated with the tunnel. It will also include safety improvements at the East 33rd, 34th, and 39th Street intersections. Construction is anticipated to be complete in January 2019.

Park Avenue Tunnel – Left and Right Elevations in 2016. Begin Left Wingwall - Stones are Partially Dislodged, Cracked and With Missing Mortar. End Right Wingwall - Wall is Spalled and Exhibits Hollow Concrete Areas That are Shielded With Wire Mesh. End Abutment (Near South Portal) – Bricks Exhibit Deteriorated Mortar. (Credit: NYSDOT)


SHORE ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE HUTCHINSON RIVER (BRONX)

This bridge, built in 1908, was originally called the Pelham Parkway Bridge over Eastchester Bay. The bridge crosses the mouth of the Hutchinson River at the western edge of Eastchester Bay, a tidal cove of Long Island Sound, connecting two separate sections of Pelham Bay Park. The bridge and its approaches are located entirely within the Pelham Bay Park. The existing bridge consists of a double leaf, rolling lift bascule span, flanked on each end by three earth filled concrete spandrel arch approach spans. The bridge is 864 feet in length. It carries two traffic lanes in each direction, and a sidewalk on its south side. The bridge provides recreational access to Pelham Bay Park via the sidewalk and also functions as the route of the Mosholu-Pelham Bay Greenway bicycle and pedestrian path. In 2015, the bridge carried 17,241 vehicles per day. This
bridge is one of the busiest movable bridges in New York City and required 836 openings in 2016 to allow navigation of tall marine traffic.

The width of the channel at the crossing is delineated by a fender system which is directly attached to the bascule piers. The existing horizontal clearance is the least of all of the bridges over the Hutchinson River. In the closed position, the bridge provides only about 13 feet of vertical clearance above the mean high water level, and the channel between the bridge’s fenders is only about 59 feet wide.

Numerous instances of marine vessel hits have been reported to the fender system of the Shore Road Bridge. Damage to the fender system due to these vessel impacts has become a chronic problem requiring frequent repairs to the fender system over the life of the bridge.

After over a hundred years, the bridge has reached the end of its service life and it does not meet current design standards. There are numerous non-standard transportation features (e.g. lane widths, geometry and clearances), obsolete mechanical and electrical systems, inadequate seismic capacity, severely deteriorated structural members, and susceptibility of the fender system to marine vessel impact.

The project objective is to replace the existing movable bridge with a new movable bridge structure. The approaches of the new bridge will transit back to the existing connections with the street and highway network. The new bridge structure will include new substructures and a superstructure, a new movable span with state-of-the-art electrical, mechanical and bridge control systems, and a new fender system. The existing bridge shall be removed in its entirety. The new bridge shall be designed to meet all current structural, seismic and geometric design standards and shall eliminate existing deficiencies.

In 2015, a detailed scope of work for procuring the design services was prepared and a request for proposals was solicited in 2016. The design is anticipated to begin in early 2017 and the construction is anticipated to begin in 2021. The new bridge is anticipated to be in service in 2025.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS

UNION STREET BRIDGE OVER GOWANUS CANAL (BROOKLYN)

The original Union Street Bridge over the Gowanus Canal was constructed in 1870 as part of the construction of Prospect Park. A major crossing over the Gowanus Canal, this bridge is the last in a series of five eastbound crossings, and it is 885 feet from the canal’s end. The neighborhood, located in the Gowanus section of Brooklyn, is primarily industrial; however, public facilities such as schools, parks, and public transportation are nearby.

In its current configuration, the bridge is a 5-span double-leaf Scherzer type (rolling lift) bascule bridge, which was opened in 1905. The bridge opens by translating away from the channel while rotating upwards. The bridge carries two lanes of eastbound traffic, a delineated bike lane and a sidewalk. It has a vertical clearance of 12 feet 9 1/2 inches at mean low water and 8 feet 10 inches at mean high water in the closed position. In 2015, the bridge carried 4,358 vehicles per day.
During the preliminary design, eight alternatives were identified for the rehabilitation/replacement of the bridge. In 2015, the Agency revisited all eight with an emphasis on resilience during an extreme storm event. We are contemplating proceeding with either a vertical lift bridge or a heel trunnion bascule bridge at this location to ensure that the majority of electrical and mechanical systems will be located above the flood plain during an extreme storm event. In 2016 the Agency started an Impact Navigation Study to evaluate the feasibility of a fixed bridge replacement alternative. The fixed bridge alternate was presented to the community in May 2016. The construction is anticipated to begin around April 2019.
WILLIS AVENUE GRANITE IN PUBLIC PLAZAS

New York City has a program to encourage public plazas in neighborhoods lacking in open space. The program plays a key role in ensuring that all New Yorkers live within a 10-minute walk of quality open space, as proposed in the PlaNYC 2030. Public plazas improve the quality of life and transform the cityscape by providing spaces where people can sit, socialize, and enjoy public life. During the reconstruction of the Willis Avenue Bridge, more than 7,500 square yards of granite (approximately 5,000 blocks) were removed from the site, mostly excavated from the bridge piers, abutments and gate houses both in Manhattan and the Bronx. These granite slabs have been repurposed as seating in several of the plazas.

In 2016, the slabs were added to the south side of Wall Street, just west of William Street (east of the security devices), and to the south side of Exchange Place.
ROADWAY BRIDGES

INNOVATIONS

Innovations in the design and construction of Roadway Bridges continued in 2016. Where feasible, the continued use of accelerated bridge construction methods helped reduce construction duration and the resulting negative impacts on the traveling public. In addition, the use of Best Management Practices (BMP) in all applicable projects, most notably in stormwater drainage design, will mitigate the impact of bridge projects on the surrounding environment.

BROOKLYN AND MANHATTAN BRIDGES

ATLANTIC AVENUE BRIDGE OVER LIRR – ATLANTIC BRANCH (BROOKLYN)

The Atlantic Avenue Bridge is a 53-feet wide, 75-span viaduct located between Eastern Parkway and Georgia Avenue in Brooklyn. The bridge carries two traffic lanes each eastbound and westbound, divided by a center median. Two LIRR tracks (of the Atlantic Branch) run under and parallel to the bridge for its entire length. The bridge was built in 1942 by the Transit Commission. It was built over an existing subway line at Sackman Street as well as over East New York Avenue. The bridge superstructure consists of steel stringers and floor beams. The substructure consists of steel piers and concrete bearing walls founded on spread footings. The sections of the bridge walls that are open and grilled consist of steel arch trusses. Exterior curtain walls are finished with ashlar stone masonry, while the arches are topped with ring stone. The Agency replaced the structural deck in 1985 with a new concrete slab deck with high density/latex modified overlay. Other work completed at that time included steel repairs (column and beam reinforcement), interior and exterior bridge wall repairs, and new drainage scuppers and piping to the service road street level. Between 1999 and 2002, the paint on the structural steel was removed and a spot prime and two paint coats were applied. There are no sidewalks on the bridge.

The project will include rehabilitating the deteriorated steel members, concrete abutments and bearing walls; replacing the existing reinforced concrete bridge deck, drainage scuppers, and expansion joints; performing localized concrete deck repairs; and retrofitting the viaduct to meet current seismic requirements. In addition, the action includes the rehabilitation or replacement of the end approach slab and travel lane approach pavement milling and resurfacing as necessary, milling and resurfacing of the adjacent Atlantic Avenue service roads, concrete barrier end terminal improvements, roadway and under bridge lighting repairs, the removal of graffiti, and new reflectorized pavement markings. The bridge will still consist of two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction, separated by a 2-foot wide concrete median barrier. The existing horizontal and vertical alignment will remain unchanged. The coping stones are to be stored during construction and reinstalled in its original location. The contractor will have new steel ready on site prior to deck removal operations so the rehabilitation can begin immediately as each span of the deck is removed. Before the retrofit construction begins, the LIRR will temporarily relocate the third rail to the opposite side of both tracks for the duration of the project. Superstructure rehabilitation will be performed in stages with a minimum of one lane open in each direction. No work shall occur on the Atlantic Avenue service road while work is also occurring on the main roadway. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2017, and is estimated to continue for 42 months.
Aerial View in 2009. Location Map.


May 2016: Span 43, Right Side Fascia - the Stone Masonry Curtain Wall Exhibits Localized Moderate to Heavy Efflorescence Formation at Several Mortar Joints at the Outside Face and at the Underside of the Arch. Pier 19 Joint, Atlantic Avenue Westbound - Approximately 40% Length of Joint Compression Seal is Slightly Debonded. Spans 33 thru 35, Top of Deck, Right Fascia at Right Bridge Railing - Separation (up to 2”) of the Fascia Stones From the Bridge Railing. (Credit: NYSDOT)
BELT PARKWAY BRIDGES OVER PAERDEGAT BASIN, FRESH CREEK, ROCKAWAY PARKWAY, GERRITSEN INLET, MILL BASIN, BAY RIDGE AVENUE, AND NOSTRAND AVENUE (BROOKLYN)

The newly constructed Paerdegat Basin Bridges and the reconstructed Fresh Creek, Rockaway Parkway, and Bay Ridge Avenue Bridges are now rated “very good.” On a New York State-mandated scale from 1 to 7, the remaining three of the seven bridges possess a condition rating of “fair” (3.001 – 4.999). In 2016, the Gerritsen Inlet Bridge was 3.239; the Mill Basin Bridge was 3.209; and the Nostrand Avenue Bridge was 4.264. All are original structures, which were built beginning in 1939. While none of the bridges are in any immediate danger of structural failure, their reconstruction is required in order to maintain mobility and public safety on this vital artery.

Reconstruction of the seven bridges and their approaches on the Belt Parkway (over three local streets and four waterways) began in the fall of 2009. Group 1 (Paerdegat Basin, Fresh Creek, and Rockaway Parkway Bridges) was substantially completed in August 2013. Bay Ridge Avenue Bridge started in November 2013 and was substantially completed in November 2015. Gerritsen Inlet Bridge started in February 2013 and is expected to be complete in fall 2017. Mill Basin Bridge started in summer 2015, and is expected to be complete in winter 2021. Nostrand Avenue Bridge is expected to start in Fiscal Year 2022.

During the past 75 years, traffic demand along the Belt Parkway corridor has increased dramatically. The opening of New York International Airport (now JFK Airport) in 1948, the development of suburban communities on Long Island post World War II, and the opening of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in 1964 have dramatically increased demand on the Belt Parkway. When the parkway first opened, the two-way average daily traffic was about 20,000 vehicles per day. Presently, it is about 150,000 vehicles per day.

Reconstruction of these bridges and their approach roadways is necessary to alleviate substandard conditions and bring these areas into compliance with current state and federal standards. These standards require wider lanes, safety shoulders, concrete median barriers, super-elevation of the roadway around curves, and realignment of the approach roadways to improve sight distances. The Department anticipates that these improvements will reduce the current accident rate on this section of the Belt Parkway by approximately 45%.

NYCDOT conducted research to provide recommendations and design guidelines for the treatment of the parkway corridor. The goals of the analysis were threefold: first, to propose improvements to the parkway to satisfy safety and accessibility standards; second, to preserve and re-establish the historic character of the parkway; and third, to retain and improve public access for all parkway users. The recommendations also include complementary designs of the seven bridges.

On July 18, 2006, the Art Commission (now known as the Public Design Commission) selected the Seven Belt Parkway Bridge Reconstruction Project for a Design Award in its 24th annual Excellence in Design Awards.

All of the bridges, except for the Bay Ridge Avenue and Nostrand Avenue Bridges, are located adjacent to the Gateway National Recreation Area, (GNRA) a division of the National Park
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS

Service. This bridge and highway program is in full compliance with New York City Department of Environmental Protection requirements for the initiation of a long-term plan that will increase wetlands, decrease pollution into the bay, and decrease the highway’s footprint around the rim of Jamaica Bay. NYCDOT continues to work closely with New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Gateway National Recreation Area, the US Coast Guard, and the US Army Corps of Engineers to ensure compliance with all environmental protocols.

A series of upland mitigation projects, to be administered by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, includes the planting of replacement trees to offset the number of trees being removed during the course of the bridge replacement project. The number of trees that will be planted is determined in accordance with the caliper rule for tree replacement.

In addition to mitigating environmental impacts along the Belt Parkway corridor, an off-site Tidal Wetland Mitigation project was performed. A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor with a start date of March 8, 2011. The plan focused on compensating for wetland losses at the waterway bridges by increasing and improving the quality of habitats at a nearby location. Approximately 2.3 acres of land at Floyd Bennett Field was cleaned of rubbish and debris and converted to tidal wetland area. The project was substantially completed during 2012.

The overall goal of the mitigation project was to restore selected areas of the Floyd Bennett shoreline with productive habitats, including unvegetated intertidal areas, vegetated intertidal areas restored with naturally occurring Spartina marsh, and high marsh habitats. A significant portion of the area involved the removal of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of previously filled areas and the restoration of the areas to productive vegetated and unvegetated wetland resources.

Restoration of the area, specifically, the removal of existing fill and debris, has increased the functional value of the site. This area is an important contributor to primary production and breakdown of organic materials. In addition, algal communities often found in these areas are producers, and provide a food source for snails and other benthic organisms, which in turn, provide food sources for larger animals that forage along the shorelines of Jamaica Bay.

Planting at the intertidal wetland and the high marsh zones was completed in summer 2011. The installation of cabled concrete erosion control revetment was started in June 2011 and completed in July 2011. In fall 2012, all replacement and final upland tree plantings were completed. Monitoring of the wetland mitigation project, as mandated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, is expected to be complete in early 2017.

On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy impacted the east coast and caused major damage. A survey after the storm discovered severe plant and revetment damage at the contract site. The established site grades were overwhelmed by the storm surge, ground protection and slope stabilization measures were displaced, and the plantings were uprooted and washed away. The National Park Service put the worksite off limits while Hurricane Sandy cleanup operations were in progress. A site inspection was held in the winter of 2013, and again in the summer of 2014. In June 2015, approximately 22,000 intertidal wetland plants (Spartina Alterniflora) were re-established. In addition goose fence and overhead protection were installed. The location of the planting was also adjusted to better fit the tidal contours. The plants were watered in June and July, and the site was monitored in September. The area will continue to be monitored through 2017.

In June 2011, the contractor was directed to perform wetland mitigation of 1.4 additional acres at Bergen Beach to offset the work associated with outfalls at the Paerdegat Basin and Rockaway Parkway bridges, the temporary trestles at the Paerdegat Basin Bridge, and the temporary bridge at Fresh Creek. Later, the Agency decided to increase the mitigated wetland area to 3.6 acres at the Bergen Beach site, adjacent to bridle paths and a horse riding academy. The additional acreage was used to offset future impacts on upcoming Belt Parkway bridge projects. The mitigation converted the invasive reed Phragmites Australis into native salt marsh species, Spartina Alterniflora. At the low marsh (twice daily tides), Spartina Alterniflora was planted, and
at the high marsh (above mean high water), *Spartina Patens*, *Distichlis Spicata*, and high marsh shrubs were planted. Other work that was performed included removal of all surface debris on the site, clearing and grubbing, followed by excavating to intertidal grades, seeding and planting. Existing stands of *Spartina* and native coastal communities on site were protected and preserved.

The Bergen Beach mitigation work was completed in two phases. The first phase of 1.4 acres was started in the first week of June 2013. By the end of June 2013, grading was completed. Planting started on July 9, 2013, and was completed by the end of the month. The second phase grading started in mid-September 2013, and was completed on November 13, 2013. The planting was completed in the spring and fall planting seasons of 2014, and will be monitored for five years in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The old Paerdegat Basin Bridge was a 692-foot long, 13 span, multi-girder, simple supported steel superstructure, supported on reinforced concrete pier cap beams and abutments supported on reinforced concrete piles. The bridge had two 34-foot wide roadways carrying three lanes of traffic in each direction, with a 3-foot safety walk on the north side, a 4-foot wide center median/barrier, and an 8-foot wide south pedestrian/bicycle sidewalk. The existing structure and immediate approaches were demolished and replaced by two new bridges and new approach roadways on split alignments. The existing structure was permanently closed to traffic on December 20, 2012, upon opening of the new westbound structure. Demolition of the existing structure was completed in May 2013.

The two replacement bridges consist of trapezoidal steel box girder structures: the 825-foot, 3 span westbound bridge, north of the existing structure, and the 1,227-foot, 5-span eastbound bridge, south of the existing structure, remaining at 28 feet over the navigable channel. Both bridges have a 36-foot wide roadway with a 12-foot wide right shoulder. The eastbound bridge
has a 4-foot wide left shoulder, while the westbound bridge has a 10-foot wide left shoulder. The southern structure carries eastbound traffic while the northern structure accommodates westbound traffic. Both the horizontal and vertical alignments changed, resulting in improved sight distances on the bridges and their approach roadways. The bridge carrying eastbound traffic also has a dedicated pedestrian/bicycle path along the south side. The pedestrian/bicycle path is separated from traffic lanes by a concrete barrier on the bridge, and by a 15-foot wide grass mall on the approach roadways.

The Fresh Creek Bridge was a 264.5 foot, 5-span, multi-girder, simple supported steel superstructure, supported on pre-cast concrete columns founded on four reinforced concrete piers on concrete piles with concrete gravity abutment walls on timber piles. One navigation channel passed under the bridge. The bridge had two 34'-2" wide roadways, a 5-foot wide center median/barrier, and a 10-foot wide south sidewalk. The parkway, east and west of the bridge, has a 10-foot wide bicycle/pedestrian path on the south side. The existing structure and immediate approaches were demolished in spring 2012, and the replacement structure was fully opened in August 2013.

The replacement bridge is a 316-foot, 3-span structure; the new structure has only two support piers, resulting in a wider channel. The bridge deck and approaches were widened to 126 feet from the former 86 feet to accommodate three 12-foot lanes in each direction, 12-foot wide right shoulders, and a 12-foot wide bicycle/pedestrian path, separated from the traffic lanes by a barrier system. The profiles of the approach roadways and bridge structure accommodate stopping sight distances for a design speed of 60 miles per hour. The remainder of the construction resulted in improved landscaping on the bridge approaches. The existing pedestrian and bicycle pathway were maintained and open at all times during construction.
The Rockaway Parkway Bridge was a 150-foot, 4-span, multi-stringer, simple supported steel superstructure, supported on steel cap beams on concrete filled steel pipe columns, and reinforced concrete abutment walls supported by concrete pile foundations. The bridge had two 34'-2" wide roadways, a 5-foot wide center median/barrier, and a 10-foot wide south sidewalk. The existing structure and immediate approaches were demolished in fall 2012, and the replacement structure was fully opened in August 2013.

The replacement bridge is a single span structure to improve visibility along Rockaway Parkway. The new structure was built in the same alignment as the existing bridge. The bridge deck was widened to 109 ½ feet from the former 84 feet to accommodate three 12-foot lanes with a 12-foot wide right shoulder and 4-foot left shoulder in each direction, including 5 ½ feet for median and parapet width. The right shoulder on each approach is 10 feet wide (while the width of the right shoulders on the bridge structure are 12 feet), with the other dimensions the same width as those on the bridge. In addition to reconstruction of the bridge, four access ramps were also reconstructed, as was Rockaway Parkway in the vicinity of the Belt Parkway.

A Notice to Proceed for the reconstruction of the Group 1 bridges was issued to the contractor with a start date of October 26, 2009. Milestone A consisted of all work required to complete the reconstruction of the Paerdegat Basin, Fresh Creek, and Rockaway Parkway Bridges, including all roadway sections and ramps, within the limits of the construction, adjacent to and between the bridge structures. The contract provided for an incentive of $35,000 per day for each day that milestone A was finished early, with a maximum incentive of $14.98 million. There was a similar disincentive if the milestone date were to be exceeded, with no maximum. By reaching substantial completion on August 22, 2013, the contractor earned the maximum incentive. On December 12, 2013, the project was awarded the Excellence in Partnering Award for Informal Partnering from the AGC of New York State, LLC.
Summer 2014: Paerdegat, Fresh Creek, and Rockaway Parkway Bridges.


Paerdegat Basin and Fresh Creek Bridges in 2015. (Credit: NYSDOT)

Rockaway Parkway Bridge in 2014: Left and Right Elevations. (Credit: NYSDOT)

The Bay Ridge Avenue Bridge was a 58-foot long, single span, reinforced concrete deck on a multi-girder system superstructure over Bay Ridge Avenue. The superstructure is supported by concrete gravity type abutments on pile foundations. There is pedestrian access under the bridge to both the American Veterans Memorial Pier and the Shore Parkway Seawall pedestrian and bicycle paths. The underpass also serves as access to the NYCDEP Owl's Head Wastewater Treatment Plant. The existing superstructure was demolished and replaced.

The replacement bridge superstructure consists of precast, pre-stressed concrete box beams and a reinforced concrete slab. The bridge has three 12-foot wide lanes in the eastbound direction and two 12-foot wide lanes separated by a 4-foot wide painted stripe flush median in the
westbound direction. There is no pedestrian/bicycle path on the structure. The clearance was increased to 14-feet 6-inches, which eliminated the need for clearance signs previously posted for a substandard condition. A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor with a start date of November 4, 2013.

Permanent reconstruction of the bridge included the new concrete barriers along the median and eastbound roadway, new pre-stressed concrete box beams, superstructure slab, pavements, pressure relief joints, approach slabs, and upper abutment stem wall reconstruction for the center and eastbound segments of the new bridge and approaches. The Bay Ridge Avenue Bridge was substantially completed on November 2, 2015.

The original Gerritsen Inlet Bridge was a 520-foot long, 9-span, steel girder and reinforced concrete beam superstructure, supported on reinforced concrete piers, and abutments supported on timber piles. The structure and immediate approaches are in the process of being demolished and replaced.

The replacement bridge will consist of a 496-foot, 3-span bridge, aligned 10'-6” north of the centerline of the existing structure, and remaining 35 feet over the navigable channel. The bridge will have a 36-foot wide roadway with a 12-foot wide right shoulder and a 4-foot wide left shoulder in each direction. The eastbound side will carry a dedicated pedestrian/bicycle path along the south fascia. A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor with a start date of February 25, 2013.

Construction operations performed in spring 2013 included the installation of temporary concrete barriers as part of the Stage 1 maintenance and protection of traffic; the installation of construction fences and tree protection; clearing and grubbing along the north side of the parkway including the removal of existing trees as specified in the contract; and the installation of soil stabilization and erosion control measures. As the summer and Stage 1 progressed, the contractor installed earth embankments for the new eastbound and westbound approach roadways, installed new drainage structures and pipe, and repaired bridge flags on the existing bridge structure. In the fall, the Stage 1 abutment piles and footings were constructed, as were
the two deep foundation cofferdams for the new water piers. The pier pile installation work was completed in December 2013, in advance of the substructure work, including the pier footings, plinths, columns and pier caps.

In 2014, the contractor completed all of the Stage 1 (north side) substructure work, including the placement of the concrete piers and abutments. The Stage 1 concrete approach roadways on the north side of the project were also completed in 2014, as were the temporary asphalt transition areas on the approaches.
Navigation lights were repaired in January 2015. Temporary drainage installation to relieve flooding, installation of demolition shielding for Stage 2, and preparation of embankment for the temporary east side access road were completed in February. In March, Stage 1 east side structural steel shop painting was completed and the steel was moved to a marine yard for assembly.

Erection of the Stage 1 structural steel was completed in April 2015, followed by placement of stay in place forms, and stud shear connectors, and the placement of the concrete bridge deck in July. Approach slabs on both sides of the bridge were placed in July, as were asphalt pressure relief joints. Finally, an armorless joint system was installed for the bridge.

On August 14, 2015, the contractor transitioned to Stage 2, through the movement of all traffic to the new northern (westbound) section of the bridge. Stage 2 work completed in 2015 included the demolition of the northern portion of the existing bridge, placement of embankment material for the Stage 2 approach roadway, and installation of the Stage 2 drainage facilities. Installation of the Stage 2 cofferdams began in late 2015, and were followed by all foundation operations in early 2016.

In the spring and summer of 2016, the contractor embarked on an ambitious acceleration program with the goal of opening the Stage 2 bridge and roadway before Thanksgiving. By mid-July, the contractor had completed all substructure concrete placements, including the abutments, the pier footings, plinths, columns and pier caps. Steel erection was performed during overnight periods in August, and was followed by installation of the stay in place forms, and stud shear connectors. The concrete bridge deck placements were then completed in September and October. During November, the contractor completed placement of both approach slabs, the asphalt pressure relief joints, and the armorless joints. On November 18, 2016, the contractor transitioned from Stage 2 to Stage 3 by shifting all eastbound traffic from the existing southern half of the existing bridge to the center portion of the new structure. During stage 3, pedestrian/bike traffic was shifted to a temporary pathway on the new eastbound bridge on December 2, 2016.

Stage 3 work completed in 2016 included the demolition of the approach roadways and the remaining southern section of the existing bridge, the placement of embankment material for the Stage 3 approach roadways, and the installation of the Stage 3 drainage facilities. Installation of the Stage 3 cofferdams is scheduled to begin in early 2017, and will be followed by the foundation operations.
Opened on June 29, 1940, the Mill Basin Bridge is adjacent to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and the Gateway National Recreation Area. It is the only movable bridge on the Belt Parkway. The current clearance over Mean High Water is 35 feet. When the Mill Basin Bridge was constructed during the first half of the 20th century, New York City's inland waterways were among the most heavily navigated thoroughfares in the country. However, as maritime traffic in New York City steadily decreased since the mid-1960s, the need for movable bridges lessened as well. In 1941, during its first full year of operation, the Mill Basin Bridge was opened 3,100 times; by 1953, that figure decreased to 2,173; by 2016, the number of openings declined further to a total of only 127 openings.

In addition, significant and costly traffic congestion results from the operation of this outmoded drawbridge. In 2015, the Mill Basin Bridge carried 141,303 vehicles per day. The average opening and closing time for the bridge (and others like it) is ten minutes. Thus, this structure’s
operation has a negative and significant effect on the efficiency of New York City’s vehicular traffic flow.

The existing Mill Basin Bridge is 864-feet long and 14 spans, including double movable leaf bascule spans and a steel superstructure, supported on reinforced concrete piers on timber piles, and abutments supported on pre-cast concrete piles. The existing structure and immediate approaches will be demolished and replaced.

The replacement will be a 2,645-foot long, 17-span, 60-foot high fixed bridge. It will consist of a steel composite superstructure and reinforced concrete substructure on piled footings, and will be constructed on a new alignment set on the north side of the existing bridge and partially overlapping with the existing bridge. The new bridge and approach roadways will have three 12-foot wide traffic lanes, a 12-foot wide right shoulder on the bridge, a 10-foot wide right shoulder on the approaches, and a minimum left shoulder in each direction. The eastbound side will carry a dedicated pedestrian/bicycle path along the south fascia. The new bridge will be a fixed structure with a 60-foot vertical clearance over Mean High Water, obviating the need for opening and closing the structure to accommodate tall vessels. The channel will remain navigable during construction, and the clear channel width will remain the same after the new structure is in place. A new fender system will be installed to protect the bridge substructure from marine traffic. The contract will be completed in four stages of work (including two additional sub-stages) and will maintain three lanes of vehicular traffic in each direction, as well as pedestrian and bicycle traffic during all construction stages. Construction began in the summer of 2015 and is scheduled to last for 5 ½ years, including demolition of the existing bridge.

A Notice to Proceed for the replacement of this bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of June 22, 2015. Bridge deck flag repairs were made, as required, in August. The contractor mobilized on the site, and completed all tree removal, guide rail repairs, and clearing and grubbing operations in September of that year. Temporary, asphalt approach roadways were placed throughout the fall, and traffic was transitioned on to the temporary roadways in December.
Substructure work, including the installation of cofferdams, excavation of footings, and installation of piles, began in the fall of 2015. The installation of drainage facilities also began in 2015.

In 2016, substructure work progressed at all 17 piers and at both abutments. A total of approximately 860 piles were driven to in turn support the foundations of the new bridge piers. Each pier consists of a rectangular concrete footing, which supports a series of concrete columns and a concrete pier cap. On each side of the waterway are six pairs of piers, and within the channel are four single pier structures.

During 2016, the abutment and piers on the west side of the waterway were completed and steel was erected from the abutment to Pier 5. Placement of the new concrete bridge deck was completed for the south (eastbound) side of the new bridge. On the east side of the waterway, the abutment was also completed and approximately 50% of the pier construction was completed. Steel erection also proceeded for the south (eastbound) side of the new bridge and portions of the new concrete bridge deck were placed. In the waterway, all four pier operations were conducted within cofferdams, and approximately 40% of the pier construction was completed during the year.

On the approaches to the new bridge, construction of the new drainage and electrical facilities continued throughout 2016, as did placement of new embankment and surcharge material. The new concrete roadway pavement placements began on the west side of the new structure, and are scheduled to continue on both sides of the new bridge during 2017.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS


ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS


The existing Nostrand Avenue Bridge is a 140-foot long, 3-span, multi-girder superstructure, consisting of a concrete deck with an asphalt overlay over Nostrand Avenue. The superstructure is supported by concrete pier columns with a steel cap beam, and abutments on concrete filled steel pile foundations. The existing structure and immediate approaches were to be demolished and replaced. This bridge was removed from the current Belt Parkway Project, and its design was terminated. It will be added to another Belt Parkway bridge project in the future. The condition rating of this bridge is better than the other remaining bridges in this program; rescheduling will not negatively impact the bridge users.

BROOKLYN-QUEENS EXPRESSWAY – ATLANTIC AVENUE TO SANDS STREET (TRIPLE CANTILEVER)

The Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE) is a key urban arterial of New York City and the only interstate highway in Brooklyn. The BQE carries over 140,000 vehicles a day, as high as 18% of which are trucks during peak hours. Trucks that traverse this roadway provide not just this borough, but the entire City, with the much needed supplies and goods.

Approximately 1.5 miles, which include 21 bridge structures as well as several retaining walls of the BQE between Atlantic Avenue and Sands Street need to be reconstructed or replaced. Its most unique segment is the triple cantilever – a reinforced concrete, multi-level structure constructed from 1944 through 1954. It consists of six lanes carried on two cantilevers, with the three eastbound lanes located above the three westbound lanes. The third cantilever features the Brooklyn Heights Promenade, a pedestrian walkway with views of the East River and the Manhattan skyline. Furman Street runs parallel to the Interstate, at grade. Local street intersections and connections to the Brooklyn Bridge north of the triple cantilever further add to the complexity of the structure.

Overall, the bridges have undergone limited structural rehabilitation since their construction and deterioration has been noted especially in the concrete superstructures and substructures. Signs of superstructure deterioration include scaling, efflorescence, transverse cracking, mapcracking,
and spalling with exposed and corroded rebar at the underdeck. The lack of waterproofing membrane on cantilever structures allows permeation of water and de-icing salts into the concrete, accelerating deterioration. Water leakage through failed expansion joint seals has also contributed to structural deterioration.

A number of interim repairs to the structure were completed by the Agency in recent years to correct identified problems and extend the life of the bridges. Frequent maintenance and repair efforts and their associated lane closures, while necessary to maintain the integrity of the bridges exacerbate congestion on the BQE, require diversion of traffic to local streets, are costly, and do not provide a long-term solution to the underlying deterioration problem of the structures.

At certain locations within the project limits, the vertical clearance is lower than 14 feet – the minimum specified standard for interstate roadways. Other nonstandard features include narrow lanes (10.5 feet compared to the 12 feet standard for interstate roadways), lack of shoulders (compared to the interstate standard minimum of 10 feet for right shoulders and 4 feet for left shoulders), short merge/weave distances near on-ramps and off-ramps, nonstandard horizontal curvature, and limited safe stopping sight distances.

The accident rate within the project limits exceeds the statewide average for roadways of similar classification to the BQE. Accident rates for all collision types within project limits are over five times the statewide average in the eastbound direction and nearly 10 times the statewide average in the westbound direction. Accidents along this segment of roadway include high volume-related and merge-related rear-end and sideswipes collision types. These incidents result in harm to individuals, financial loss, a significant increase in congestion, delay along a substantial length of the BQE, and diversion of traffic onto the local street network. The diversion of large trucks to local streets due to inadequate vertical clearances on the BQE also creates a hazard for pedestrians.

The 21 bridges included in this project can be split into three types: concrete arches, multigirder structures, and cantilever structures.

The concrete arches are BIN #2230440 BQE Westbound over Adams Street, #2230450 BQE Eastbound over Adams Street, #2230470 BQE over Jay Street, #2230430 BQE over Prospect Street, and #2230460 BQE over Pearl Street.
In general, the arch bridges have an adequate load-carrying capacity, however, there are areas of map cracking and visible leakage through the joints. Mesh has been installed at the underside of the deck to prevent debris from falling on vehicles or pedestrians below.

The multigirder bridges are BIN#2230410 BQE Eastbound over Washington Street, #2230420 BQE Westbound over Washington Street, #2230480 BQE over Prospect Street, #2230490 BQE over Sands Street, #2230870 Columbia Heights over BQE, #2230887 BQE Westbound over Cadman Plaza, and #2230888 BQE Eastbound over Old Fulton Street.
The joints at the multigirder bridges have deteriorated and the asphalt pavement exhibits alligator cracks and an uneven riding surface. Temporary supports have been placed at multiple locations to transfer the load from deteriorated bearings and/or bearing seats. The bridges have adequate load carrying capacity.

The cantilever structures are BIN #2268497 BQE Westbound over Furman Street, #2268498 BQE Eastbound (B.Q.E.) over BQE Westbound/Southbound, #2268507 BQE Westbound over York Street, #2268508 BQE Westbound over BQE Westbound/Southbound, #2268517 BQE Westbound over Furman Street, #2268518 BQE Eastbound over BQE Westbound, #2268350 Brooklyn Promenade over BQE Eastbound, #2230857 BQE Westbound over Joralemon Street, and #2230858 BQE Eastbound over Joralemon Street/BQE Westbound.

$1.7 billion have been set aside in the capital plan for the reconstruction project to address the deterioration of the 21 bridges and the various retaining walls; to address the nonstandard features that contribute to high accident rates and levels of congestion on the roadway; and to eliminate the diversion of large trucks onto local streets by addressing deficient nonstandard vertical clearances.

There is a lack of connectivity between the highway and key local arterials i.e. streets designated as major truck routes, and other major through streets in the Brooklyn Heights, Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, and Cobble Hill neighborhoods as well as the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridge gateways to Manhattan. The project will seek to address these deficient and/or discontinuous connections.

Various studies were undertaken to build on the efforts begun earlier by NYSDOT to inform decisions on the potential alternatives for the rehabilitation of the structure (including tunnel options). The following studies were completed:
Regional Origin and Destination Traffic Study – To determine the underlying characteristics of travel on the Interstate including commercial and non-commercial trips as well as numbers of trips with both a local origin and destination. This information informs options for possible traffic alternates during construction.

Belt Parkway Truck Route Study – This study examined the feasibility of diverting truck traffic during BQE construction along the Belt Parkway through Brooklyn and Queens to Nassau County truck route, Sunrise Highway. Tasks included evaluation of ownership of bridge structures, bridge clearance and capacities, lane widths and turning radii for entrance and exit ramps, safety lanes, signage and lighting relocation as well as drainage and pavement modifications that would be required.

Study of Tunnel Alternatives: 3D Analysis of Tunnel alternatives previously begun during the NYSDOT Scoping phase to determine the feasibility of several proposed alternatives. The preliminary study results indicated that the largest possible tunnel could only accommodate two moving lanes of traffic in each direction and could not provide access for vehicles seeking destinations across the East River Bridge; therefore, no single tunnel alignment could replace the existing BQE corridor’s 21 structures.

In summer 2016, the Division undertook an in-depth inspection of all of the structures (including the cantilever structure) to determine the remaining life of the structures and to evaluate areas typically not accessed during the NYSDOT inspection. Workers cut 3-by-3-foot holes into the wall at 20–24 locations along the stretch from Atlantic Avenue to Sands Street, and then squeezed inside. The inspection included hands-on inspection as well as material testing and non-destructive testing. The results of the testing indicate that chloride levels (the corrosive residue left by road salt) are high within the structural concrete, and the performance of the concrete in freeze thaw cycles is poor. While DOT found that the majority of the areas are more structurally sound than expected, the durability of the concrete is of concern. The structure is nearing the end of its service life, and major rehabilitation or replacement planning must begin, or major disruption for repairs can be expected in 10-12 years. As illustrated in the section below, the various structures are tied together and their deterioration needs to be addressed as a system.
Furman Street Eastbound Lane Closed for the Inspection of the BQE Westbound Structure. Removing Granite and Concrete for Access to the Cantilever.


Brooklyn Heights Promenade Pavement - The deck slab of the Brooklyn Heights Promenade is paved with hexagonal pervious pavement interspersed with areas of large rectangular stone pavers. Pavers were removed for testing on the Promenade then replaced once completed. Hands-on inspection of the promenade revealed that the overall condition of the pavement is good, with the exception of a few areas of heaved or sunken pavement, missing pavement, and scaling paver stones. Heaved pavement was observed specifically at the bridge joints.

In-house crews also performed Brooklyn-Queens Expressway roadway base repairs at two sections of pavement with a particularly poor ride surface. The repair portions were marked out during the day after the milling was completed, using quick setting concrete during overnight lane closures. The Queens-bound repairs were conducted from July 19 - July 23, and the Staten Island-bound repairs from July 24 - July 31.
In response to the inquiries from the public and in order to open a dialogue with the stakeholders most likely to be impacted by the design and construction, the Agency began a public outreach effort as a way to facilitate future cooperation. The Agency met with City and State elected officials on March 11, 2016, and conducted an informal meeting of area stakeholders on April 21 to provide an overview of the project and anticipated project schedule. Two additional larger meetings were also conducted on June 29 and November 1 with local stakeholders and the general public to share the initial findings of the in-depth inspection program and provide a project update.

The Division is currently getting a design contract registered. The first phase of the design of the new structure will include the preparation of environmental documents and alternate analyses using the data from the studies already completed, as well additional efforts as needed to meet current goals and requirements. As a highly anticipated project with a significant level of interest from the public, active participation from stakeholders is anticipated throughout the design
development process. A preliminary design for reconstruction is slated to be completed by 2019, and the rehabilitation is currently projected to begin in 2024 and end in 2029.

HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY VIADUCT FROM WEST 72\textsuperscript{ND} STREET TO WEST 82\textsuperscript{ND} STREET AND FROM WEST 94\textsuperscript{TH} STREET TO WEST 98\textsuperscript{TH} STREET (MANHATTAN)

The viaduct was originally constructed in 1937. Since then, several rehabilitation projects were performed, including deck replacement and structural steel repair at various locations. This rehabilitation project will consist of partial repairs of the deck and steel elements of the viaduct superstructure in 145 spans from West 72\textsuperscript{nd} Street to West 82\textsuperscript{nd} Street, and 55 spans from West 94\textsuperscript{th} Street to West 98\textsuperscript{th} Street. The concrete repairs will include underdeck spall repairs, retaining wall spall repairs, concrete barrier repairs, deck joints replacement, and concrete column base repairs. The steel repairs will include installation of reinforcements to the deteriorated girders, floorbeams, stringers, columns, connections and bearings. Some of the stringers will be replaced. All of the superstructure and substructure steel will be painted. The top of deck work will be performed in stages to minimize the parkway closures. Construction is expected to begin in mid-2017.
HILL DRIVE BRIDGE (TERRACE BRIDGE) OVER PROSPECT PARK LAKE (BROOKLYN)

The landmark Hill Drive Bridge was built in 1890, and was designed by Calvert Vaux. It was previously known as the Breeze Hill Bridge. The existing Parks bridge is a three span simply supported steel girder/beam structure, with the center arch span crossing Prospect Park Lake, and the other two spans consisting of underground masonry cellular structures with multiple interior masonry-bearing walls and non-composite concrete deck and concrete sidewalk. The substructure of the bridge consists of solid gravity masonry abutments with U-type wing walls.
This project will include the replacement of the existing masonry cellular abutments with new reinforced concrete abutments clad with existing stone and new brick masonry; the removal, storage, and reinstallation of the existing stone wing walls with a new reinforced concrete core; the replacement of the existing stringers and floor beams with new steel stringers; the reinforcement of the existing arch girders with new cover plates; the reinstallation of the steel arch girders at their current locations to replicate original construction; and the replacement of the existing masonry arches spanning between floor beams by masonry cladding on the underside of the new arched concrete deck. The concrete deck, approaches, sidewalk, and roadway will be replaced within the project limits.

The ornamental cast iron and stones will be rehabilitated and reinstalled, replicating all the historic features and aesthetics of the original bridge. New bridge lighting and drainage systems will be installed. The park landscape will be restored, and trees identified by the Prospect Park Alliance as rare and/or historic shall remain undisturbed during construction.

The project to reconstruct the bridge has been suspended until such time as Parks funding is available. Repairs requiring immediate attention are performed by the When and Where contractor. This bridge is closed to vehicular traffic. The right side is completely closed with chain link fencing, and the left side is open to pedestrians, but closed to vehicles by the use of large concrete planters.
MARINE BORER REMEDIATION (MANHATTAN & BROOKLYN)

Marine borers pose an immediate and serious danger to the thousands of piles and other structures of timber built in the marine environment. In New York Harbor, as the water quality improved due to many years of clean-up efforts, marine borer (limnoria, teredo, etc.) activity has increased significantly in recent years. The recent inspections of timber structures by various local agencies (such as The Port Authority of NY & NJ, NYS Department of Transportation, NYC Department of Sanitation, and NYC Economic Development Corporation) indicate increasing damage to their structures resulting from marine borer activity. These agencies are implementing measures to protect the structures against marine borers.


From Study of the FDR Drive: Location #2 – Damaged Seawall at Segment #5. Sinkhole at Location #6 at East 59th Street. From Study of Carroll Street Bridge: General View of the Southwest Crib Wall With the Delamination of the Timber Stretchers in the Tidal Zone.

In October 1999, the Department began a study to assess the existing damage caused by marine borers as well as the potential for future damage at several waterfront DOT structures, including the supporting structures of the relieving platforms along the FDR (from East 15th to East 96th Street) Drive, and the timber piles and structures of the Carroll Street and Ocean Avenue bridges in Brooklyn. The underwater inspection of timber piles supporting the FDR Drive began on May 8, 2000. Inspection of the Brooklyn sites was conducted during the week of October 23, 2000. The inspections were completed in October 2000, and the Marine Borer Evaluation Report was published in June 2001. Using the results of the underwater inspections, preliminary plans were developed for the implementation of repairs and remediation measures to protect the structures from attack. These preliminary plans were completed in December 2001. An updated underwater inspection was performed within the limits of the proposed contract in 2009. Final design was completed in June 2011.
The construction project is being performed almost entirely underwater and will include barrier wrapping (placement of plastic barrier wrap around a timber pile to prevent marine borers from settling on and penetration into exposed wood); pile encasement (concrete encasement of selected severely damaged piles to reinforce and protect them from marine borers); pile posting (cutting off deteriorated upper portion of pile and replacing it with a new treated timber post); pile cap encapsulation (encapsulation of submerged timber pile caps and timber fascia with plastic lumber and synthetic mastic); bracing replacement (replacement of structural timber bracing with new treated lumber); timber removal (removing timber stays, bracing and formwork located at the top of the piles); installation of additional two-way bracing (installation of two-way bracing using tread lumber to upgrade the strength of piles by reducing the unbraced length); placement of light weight concrete fill (filling in locations where the distance from underside of the platform deck to the top of the mudline is less than one meter creating insufficient headroom for divers to wrap or jacket piles); and superstructure timber replacement (timber pile caps, railing members and other timber superstructure elements along with severely corroded steel correction hardware located above the high water line will be replaced in kind).

These repairs include dredging of inshore areas to allow access for divers to affect the repairs; timber and debris removal and disposal of 239 metric tons; PVC wrapping of 10,726 timber piles; epoxy filled fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) jackets installation on 1,327 timber piles; structural concrete encasements on 3,066 timber piles; placement of light weight concrete fill along inshore areas adjacent to the existing bulkheads; concrete encasement of 151 pairs of timber plumb-batter piles; and timber pile cap repairs.

The Marine Borer Remediation project will affect water quality and will require offsite mitigation. NYC Parks and NYS DEC have identified Sunset Cove Salt Marsh (Sunset Cove), located in Queens, as the mitigation site. The Sunset Cove Project will enhance the resiliency of the natural systems within Jamaica Bay by restoring wetland in the project site. Up to three acres of salt marsh will be created, with up to seven acres of maritime scrubland and forest restored, and the existing hardened shoreline rehabilitated. Funds received from NYCDOT will be applied to the construction of .99 acres of wetland at Sunset Cove as mitigation for the Marine Borers project. The Sunset Cove project provides opportunities to remove concrete, debris and other fill material; create and enhance salt marsh; and establish a maritime forest buffer. Altogether, the project will restore vital coastal ecosystem at Sunset Cove Park and promote greater resiliency in the Broad Channel and Jamaica Bay communities.

A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor with a start date of April 2, 2012.

In July 2016, the Division deleted all repair work relating to the Carroll Street Bridge from the project. This was due to the Gowanus Canal’s designation as a United States EPA clean-up site, necessitating additional requirements not envisioned when this contract was originally out for bid.

The construction work was expected to be complete in August 2016. However, the construction activities will be extended to March 2017, due to site condition and change in scope. A heavy granite fascia stone fell off of the bulkhead into the East River from a location South of FDR Drive Location 5 Bent 260. These granite panels were secured by 2 iron hangers into the concrete bulkhead back in the 1940’s when the FDR Drive was first constructed. As the divers must swim under them to perform the wooden pile repair work, overhead loose granite stonework is a safety hazard. As the granite panels North of Bent 260 are more secure, the Contractor was ordered to cease concrete fill operations south of that Bent and move his barge north to a safer location.

Due to an unforeseen field condition at FDR Drive Location # 5 (42nd to 54th Streets) with very steep rip-rap filled hard-bottom slope, 1.5 meters of Epoxy-filled FRP Jacket were added to the bottom of the PVC Wrapped wooden piles. This repair mitigated the loss of bottom material when backfilling on the steep hard bottom slopes, thus preventing exposure of the bottom of the wooden piles to the marine borers.

During the design inspections over ten years ago, wooden pile repairs recommended were based upon the amount of deterioration of each pile. Most piles were determined to need to only be cleaned and then wrapped with PVC while those with more deterioration were determined to be
needed to be encased with stronger epoxy-filled FRP Jackets. However, due to the extended amount of time passed since the initial design inspections and the present rehabilitation/repair, the hungry wood boring worms and crustaceans have been further compromising the strength of the wooden piles. Piles that were originally scheduled for PVC Wraps are now requiring the stronger, more time-consuming, epoxy-filled FRP Jackets.

As of November 2016, in locations 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 of the FDR Drive and Ocean Avenue, the contractor had completed approximately 7,333 pile barrier wrappings out of 10,301 piles, 1,045 epoxy jackets out of 1,255 piles, 91 epoxy jacket notched piles out of 121 units, 18 bench caps out of 91 units, and 372 lightweight concrete fill out of 3,228 piles. Excavation and backfill items for soft and hard bottom work were being completed concurrently. This project is expected to end in March 2017.

RIVERSIDE DRIVE BRIDGE OVER WEST 158TH STREET (MANHATTAN)

The Riverside Drive Viaduct is located between West 153rd Street and West 161st Street. It also crosses the end of West 155th Street and provides access to the NYCDOT maintenance garage and the pedestrian bridge over Amtrak. Riverside Drive is an arterial roadway which travels north-south, parallel to the Henry Hudson Parkway, connecting the Hamilton Heights and Washington Heights neighborhoods of Manhattan Community Boards 9 and 12. It is approximately 1,871 feet long, 97 feet wide, and has 78 spans. This viaduct consists of intermittent straight portions, and six curves of different radii. It was constructed in two sections. The south cantilever section, from West 153rd Street to West 155th Street, was completed in 1908 and a portion of it spans over the Amtrak right of way. The north bent type section, from West 155th Street to south of West 161st Street, was completed in 1928. The bent type portion of the viaduct includes a windowed enclosure under the bridge that houses NYCDOT and NYPD facilities. The building structure to the north of West 158th Street is used by NYPD for a vehicle repair garage. The building structure to the south of West 158th Street is used by NYCDOT for storage of vehicles, roadway maintenance materials and is also a NYCDOT Maintenance and Repair Facility. Some of the oldest sections of the existing bridge deck were installed in 1959 and the newest sections of the existing deck were placed in 1985. In recent years, the deterioration of the deck has become evident and sections of crumbling concrete under the existing deck have been netted to catch debris. The bridge carries four travel lanes (two each way), and two parking lanes (one each way).
Project work will include the repair of deteriorated structural steel members; replacement of the existing deck; abutment and retaining wall repair; repairs and replacement of concrete barriers and bridge rails; complete expansion joint replacement; approach slabs and pavement replacement; cleaning and necessary repairs of drainage system, as well as encasement removal, paint removal, lead abatement and recoating of steel. The scope also includes the replacement in-kind of the existing period lighting and the restoration of the historic parapet at deck level. The project will neither change the roadway configuration nor impact the Viaduct facades. The bridge will remain open to traffic throughout field work and construction. The superstructure rehabilitation will be performed in four primary stages with a minimum of three travel lanes open all times, two in the peak direction and one in the off-peak direction through the use of a reversible lane. Work Zone Traffic Control to maintain traffic in both directions throughout the duration of construction will be implemented to replace the existing concrete deck, one third at a time, in three main stages. The majority of construction will occur during weekday daytime hours. Some weekend work is anticipated for the intersection with West 155th Street and limited nighttime work will be required for the portion of the Viaduct between West 153rd Street and West 155th Street that cantilevers over the Amtrak tracks. Construction is expected to begin in mid-2018, and is expected to be complete by the end of 2021.
TRANS-MANHATTAN EXPRESSWAY CONNECTOR RAMP FROM THE HARLEM RIVER DRIVE (HARLEM RIVER DRIVE RAMP TO GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE OVER HARLEM RIVER DRIVE SOUTHBOUND) (MANHATTAN)

The Trans-Manhattan Expressway Connector Ramp is an elevated viaduct that consists of a multi-span steel superstructure supporting a concrete deck. The ramp connects the Trans-Manhattan Expressway to the Harlem River Drive and it was built in 1939. It is a 2,080 foot long and 57 foot wide structure, consisting of 14 steel spans and 41 reinforced concrete spans, carrying two lanes of traffic in each direction, northbound and southbound. In 2008, New York State DOT completed an approximately $4.5 million “top-side” repair project of the wearing surface, joints, median, parapets, and other above-deck elements. The scope of work includes rehabilitation of the bridge steel and concrete components; repairing outstanding structural flags on the ramp; repairing existing spalls and removing existing protective netting; and restoration of adjacent parkland including placement of a gravel base within the footprint of the bridge structure, construction of a paved access roadway, and landscape restoration including grass seeding. A Notice to Proceed for the $10 million project was issued to the contractor with a start date of August 10, 2015.

During the winter of 2015, existing deck spalls developed into through holes at seven locations on both the south and north bound roadways. This situation was temporally rectified in September 2015 by Division personnel placing a number of steel road plates on the top of the holes to maintain traffic flow and keep the ramp open for the public. The repairs were then added to the contractor’s work scope. The revised total contract value is approximately $15 million.
Upon recent inspection of the holes and the anchoring steel plates, it was noted that the holes were increasing in size and the plates were exhibiting excessive movement under normal traffic. This presented a public safety hazard and emergency repair procedures were developed immediately to remedy the situation and make it safe for the public. It was decided that the emergency repairs were to be performed at the first opportunity available for full weekend closures of the ramp.

Over the course of 2016, the contractor applied over 16,000 square feet of shotcrete, and erected over 80 tons of steel. In addition, repairs/replacements were made to the curtain wall along the Harlem River Drive.

The balance of the work, including the grouting of the steel beams, bearing restoration and drainage repairs, are scheduled to be completed at the start of 2017. Construction is expected to be complete in May 2017.

November 2016: Lathers Placing Rebar. Burlap, Plastic and Winter Blankets are Used to Cover the Concrete and Supply a Curing Environment. Span 17 and 18 Southbound Left Lanes - Metal Plates. (Plate Credit: NYSDOT)
17TH AVENUE AND 27TH AVENUE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES OVER BELT PARKWAY (BROOKLYN)

The 17th Avenue and 27th Avenue Bridges are three-hinged, steel arch girder bridges with granite-faced concrete abutments and Art Deco steel railings. These two pedestrian overpasses have deteriorated over time, and due to low vertical clearance, have suffered impact damage from oversize vehicle traffic on the Belt Parkway below. The 17th Avenue Bridge has a vertical clearance of 11'-2", at its lowest point, and the 27th Avenue Bridge a 12'5" vertical clearance at its lowest point. Both bridges have an overall span length of approximately 130 feet, and a bridge deck width of 15 feet. In addition, these structures are not in compliance with American Disability Act (ADA) requirements.

The 17th Avenue Bridge provides the only pedestrian access to the shoreline promenade from the surrounding Bath Beach and Bensonhurst communities. The 27th Avenue Bridge provides the main pedestrian access from the community to Dreier Offerman-Calvert Vaux Park.
In this project, the overpasses at 17th and 27th Avenues will be completely replaced to meet the primary goals of increasing the vertical clearance and provide ADA compliant access for the community. The structures will be designed to current codes and standards and all substandard features will be eliminated. Additionally, as the existing bridges were constructed under the Robert Moses era Master Plan for NYC, the proposed bridge designs will follow the Shore (Belt) Parkway Design Guidelines which were developed in November 2006, in order to preserve and reestablish the historic character of the parkway for drivers and pedestrians while enhancing and strengthening the visual cohesiveness of the greenspace connected to the adjacent park and recreation land. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2018, and is expected to be complete in 2020.

The centerpiece of Riverside Park is the West 79th Street Rotunda Complex. Accessible by stepped ramps from the park and Riverside Drive, the concourse level of the Rotunda and the adjoining large terrace offer dramatic views of the Hudson River and the boats of the marina. The
Rotunda Complex consists of six structures including the West 79th Street traffic circle, the ramps to and from Henry Hudson Parkway southbound, the ramps to and from the boat basin garage, and the pedestrian plaza (concourse) level. By nature of this configuration, the rotunda is structurally part of the bridges, and the rotunda and appurtenant bridge structures, lie within the limits of Riverside Park. Because of this, NYC Parks and Recreation has jurisdiction over the architectural features of the structure, as well as the non-vehicular operational features of the structures, including restrooms, concessionaire operations (food service), boat basin elements, including an office, storage space, workshops, and garage facilities. The structure is listed in State and National Registers for Historic Places.

The three-level Rotunda Complex is a structure with common foundations consisting of pile caps, foundation walls, and steel framing, which support the garage level, fountain level and street level. While these levels, along with their interconnected ramps have been assigned separate Bridge Identification Numbers, they actually act as an integrated structure with similar issues and needs.
The West 79th Street Traffic Circle structure consists of 34 steel spans over the Pedestrian Plaza which carries two traffic lanes. The proposed project work for this structure will include the removal of the existing roadway, concrete slab, and steel superstructure. A new steel superstructure and roadway slab will be provided along with new approach roadways, and the existing stone masonry will be rehabilitated.

The West 79th Street Pedestrian Plaza is below the Traffic Circle and over the Boat Basin Garage. It consists of ten simply supported spans. Access to the pedestrian plaza is from stepped ramps from West 79th Street to passageways that lead into the plaza from the north and south, or from the west end of the rotunda, where a terrace and stairs lead to the Hudson River esplanade in Riverside Park. The Rotunda Complex is located within the Riverside Park and Riverside Drive Scenic Landmark area, and includes a Gustavino cohesive tile-vaulted ceiling, a promenade, a fountain and a restaurant built in 1939 as part of the Riverside Drive Park improvements. The project work will include the structural rehabilitation and architectural restoration of impacted portions of the plaza, as well as restoration of the fountain. The project work will include the structural rehabilitation and architectural restoration of impacted portions of the plaza, as well as restoration of the fountain. The
restrooms will be upgraded and restored, and a Parks Department office with public access will be incorporated into the structure. Accessibility to the facility will also be improved by the addition of four ADA-compliant ramps as a part of the rehabilitation project. At the garage level, the connector ramps will be repaired, and stone masonry restored. As with the other areas of the structure, lighting and drainage will be replaced. In addition, the Parks Department operations office will be upgraded.

The West 79th Street Bridge over Amtrak, built in 1937, is a single span structure, with steel, non-composite girders and a reinforced concrete slab. The bridge carries two lanes of traffic in each direction and has a sidewalk on each side. The project work will include the removal of the existing concrete deck, sidewalks and the pedestrian safety barrier. The deck will be replaced with a 9.5 inch concrete slab with integral wearing surface, a new sidewalk and safety barriers on a rehabilitated superstructure.

Construction on this rehabilitation project is anticipated to begin in 2019, and is expected to be complete in 2021.
Final Configuration Rendering.
EIGHT CULVERTS: GALLOWAY AVENUE OVER MARIANNE STREET, FOREST AVENUE OVER CRYSTAL AVENUE, MIDLAND AVENUE OVER HYLAN BOULVARD, ROCKLAND AVENUE OVER BRIELLE AVENUE, FOREST AVENUE OVER RANDALL AVENUE, GREGG PLACE OVER RANDALL AVENUE, ARTHUR KILL ROAD OVER MULDOON AVENUE, AND ARTHUR KILL ROAD OVER RIDGEWOOD AVENUE (STATEN ISLAND)

The Galloway Avenue culvert crosses under a single span timber pedestrian bridge supported on a concrete abutment. It is located approximately 262.4’ east of the intersection of Galloway Avenue and Crystal Avenue. The channel beneath the culvert bisects Galloway Avenue, thereby making the bridge the only means of carrying pedestrians from one side of the channel to the other. The existing timber bridge will be removed and a new timber bridge will be constructed with a new abutment and retaining wall. The timber bridge will be closed during construction.

The Forest Avenue culvert over Crystal Avenue is a single span reinforced concrete box culvert. It is located approximately 230’ east of the intersection of Forest Avenue with Crystal Avenue. The reconstruction will consist of the demolition of the existing culvert, clearance of debris from the channel, and replacement of the culvert with a concrete deck slab supported on steel beams on reinforced concrete abutment and wingwalls. The construction work is planned to be performed in four stages with proposed four traffic lanes being maintained at all times.

The Midland Avenue culvert consists of a single span reinforced concrete box, which will be replaced with a new pre-cast box culvert. It is located on Midland Avenue between Boundary Avenue and Mason Avenue. The rehabilitation will include replacing the existing concrete box structure with a new concrete box structure, new sidewalk, curb, pipe railing, chain link fence and asphalt wearing surface. The work will be performed in three stages, with one lane of traffic maintained in each direction at all times.

The Rockland Avenue reinforced concrete culvert project will include concrete repair and a lined and stabilized north embankment. It is located approximately 361’ west of the intersection of Rockland and Manor Avenue. The rehabilitation work includes clearing the debris and vegetation from the channel and installing a structural lining. There are no sidewalks on this culvert. The construction is planned to be performed in one stage and no street closures will be required.
The Forest Avenue culvert over Randall Avenue is a single span concrete box culvert, located at Forest Avenue between Randall Avenue and University Place. It will be replaced with a new precast concrete box culvert with new sidewalks and asphalt pavement. The work will take place in three stages while maintaining one traffic lane in each direction during construction.

The Gregg Place culvert is a single span reinforced concrete box culvert, located approximately 98.4’ west of the intersection of Gregg Place and Randall Avenue. The rehabilitation includes replacing the southern portion with a new precast box culvert with new pavement. The construction is planned to be performed in one stage and the north side of the road will remain open to through traffic.

The Arthur Kill Road culvert over Muldoon Avenue consists of a reinforced concrete pipe at north and a reinforced box culvert at south. It is located on Arthur Kill Road between Muldoon Avenue and Arden Avenue. The box culvert will be replaced with a new box culvert, and a structural lining will be installed in the pipe culvert. The construction will be performed in one stage with one lane of traffic maintained in each direction.

The Arthur Kill Road culvert over Ridgewood Avenue consists of a non-reinforced concrete pipe at south and a corrugated metal pipe at north. It is located approximately 100’ west of the intersection of Arthur Kill Road and Ridgewood Avenue. The rehabilitation work will include installing a structural lining inside the concrete pipe and repairing the concrete at the head walls and catch basins. There will be one stage of construction and one lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction.

A Notice to Proceed for the project was issued to the contractor with a start date of July 18, 2016. This project is expected to be complete in fall 2018.
This project included replacement of the steel superstructure, bearings, approaches, water mains and rehabilitation of the existing substructures by removing and replacing the top portion of the concrete abutments to accommodate the new superstructure. The abutments were retrofitted to meet seismic criteria. The new superstructure consists of a reinforced concrete deck over pre-stressed concrete box beams. The two water mains were removed and replaced. Both water mains were installed on top of the north sidewalk in a fenced-off area. The Division’s in-house design staff completed the design for this project. A Notice to Proceed for the project was issued to the contractor with a start date of August 18, 2014. The bridge was completely closed to vehicles during its construction; however, pedestrian access was maintained.

Construction of the water-mains, and demolition of the existing deck (superstructure) and upper portion of the abutments was completed in 2015. The construction of the abutment caps, installation of the pre-stressed box-beam girders, placement of the concrete deck, repairs to the substructure and the construction of curb, road base, sidewalks and asphalt pavement, including lane markings, were also completed. The installation of bridge fences and safety railing system were in progress at the end of 2015. The project was substantially completed on February 18, 2016.

CITY ISLAND ROAD BRIDGE OVER EASTCHESTER BAY (BRONX)

The existing City Island Road Bridge was built in 1901 and is the only vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian access between the mainland Bronx and City Island. In 2015, the bridge carried 15,292 vehicles per day. The bridge is part of City Island Road, which is located within Pelham Bay Park and crosses over Eastchester Bay. With seven spans and six piers in the water, the bridge has outlived its useful life and requires extensive continuous maintenance. Spans two and three are supported by an overhead truss that originally functioned as a movable swing span but was permanently fixed in 1963.

The existing bridge will be replaced along the same alignment with a new three span bridge with two piers in the water. The new bridge will be approximately 17 feet wider than the existing one to accommodate three standard 12-foot wide traffic lanes, a 6-foot wide bicycle lane and a 6-foot wide pedestrian walkway on each side. The bridge will be a multi-girder continuous bridge with an integral deck. Galvanized steel stay-in-place forms will be used for the deck to both facilitate deck placement and shield the concrete from the corrosive environment of the saltwater bay below. The stainless steel rebar will also not be vulnerable to the deicing salt in the same way that epoxy coated rebar is. Therefore, the deck will have a much longer life expectancy since rebar corrosion is a primary factor in the deterioration of concrete. The new bridge will be designed to current standards and with its wider roadway width, will allow future repair and rehabilitation to be carried out while maintaining one 12-foot lane in each direction. It will also eliminate the vehicle height restriction caused by the existing overhead truss. In order to maintain traffic during the demolition of the existing bridge and construction of the new bridge, a temporary bridge will be constructed on the south side of the existing bridge. Marine traffic will remain undisturbed beneath the bridge during peak boating season.

The contractor’s Value Engineering proposal was accepted to utilize a prefabricated steel bridge system for the temporary bridge with an asphalt riding surface on a steel-plated deck instead of a steel grid system and utilities located on the outside of the roadway between the riding surface and the sidewalk. Pedestrians and bicyclists will be separated with a steel truss system and fence from vehicular traffic. The temporary bridge sections will be fabricated off-site while the foundation work is being performed. Therefore, the bridge will be erected on a complete per span system rather than “stick” built. This will minimize the amount of time the contractor will be in Eastchester Bay erecting the temporary bridge. The schedule advantage will allow traffic to be shifted off the existing bridge sooner, reducing the required maintenance of the aging bridge. Removal of the bridge will be done similar to the erection reducing the time required to be in the bay.

As part of the bridge replacement project, the Legion Triangle at the intersection of City Island Avenue, City Island Road and Bridge Street will be modified.
At the City Island side there is a seawall along the shore which is about 500 feet in length starting from the bridge and heading in a southerly direction. This seawall will be rehabilitated and turned over to the Department of Parks and Recreation along with the esplanade which it is supporting. The rehabilitation of the existing concrete seawall will include a steel rod tieback system as a precaution against loss of stability due to overturning or sliding. In addition, all unsound concrete will be removed from the face of the wall and a new reinforced concrete facing will be cast along the entire length. The esplanade will receive landscape improvements such as a new railing above the wall, new plantings, trees, grass, and paver blocks.

Turtle Cove Culvert is located under City Island Road approximately half a mile west of the existing bridge. As part of the wetland impact mitigation activities for the project, this culvert will be replaced with a larger one that will allow for greater tidal flooding from Eastchester Bay to the upland portions of Turtle Cove.
A Notice to Proceed for the project was issued to the contractor with a start date of September 30, 2013. At the end of 2013, the contractor started mobilizing the project activities. During 2014, the contractor surveyed the area, set up temporary work zone traffic control devices, installed temporary signals, relocated the 16 inch water main on the existing bridge, and started and installed most of the foundation work for the temporary bridge. Stage 1 of the Turtle Cove culvert replacement also began in 2014.


During 2015, the contractor constructed the remainder of the substructure and superstructure for the temporary bridge. Temporary water mains, gas main and other utilities were installed on the temporary bridge. Opening of the temporary bridge to traffic and closure of the existing bridge for demolition is expected in early 2016. On December 16, the Division conducted strength testing of the temporary bridge roadway. Heavily equipped vehicles from the FDNY’s Engine 70 Ladder 53 station crossed the temporary bridge to demonstrate the structural integrity of the roadway. The larger of the two vehicles weighed approximately 80,000 pounds, and the smaller vehicle weighed closer to 60,000 pounds. On December 18, all City Island Bridge traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) was transferred onto the temporary bridge. Stage I work of the Turtle Cove culvert replacement was completed and Stage II work was in progress at the end of 2015.
Joint. Completed Stage 1. Water Flow Inside the Culvert was Restored on May 18. The New Culvert is an 8 Foot by 7 Foot Concrete Box - About a 3x Larger Capacity. April 2015: Installation of the Pedestrian Walkways for the Temporary Bridge. The contractor Constructed 2 Cantilevered Sidewalks - Approximately 5.5’ Wide With a Chain-Link Fence.

In 2016, Stage II work of this contract began with the demolition of the existing spans 7, 6, 5, 4, and 1, as well as the east and west abutments. At the same time, the contractor constructed the pier 1 and 2 footing of the proposed structure. On July 6, 2016, the contractor installed the cofferdam sheeting around the east abutment and began excavating behind the sheeting. All of the excavated material was stockpiled in the southwest quadrant at the site. On July 18, 2016, the drill shaft operation started at the proposed east abutment and retaining walls and was followed by the installation of the steel cages and the pouring of the concrete for the drilled shafts. The contractor also began the demolition of the span 2 and 3 deck and then removed the truss, girders and floor beams.
February 2016: New Drainage System at the West Approach - the Crew Used Special Hand-Held Equipment to Compact the Soil Above the Recently Installed Drainage Pipeline. Rehabilitation of the Catherine Scott Promenade Seawall - Crew Removing Broken Elements of the Façade in Preparation for a Complete Renovation. A Protective Netting is Installed Along the Seawall to Prevent Debris From Falling Into the Bay. March 2016: Deck Demolition - Saw-Cutting the Asphalt – the Crew Slices Block-Shaped Sections in the Asphalt and Then Uses a Core Drill to Carve Out “Pick Holes.” These Holes are Support Mechanisms Which Allow the Contractor’s Crane to Grab the Asphalt Block and Lift it Off the Deck. Once the Top Layer of Asphalt is Removed, the Contractor’s Excavator Grabs Excess Debris.

May 2016: Each Drilled Shaft Requires a Custom-Built Rebar Cage. These Steel Structures Strengthen the Concrete That is Placed Within Each Shaft Casing. Steel Bars are Laid Out on a Template to Form the Shape of the Cage, and are Then Tied Together. Once completed, the cage is Lifted by Crane and Placed Within a Corresponding Drilled Shaft. June 2016: Stripped Surface Deck of Span 6.

On July 27, 2016, the contractor began installing the reinforcing steel for the pier 1 and 2 piercaps, and completed the work on August 23, 2016. Immediately after this operation, the concrete was poured. On August 3, 2016, the contractor began demolishing the existing west abutment and began installing the cofferdam sheeting around the abutment.

July 2016: Pier 2 Drilled Shaft Casings. August 2016: Valve Installation During the Shutdown of the Temporary 12” Subaqueous Water Main. Crew Tightening Bolts on a Section of the Water Main. The Recently Installed Valve can be Seen Nestled Below the Other Sections of the Water Main. Installing Sheet at the West Abutment Site.

On August 8, 2016, the contractor installed a valve on an existing 12” subaqueous water main and reinstalled the tie-in from the temporary 12” water main to the 12” subaqueous water main, thus fulfilling the DEP request. On August 15, 2016, the contractor completed the work successfully and restored the roadway safely. Also on August 15, 2016, the contractor removed the existing signs and finials of the bridge truss and stored them at his yard as directed by the Community Board.
On September 17, 2016, the contractor completed excavation of the proposed east abutment footing, placed the concrete mud mat, and began installing re-bars. On November 4, 2016, the contractor poured the east abutment footing and then formed and installed re-bars for the stem wall. On December 2, 2016, the contractor completed pouring concrete for the stem wall, and then formed and poured the pedestals. Immediately after, the back wall was formed and poured by December 22, 2016. On December 27, 2016, the contractor started backfilling behind the east abutment.


During 2016, the contractor maintained the watering of the sod and seed at the Turtle Cove site. Remaining work at this location includes the installation of pipe rail fence and chain link fence. There were no activities at the esplanade site (east side park area) in 2016.

The construction of the new bridge is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

Existing and Proposed City Island Road Bridge Furnishings: Lighting, Fence, and Rail.
GRAND CONCOURSE BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH (BRONX)

The bridge was originally built in 1906. It is a single span bridge consisting of a concrete deck supported on five steel plate girders, one truss, and a steel truss subway structure located in the center of the bridge. The bridge carries three lanes of vehicular traffic in each northbound and southbound direction as well as NYCT subway traffic underneath the Grand Concourse Boulevard and above the Metro North railroad right of way. The upper portion of the bridge carrying the roadway is now structurally supported by the lower portion carrying the subway. The two portions of the bridge are dependent upon each other for support and stability but are being maintained individually by two separate agencies, the NYC Department of Transportation, and NYC Transit Subways respectively. The subway portion of the structure, comprised of four warren trusses, is stabilized by the roadway portion floor beams and the roadway portion is supported by the subway trusses.

In the current rehabilitation scheme, the roadway will be supported independently from the subway structure: the structures will be physically separated. Steel members will be added to the subway trusses to provide the stability previously provided by the roadway portion floor beams. The substructure consists of two concrete abutments bearing on rock ledges. The tops of these abutments lie at two levels, an upper level which supports the bridge stringers and a lower level which supports the subway trusses. The bridge stringers over the subway tracks bear on a composite steel beam/concrete backwall which will be replaced as part of this project. The foundation for the new trusses being installed to carry the roadway superstructure will bear on the rock behind the existing abutments.

The reconstruction project will also include building new sidewalks, as well as bridge railings with protective fencing, electrical conduits and fixtures, and the relocation of the existing water main under the sidewalk. The new roadway deck will made of reinforced concrete with superpave type paving. A jointless deck will be installed to reduce or eliminate the corrosive effects of dripping water on both the existing steel members to remain as well as the new steel bridge members to
be installed. Two lanes of vehicular traffic and the pedestrian walkway will be maintained in each direction on the Grand Concourse. Deterioration was discovered during a final design inspection to assess the structural condition of the bridge, and the consultant has been instructed to prepare an interim load rating to establish the structural capacity.

A value engineering workshop was held in August 2014 with the goal of developing recommendations to be considered by the project design team, construction and construction support personnel and the Agency to improve all aspects of the project. The resulting report is under review and discussion by the design consultant and the Agency.

DOT and NYC Transit are in negotiations to resolve the jurisdictional issues arising from the separation of the existing jointly-operated bridge. NYC Transit’s consultant conducted an inspection of the portions of the bridge to be transferred to NYCT’s jurisdiction and prepared a report of their findings from which NYCT developed a scope of work. The NYCT scope of work will now be included in the final design. This project, currently in the final design phase, is expected to begin construction in February 2018, and is expected to be complete in August 2020.

HIGHLAND PARK PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER PEDESTRIAN PATH (QUEENS)

The Highland Park Pedestrian Bridge, built in 1902, is a single span arch structure with a clear opening of 59 feet under the bridge. Unlike a conventional steel or concrete bridge structure, the main structure is a brick masonry arch, with wing walls and parapet walls consisting of stacks of rounded river stones set in mortar. The roadway on its top has a 2 inch thick asphalt-concrete wearing surface. The height of the parapet walls from the roadway surface varies from two to four feet. The bridge carries lighting utilities and has lampposts located on either side of the approach roadways. The bridge, located inside Highland Park, spans a hiking trail, and carries
pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The only motorized vehicles permitted on the bridge are emergency vehicles and Parks Department's maintenance vehicles. It is 27 feet wide with neither sidewalks nor shoulders.

The bridge is under the jurisdiction of the New York City Parks Department and the DOT is conducting this rehabilitation project on their behalf. The existing stone and brick arch bridge displayed deficiencies in the form of cracking, missing mortar, spalled and missing masonry units and dissimilar grouting. The rehabilitation work will correct these defects while preserving the original elements of the structure to the greatest extent possible. The masonry will be cleaned and repointed in place. The asphalt roadway will be completely removed and the top of the arch will be excavated. This will allow for any necessary repairs on the top side of the arch and for the application of a reinforced concrete saddle with a waterproofing membrane. The arch will then be backfilled and the roadway repaved. In addition, new lamp posts and under deck lighting will be added. An eight foot wide gravel path will be installed below the bridge, and the landscape will be restored with trees and shrubs. The bridge will be completely closed to traffic during the construction which will be detoured to other parts of the park. A Notice to Proceed for the project was issued to the contractor with a start date of April 25, 2016.

In 2016, the entirety of the stone masonry walls were cleared of graffiti, thoroughly cleaned, repaired, and repointed. The interior of the bridge was completely excavated to reveal the top of the arch, which was found to be in good condition. A reinforced concrete saddle was placed over the arch to bolster its strength, and a waterproofing membrane was installed over the arch and on the interior walls. The bridge was backfilled and a high performance paving material was placed for the roadway. The underside of the brick arch had all graffiti and paint removed. Final cleaning of the arch was ongoing at the end of 2016, as was the removal of old mortar.

September 2016:  Bridge Arch With Wire Mesh Reinforcement in Place Prior to Concrete Placement.  Belt System Transporting the Concrete Into Position.  Wet Burlap Placed Over Previously Finished Zones.  Drip Hoses Placed to Keep Burlap Wet for the Next 7 Days.  Center of the Bridge - Waterproofing Membrane Applied to Arch and Inner Walls of the Bridge.  North Side of the Bridge - Cleaning the Historic Stone Masonry and Concrete Surfaces.  Rubble Stone Work – the Darker Stones Have the Graffiti Protection Applied.  Center of the Bridge - Backfilling and Compaction.  After Backfilling, the Concrete Base for the Roadway was Placed.  Following the Curing of the Concrete Base, Asphalt was Placed.

Beyond the bridge itself, much landscaping work was completed in 2016. The area directly surrounding the bridge was cleared and grubbed and the trees were pruned. A large tree near the bridge was identified as unsafe and in danger of falling and was cut down. Five lamp posts were removed (to be replaced later), and another post on the bridge was completely refurbished in place. The gravel path was installed everywhere except directly under the bridge, where work is ongoing. Subsequently, all of the landscape will be restored with trees and shrubs. Construction is expected to be complete in April 2017.


METROPOLITAN AVENUE (FRESH POND) BRIDGE OVER LIRR -NY&ATL (QUEENS)

This bridge is a two span structure built between 1914 and 1915. It spans over the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) Montauk Branch and carries the roadway that is part of the intersection of Metropolitan Avenue with Fresh Pond Road and the adjoining property of the former Mobil gasoline station which was acquired by the City. The bridge originally crossed two railroad tracks located in each span and oriented in the east-west direction. One of the southern railroad tracks was abandoned and the remaining track is used by freight trains. The two northern railroad tracks are still in service and are part of the Long Island Rail Road Montauk line. The Fresh Pond Road portion of the bridge carried two trolley tracks located in two central bays oriented in the northbound and southbound direction. The Metropolitan Avenue portion of the bridge carried two trolley tracks located 4 feet nine inches from the original bridge centerline.

Location Map. Metropolitan Avenue Bridge in 2015.

The superstructure consists of concrete encased steel beams with a concrete deck and varying depths of asphalt wearing surface. The substructure consists of a reinforced concrete pier and gravity type plain concrete abutments and wing walls.

There is a hole in the deck on the northeast sidewalk of the intersection which has been covered with a small transition barrier. The underside of the concrete deck displays typical water leakage, efflorescence and stalactites. The east fascia girder concrete encasement is severely deteriorated. There are medium to wide cracks, aggregate exposures, heavy spalls and exposed reinforcing throughout the length of the bridge. The concrete parapet of the utility bay and its west end is in poor condition. There are severe spalls in the bridge seat causing a loss of bearing area.
of the east fascia girder at the north abutment. The central pier is also severely deteriorated with cracks, spalls, exposed reinforcement and water leakage.

The existing vertical clearance over LIRR tracks is 15 feet 9 inches. Per New York State Railroad Law Section 51-a (7), a minimum clearance of 22 feet is required over a railroad whenever a structure built prior to 1959 is to be reconstructed unless a waiver is granted by NYSDOT. Since a 22 foot clearance was not achievable due to the existing grades of the bridge being restricted by adjacent buildings and the constraint from an existing sewer line under the tracks, the waiver request was not granted by NYSDOT. However, NYSDOT agreed to a clearance of 20 feet 6 inches. In May 2012, NYCDEP conceptually accepted the modification of the existing sewer to achieve the requisite clearance of 20 feet 6 inches.

One alternative to achieve the required 20 feet 6 inches clearance is to lower the railroad tracks. The primary obstruction to lowering the railroad tracks is the existing 60” diameter combined sewer which runs along the centerline of Fresh Pond Road. The sewer crosses beneath the tracks and is approximately 3 feet below the top of rail. To lower the tracks, the combined sewer must be rerouted or reconfigured (or both).

In September 2012, the LIRR and NY Atlantic Railways agreed to have 17 feet 6 inches clearance as an immediate goal and 20 feet 6 inches as a future goal. In response to the LIRR waiver request made in December 2012, NYSDOT accepted LIRR waiver request of railroad 17 feet 6 inches above the top of rail, incorporating provisions for lowering the track to a clearance of 20 feet 6 inches in the future. In 2015, bridge design progressed from a two span bridge to a single span bridge in concurrence with the LIRR and NY Atlantic Railways. A new north abutment was to be constructed, filling the area between the existing central pier and the south abutment, and a new south abutment was to be constructed near the existing central pier. The immediate goal was to design a bridge with 17.5 feet clearance and to make provision for achieving the 20.5 feet clearance in the future by lowering the railroad tracks and modifying the existing sewer. The proposed intersection geometry would have provided improvements to turning movements for buses and trucks. New roadway pavement, sidewalks, curbs, American Disability Act (ADA) compliant accessible ramps, approach slabs, drainage, and lighting would have been provided. A new utility bridge would have been constructed on the southeast side of the new bridge parallel to Metropolitan Avenue for the relocation of water and gas mains. All private utilities would have been relocated under the new bridge deck between girders. A new traffic signal would have been provided at the intersection of Metropolitan Avenue and Fresh Pond Road. The work was proposed to be done in seven construction stages. The bridge was to be open to vehicular, pedestrian and railroad traffic during construction. Construction was expected to begin in early 2017 and was expected to be complete in late 2019. However, by the end of 2015, the Agency was not able to gain support from community for this reconstruction project, and began to discuss the possibility of declaring that an emergency existed.
On February 16, 2016, in the interest of public safety, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law and Section 315 of the New York City Charter, the Department declared that an emergency existed relative to the bridge: the concrete deck slab was failing and the rapid deterioration at several locations was jeopardizing its structural integrity. The surface of the deck had developed significant multiple full-depth holes, some over 3 feet wide. Several areas were already plated over with steel plates in order to maintain vehicular traffic and protect the LIRR below. The underside of the deck had several spalled areas with exposed and corroded steel reinforcing bars ranging in sizes to a maximum of 13 square feet and up to 3 inches deep. Cracks and efflorescence affected 40% of the deck and water seepage was evident through many of the cracks. The poor condition of the deck resulted in the bridge being "R-Posted," which prevents trucks with overweight permits from traversing it due to insufficient strength in the structure. The Department does not have the available personnel or equipment to perform the necessary work. Therefore, the deck needed to be replaced immediately as there is potential for more damage to occur in the near future. Due to the potentially serious danger to life and public safety posed by the current condition, it was critical that the repair work be performed as expeditiously as possible.

The scope of work includes the installation of a temporary vertical protective shielding between the railroad track and substructure elements (abutments/pier) to be repaired; the installation of a temporary horizontal protective shielding under the bridge superstructure for deck removal and replacement; removal of the existing deck; the construction of a new cast-in-place concrete deck with integral wearing surface; the removal of the approach pavement; the construction of a concrete approach slab and steel faced concrete sidewalk and driveway aprons; the removal and replacement of curbs; and the installation of a new traffic signal at north-east corner of Metropolitan Ave-Fresh Pond Road intersection.

A Letter of Intent for the emergency repairs of the bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of April 17, 2016. The contractor began Stage 1 construction in late 2016. The repairs are expected to be complete in 2018.
ROOSEVELT AVENUE BRIDGE OVER VAN WYCK EXPRESSWAY (QUEENS)

The existing bridge is a two level dual-use steel viaduct consisting of 27 spans. The first level, which carries Roosevelt Avenue, consists of a plate girder floor beam system supported by steel columns, intermediate piers supporting a bascule span spanning over the Van Wyck Expressway and Flushing River, and end abutments. This level carries two lanes of vehicular traffic in each direction and pedestrian sidewalks on each side. In 2015, the bridge carried 17,834 vehicles per day. The second level of the viaduct supports and carries the overhead NYC Transit Authority’s #7 – Flushing line three track subway structure, with two local tracks on the outside and one bi-directional express track in the middle. The bridge is oriented in the east-west direction. The bridge structure is divided into four sections: the west approach cellular structure, the west viaduct, the bascule span, and the east viaduct. It is an essential regional facility and truck route that links communities east and west over the Grand Central Parkway and provides access to Flushing Meadows Park, the National Tennis Center, and Citifield, home of the New York Mets.

The viaduct structure consists of 22 steel bents supporting longitudinal steel girders at the roadway and track level. The length of the east viaduct is approximately 284 feet and the length of the west viaduct is 809 feet. The overall length of the bascule and viaduct structures is 1400 feet. The bridge was originally built between 1925 and 1927. The original bridge had a double leaf bascule span, which was used as a draw bridge, providing clearance for boat traffic passing beneath. When the Van Wyck Expressway (Interstate 678) portion between Grand Central Parkway and Northern Boulevard was built in the late 1950’s and the river was no longer navigable, the bridge was permanently set in a closed position, and the operating machinery and controls were removed. The Long Island Railroad tracks that run under the western viaduct were abandoned in the 1930’s. The last major modification to the bridge was performed in 1982 when the original deck, which consisted of brick paving atop steel floor plates riveted to the top flanges of the steel stringers/floor beams was removed, and replaced with a new concrete-filled steel grid deck in the viaduct and truss spans.

The project will include the replacement of the existing viaduct and bascule deck with a concrete-filled galvanized steel grid deck system. The grid deck will be fixed to the steel stringers and floor beams to form a composite system. The new deck will receive a separate wearing surface. The sidewalks will be replaced and widened from 7.9 to 10 feet to accommodate one-way bicycle lanes plus pedestrian paths in each direction. Also included will be the removal and replacement of the steel deck joints; installation of new fencing; repair and strengthening of the existing steel superstructure; repair and reinforcement of the damaged bottom chords of the steel truss in the bascule span; repair of the concrete substructure; modifications to the abutment walls, as required to allow sidewalk widening; demolition of the control houses to allow construction of the new bikeway; restoration of stairways within the piers; re-pointing the deteriorated and missing mortar of the stone masonry of the east and west bascule piers at the waterline and tidal zones and restoration of masonry cladding on the piers; sand blasting, lead removal containment and painting of steel structural elements of the lower level viaduct and bascule structure; cleaning and sealing the concrete substructure; improvements to the existing deck drainage; and replacement of the bridge lighting.
Roosevelt Avenue Bridge – In 1927. (Credit: NYC Records). Looking East. Existing and Proposed Bicycle/Pedestrian Path. 2014: Right Wingwall at the End Abutment. The Top Exhibits an area of Diagonal Cracks With Efflorescence and Spalls. The Deteriorated Concrete Areas are in Safe and Stable Condition. 2015: Spans 26 and 27 – Examples of Uneven Asphalt Patches and Broken Concrete Areas. (Credit: NYSDOT)

The lower level carrying Roosevelt Avenue will be reconstructed in three stages. Both vehicular and pedestrian traffic will be maintained throughout the construction of the bridge, with one lane in each direction.

Stage 1 - Corona-Bound - 12 Months. The Two Westbound Lanes and Walkway Will be Closed. All Traffic Shifts Into Eastbound Lanes, One Lane in Each Direction.

Stage 2 - Center Roadway - 12 Months. The Center Roadway will be Closed. All Traffic Shifts to One Eastbound and One Westbound Lane in Each Direction.

Stage 3 - Flushing-Bound - 12 Months. The Two Eastbound Lanes and Walkway will be Closed. All Traffic Shifts Into Westbound Lanes, One Lane in Each Direction.

A Notice to Proceed for this federally-funded project was issued to the contractor with a start date of August 10, 2015.
Abrasive blasting and protective coating operations began in early 2016. The first stage of the work will consist of paint removal by abrasive blasting. Since the existing paint is expected to contain lead, the work will be performed within an entirely sealed Class 1A Containment. Abrasive blasting involves use of compressed air to propel abrasive particles against the surface to be cleaned. The area to be cleaned will be entirely contained within impermeable walls with the sealed joints. Negative pressure maintained within the containment during blasting operations will prevent paint waste dust from being released. The air in the area surrounding the containment enclosure will be monitored and tested with scientific equipment, and the abrasive blasting will be stopped if there is any indication that the containment enclosure is not working as designed. In the unlikely event of emissions, they will be cleaned utilizing high-efficiency HEPA vacuums in accordance with approved methods. All paint wastes will be packaged and shipped from the site for disposal, meeting all applicable local, state and federal guidelines, regulations and laws.

All operations will be performed under the guidelines set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. In addition, all safety requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, New York State Department of Health, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection are strictly observed. Paint removal by abrasive blasting will not necessarily occur during the entire time period.

Stage 1 construction began in early 2016. It is expected to be complete by May of 2017. During Stage 1, the lead paint removal and prime coat application will have been completed for the entire roadway section of the viaducts and bascule span. Major activities for Stage 1 include demolition and replacement of the West Viaduct right lane, traffic barrier and North sidewalk. Included in this work will be substructure concrete and steel repairs. Other work includes filling in the original bascule counterweight pits with lightweight concrete and demolition of the north operator house.
Traffic Devices for Stage 1. Bridge is Reduced to One Lane in Each Direction. Contractor Installs Class 1A Containment and Begins Lead Abatement Work at Stage 1 - West Viaduct. April 2016: Contractor Removes Existing Bridge Deck Slab.

June 2016: Contractor Installs Shield Under the Bascule Span to Prevent any Debris From Falling onto the Van Wyck Expressway or Into the Flushing Creek During the Demolition Process. The Contractor Poured Lightweight Concrete on the Bridge’s Counterweight Pits. These Pits, Located on the East and West Sides of the Flushing River, Were Necessary When the Bridge was a Drawbridge. Now That the Bridge is Locked in Place, the Agency Decided to Fill Them with Lightweight Concrete. This Will Prevent Them From Accumulating Water, Reducing a Potential Health Hazard. The Operation was Supervised by Construction Project Manager Syed Alam (in NYCDOT Vest). July 2016: Contractor Using a Robot to Break Through the Existing Sidewalk on the North Side of the Bridge. Using This Technology Reduces the Risk of Injury to Personnel During Demolition and Gives the Operator a Better View of the Actual Demolition. August 2016: Contractor Demolishes Existing North Sidewalk and Traffic Barrier. Span 18 Left Side of the Bridge - Wearing Surface and Sidewalk Deck Removed. (Span 18 Credit: NYSDOT)


Stage 2 construction will start after Stage 1 is completed and open to traffic and will involve reconstruction of the middle portion of the bridge with traffic lanes on each side. During this time
the new North sidewalk and eastbound traffic lane will be open. Stage 2 is expected to start in May of 2017 and be completed in May of 2018.

Stage 3 construction will start upon completion of Stage 2 in May of 2018 and will be a mirror image of the Stage 1 reconstruction, except for the lead abatement work, which was completed in Stage 1. During this time, traffic will be riding on a new bridge deck and the new widened north sidewalk will remain open to bicyclists and pedestrians. Once Stage 3 starts the final painting will also begin with the application of the intermediate and final coats. The entire reconstruction project is expected to be complete in August 2019.

WESTCHESTER AVENUE BRIDGE OVER THE HUTCHINSON RIVER PARKWAY (BRONX)

The bridge spans over the Hutchinson River Parkway and it supports the NYCT elevated subway structure of the Pelham Bay Line. Six of the transit columns are supported by the bridge girders. The bridge is located between Waters Place and Middletown Avenue. It has four travel lanes with parking lanes and sidewalks on both sides. This two span continuous multi-stringer bridge is supported by reinforced piers and abutments. It was built in 1940 by the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority in conjunction with the construction of the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge approach. No major modifications to the bridge are recorded except for minor repairs at the south approach sidewalk and temporary flag repairs to bridge girders damaged by vehicle impacts in the southbound and northbound roadway. The underdeck at both spans is currently covered by approximately 154 square feet of timber planking. In addition, the underdeck at span 1 is covered with approximately 18 square feet of steel wire mesh netting.

The Westchester Avenue Bridge’s vertical clearance over the Hutchinson River Parkway is substandard. The existing posted vertical clearance of 10'-2” is far less than the 12'-6” minimum vertical clearance required per AASHTO standards for parkways with passenger cars only. Due to the number of truck and bus vehicles that mistakenly enter the Hutchinson River Parkway, where commercial vehicles are not allowed, the fascia steel girders of the bridge have been severely impacted and damaged numerous times. Between 2009 and October 2014, 32 freight vehicles struck this bridge at the southern approach. After a bridge strike, up to a four hour delay may occur before traffic can resume a normal pattern. Due to frequent impacts of the southwest fascia girder, a section of the respective girder was removed by Division personnel to improve the clearance at that location. A strongback girder was placed on the south sidewalk above the damaged girder to provide additional support.
On January 9, 2016, a Truck Travelling South on the Parkway Struck the Bridge. Causing Damage to a Fascia Girder and its Preceding Girders, Stringers, and the Hanging Bars of a Strongback. Crews Responded, Cut a Portion of the Sheared Girder and Spliced it With a New Section and Installed Shoring.

October 2016: Truck Debris Remaining at the South Side of the Bridge Along the Southbound Hutchinson River Parkway After a Bridge Strike. December 2016: Truck Tightly Wedged Under the Bridge.

The rehabilitation of the bridge will include the demolition and replacement of the bridge seat and back wall, existing bridge deck, and existing bridge parapets; replacement of all girders and bearings; reconstruction of the approach roadway, curb and sidewalk, and respective appurtenances; relocation of two water mains and the addition of a water main; replacement of roadway lighting on Westchester Ave. and underdeck lighting on Hutchinson River Parkway; relocation of various utilities that are underground and between girders; and the rehabilitation of traffic signals at Waters Place and Ericson Place. The limits of the project will be from Waters Place just west of the bridge to Ericson Place, just east of the bridge.

In March 2011, a value engineering study was conducted in which it was recommended that further studies of alternative options be performed to raise the bridge clearance through a shallower bridge structure and/or by raising the roadway profile above the bridge.

Following the recommendation of the value engineering study, a hazardous material field investigation of the bridge was conducted in May 2013 and a hazardous material report was issued in June 2013. The report included the results of asbestos, lead and other hazardous materials field investigations, including laboratory testing results.

An alternative analysis/feasibility report was prepared in August 2013 to review the recommendation options by the value engineering team. A preferred option was then selected and incorporated into the February 2014 bridge conceptual design report. NYC Transit was receptive to the preferred option in the April 3, 2014 meeting.

This rehabilitation project is proceeding with the preferred option. Due to the complexity of the work, it was expanded from 3 years to 5½ years and split into five stages. A Notice to Proceed for the project was issued to the contractor with a start date of August 15, 2016. The project will be completed in four stages. During construction at least one lane of traffic on the Hutchinson River Parkway will be maintained in each direction at all times. Traffic control agents will be provided. Intermittent full closures of the bridge and parkway will be required for up to 15 minutes to lift out old steel and lift in new structural steel during overnight hours only. Construction is expected to be complete in September 2021.
WHITESTONE EXPRESSWAY/VAN WYCK EXPRESSWAY (SB) TO CROSS ISLAND PARKWAY EB) OVER ACCESS ROAD FROM WHITESTONE EXPRESSWAY/VAN WYCK EXPRESSWAY (QUEENS)

The bridge is a multi-girder, single span, simply supported structure with a span length of 77 feet and is 24 feet wide curb to curb. It was constructed in 1939. The roadway deck consists of an 8-inch thick concrete slab with a 2-inch thick bituminous wearing surface. The bridge has two 12-feet wide lanes running in the eastbound direction and flanked with tapered concrete safety walkways. The substructure consists of two gravity type concrete abutments. The cantilever wing walls have stone masonry facing on one side of both abutments. The west and east abutments of the existing bridge are constructed integral with the abutments of the Whitestone Bridge access ramp overpass.

There are no records of any major rehabilitation work performed on this bridge since its construction. The structural deck is in poor condition with visible mapcracking, scaling, spalling, and heavy efflorescence. Furthermore, the steel beams have deterioration at both the top and bottom flanges and there is deterioration of the expansion joints at the abutments. This reconstruction project will replace the structurally deficient roadway deck to provide a useful life of 75 years while also improving non-standard geometric features of the bridge.

The reconstruction project will involve removing the entire existing steel girders, bridge slab, bearings, and railings, and reconstructing the existing abutments with new bridge seats, pedestal and backwall. The reconstruction of the substructure will accommodate the new superstructure, which includes a new reinforced concrete deck, steel girders, and parapets. Additionally, new asphalt pavement will be installed on approaches, new expansion joints will be installed at both abutments, and new rolled shape steel beams on elastomeric bearings will be installed.

Construction is expected to begin in August 2018, and is expected to be completed in 2020. The project will be performed in two stages with one 10'-0" travel lane maintained at all times on the bridge. Additionally, two 11'-0" travel lanes in each direction will be maintained at all times on the Cross Island Parkway. No detours will be required for the construction.
South and North Fascia - Along the Fascias are Built-Up Riveted Steel Girders. The Steel Railing Posts are Welded at the Base to the Top Flange of the Fascia Steel Girders. Deterioration of Joint at Abutment. Underside of Deck with Scaling and Efflorescence.

51ST AVENUE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER LIRR MAIN LINE (QUEENS)

The current 51st Avenue Bridge was built in 1941. It is a one span, 90’ long, 7’ 6” wide structural steel and concrete bridge with stairs and a 17’ 8” clearance. This project, currently in its final design phase, will realign a new bridge over the tracks and provide brand new ramps.


The structural steel and concrete are severely deteriorated, and the structure is not American Disability Act (ADA) compliant.

The new bridge will comply with current standards and provide barrier free access. The reconstruction of the bridge will be managed by the New York City Department of Design and Construction in partnership with DOT. Construction is expected to begin in January 2020, with a duration of eighteen months. The project will be performed in three stages with a pedestrian detour during only the third stage.

EAST 175TH STREET BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH (BRONX)

The East 175th Street Bridge over Metro North was originally built in 1889 and it underwent reconstruction in 1938. The reconstruction work included a new steel superstructure, concrete deck slab and sidewalk in conjunction with repairs to the existing stone masonry substructure and relocation of various utilities. It is a single span multi-girder steel structure with a steel reinforced concrete deck, and it measures 61.68 feet long from abutment to abutment and 60 feet wide from parapet to parapet. The bridge carries two 12’ lanes of one-way westbound traffic with 5’ shoulders and an 11’ sidewalk on each side. The asphalt wearing course on the bridge is in poor condition with many areas of rutting and pattern cracking. There are several potholes along the bridge. The sidewalk on the bridge is also in need of repair with many cracks and uneven asphalt patches. On the approaches, the existing metal beam guiderail is in poor to fair condition with several sections that have been impacted.

The upcoming major rehabilitation will include replacing the existing single span steel multi-girder superstructure with a single span pre-stressed concrete box beam bridge in conjunction with replacement of the concrete bridge seat, back walls, top of the wingwalls and approach slabs of the substructure, replacing the utilities including watermain, gas, electric, and police
communication conduits, and partial depth repairs of the existing stone masonry. Construction is expected to begin in 2019.

2014: East 175th Street Bridge Left and Right Elevations. (Credit: NYSDOT) Sidewalk and Road Conditions in 2016. April 2016: Span 1, Wearing Surface at Mid-Span – Uneven Asphalt Patches on Approximately 40% of the Surface Area. Underdeck of Span 1- Through Hole and a Deep Spall With Exposed Rebar Near the End Abutment. There is a Steel Cover Plate Above. (April Credit: NYSDOT)
Design-Build

Design-Build contracts retain the same company for both design and construction on selected projects. It is evident that there are many advantages to the Design-Build program, including the use of one consolidated procurement rather than two or more, resulting in significant time savings; the ability to commence construction before design completion; the avoidance of project escalation costs as construction commences two or three years earlier than with the conventional design-bid-build method; minimization of design change orders; and better coordination between design and construction, as critical field issues are addressed expeditiously. In addition, the design is custom made and reflects the capabilities and strength of the specific contractor; the Department establishes a single point of contact for communicating its goals and objectives; and overall costs are reduced substantially.

NYCDOT is currently progressing these projects on a Design-Bid-Build basis until the legislation is passed in Albany allowing unconstrained use of this procurement method. NYCDOT may pursue projects utilizing Design-Build if a special case determination can be justified for a specific project.

FDR DRIVE AT HOUSTON STREET OVERPASS (MANHATTAN)

The overpass consists of three bridge structures. The main bridge is a two-span reinforced concrete slab structure spanning over the FDR Drive’s northbound and southbound roadways. Two approach ramp structures provide access to and from the FDR Drive northbound roadway and the main bridge. Each of these structures is also a reinforced concrete slab structure supported on longitudinal concrete walls that run adjacent to the FDR Drive’s northbound roadway. These bridges were constructed circa 1953, and are over 63 years old. On the main bridge, the superstructure slab is supported on bearing wall abutments continuously founded on piles, and on one pier at the center of the FDR Drive that consists of a steel cap beam supported on multi-steel columns continuously founded on piles. The structural slabs have asphalt overlays, and the main bridge has three sections of concrete sidewalks.

On the main bridge, the asphalt wearing surface was worn and uneven, with many patches. The top of the concrete sidewalks and the median was scaled throughout with localized areas of spalling. Water had infiltrated into the structural slab below, resulting in delamination and spalling along the bottom of the slabs, and exposed corroded bar reinforcement for some of the slab area, with leaching and dampness observed much of the slab area. The entire underside of the bridge structure has wire mesh installed to prevent loose concrete from falling onto the roadway traffic below. On the approach ramp bridges, the curbs and sidewalks were in poor condition.

The general scope of work for the main bridge structure includes the demolition of the entire two-span, reinforced-concrete slab superstructure, and its replacement with new two-span prestressed concrete slab units, the demolition and replacement of the existing center pier cap and steel columns, and the reconstruction of the abutment walls for the substructure. The superstructure includes the deck slab, sidewalks, center median, parapets with fencing, lampposts, and signal posts.

The rehabilitation of the two ramp structures (including the adjacent pedestrian ramp), includes the repair of the existing concrete slab and wall structures, removal of asphalt overlay, installation of waterproofing, repair of joints, removal of safety walks, replacement of parapets with new concrete barriers, and the placement of new asphalt overlay over the existing deck slabs.

The reconstruction of the main bridge will be performed in two main stages, with half of the bridge being replaced at a time. A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor with a start date of January 4, 2016.
Project Location.  Construction Staging.


In 2016, the northern half of the main bridge was demolished, and pier columns and the pier cap were installed. Pre-cast concrete deck panels and concrete overlay were installed at the end of 2016. Vehicular traffic was switched over to the newly reconstructed northern half of the bridge by the end of 2016. Immediately thereafter, reconstruction of the southern half of the bridge began.

HARLEM RIVER DRIVE BRIDGE AT EAST 127TH STREET (MANHATTAN)

The Harlem River Drive Bridge over the ramp from East 127th Street was an eleven-span structure consisting of seven main spans of multiple steel stringers and concrete deck and four approach spans of reinforced concrete structural slabs supported by reinforced concrete girders and retaining walls. The bridge currently carries three traffic lanes in the southbound direction and two lanes plus a wide striped shoulder in the northbound direction. The parkway is not subject to truck traffic with the exception of emergency vehicles and school buses.

The existing bridge was designed and built by the Department from 1955 to 1958 as part of the Harlem River Drive Improvement Project from East 125th Street to East 132nd Street. The bridge is owned and maintained by the Department; the rest of the Drive is owned by the New York State Department of Transportation.

This project includes over $82 million in Federal funds. Construction will follow the on-line bridge replacement with auxiliary exit and entrance lanes and left-lane exit to Second Avenue. It involves the replacement of the existing 11 span bridge and the reconstruction of the Harlem River Drive between the Willis Avenue and Third Avenue Bridges, in addition to various highway improvements. The northbound and southbound structures will share a single south abutment,
but will be supported by independent abutments at the north. The new bridge will carry two through lanes in the northbound direction, and three lanes in the southbound direction; each lane will have an average width of 11 feet. The new bridge will also include new fascia and median barriers. The abutments, wingwalls and piers will be replaced with new substructures that will conform to current seismic design criteria. The project length is approximately 3,280 feet.

The viaduct currently serves approximately 79,000 vehicles per day. This area currently has 40 times the State average number of accidents. Two features of the viaduct contribute to the accidents. First, the hump as the Harlem River Drive passes over East 127th Street limits drivers’ visibility; vehicles approach the hump at a higher speed only to find slow moving vehicles at the other side of the hump, and too often they are not successful in decelerating or stopping their vehicles on time to prevent an accident. Second, there are weaving movements as vehicles exiting the Third Avenue Bridge enter the southbound Harlem River Drive in the right but try to immediately pull to the left in order to continue their travel further south on the Harlem River Drive and the FDR Drive. At the same time and within the same stretch of highway, vehicles that are in the left lanes of the southbound Harlem River Drive immediately north of the Third Avenue Bridge try to pull to the right in order to exit at Second Avenue. The lack of an appropriate weaving distance is the root of many of the accidents in the area. The project will also allow at-grade access for a future Park/Promenade to be developed by the Department of Parks at 127th Street between the Harlem River Drive and the Harlem River. A Notice to Proceed for the reconstruction of this bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of November 10, 2014.
This project will be completed in five stages in order to maintain the traffic flow on the active highway throughout the duration of the project. Stage 1 included the closure of the 127th Street northbound exit, construction of a temporary roadway for the northbound traffic, and relocation of traffic onto the temporary roadway. Stage 2 will include the relocation of three southbound traffic lanes to the existing northbound structure, demolition of the existing southbound structure, construction of the future southbound structure, and relocation of two southbound traffic lanes onto new southbound structure. Stage 3 will include the construction of the remaining portion of the southbound structure and the relocation of the remaining southbound traffic. Stage 4 will include the closure of the 2nd Avenue southbound exit, the relocation of two northbound traffic lanes onto future southbound structure, and the construction of northbound structure. Finally, Stage 5 will include opening the northbound lanes and the southbound 2nd Avenue exit, relocating the two northbound traffic lanes to the new northbound structure, and removing all of the temporary pavement near the East 127th Street viaduct.

TBTA proposed construction of a new connecting ramp between the westbound Manhattan approach of the RFK Bridge and the northbound Harlem River Drive that would provide direct access to the northbound Harlem River Drive from the RFK Bridge via a “tie in” on the left of the northbound Harlem River Drive 127th Street viaduct structure. In February 2015, the Agency and TBTA agreed to have seven of the foundations for the RFK/HRD Connector Ramp constructed by
the contractor in connection with its work under the HRD Contract. The foundations for each pier will consist of drilled shafts and reinforced concrete pile caps that will be built below grade to accommodate the pier columns required to support the RFK/HRD connector ramp superstructure.

Exit 19 (East 125th Street) of the northbound Harlem River Drive was closed at 10:00 AM, February 23, 2015, and will remain closed through 2017. Motorists are using Exit 21 (East 135th Street) as an alternate exit.

On October 5, 2015, the Temporary Roadway was Opened on the Northbound Harlem River Drive. This enabled the Start of Construction of the New 2nd Avenue Exit Ramp. December 2015: Test Pit Pier 6.

Stage 1 was complete at the end of 2015. Stage 2 is expected to be complete in spring 2017. Construction is expected to be complete in December 2019 due to delays in the drilled shaft work and the supplier’s beam fabrication.
August 2016: Pouring Concrete Pavement at the Third Avenue Exit Ramp to the Southbound Harlem River Drive - The Rails are Used to Create the Proper Super-Elevation on a Curve. A Vibrating Truss Screed is Used to “Smooth” Out the Concrete and Remove any Voids in the Placement. Using a Float to Remove any High or Low Spots, the Pavement Sets Before Final Finishing. Texturing is Added using a Hand Tining Tool. The Finished Product. (Credit: Artemio Angeles) September 2016: North Abutment Pier 8 Foundation. Epoxy Reinforcement Bars to be Installed at South Abutment are Covered. Removing Concrete With a Chipping Gun. Reinforcement for Pile Cap. North Abutment - Reinforcement for the Stem and Forms. (Credit: Artemio Angeles)


November 2016: South Abutment Stem Wall. Pier 1 - Scaffolding to Begin Setting up Steel Reinforcement and Formwork. General View of Construction Site From Pier 8 - Looking South. The North Abutment. Concrete Placement. (Credit: Artemio Angeles). Reinforcing for Pier 8 Cap Beam Being Inspected by Resident Engineer Jose Jardim. (Credit: Richard Solomon)
Component Rehabilitation

MOSHULU PARKWAY BRIDGE OVER CONRAIL (ABANDONED), LEGGETT AVENUE BRIDGE OVER AMTRAK, EAST 162TH STREET BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH RR HAR, EAST 165TH STREET BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH RR HAR, EAST 187TH STREET BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH RR HAR, SOUTHERN BOULEVARD BRIDGE OVER EAST FORDHAM ROAD, GRAND CONCOURSE BRIDGE OVER EAST 167TH STREET, EAST 180TH STREET BRIDGE OVER BRONX RIVER, RIVERSIDE DRIVE BRIDGE OVER WEST 138TH STREET, RIVERSIDE DRIVE BRIDGE OVER WEST 145TH STREET, AND THE PULASKI BRIDGE BICYCLE PATH (MCGUINESS BOULEVARD OVER NEWTOWN CREEK)

A Notice to Proceed for the component rehabilitation of these 10 bridges in the Bronx and Manhattan, as well as the creation of a protected bicycle path on the Pulaski Bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of November 3, 2014.

The Mosholu Parkway Bridge over Conrail (Abandoned) was built in 1939. It is a single span concrete arch bridge. There is a concrete parapet along both the north and south fascia of the bridge. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes and a shoulder in each direction, divided by a 4'-0" wide concrete median barrier, as well as a 15'-wide asphalt path for golf carts and pedestrians on the south side of the bridge. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the asphalt overlay, waterproofing, pavement striping, north fascia barrier replacement and median barrier repairs, corrugated guide rail transition, and wingwall joint filler; removing, storing and reinstalling lighting lampposts on north fascia barrier and replacing luminaires with new luminaires; installing a temporary lighting system; excavating, backfilling and paving the local depression in the asphalt golf cart path; repairing chain link fence section and concrete on the underdeck and abutment walls; installing weepholes in the abutments and preformed joint seal in the concrete parapet; cleaning and flushing catch basins; and removing graffiti by power wash and applying anti-graffiti protective coating.

Vehicular and pedestrian access were maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in June 2015. The Mosholu Parkway Bridge was substantially completed on December 23, 2016.

The Leggett Avenue Bridge over Amtrak was built in 1906. It is a three span steel truss. There is a corrugated metal fence along both the east and west fascias of the bridge. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes and a sidewalk in each direction, divided by a 4’-10” wide concrete median barrier. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: removing and replacing deck joint, deck joint seals and portions of the concrete sidewalk; repairing concrete on the abutment and approach slab; repairing structural steel members and existing fuse box; installing pavement striping; and cleaning and painting steel surfaces and bottom of
stay-in-place form. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the estimated 5-month rehabilitation period. Construction work is expected to begin in early 2017.

Leggett Avenue Bridge over Amtrak. October 2016: Begin and End Approaches. (Credit: NYSDOT)

Span 1, Bottom Sway Strut Bracing Exhibits Severe Deformation and Several Upward Bent Sections due to Vehicular Impact. End Abutment Transverse Deck Joint Steel Armor is Cracked. Deck Joint Header Exhibits Shallow Spalls. (Span 1 and Deck Joint Credit: NYSDOT)

The East 162nd Street Bridge over Metro North was built in 1888. It is a single span steel jack arch bridge with built-up steel beams encased in concrete. There is a fence along both the north and south fascia of the bridge as well as a non-standard decorative bridge rail along the north fascia. The existing bridge geometry consists of one travel lane, a parking lane and a sidewalk in each direction. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: locally removing and replacing the asphalt and concrete overlays and sidewalk; installing pavement striping; repairing guide railing, concrete on the underdeck and abutment, and cracks in the asphalt overlay and sidewalk; cleaning and painting steel surfaces locally; resealing sidewalk joints; and repointing stone masonry. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in April 2016. Work on the top of the bridge is complete and underdeck work continues. Construction is expected to be substantially complete in late spring 2017.
The East 165th Street Bridge over Metro North was built in 1897. It is a single span steel jack arch bridge with built-up steel beams encased in concrete. A chain link fence runs in front of steel railing atop both the west and east fascia of the bridge. The existing bridge geometry consists of one travel lane in each direction on East 165th Street, and one travel lane, a turning lane and a sidewalk in each direction on Melrose/Webster Avenue. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: locally removing and replacing the asphalt overlay and sidewalk; repairing the concrete underdeck; cleaning and painting steel surfaces; resealing sidewalk joints; installing new multi-rotational bearings at the south abutment; partially removing and replacing the bridge seat at the new bearing locations; installing a temporary support system; and performing jacking operations. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in June 2016. Work on the top of the bridge is complete and underdeck work continues.
The East 187th Street Bridge over Metro North was built in 1889. It is a single span steel jack arch bridge with built-up steel beams encased in concrete. The bridge has a chain link fence and a non-standard decorative bridge rail along both the north and south fascia. The existing bridge geometry consists of one 17’ travel lane and an 11’ sidewalk in each direction. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: removing and replacing concrete overlay and waterproofing membrane, concrete sidewalk, corrugated guide rail, bridge railing, chain link fence wire mesh, and steel faced curb and handicap ramp at sidewalk corners; sealing the deck overlay; repairing the concrete underdeck; and cleaning and painting the steel surfaces locally. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in August 2016. Work on the top of the bridge is complete and underdeck work continues. Construction is expected to be substantially complete in late spring 2017.

The Southern Boulevard Bridge over East Fordham Road was built in 1962. It is a two span concrete arch bridge with stone masonry facing on the abutments and spandrel walls. The bridge has a concrete parapet with stone facing topped with a non-standard decorative bridge rail at both the east and west fascia. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes, a turning lane and a sidewalk in each direction, divided by a 4’-3” wide concrete median. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: removing and replacing asphalt overlay, waterproofing membrane and pavement striping; repairing bridge railing, light fixtures and concrete on the underdeck and sidewalk; resealing sidewalk joints and vertical fascia joint at abutment; repointing and repairing cracks in stone masonry; installing weep holes in the underdeck and guard railing; and cleaning fascia stone masonry and catch basins. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in June 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in spring 2017.
The Grand Concourse Bridge over East 167th Street was built in 1923. It is a two span steel girder bridge. The bridge has a concrete sidewalk and concrete parapet topped with a chain link fence at each fascia. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes and a turning lane in each direction on the Grand Concourse, and one travel lane, a parking lane and a sidewalk in each direction on the Grand Concourse service road. The overall structure extends several blocks to the north and south of the Grand Concourse where it carries a two-aisle parking area between the eastbound and westbound ramp lanes of East 167th Street. There is an NYCTA subway station under the Grand Concourse. Both the subway station and the railroad tracks are above East 167th Street. The subway station structures are not included in the scope of the bridge project. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: removal and replacement of asphalt overlay; repairing concrete on the underdeck, abutments, piers, wingwalls and sidewalks; repairing underdeck light fixtures and drain pipe; resealing sidewalk and parapet joints; grouting the gap below the parapet curb along the pavement; and removing graffiti by power wash and applying anti-graffiti protective coating. Vehicular and pedestrian access were maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in January 2016. The Grand Concourse Bridge was substantially completed on December 23, 2016.

The East 180th Street Bridge over Bronx River was built in 1925. It is a single span concrete arch bridge with stone masonry facing. The bridge has a parapet at both the north and south fascia. The existing bridge geometry consists of one travel lane, a parking lane and a sidewalk in each direction; the sidewalks on both sides are protected from the roadway by a concrete barrier. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: replacing pedestrian railing; repairing concrete underdeck, crack, spall and joint seal in concrete barrier, and the retaining wall at the northwest corner of the bridge; resealing sidewalk joints; repointing stone masonry and stone coping mortar joint; cleaning drain holes in the concrete barrier; removing a tree from the south fascia and northwest retaining wall; and removing graffiti by power wash and applying anti-graffiti
protective coating. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in September 2016.

The Riverside Drive Bridge over West 138th Street was built in 1920. It is a single span concrete arch bridge with stone masonry facing on the abutments and spandrel walls. There is a stone parapet on the east and the west side of the bridge. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes and a parking lane in each direction; the bridge also contains a sidewalk on the east side and an entrance to Riverbank State Park on the west side. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: removing and replacing the asphalt overlay; repairing granite and brick pavers and concrete on the underdeck and sidewalk; repointing and repairing cracks in stone masonry joints; resealing underdeck joints; installing weepholes in the concrete underdeck; installing pavement striping; removing graffiti by power wash and applying anti-graffiti protective coating; cleaning and painting steel staircase railing and bollards; and replacing lighting fixture and refurbishing existing fuse box. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in September 2016.
Riverside Drive Bridge over West 138th Street. January 2014: End Abutment. (Credit: NYSDOT)

The Riverside Drive Bridge over West 145th Street was built in 1930. It is a single span concrete arch bridge with stone masonry facing on the abutments and west spandrel wall. There is only one fascia on this bridge; the east side of the arch bridge is a filled backwall. There is a stone parapet on the west side of the bridge. The existing bridge geometry consists of two travel lanes and a parking lane in each direction; the bridge also contains an entrance to Riverbank State Park on the west side. The scope of rehabilitation work shall include the following: clearing and grubbing; removing and replacing the asphalt overlay, concrete overlay, waterproofing membrane and granite and brick pavers; repairing concrete on the underdeck; repointing and repairing cracks in stone masonry joints; resealing underdeck joints; installing pavement striping; removing graffiti by power wash and applying anti-graffiti protective coating; removing and resetting steel gate; and cleaning and painting bollards. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the estimated 4-month rehabilitation period.

Riverside Drive Bridge over West 145th Street. April 2015: Top of Deck, at Entrance to Riverbank State Park. East Abutment Wingwall. (Credit: NYSDOT)

Bicycle use has grown at an unprecedented rate over the last five years in New York City. Currently, the Pulaski Bridge, which connects Greenpoint, Brooklyn with Long Island City,
Queens, merges pedestrian and bicycle traffic into a shared travel lane creating dangerous conditions for both pedestrians and bicyclists. The Pulaski Bridge project will convert one southbound car lane (between Jackson Avenue in Queens and Eagle Street) on the bridge into a protected bicycle lane, giving more room to pedestrians on what is now a shared-use path and calming traffic headed toward McGuinness Boulevard in Brooklyn. A $2.5 million Federal Transportation Enhancements grant awarded by the State will cover some of the $4.2 million costs.

Opened in 1954 and rebuilt in 1994, the Pulaski Bridge is a 44 span bascule drawbridge that opens about 400 times a year, mostly for barges delivering heating oil to a facility on Newtown Creek. The opened drawbridge cannot support the weight of an additional concrete barrier, so in the middle of the bridge, the project will eliminate the barrier that separates the current bicycling and walking path from traffic. On this stretch, pedestrians and cyclists will have physical (metal) separation from traffic, but not between each other. Along other sections of the bridge, there will be two concrete barriers, separating the bikeway from both car traffic and pedestrians. The scope of work will also include installing impact attenuation devices at breaks in barrier system; replacing the finger joint at the center break of the bridge with a bicycle friendly joint; balancing the bascule leaves to accommodate the load of the new barrier; and installing pavement markings and signs for the new bicycle path. Construction work began in September 2015.

Existing and Planned Condition.

By the end of 2015, all cast-in-place concrete barrier closure sections in Queens and Brooklyn were placed, the Brooklyn approach embedded precast concrete barriers were marked by the surveyor, reinforcement was completed for the cast-in-place concrete barrier on the turning lane to the bridge from Jackson Avenue, and the pedestrian/bicycle safety rails were fabricated off-site and delivered to the contractor. Both pre-cast and cast-in-place barriers are required because the cast-in-place sections are anchored to the bridge deck while the pre-cast sections are not. This enables the barriers to perform as a system, protecting all bridge users, by absorbing the energy if struck by a passing vehicle. The project involves nighttime and midday car lane closures, but bicycle and pedestrian access to the bridge are being maintained at all times during construction. The new bicycle path opened on April 29, 2016. The contractor began nightly punch list work in October 2016. The project is expected to be substantially complete in early 2017.
RAMP TO ED KOCH - QUEENSBORO BRIDGE FROM EAST 58TH STREET OVER EAST 59TH STREET, RAMP TO 21ST STREET FROM NY OVER 22ND STREET, 80TH ROAD BRIDGE OVER LIRR MAIN LINE, 71ST AVENUE BRIDGE OVER COOPER AVENUE, HANNAH STREET BRIDGE OVER SIRT SOUTH SHORE, FOREST AVENUE BRIDGE OVER CLOVE LAKES PARK STREAM, DOUGLASTON PARKWAY BRIDGE NORTHBOUND OVER CROSS ISLAND PARKWAY, DOUGLASTON PARKWAY BRIDGE SOUTHBOUND OVER CROSS ISLAND PARKWAY, AND ROOSEVELT AVENUE BRIDGE OVER FLUSHING MEADOW PARK ROAD

A Notice to Proceed for the component rehabilitation of these 9 bridges in Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island was issued to the contractor with a start date of July 13, 2015.

The Ramp to the Ed Koch – Queensboro Bridge from East 58th Street over East 59th Street was built in 1929. It is a twelve span ramp and carries two reversible travel lanes of traffic to (normal daily hours) and from (weekdays morning rush hours only) the Ed Koch - Queensboro Bridge south upper roadway. The bridge has a half jersey barrier running along both sides of the roadway and approaches. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing the concrete wearing surface and replacing with a thin polymer concrete overlay; repairing the deteriorated sections of concrete deck slab; removing armored joints and replacing with armorless joint system; removing and repairing the concrete in piers, the underside of the deck and the curtain walls; repointing of the stone masonry joints; repairing traffic signs and providing new pavement striping; and applying anti-graffiti coating on the repaired concrete surfaces. Vehicular and emergency access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in December 2016.
The Ramp to 21st Street from NY over 22nd Street was built in 1929. It is a 43 span bridge ramp and carries two reversible travel lanes of traffic to (weekdays morning rush hours only) and from (normal daily hours) the Ed Koch - Queensboro Bridge’s south upper roadway in one direction. The width of the bridge varies throughout the spans. The bridge has a half jersey barrier running along both sides of the roadway and the approaches. The bridge superstructure consists of four different types of framing plans and the bridge deck consists of a galvanized stay in place form, concrete filled steel grating and a monolithic concrete overfill. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the concrete wearing surface with a thin polymer concrete overlay; repairing the deteriorated concrete deck slab locations; replacing armored joints with a new armorless joints system; repairing the concrete on the abutment; retrofitting the bearings; improving drainage by cleaning the scuppers; repairing the damaged traffic signs, and providing new pavement striping. Vehicular and emergency access will be maintained during the estimated 8-month rehabilitation period.

The 80th Road Bridge over LIRR Main Line was built in 1909. It is a three span bridge over four railroad tracks. It carries one travel lane, parking lanes on each side, and a bike lane. The bridge
has a sidewalk and a concrete parapet with chain-link fence running along both sides of the roadway and approaches. The bridge superstructure mostly consists of concrete encased steel girders with two exposed steel girders at the south fascia of the bridge. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the north sidewalk, curb, parapet, and removing the sand fill in north sidewalk bay; removing the deteriorated concrete in the girders’ encasement, north fascia, and underside of the deck; removing and replacing the asphalt wearing surfaces on the bridge and at the approaches; removing and replacing the existing northeast and southeast approach sidewalks, and erecting a temporary support shield on railroad tracks. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the estimated 7-month rehabilitation period.

The 71st Avenue Bridge over Cooper Avenue was built in 1934. It is a single span bridge and carries one travel lane, a sidewalk and through girders (acting as a railing), running along both sides of the roadway. The scope of rehabilitation work included the following: removing and replacing the asphalt wearing surfaces on the bridge and approaches; repairing the concrete on the abutments, wing-walls, and underside of the deck; constructing a retaining wall at the south west corner; removing and reconstructing the concrete curb, sidewalk and driveway at the east approaches, and improving the existing under deck lighting. Vehicular and pedestrian access were maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in July 2016, and the project was substantially completed on December 12, 2016.
The Hannah Street Bridge over SIRT South Shore was built in 1935. It is a ten span bridge and carries one travel lane in each direction, a sidewalk, a railing and a steel mesh fence running along both sides of the roadway and approaches. The bridge deck has a steel bridge railing with a chain-link fence running alongside the roadway and approaches. The bridge deck consists of a reinforced concrete slab with integral wearing surface and prestressed concrete beams. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the existing deck and approaches’ wearing surface; waterproofing; repairing the concrete on the abutments, piers and the underside of the deck; removing existing armored joints and replacing with armorless joint systems; cleaning of the curbs; repairing the embankment on the north east approach, and providing new striping. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in October 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in late spring 2017.
The Forest Avenue Bridge over Clove Lakes Park Stream was built in 1906. It is a single span concrete arch bridge and carries one travel lane in each direction, a sidewalk, and a small parapet and low railing running along the southern sidewalk. The bridge deck has an asphalt wearing surface. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the existing nonstandard railing with a standard bridge railing; repairing the concrete on the deteriorated sections of sidewalk; cleaning and repointing of the mortared joints at the wing-walls; installing a new guide railing at the bridge approach; and providing tree and landscape protection within the park land during construction and restoration after construction. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the estimated 3-month rehabilitation period.

The Douglaston Parkway Bridge northbound over Cross Island Parkway was built in 1939. It is a single span bridge over three lanes on the northbound Cross Island Parkway and carries one travel lane, sidewalk, a wide shoulder, and a median. The bridge has a steel bridge railing with a chain-link fence running alongside of the roadway and approaches. The bridge superstructure consists of reinforced concrete beams acting as a rigid frame. The deck consists of a reinforced concrete slab with a concrete fill course and asphalt wearing surface. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the bridge and approaches’ asphalt wearing surfaces, repairing of concrete on abutments and the underside of the deck; cleaning and repointing of the mortared joints in the masonry wing walls; removing and replacing the concrete curbs at the approaches, improving lighting on the underside of the deck; providing new pavement striping, saw cutting the bridge joints on the roadway, and sealing with a sealant. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in April 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in spring 2017.

The Douglaston Parkway Bridge southbound over Cross Island Parkway was built in 1939. It is a single span bridge over three lanes on the southbound Cross Island Parkway and carries one travel lane, sidewalk, a wide shoulder, and a median. The bridge has a steel bridge railing with a chain-link fence running alongside of the roadway and approaches. The bridge superstructure consists of reinforced concrete beams acting as a rigid frame. The deck consists of a reinforced concrete slab with a concrete fill course and asphalt wearing surface. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the bridge and approaches’ asphalt wearing surfaces, repairing of concrete on abutments and the underside of the deck; cleaning and repointing of the mortared joints in the masonry wing walls; removing and replacing the concrete curbs at the approaches, improving lighting on the underside of the deck; providing new pavement striping, saw cutting the bridge joints on the roadway, and sealing with a sealant. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in April 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in spring 2017.
travel lane, sidewalk, wide shoulder, and a median. The bridge has a steel bridge railing with a chain-link fence running alongside of the roadway and approaches. The bridge superstructure consists of reinforced concrete beams acting as a rigid frame. The deck consists of a reinforced concrete slab with a concrete fill course and an asphalt wearing surface. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the bridge and approaches’ asphalt wearing surfaces; repairing the concrete on the abutments and underside of the deck; cleaning and re-pointing of the mortared joints in the masonry wing walls; removing and replacing the concrete curbs at the approaches; improving the lighting on the underside of the deck; providing new pavement striping, saw cutting bridge joints on roadway, and sealing with a sealant. Tree and landscape protection will be provided during the construction. Vehicular and pedestrian access will be maintained during the rehabilitation period. Construction work began in April 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in spring 2017.

The Roosevelt Avenue Bridge over Flushing Meadow Park Road was built in 1936. It is a four span bridge and carries two travel lanes in each direction, a wide sidewalk, and a railing running along both sides of the roadway and approaches. The bridge deck has a steel bridge railing with a chain-link fence running alongside the roadway and approaches. The bridge consists of a reinforced concrete slab. The scope of rehabilitation work included the following: removing and replacing the existing deck and approaches’ asphalt overlay, waterproofing membrane, and sidewalks; repairing the concrete on the abutments and underside of the deck; improving the existing roadway lighting and drainage systems; repointing the mortared joints in the wing-walls and piers; and providing new pavement striping. Construction work began in June 2016, and the project was substantially completed on December 19, 2016.
149TH STREET BRIDGE OVER LIRR

A Notice to Proceed for the structural deck replacement for this bridge was issued to the contractor with a start date of November 30, 2015.

The 149th Street Bridge over LIRR was built in 1924. It is a single-span steel stringer structure and carries one travel lane and one parking lane in each direction, a sidewalk, a railing and a steel mesh fence running along both sides of the roadway. The work performed under this project included replacing the structurally deficient bridge deck constructed under Contract HBCR99B. The reconstruction of the bridge began in May 2010. In May 2012, an independent consultant determined that the deck was structurally deficient due to a shop drawing review error by the design and construction support services consultant. The City has filed a lawsuit against the consultant for this error. The scope of work included the following: installing protective shielding over the railroad during nighttime operations; removing and storing the existing bridge railing and fence; removing and replacing the superstructure slab including the sidewalk and curbing; reconstructing the header on the south abutment and the sidewalks on the south approach to install an armorless joint; reinstalling the bridge railing and fencing along the fascia; sawcutting a groove finish on the bridge deck and applying a penetrating sealer to the top of concrete; and installing traffic striping across the bridge to match the existing striping on the approaches. The project was substantially completed on August 2, 2016, and re-opened to pedestrian and vehicular traffic on August 3.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS


OCEAN AVENUE OVER LIRR BAY RIDGE (BROOKLYN)
The Ocean Avenue Bridge over LIRR Bay Ridge was built in 1908. It was part of the Component Rehabilitation of Ten Bridges Citywide Boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn and Manhattan contract. The bridge is a two-span steel stringer, multi beam or girder bridge, with three travel lanes in each direction, including one parking lane.
The scope of rehabilitation work included the following: removing the existing concrete parapets on both sides of the bridge and replacing them with a new steel bridge railing and protective fence; removing parts of the concrete deck slab and concrete-encased steel stringers below the sidewalk areas and replacing them with new steel stringers and a reinforced concrete slab; installing a new rocker bearing to support the new steel stringers; removing and installing new fences and a new fence gate; replacing a part of the abutment structures to hold a new concrete abutment seat with pedestals; disposing of the building under the bridge area; removing the existing watermains and replacing them with new steel watermains; applying a protective sealer on the concrete surfaces over the bridge seats, pedestals and backwall; removing the graffiti over the abutment, painting the surface to match the existing color and applying an anti-graffiti coating; resurfacing the existing asphalt pavement; replacing the curb and sidewalk on the approach side; repairing the spalls and hollow sounding underdeck area; installing a new armorless bridge joint system at both ends of the bridge; and providing new striping to match the existing one. Construction work was performed in two stages and began in August 2013. The project was substantially completed on October 6, 2016.
EAST 97TH STREET BRIDGE OVER METRO NORTH MAIN LINE, WEST 57TH STREET BRIDGE OVER AMTRAK, MATTHEWSON ROAD BRIDGE OVER MACCRACKEN AVENUE, MOSHULU PARKWAY BRIDGE OVER EQUESTRIAN PATH, EAST FORDHAM ROAD BRIDGE OVER GRAND CONCOURSE, AND EAST DRIVE BRIDGE OVER BRIDLE PATH NEAR ZOO.

A Notice to Proceed for the component rehabilitation of these 6 bridges in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Manhattan was issued to the contractor with a start date of February 22, 2016.

The East 97th Street Bridge over Metro North Railroad was built in 1873. The structure is a one-span bridge and carries two westbound traffic lanes over the Metro North Railroad tracks. There are no parking lanes on the bridge. There are wide concrete sidewalks on each side of the bridge. The bridge superstructure consists of pre-stressed concrete box beam system with a reinforced concrete slab. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: sealing cracks in the concrete overlay on top of the bridge; replacing the expansion joint sealer at the roadway joints; repairing the concrete deterioration of the abutment stems, backwall, and bridge seats; providing an anti-graffiti protection coating at the concrete parapet; cleaning and painting the utility support beams and chain link fence posts, railings; removing and replacing the steel angle plates at the south sidewalk; and miscellaneous repairs of utility conduit supports. Vehicular and emergency access will be maintained during the estimated 8-month rehabilitation period.

The West 57th Street Bridge over Amtrak Railroad was built in 1934. The structure is a three-span bridge that carries 3 westbound and 2 eastbound traffic lanes and wide concrete sidewalks on each side of the bridge. There are buildings adjacent to the bridge on the north and south fascia. The bridge superstructure consists of 22 concrete-encased steel stringers. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: localized repairs to the concrete sidewalk and curbs; removal of the stringer bottom flange encasement; cleaning and painting of the exposed bottom flange; providing a protective shielding over the railroad; repairing of the concrete at the abutments, stem, piers, crashwalls and underside of deck; cleaning and painting the seating angles at the piers and at the steel columns; and anti-graffiti protective coating at the abutment and fascia. Vehicular and emergency access will be maintained during the estimated 8-month rehabilitation period.
The Matthewson Road Bridge over MacCracken Avenue was built in 1975. The structure is a 15 continuous-span bridge that carries one lane in each direction, a sidewalk on the east side and a safety walk on the east side. There are unmarked parking lanes on each side of the bridge. There is a concrete parapet with a chain link fence on the west sidewalk, including planters at several locations. A building used as a public school is located adjacent to the east fascia. The building spans over the Metro North railroad tracks running from north to south under the structure. The Roberto Clemente Park is in the vicinity of the project along the west fascia of the bridge. The superstructure consists of a concrete girder and floorbeam system with an integral concrete wearing surface. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: repairing the deteriorated areas of concrete at columns, top of deck and underside of deck; removing the safety netting at the location of underdeck areas to be repaired; repairing the underside of the concrete deck; reinstalling the safety netting; cleaning joints and replacing the sealing material; repairing the deteriorated areas of concrete at sidewalks, parapets, and curbs; and miscellaneous drainage repairs and installation of box beam pier protection. Vehicular, pedestrian and emergency access will be maintained during the estimated 6-month rehabilitation period. Construction work is expected to begin in spring 2017.
The Mosholu Parkway Bridge over Equestrian Path was built in 1951. The structure is a one-span reinforced concrete rigid frame arch. The bridge carries two travel lanes and a right shoulder lane in each direction of the Parkway. The roadways are divided by a concrete median. The roadway surface consists of an asphalt wearing surface on a concrete deck supported by subbase material on top of the arch. A stone masonry parapet was provided on the south fascia, and a concrete half-section barrier with a stone masonry parapet on the north fascia. The scope of rehabilitation work included the following: removing the existing asphalt concrete on top of the bridge and approaches; repairing the top of the concrete slab; installing a waterproofing membrane and two layers of asphalt; repairing the roadway slab joint; cleaning and replacing the sealing material at the transverse roadway joints; repairing the deteriorated areas of concrete at the abutment stem and the underside of arch; repointing mortar joints at the wingwall; and miscellaneous repairs to the underdeck lighting. Construction work began in June 2016, and the project was substantially completed on December 19, 2016.

The East Fordham Road Bridge over Grand Concourse was built in 1923. The structure is a one-span reinforced concrete rigid frame arch with a filled spandrel. The bridge carries two travel lanes and a bus lane in each direction. There is a concrete pavement slab on top of the fill beneath the asphalt wearing surface. There are no parking lanes on the bridge. Wide trapezoidal shape concrete sidewalks and concrete curbs with steel face were provided on each side of the bridge. The bridge railings consist of reinforced concrete parapets and balustrades with no protective screening. The scope of rehabilitation work includes the following: removing...
the asphalt wearing surface on the bridge area; repairing the top of the concrete slab with a
waterproofing membrane and two layers of asphalt; repairing the deteriorated areas of concrete
at the abutments and the underside of the arch; removing the safety netting to repair the
concrete; installing safety netting; repairing or replacing the concrete sidewalk; restoring the
mortar joints at the spandrel stone copings; replacing sections of the steel faced concrete curbs
and the roadway interface sealer; repairing the deteriorated concrete of the balustrades and
parapets; and performing miscellaneous repairs to the underdeck lighting. Construction work on
this bridge began in April 20, 2016. The project is expected to be substantially complete in spring
2017.

The East Drive Bridge over the Bridle Path in Prospect Park was built in 1910. The structure is a
single span bridge that carries predominantly pedestrians and cyclists and two lanes of one-way
vehicular traffic during restricted hours only. There is a safety walk along the left side of the
bridge and a wide sidewalk along the right side, each with concrete parapets. The scope of
rehabilitation work includes the following: removing and replacing the asphalt wearing surface;
installing a waterproofing membrane and two layers of asphalt; installing new bollards for the
north sidewalk; repairing deteriorated areas of concrete at the underside of the deck, encasement
and curbs; cleaning and painting the exposed structural steel members; and performing
miscellaneous repairs to the underdeck lighting. Vehicular, pedestrian and emergency access
will be maintained during the estimated 5-month rehabilitation period. The construction work on
this bridge began in December 2016, and is expected to be substantially complete in spring 2017.
Engineering Review and Support

IN-HOUSE DESIGN

In-House Design staff prepare plans, specifications, and cost estimates for bridge replacement/rehabilitation projects that enable the Division to restore bridges considered "structurally deficient" to a "very good" condition rating. This unit handles urgent Division projects, as well as special projects under construction by the Bureau of Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations.

The recently reconstructed Bryant Avenue Bridge over Amtrak and CSXT in the Bronx was designed by unit staff and was substantially completed in February 2016. This is a one span structure with a span length of 90 feet. This project included replacement of the steel superstructure, bearings, approaches, water mains, and rehabilitation of the abutments. The new superstructure consists of a reinforced concrete deck over prestressed concrete adjacent box beams. The two old water mains were replaced with two new pipes on top of the north sidewalk in a fenced-off area. As the designer of the bridge, In-House Design was also involved in the construction support services for the duration of construction.

The unit completed the design for the rehabilitation of the Henry Hudson Parkway Viaduct from West 72nd Street to West 82nd Street and the Henry Hudson Parkway Viaduct from West 94th Street to West 98th Street. The rehabilitation work will include the repair or replacement of various deteriorated structural steel members, and repair of the concrete deck, abutments, and retaining walls, as well as the painting of the substructure and superstructure steel. Construction work on these viaducts is expected to begin in mid-2017.

The unit has also completed the design for the demolition of the deteriorated Siah Armajani Lighthouse structure and Pedestrian Bridge near the St. George Ferry Terminal in Staten Island. The artwork was erected in 1996 as a Percent For Art project initiated by the Agency. It consisted of a steel-tube lenticular truss pedestrian bridge extending from the Ferry Viaduct Ramp B to a nine-level, steel-tube lighthouse structure. The scope of work includes removal and preservation of the lighthouse lantern and the stained glass tiles, removal and disposal of the pedestrian bridge superstructure, substructure and footing; removal and disposal of the lighthouse structure; and the installation of pavers in the space created by removal of structures. It is anticipated that the demolition will start in mid-2017 and the demolition duration will be three months.

March 2016: Inspecting the Lighthouse Structure – Administrative Engineer Jagdish Patel, Civil Engineer Lev Gold, Director of In-House Design Ferdinand John, Civil Engineer Gregory Novofastovsky, Assistant Civil Engineer Leonid Sagalovskiy, and Administrative Engineer Sanjeev Patel. (Credit: Vishal Jariwala) September 2016: Inspecting the Boston Road Bridge – Civil Engineers Vishal Jariwala, Ruchit Patel, and Kirollos Dimian, Assistant Civil Engineers Yiu-Cheong Poon, and Irina Volina, Civil Engineering Intern Nelsyda Perez and Assistant Civil Engineer Evgenia Campbell.
The unit continued the preliminary design for the rehabilitation of the East 169th Street Bridge and the East 180th Street Bridge, both over Metro North Railroad in the Bronx. Construction for both bridges is scheduled to start in fiscal year 2019. Both are single span bridges built in 1889. The superstructures will be removed and replaced, and the substructures will be partially rehabilitated.

The unit is currently preparing the preliminary plans for the rehabilitation of the Boston Road Bridge over Hutchinson River in the Bronx. The current scope of work for this contract will include removal and replacement of the concrete deck, including the sidewalks and median, bridge railing, and pedestrian fencing and lighting; the rehabilitation of the concrete substructure and steel superstructure; and the reconstruction of the approach roadways within the project limits. It is anticipated that the construction will start in mid-2021 and continue for three years.

In-House Design’s Electrical Group reviews and/or prepares contract documents for all electrical and street lighting work for all projects on the Division’s Capital Program. Some of the contracts reviewed during 2016 include the emergency contract for the restoration of tunnel systems at the Battery Park and West Street Underpasses; the replacement of the Bruckner Expressway over Unionport Bridge; the rehabilitation of the electrical and mechanical systems of the Madison Avenue Bridge over Harlem River; the rehabilitation of the East 169th and East 180th Street Bridges over Metro North Railroad, and the emergency contract for the Carroll Street Bridge over the Gowanus Canal.

ENGINEERING SUPPORT

BRIDGE PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

In 2016, the Specifications Unit of the Engineering Support Section prepared and/or reviewed contract proposal books and/or specifications for 20 contracts, including 18 bridge rehabilitation and new construction/reconstruction contracts and 2 component rehabilitation contracts, in addition to replying to specification requests for 5 on-going construction projects. Seven of the above contracts totaling approximately $238 million in construction costs were approved by the Law Department and advertised for bid, and 3 are awaiting approval. Five contracts were awarded for construction in 2016.

Notable among the construction contracts prepared and/or reviewed, advertised, sent for bid, and/or awarded were: the 8 Culverts Project in Staten Island, the-Emergency Deck Replacement for the Metropolitan Avenue (Fresh Pond Road) Bridge, the new When and Where contracts for repairs Citywide, the Park Avenue Tunnel, the Westchester Avenue Bridge over Hutchinson River Parkway, the demolition of the Siah Armajani Lighthouse Structure and Pedestrian Bridge, the Bruckner Expressway over Westchester Creek (Unionport Bridge), the Brooklyn Bridge - Rehabilitation of Stone Masonry at Bridge Approaches and Ramps project, the Henry Hudson Parkway viaduct, the component rehabilitation of eight bridges, and the Atlantic Avenue Bridge over LIRR.

The unit also maintains the City and federal boiler plate received from DOT Legal and updates R-pages (revisions to NYSDOT Standard Specifications) as required by the Guidelines for Preparation of Bridge Construction Contract Proposal Book and advises Agency Divisions and consultants on the preparation of contract proposal books and construction contract related issues.

RECORD MANAGEMENT UNIT

The Records Management Unit converted 171,998 TIFF (Tag Image File Format) drawings to PDF (Portable Document Format) format and completed the indexing of 152,158 drawings. Some 200,000 TIFF drawings will be converted to PDF format.
The switch to electronic media and server-based archiving will save money on drawing submissions, and will lead to the establishment of a unified electronic database for bridge archives. Digitizing documents and storing them online, where they are easy to access and print, will simplify contract submission process and cut project costs in the long run.

The Records Management unit reviewed and issued comments on as-built drawings and contract drawings for 35 contracts in 2016, including the rehabilitation of the Roosevelt Avenue Bridge over the Van Wyck Expressway, the replacement of the Bruckner Expressway (Unionport) Bridge over Westchester Creek, the East 8 th Street Bridge over the Access Ramp to Belt Parkway, the component rehabilitation of eight bridges citywide, the rehabilitation of the Atlantic Avenue Bridge over the LIRR, the Westchester Avenue Bridge over Hutchinson River Parkway, the reconstruction of the Belt Parkway Bridge over Bay Ridge Avenue, and the replacement of the Shore Belt Parkway Bridge over Paerdegat Basin.

The Unit also received, reviewed, and responded to 249 requests from numerous NYCDOT units, City and State Agencies, and private consultant companies for information regarding records drawings of City-owned bridges.

SURVEYING

The Surveying Unit staff monitored nine bridges and three retaining walls in 2016: Depot Place Bridge over Conrail Yard, Third Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal, Pelham Parkway Bridge, Stone Arch Bridge in Central Park, Ninth Street Bridge over Gowanus Canal, 17th Avenue Pedestrian Bridge over Belt Parkway, Footbridge over Clove Lake, Woodhaven Boulevard Bridge over Queens Boulevard, Eliot Avenue Bridge over Queens Boulevard, and the retaining walls at Douglas Road, along Pratt Avenue, and at the West 207th Street Bridge over the Harlem River.

ENGINEERING REVIEW

2016 MACY’S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

As in past years, the staff of the Engineering Review Section actively participated in the 2016 (90th Anniversary) Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. The parade started at 77th Street and Central Park West, made its way to Columbus Circle, turned onto Central Park South and proceeded down the Avenue of the Americas to 34th Street, at which point, it made its’ final turn west and ended at 7th Avenue in front of Macy’s Herald Square.

Months before the parade, the engineers reviewed the balloon specifications and flight analyses. A balloon is classified as large if it is larger than 5,000 cubic feet. However, the balloons in the parade cannot be taller than 70 feet, wider than 40 feet, or longer than 78 feet. This project was coordinated with Macy’s and various City agencies such as City Hall, NYPD, NYCDPR, NYCDOB, and NYCOEM.

Division engineers reviewed and approved the design specifications of Trolls, Charlie Brown, and Wimpy Kid, three new large balloons to be introduced in the parade. Director of Engineering Review Uday Dommaraju, Construction Project Manager George Jarvis, and two consultant engineers attended the test flights of the balloons at the CitiField parking lot in Flushing on November 5, 2016, with NYPD and other agencies. A wireless anemometer station was set up to give real time wind speed, and cones were placed out simulating the street envelope. Macy’s performed test flights on each new balloon according to the current wind gust, and flew the balloons to the required flying height.

On November 24, 2016, wind speeds were relatively low and all 16 large balloons flew in the parade without incident. The wind gusts varied between 8 to 15 miles per hour and the weather was mostly cloudy with a temperature around 50°F. Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer, Director of Engineering Review Uday Dommaraju, Construction Project Manager George Jarvis, Civil Engineer Dilip Biswas, Civil Engineering Interns Delin Bixha and Ediant Martinaj, and four
consultant engineers were positioned at various locations along the parade route to observe compliance with the approved procedures. Seven anemometers were mounted on top of light poles along the route between 77th Street and 34th Street to measure the wind speed during the parade. Division and consultant engineers were assigned to the anemometer locations to monitor the wind gusts.

New Balloons in Level Flight Flushing on November 5.

CRP/EXTELL PARCEL H PROJECT

The CRP/Extell Parcel H, LP project (Riverside Drive between 59th and 72nd Streets) includes the construction of eight bridges, a ramp, four relieving platforms, and connector roads along Riverside Drive as a part of the residential and commercial development over the former Penn Central Rail Yard. The project also includes a half tunnel section in what was formerly known as the Miller Highway Tunnel. When completed, the infrastructure network will be transferred to DOT for maintenance. The Division is providing engineering review of the design drawings, as well as quality assurance inspections, to ensure the developer's compliance with DOT's construction and design standards. The bridges are substantially completed and open to traffic. The construction of the tunnel sections was recently completed, and one bridge is currently under construction.

WEST SIDE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (MANHATTAN)

The John D. Caemmerer West Side Yard, completed in 1987, was built to store and maintain commuter rail cars, but it was designed to accommodate air rights development. The Yard is bounded by West 30th and West 33rd Streets, Tenth and Twelfth Avenues. The rail yard is owned by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and used by the Long Island Rail Road.

AMTRAK TUNNEL BOX

Amtrak is building a tunnel box through the project areas to preserve the space for the rail right-of-way known as the Gateway Project. This is the possibility of future expansion of rail service between New Jersey and New York and supports Amtrak’s efforts to improve resiliency in response to future disasters in Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor. The construction of this concrete casing under the 11th Avenue Viaduct is underway. Division staff are actively involved in reviewing the design and construction of the casing to ensure that the structural integrity of the viaduct is not compromised in any way. The construction is scheduled to be completed by early 2017.

RELATED COMPANIES/OXFORD PROPERTIES HUDSON YARDS

The Hudson Yards Project is a mixed-use development of residential, commercial, and civic uses and open space being constructed on a platform over the Yards. Two 72-story residential
buildings, 15 Hudson Yards and 35 Hudson Yards, previously known as the D and E Towers, are under construction bordering Eleventh Avenue. The platform and the buildings will connect to the 11th Avenue Viaduct by constructing an expansion joint between the bridge and the new development. Division staff are actively involved reviewing the design and construction to ensure that the structural integrity of the viaduct is not compromised in any way. The construction is expected to be completed by 2017.

PACIFIC PARK PROJECT (BROOKLYN)
In the summer of 2014, as part of the Pacific Park Project, previously known as the Atlantic Yards, Greenland Forest City Partners began major civil engineering and track work in the LIRR train yard east of the 6th Avenue Bridge. This work will facilitate the future construction of a platform over the yard between 6th Avenue and Vanderbilt Avenue. The project also involves construction of the west portal, which is a new tunnel that will connect the rail yard to the LIRR tracks running under Atlantic Avenue, north of the 6th Avenue Bridge. The west portal will allow empty trains to go directly from the terminal to the yard, rather than backtracking and making a large loop to enter the yard from the east. As a result, track time will be freed up for trains carrying passengers. Division staff are involved in reviewing the design of the underpinning of the south abutment, the support of excavation drawings behind the north abutment, and the temporary supporting system below the north approach slabs, and the review of the monitoring reports. The work in proximity of the 6th Avenue Bridge will continue through the beginning of 2017. The project is slated to run through 2018.
RETAINING WALLS

In May 2005, the Department started a program for the periodic inspection of City-owned retaining walls. The City currently owns 635 retaining walls. Those retaining walls were built during the interstate construction program between the 1940’s and 1970’s and are an important part of the city’s street infrastructure. However, some of them are approaching the end of their service lives and are falling into poor condition due to various factors such as spalling/cracking of concrete, loosened mortar joints, broken stone masonry, falling coping stones, deteriorated joints, leakage through the walls due to improper drainage arrangements (clogged weep holes), bulging of walls due to hydrostatic pressure build-up on the back of the walls, and many other problems. In order to protect the infrastructure they support, the retaining walls require regular inspections and monitoring, and depending upon the condition of the walls, rehabilitation/replacement is required. Since 2005, 25 retaining walls have completed rehabilitation/replacement, and 10 retaining walls are in various stages of design and construction. The retaining walls which are in fair to poor condition will be in a capital program for future rehabilitation.

OVERWEIGHT TRUCK PERMIT REVIEWS

The Overweight Truck Permit Unit receives an average of 100 permit applications per week for overweight/over-dimensional trucks, self-propelled cranes, and occasional superload moves from
utility companies crossing City-owned bridges, including critical bridges such as the Manhattan and Ed Koch Queensboro Bridges. Most of the permit requests must be reviewed and approved on the same day.

**BRIDGE SEISMIC DESIGN AND RETROFITTING**

The seismic retrofitting of bridges in New York City is part of the inspection and rehabilitation program mandated by Congress and administered by the FHWA through the local authorities. During the period of 1993 to 1996, four major bridge owners in the New York City area (NYCDOT, NYSDOT, MTA, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey) retained seismologists to study hard rock seismic ground motions. The rock motions generated by these studies differed from each other and from the AASHTO spectrum as modified by NYSDOT. The differences were such that the resulting retrofit costs varied widely, depending upon which motions were adopted. To resolve this issue, NYCDOT, in association with NYSDOT and the FHWA, retained a consultant to assemble an expert panel to develop recommendations for rock motions that would be adopted uniformly by the New York City region. The panel consisted of a team of six internationally recognized experts in the fields of seismology, geology, earthquake engineering, ground motion, and geotechnical studies. There were several brainstorming workshops held in New York, where the senior officials from NYCDOT, NYSDOT, and the FHWA provided their input to the panel members.

The expert panel formulated recommendations regarding rock motions and corresponding time histories. Subsequently, the consultant derived soil generic response spectra, based on the hard rock motions and NEHRP amplification factors. The consultant also established bridge performance criteria to be used for critical, essential or other bridges undergoing structural analyses. The recommendations are described in the report entitled "New York City, Seismic Hazard Study and its Applications, Final Report, December 1998.” This report is now extensively used by NYCDOT, NYSDOT, the FHWA, their consultants, and other agencies in the New York area for bridge projects. Thus, NYCDOT’s leading role and efforts to establish ground motion standards have brought uniformity in seismic design to the New York City area.

In 2002, the consultant convened a second panel of seismologists to update the 1998 Hazard Study and associated rock motions. On June 3, 2004, after the USGS national hazard maps were adopted by NEHRP, in a meeting attended by NYCDOT, NYSDOT and FHWA, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the new hard rock ground motions recommended by the panel of seismologists.

Following the adoption of the very hard rock motions, the consultant started the preparation of a new edition of the NYCDOT Seismic Design Guidelines for Bridges. Data from geotechnical bridge studies performed within the five boroughs of NYC were compiled. A series of generalized subsurface soil and bedrock profiles were developed to be representative of the range of soil profiles, overburden thickness, and rock types found within NYC. A fully probabilistic approach, utilizing Random Vibration Theory (RVT) in conjunction with the new hard rock ground motions, (from the 2002 Hazard Study) and the generalized NYC subsurface profiles, was used to develop vertical and horizontal Uniform Hazard Spectra (UHS), which, in turn, served as the starting point to derive design rock and soil response spectra. The method allowed computation of soil UHS, while preserving the hazard level of the very hard rock UHS. It accounted, in a rigorous probabilistic manner, for variations and uncertainties in soil stiffness, stress-strain nonlinearity, and material damping; depth of soil to rock; and, stiffness of the rock under the soil.

Generic horizontal and vertical design spectra were derived using the calculated UHS as the starting point. Generic design V/H ratios to be used in site-specific studies to generate site specific vertical motions, were also produced. All the generic soil curves are presented as a function of three parameters: soil class; depth to rock; and, rock class under the soil.
The development of these parameters for the NYCDOT Guidelines represent a significant improvement to the previous guidelines and other codes, since it will result in better representation of the ground motions at a bridge site, bringing closer the generic ground motions to those that could be obtained from site-specific studies. The fact that the new guidelines better fit the specific characteristics of the NYC region, will permit the engineers to evaluate the need for retrofitting existing bridges or strengthening new ones at the right places.

Recommendations for liquefaction evaluation are also provided in the guidelines, including recommendations for earthquake magnitude and peak ground surface accelerations, which are critical parameters for evaluating liquefaction potential and which have not been included in previous guidelines. The new document also includes recommendations for site-specific studies, providing guidelines and minimum requirements that must be satisfied. These include: procedures to establish soil horizontal and vertical design motions; recommendations to evaluate the effects of the depth to the rock surface; recommendations to account for uncertainties in the soil properties; minimum requirements to establish lower bound horizontal design motions; recommendations for time history analysis of bridges; recommendations for the incorporation of spatial variation effects in the analysis; and different requirements for critical and non-critical bridges site-specific studies.

The final draft of the new NYCDOT Seismic Design Guidelines for Bridges was submitted to NYSDOT for peer review in September 2008. The peer review was completed and the final version of the blue pages submitted to NYSDOT in December 2015 for review and approval. NYSDOT approved the blue pages on June 01, 2016 and announced the availability of the “NYSDOT LRFD Blue Pages” dated July 9, 2016 by issuing EI 16-016. These guidelines were officially adopted for the seismic and retrofit design of bridges in the “Downstate Zone”: the counties of Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond, Nassau, Rockland, and Westchester.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

In 2016, the Environmental Engineering staff of the Quality Assurance section continued to provide expertise and oversight of the various environmental issues of the reconstruction of the Fresh Creek and Gerritsen Inlet Bridges in the Belt Parkway Project. This includes monitoring and oversight of wetland restorations, management of storm water erosion and run off controls, asbestos and lead paint abatement, hazardous waste management, spill control/management, management of waste water, and groundwater/soil management. Additionally, the unit was involved with the design review of the Mill Basin Bridge to ensure that all environmental issues are included in the project specifications and contract documents. The unit also works closely with project management and resident engineering staff through periodic meetings and site visits to ensure that environmental permits, work procedures and construction operations are in compliance with NYSDEC, US EPA and NYCDEP. The unit continues to provide environmental management on the Brooklyn Bridge, Macombs Dam Bridge, Mill Basin and Gerritsen Inlet Bridges over the Belt Parkway, Harlem River Drive Bridge over the 127th Street Viaduct, City Island Bridge, Component Rehabilitation projects, and emergency work over water projects.
Bridge Maintenance, Inspections and Operations

EAST RIVER BRIDGES ANTI-ICING PROGRAM

Traditional snow and ice control practices rely heavily on the use of salt, a material known to corrode steel and accelerate the deterioration of concrete and asphalt surfaces. A new method of snow and ice control was needed to protect the City’s $4.3 billion investment in the rehabilitated East River Bridges. This method, known as anti-icing, involves the application of a chemical freezing point depressant to the roadway surface to prevent snow and ice from bonding to the roadway. Frequent plowing removes any accumulation of unbonded snow or ice before traffic is affected.

The Division’s Anti-Icing Program uses the liquid chemical potassium acetate and aggregate chemical sodium acetate. The anti-icing fleet consists of twenty-two application trucks, five plow trucks and several smaller plows. Ten of the spray trucks are combination spray/plow trucks with a 1,000 gallon tank capacity, and five are spray-spreader/plow trucks with a 360 gallon spray capacity, and a nine cubic yard spreader capacity. There are twenty chemical storage tanks, with a total storage capacity of 114,250 gallons.

New anti-icing yards storing both chemicals have been established under all four East River bridges. Supervisors monitor the bridge decks during storm events by traversing them and using thermal instrumentation installed in their vehicles to make informed decisions as to when to apply chemicals. GPS capabilities have been installed in key vehicles to assist supervisors with the decision making process.

In the winter of 2015 - 2016, a total of 7,750 gallons of potassium acetate and 109 tons of sodium acetate were applied on the roadways of all four East River Bridges.

INSPECTIONS

In 2016, Inspections covered 109 bridges and 610 spans. Emphasis was placed on ensuring public safety through the monitoring of potentially hazardous conditions and temporary repairs. The unit performed 974 monitoring inspections, including special winter monitoring inspections of cellular structures, shorings, and potential fire hazards. In addition, 125 emergency inspections were conducted in response to hot line calls, in-house requests, or citizen complaints.

2016: Inspecting 27th Avenue Pedestrian Bridge over Belt Parkway in February. East 77th Street (Glade Arch) in April. Center Drive (Playmates Arch), Henry Hudson Parkway Ramp Near 79th Street, Hillside Avenue Bridge Over Cross Island Parkway, and Woodhaven Boulevard Bridge Over Atlantic Avenue in June. East 128th Street Pedestrian Bridge in July. Fremont Avenue Pedestrian Bridge, and Tompkins Avenue/B&O Railroad (Abandoned) in August. Brooklyn Bridge Sidewalk and Northern Boulevard Bridge over Cross Island Parkway in October. East 103rd Street Pedestrian Bridge and Grand Concourse over East Burmese Avenue Bridge in November. Merrick Boulevard Bridge over Laurelton Parkway Southbound and Jackson Avenue Bridge over LIRR (With LIDAR Equipment) in December.

October 2016: Bridge Inspectors Civil Engineering Intern Sung Hun Kim and Assistant Civil Engineer Syed Mahmood Participating in an MTA Safety Class. A Full Day Class is Mandatory Every Two years for Anyone Working on MTA Tracks. November 2016: Emergency Inspection of the Unionport Bridge Using a Barge. (Credit: Bojidar Yanev)
The Bridge Data System (BDS) allows inspection reports to be generated and transmitted electronically. It provides access to data from the latest inspection reports on all bridges to all Division units. In addition, when an emergency arises, our inspectors are able to send photographs and other information to the main office via a wireless connection to the internet. This feature enables bridge repair engineers to assess the condition and dispatch repair crews with the appropriate equipment in a timely manner. The updated version of the system was field tested by the contractor and the Bridge Management Unit in 2012 and was fully implemented in March 2013.

A future contract is anticipated to expand the BDS capabilities by incorporating data from capital reconstruction projects. Additional features will include in-depth inspection reports by consultants as well as GPS data.

Since 2002, the Division stores all bridge inspection reports in electronic format. Flag reports are now also transmitted electronically. As of September 2003, standard inspection work is funded by a federal grant. Emergency response inspections and administrative support remain city funded.

The Bridge Management Unit developed a map of truck routes and bridges under capital contracts for the purposes of the Truck Permits Unit. This unit also provided Bridge Maintenance with estimates of the life-cycle benefits of various maintenance tasks, obtained by the software package designed for that purpose.

In-Depth Inspections are more detailed in scope than the federally-mandated biennial and interim inspections. Their findings can be used for advanced structural analysis, ultimately resulting in a legally binding load-rating of the structure. In 2016, two in-depth inspections teams were staffed and fully equipped. To that end, the Bridge Management Unit acquired a Lidar high-definition laser scanning system. The system supplements In-Depth Inspection reports with high-precision 3-D laser scans of bridges. The scans can be used to verify existing drawings or provide as-built drawings where none currently exist. Once the scans are processed, 3D CAD models can be generated. The 3D models can then provide cross-sectional details, accurate vertical clearance measurements or even before and after scans for bridges that are frequently damaged by impacts from trucks. The first in-depth inspection reports have already been transmitted to the Load Rating Unit within the Bureau of Engineering Review and Support.
In 2016, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) transitioned their inventory and inspection system over to the new AASHTO Element Inspection System. This transition is necessary to meet the new requirements established by the Federal Government. This will be a radical transformation from the one the NYSDOT has used since the late 1970’s and will require the City to make major changes to our operations. It will likely also require the re-training of existing personnel and the replacement of existing software applications.

STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING

The Bridge Inspection and Management Units have pioneered the use of various nondestructive tests on City bridges, including X-ray diffraction, fiber optics, strain-gauging, ground penetrating radar, and ultrasonic testing. Future applications of such technologies are under consideration. For demonstration purposes, the Manhattan Bridge was surveyed with a radar scanner. The results indicated that the stiffening of the bridge has reduced its torsional motion under subway traffic very significantly. The results matched independent measurements by Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

In November 2010, the cable research project moved to its final phase as sensors were installed on Cable "D" of the Manhattan Bridge with the help of bridge maintenance personnel. The data collection from the instruments in the cable was concluded in October 2011. As part of the project, a unique magnetic flux field test was conducted on the cable. The method was developed by Japanese researchers specifically for this test. Its purpose is to estimate the amount of healthy steel in the cable without exposing the wires. The findings were presented at the Agency by the researchers in February 2011. This capability will be considered for future inspections of suspension cables. The final report, published by the Federal Highway Administration, advanced the state of the art of suspension bridge cables. Further tests of the effects of dehumidification and heat on cables are in progress.
In 2014, an existing engineering services agreement (ESA) contract was used to install a remote monitoring system on selected spans of the Manhattan approach to the Brooklyn Bridge. Under the ESA, select locations were instrumented with fiber optic sensors that allow for real time, online monitoring of existing flagged conditions. Crack sensors, displacement sensors, temperature sensors, and tilt meters were utilized to monitor changes of crack widths, foundation settlement, temperature fluctuation, and wall rotation, respectively. The system was also designed to send out alert messages to Division personnel should certain conditions arise during the monitoring of these flags. The sensors have demonstrated which flagged conditions are the most active and will need to be watched carefully. The sub-consultant completed the migration of the web-based system from their own servers to a cloud-based storage solution under the control of the Agency’s information technology department. The forthcoming rehabilitation of the approach spans will benefit from the information collected through this monitoring.

The Brooklyn Bridge Manhattan Approach, Arch Block B Elevation. June 2015: Director of Bridge Management Kevin McAnulty Utilizing a Borescope. June 2015: Director of Bridge Management Kevin McAnulty Inspecting the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Between Cadman Plaza and Atlantic Avenue With a Borescope. (Credit: Bojidar Yanev)

In 2014, the Bridge Management Unit finalized the installation of a real-time on-line system for monitoring the abutments and piers of three bridges in the Bronx identified as vulnerable to scour. Solar panels were installed at each location to supply power to the various instruments and computers installed at each bridge. The computers then send the information that was gathered from the monitoring equipment wirelessly to a remote web server where bridges personnel can monitor conditions in real time. In 2015, the server was turned over to the Agency and our IT department is now managing the hardware. Recommendations were also made to the NYC Parks and Recreation Department for the permanent repairs to the scour conditions at the Magnolia Way Bridge. In 2016, it was determined that changes to the system would be needed to deal with the large trees and other damaging debris that frequently collide with the sensors at Magnolia Way. The new equipment will include a night vision camera, more robust and easily-replaceable sensors that can accurately determine the current riverbed level, and upgraded computer hardware and software. The new system will be installed in 2017.

CLEANING

In 2016, 7,292 cubic yards of debris were removed from bridges and their surrounding areas, and 1,038 drains were cleaned.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS


Debris and Sediment Fully Clogging a Scupper on the Northbound Roadway of the Boston Road Bridge over the Hutchinson River. Scupper After Cleaning.

April 2016: Cleaning and Washing the Ward’s Island Pedestrian Bridge. (Credit: Alaina Yuresko) May 2016: Washing the Underdeck of the Ed Koch – Queensboro Bridge. (Credit: Bojidar Yanev)

PIGEON DETERRENCE

Excessive numbers of pigeons cause property deterioration, unsafe working conditions and health hazards. Besides being unsightly, accumulation of pigeon droppings and feathers is corrosive to steel structures and raises concerns about health hazards. Many disease organisms have been associated with pigeons. They harbor ectoparasites which can infest or bite humans. Pigeon droppings also harbor fungi that can trigger serious, even fatal, lung diseases such as Histoplasmosis, Cryptococosis and Toxoplasmosis, when the spores are transmitted to humans who breathe in the harmful dust.

The Division utilizes a relatively low tech, and passive, approach to deterring pigeons. In 2006, the type of barrier used to cage out pigeons was changed from the drop ceiling method to netting.
The netting is supported by steel cables that are clipped to the beams. This method is currently in use under the Brooklyn Queens Expressway (over Prospect Street), at the Pulaski Bridge, under the Brooklyn Bridge at “Ash Alley,” and at the anti-icing tank storage area under the Brooklyn Bridge at Dover Street.

We continue to use a new method on the flanges over the north sidewalk at the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway over Atlantic Avenue: a gel, whose active ingredient is capsaicin, that is applied to the spots where unwanted birds would normally perch. The burning sensation caused by the capsaicin irritates the birds’ feet and results in them roosting elsewhere. Evaluation in 2016 found that this method was still effective.

In 2016, pigeon dropping removal and/or pigeon proofing were performed at the Third Avenue Bridge, the Williamsburg Bridge, and Cross Bay Boulevard over South Conduit Avenue.
BRIDGE CLASSIFICATION

The Coast Guard regulations, which govern the operation of the City’s movable bridges, define the owner’s responsibility to the mariner by classifying a bridge as “open on demand” or “open on advance notice.” An “on demand” bridge provides an immediate opening to any vessel wishing to pass the bridge. An “advance notice” bridge opens after the mariner requests an opening several hours in advance. “On demand” bridges must be staffed at all times. “Advance notice” bridges are staffed only when necessary. DOT redesigned the work process in order to reduce personnel costs to the City and improve the delivery of services to the maritime community.

In October 2000, the Department implemented the United States Coast Guard-approved changes, establishing a four-hour notice for the Harlem River bridges, and a two-hour notice for the remaining “advance notice” bridges. The “on demand” classification remains for three bridges. The revised advance notice requirements allowed the formation of mobile crews with overlapping responsibilities, meeting the mariners’ needs and, in some instances, improving service by providing two mobile crews to expedite a vessel’s travel along a waterway.

The reduction in planned personnel saves approximately $1,074,068 annually. In addition, bridge operational capabilities, general maintenance, and debris and snow removal have been enhanced through the more efficient utilization of existing personnel.

The reconstruction of the Mill Basin Bridge (part of the second Belt Parkway Group) began in June 2015. The new bridge will be a fixed structure with a 60-foot clearance over Mean High Water, obviating the need for opening and closing the structure to accommodate tall vessels.

The Shore Road Bridge over Hutchinson River will be replaced with a new bridge built with a higher clearance, thereby reducing the number of times the bridge must be opened. At that time, we can determine if advance notice is justified.
## ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PLANNED PROJECTS

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**When and Where Unit**

The work under these contracts includes the repair of flag conditions by performing structural rehabilitation, maintenance and replacement of components, primarily on bridges. Steel work may include: removing existing rivets and/or bolts and replacing with new high strength bolts; welding sections of steel plates to existing steel members, when necessary, as part of the rehabilitation work; reconstructing connections between steel members, when necessary, as part of the rehabilitation work; replacing or reconstructing steel members and bearings including beams, webs and flanges, column angles, channels and stiffeners; replacing deck expansion joints; replacing guard, bridge and hand railings of various types, in kind; rebuilding staircase; and replacing bridge deck gratings and support steel. Concrete work may include: removing and replacing sections of concrete retaining or abutment wall and foundation, including bearing pedestals, where required; removing spalling concrete surfaces (including shotcrete or gunite) and replacing with mortar or structural concrete; resetting masonry facing on pier walls; removing areas of deteriorated sidewalk and/or roadway deck, and replacing with new concrete sections; removing existing curbs and pouring new steel faced curbs in place; drilling weepholes in retaining walls; installing piles under water; modifying staircase; placing specialized concrete overlays on structural slabs; and replacing/rehabilitating masonry parapets. Miscellaneous work may include: providing temporary shoring of beams, stringers and columns; cleaning clogged catch basins and drainage systems; removing and replacing existing drainage systems; rebuilding areas of erosion and provide slope control (Rip-Rap); paving roadway surfaces; cleaning and removing debris on or under structures; installing and removing traffic barricades; repairing and replacing fencing; excavating and disposing of all materials encountered where required; painting existing metal surfaces and coat concrete surfaces with waterproofing material; furnishing and driving sheeting and piles; repair of existing piles; and demolition of highway and bridge structures, whole or in part.

In 2016, the following structures were worked on under the Division’s When and Where contracts: Westchester Avenue Bridge over Hutchinson River Parkway, Depot Place over Metro North, Pedestrian Bridge at West 73rd Street over HHP – Amtrak, Ramp to Henry Hudson Parkway over Amtrak West Side, West 181st Street Pedestrian Bridge over Henry Hudson Parkway Northbound, Boston Road over Hutchinson River, Brooklyn-Queens Expressway over Nassau Street, 81st Street Pedestrian Bridge over Belt Parkway, 92nd Street Pedestrian Bridge over Belt Parkway, Crocheron Park Pedestrian Bridge over Cross Island Parkway, 28th Avenue Pedestrian Bridge over Cross Island Parkway, Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge over FDR Drive, East 6th Street Pedestrian Bridge over FDR Drive, East 114th Street Pedestrian Bridge over FDR Drive, East 120th Street Pedestrian Bridge over FDR Drive, Williamsburg Bridge over East River, West 207th Street/West Fordham Road (University Heights) Bridge over Harlem River, Grand Concourse over Metro North, East 149th Street/Jackson Avenue over Metro North, Hill Drive (Terrace Bridge) over Prospect Park Lake, West 148th Street Pedestrian Bridge over Amtrak, West 173rd Street Pedestrian Bridge over Amtrak, Motor Parkway (Pedestrian) Bridge over Springfield Boulevard, Motor Parkway (Pedestrian) Bridge over Hollis Court Boulevard, Arthur Kill Road Bridge over SIRT, West Footbridge over Clove Lake, East Footbridge over Clove Lake, Bridge over Dam at North End of Clove Lake, Bridge South of Brooks Lane over Stream in Park, Footbridge South of Forest Avenue over Stream in Park, Tompkins Avenue Bridge over Greenfield Avenue, Hempstead Avenue Bridge over Cross Island Parkway Ramp Northbound, 79th Street Pedestrian Plaza over 79th Street Boat Basin Garage, 79th Street Traffic Circle over 79th Street Pedestrian Plaza, 79th Street Ramp to Garage over 79th Street Boat Basin Garage, Garage Ramp to 79th Street over 79th Street Boat Basin Garage, Southbound Henry Hudson Parkway Ramp to 79th Street over 79th Street Boat Basin Garage, and West 191st Street Pedestrian Tunnel to Broadway – IRT #1 Subway.

At the Westchester Avenue Bridge over the Hutchinson River Parkway, the unit was called upon to perform red flag repairs on the damaged structural beams and support as a result of an unauthorized commercial truck hitting the structure. The emergency itself was responded to by the Bridge Repair Unit which performed temporary “make safe” repairs, allowing the Where and When Unit time to obtain the proper details for more intense permanent repairs. The repair effort
required a great deal of coordination with local entities and many nights and weekends of replacing critical supporting members. The repairs were extensive enough that they were broken down into 8 separate flags.

At the West 191st Street Pedestrian Tunnel, in response to numerous complaints from constituents and elected officials, the unit was assigned the task of repairing more than a dozen quality of life and minor structural repairs. Some of the conditions, such as damaged concrete steps, were addressed first as safety issues. Some of the other conditions were related to water penetrating the concrete walls, causing slippery conditions during cold weather, and an unpleasant odor during high heat temperatures. The unit, in collaboration with its contractor, researched the latest methods in repairing these often difficult and near impossible deficiencies. The repair efforts also included the installation of French drains set into the existing concrete walkway. With a new paint job, the installation of art, and new lighting, the once unpleasant trek through the underpass is now a pleasurable walk for thousands of commuters. More than a dozen flags were repaired under this assignment.

MARINE WHEN AND WHERE

New York State DOT conducts the underwater inspections of our waterway structures. A contract was needed to facilitate the performance of marine repairs and to maintain structures in need. The objective is to perform marine structural repairs and maintenance together with other appurtenant work, which constitutes repairs of defective and deteriorated parts of bridge structures due to, and in a water environment. The Department has neither the in-house staffing nor the equipment to handle this type of special work. These repairs could not be handled under the usual time and materials When and Where contract. This work is unique, in that it requires a consultant with licensed underwater capability to supervise and inspect the work for compliance and adequacy. Furthermore, detailed note taking is necessary by the inspectors to check and approve payments for the contractor’s work.

The work under these contracts includes the repair of flag conditions by performing structural rehabilitation, maintenance and replacement of components, primarily on bridges and fender systems, either performed on land or with the use of a barge. The work may include: Filling in spalled concrete areas in abutment faces below the water line with grout or marine epoxy mortar; replacing/repairing timber fenders that have missing or rotting boards, as needed; replacing or providing additional cribbing timber and backfill where gaps allow backfill to wash out underwater; pumping grout and adding scouring protection where concrete abutments, piles, and columns exhibit undermining and/or timber piles are exposed at the mud line; replacing or repairing dolphin piles and steel cables that are damaged or need replacement; repairing columns and piers underwater or at water level, as necessary; installing piles under water where required; drilling weep holes in retaining walls where required; furnishing and driving sheeting and piles where needed; removing and replacing sections of concrete retaining or abutment wall and foundation where required; rebuilding areas of erosion and providing slope control; removing spalled concrete surfaces, and resetting masonry facing in pier walls; repairing and replacing fencing; removing and replacing existing drainage system components; cleaning and removing
debris on or under structures; installing or removing traffic barricades; excavating and disposing of all material encountered where required; demolition of bridge components whole or in part; cleaning clogged catch basins and drainage systems; priming existing metal surfaces with a non-corrosive coating and coating concrete surfaces with waterproofing material; furnishing and driving sheeting and piles; repairing existing piles; and demolition of highway and bridge structures, whole or in part.

Marine bridge repairs addressed in 2016 include Boston Road over Hutchinson River, Depot Place Bridge over Metro North, Footbridge over Clove Lake, Hill Drive (Terrace Bridge) over Prospect Park Lake, and the West 207th Street Bridge over Harlem River.

Some of these locations experience repeated damage due to heavy marine traffic and/or a narrow channel. The issuance of new flags occasionally necessitates new visits to even recently completed projects. Timber fender systems especially susceptible to recurring hits by barge traffic, and consequently require periodic restoration in relatively short time periods. In addition to damage due to impact, timber elements are also replaced because of deterioration and attack by marine borers, whose activity has vastly increased as the water quality in the New York City area has improved.

On the heavily traveled Hutchinson River Parkway Bridge over Hutchinson River, severe deterioration of key structural steel elements supporting the steel grid deck of the southeastern quadrant of the span forced urgent measures to be taken, first, by providing immediate temporary replacements to take over part of the lost support capability, and subsequently, by installing new steel replacement “sleeper” beams and heavy local support at deteriorated stringer sections.

At the Depot Place Bridge, after many years of exposure to the harsh elements surrounding a navigable waterway, the seawall cofferdam and pavement supported by both had seen the end of the cycle of their useful life span. As such the Marine When and Where Unit was assigned the arduous task of replacing these key elements in an effort to maintain the surrounding infrastructure. The unit installed a new concrete seawall and reinforced the existing steel cofferdam, as well as performing roadway restoration. Some of the work included the fabrication and installation of steel cages, and the placement of concrete in addition to H-Piles and the strengthening of steel members with protective coatings. Approximately 8 flags were closed as part of this effort.

The West 207th Street (University Heights) Bridge over the Harlem River connects West 207th Street in the Inwood section of Manhattan and West Fordham Road in the University Heights section of the Bronx. It is a swing type bridge that opens to allow marine traffic to pass along the Harlem River. The fender system is required to protect the Bridge and the marine traffic when the Bridge is in the open position.

During the construction phase of the project to replace the north and south fender system, further issues were found beneath the center pier system. Although a full-length timber pile was not feasible, the unit and its contractor determined a way to conduct a difficult but attainable repair. A change in design was initiated to introduce steel H-piles spliced together. This method made it
feasible to install a full pile length under the bridge.

During the demolition of the north end of the existing fender, marine borers were discovered in the southern yellow pine piles. To help guard against future marine borer attacks, the new fender piles, wales, bracing, and sheathing will all be made out of greenheart lumber, species *chlorocardum rodiei*. Greenheart lumber is being used increasingly throughout the New York harbor for its resistance to marine borers. An added benefit of greenheart lumber is that it is stronger and stiffer than other species of wood traditionally used in marine construction. For example, greenheart is approximately three times as strong and three times as stiff as southern yellow pine.

The replacement fender will replace the existing fender system largely “in-kind” in the sense that the fender will maintain the same footprint as the existing fender and will employ timber framing. The existing Western annex, added in the late 1980’s will not be demolished and will be incorporated into the replacement fender system.

The salvage and restoration operations commenced in October 2015, utilizing barge-mounted cranes and associated salvage equipment situated in the East Channel. To date, all dislodged piles and bracing elements have been removed from the East Channel river bed, and the contractor received approximately 400+ new timber piles in early 2016. The project is scheduled to be completed by August 2017.
PAINTING

In 2016 the following bridges were painted as part of the in-house maintenance program: Brooklyn-Queens Expressway West Leg over 30th Avenue, Brooklyn-Queens Expressway East Leg over 32nd Avenue, 49th Street Bridge over Grand Central Parkway, West 181st Street Bridge over Ramp to Washington Bridge, Brooklyn-Queens Expressway over 34th Avenue, Fleet Walk Pedestrian Bridge over Navy Street, Brooklyn-Queens Expressway over 35th Avenue, Belt Parkway Bridge over Bedford Avenue, Tudor City Place over East 42nd Street, Rust Street Bridge over Flushing Avenue, Grand Concourse over East 170th Street, Boston Road Bridge over the Hutchinson River, and Miller Highway (Joe DiMaggio Highway) over Terrain.

In 2016 the following bridges were painted as part of the capital program: Sunrise Highway Westbound over Belt Laurelton Parkway Eastbound, 163rd Avenue Pedestrian Bridge over Hawtree Basin, 102nd Street Bridge over Hawtree Basin, Ramp to Linden Boulevard over South Conduit Avenue, Queens Boulevard over Jackie Robinson Parkway, Woodhaven Boulevard Bridge over Atlantic Avenue (in progress), South Conduit Boulevard Bridge over Belt Southern Parkway, and Riverside Drive Viaduct over West 125th to West 134th Streets (in progress).

In 2016, the following structures and/or facilities were also painted: Greenpoint Yard, Pulaski Bridge House, 424 Wythe Avenue (offices), 372 Kent Avenue (offices), Madison Avenue Bridge House (bathrooms), 59 Adams Street, West 206th Street Yard, North 6th Street at Kent Avenue, 17 South 6th Street, Kent Avenue Carpenter Shop (moveable bridge components), Harper Street Maintenance and Repair Shops (garages), Maspeth Sign Shops (offices and shop areas), and the 59th Street Ironworker Shop.
During 2016, the following structures were also painted during the winter: Department of Environmental Protection facilities at Flushing Bay (108 Street Pumping Station), 26th Ward Water Treatment Plant, and Coney Island Water Treatment Plant.

The following locations were also worked on in support of the DOT Iron Worker Shop: Grand Street Bridge, Manhattan Bridge, Westchester Avenue Bridge over Hutchinson River Parkway, 59 Adams Street Ironworker Shop, Williamsburg Bridge, Ocean Avenue Bridge over Belt Parkway, Union Street Bridge, Unionport Bridge, and the Pulaski Bridge.

The American flags on the Brooklyn Bridge were lowered to half-mast by Division painters in 2016 in tribute to former Chief Judge Judith Kaye (the State’s first female Chief Judge and first woman appointed to the Court of Appeals), United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, Former First Lady Nancy Reagan, former Administration for Children’s Services and Fire Department Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta, Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), Memorial Day, Staff Sergeant Miguel Colon-Vazquez, the victims of the June 12 Orlando, Florida shooting, Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr., the victims of the July 7 Dallas, Texas shooting, the victims of the July 14 Nice, France attack, the police officers attacked on July 17 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks, Deputy Chief Michael J. Fahy, former Israeli President Shimon Peres, Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson, NYPD Sergeant Paul Tuozzolo, Veterans’ Day, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, and Senator and Mercury Seven Astronaut John Glenn.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL

In 2016, 4,459,500 square feet of graffiti were eliminated. This program focuses its primary attention on the four East River bridges, as well as the following 21 arterial highways: Clearview Expressway, Gowanus Expressway/Belt Parkway, Major Deegan Expressway, Harlem River Drive, Van Wyck Expressway/Whitestone Expressway, Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, Jackie Robinson Parkway, Sheridan Expressway, Hutchinson River Parkway, Henry Hudson Parkway,
West Shore Expressway, Richmond Parkway, Martin Luther King Jr. Expressway, Staten Island Expressway, Bruckner Expressway, Prospect Expressway, Grand Central Parkway, Long Island Expressway, Cross Bronx Expressway, Nassau Expressway, and the Bronx River Parkway.

April 2016: Removing Graffiti on the Manhattan Bridge. At the Removal Demonstration: Deputy Director of In-House Painting Earlene Powell, Supervisor Bridge Painter Cesar Pazmino, Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, and Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer.

During 2016, graffiti was also removed from the following structures and/or facilities: Cross Island Parkway and 88th Street, Furman Street and Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, the Five Boro Bike Tour Route (Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens portions), McGuiness Boulevard and Clay Street, Willis Avenue Bridge, 181st Street and Webster Avenue, Tillary Street at Fleet Walk Pedestrian Bridge, 78th Street and Woodhaven Boulevard, 77th Avenue and 81st Street, Summer Streets locations, Miller Highway, Woodhaven Boulevard over Queens Boulevard, Cross Island Parkway, FDR Drive, U.S. Open (Flushing Meadows), Union Street Bridge, Greenpoint Avenue Bridge, Glendale Avenue at 80th Street, Sheridan Expressway, Carroll Street Bridge, Hamilton Avenue Bridge, Grand Concourse and East 170th Street, Harper Street Yard, 59th Street Bridge (Vernon Avenue and 2nd Avenue), Broadway Bridge, Belt Parkway Bridge over Bedford Avenue, Wards Island Bridge, Madison Avenue Bridge, Pelham Bay Bridge, the NYC Marathon Route, Woodhaven Boulevard over Atlantic Avenue, and Havermayer Street at Williams Avenue.

RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS

In 2016 research work and/or case histories of the Division were presented in the following proceedings:


Municipal Engineers of the City of New York, New York City, 24 February 2016. Ferdinandsen, W., Gallo, F., and Wang, J. *Reconstruction of the Belt (Shore) Parkway Bridges.*


New York Metro Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers, New York City, 19 April 2016, Collyer, Robert O. *Brooklyn Bridge Current and Future Work.*


In addition, the Division sponsors an in-house lecture series, inviting speakers from industry and academia several times a month. Highlight topics of the presentations in 2016 included: fatigue crack monitoring, wearing surface repairs, health monitoring technologies, drone inspection demonstration, the Honshu –Shikoku Bridge Authority, pothole repair, spray-on waterproofing membranes, bridge design and analysis software, and infrared deck scanning demonstration.

April 2016: The Department of Sanitation Requested Assistance Because Rocks had Slid Down From a Rock Outcropping on the East Side of Sedgwick Avenue Between University Avenue and 167th Street. Tractor Operator Andrew Mondi. Assistant City Highway Repairers James Kelleher, Anthony Angioletti, and James Cummings, and Highway Repairer Jonathan Adorno. Cleared Condition. (Credit: Paul Schwartz)
June 2016: Summer College Intern Jimmy Yeung, College Aide Philipp Zagika, and Oiler Thomas McCarthy on the Macomb’s Dam Bridge During Hydraulic System Exercising. Diver Ascending Stairs on Barge Adjacent to the Bridge. (Credit: Vera Ovetskaya) July 2016: Assistant Mechanical Engineers Shyam Baidya and Vera Ovetskaya and Mechanical Engineering Intern Nazary Davydovych Checking Results on the Ninth Street Bridge. (Credit: Jimmy Yeung)

Commissioner Polly Trottenberg Climbed the Brooklyn Bridge in August 2016. Director of Special Projects Madeleine Ehrlich, Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer, and Deputy Director of In-House Painting Earlene Powell. Executive Deputy Commissioner for Strategic and Agency Services Joseph Jarrin. Supervisor Bridge Painter Cesar Pazmino Demonstrating Flag Change Preparations. Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Director of In-House Painting Earlene Powell, and Chief Bridge Officer Robert O. Collyer with Staff Including Bridge Painters Sean Gabler, Vlatko Zic, Wayne George, and Carlos Mata, and Supervisor Bridge Painter Cesar Pazmino. (Credit: Bonny Tsang)
August 2016: The Parapet Wall at the Woodhaven Boulevard Bridge over Queens Boulevard was Severely Deteriorated. Division Maintenance Crews Removed the Leaning Parapet Wall, Cleaned the Area, and Installed Jersey Barriers With Fencing. Supervisor Bricklayer Edward Alfano, Cement Mason Warren Chiles (Obscured), Bricklayer Louis Giarratano, Cement Mason Clifton Gravesande, and Bricklayer Ralph Sciaretta. Assistant City Highway Repairer Krishna Evans and Highway Repairer David Russell. In October, Modifications Were Made to the Temporary Pedestrian Protection System That was Installed in August. Assistant City Highway Repairers Michael Marquez, Edward Alfano Jr., and Anthony Connelly, and Highway Repairer Thomas Cruz. (Credit: Paul Schwartz)

September 2016: Bridge Repairer and Riveters Trained on New Fleet Equipment on the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge. This Under-Bridge Inspection Truck Will Allow our Bridge Inspectors and Ironworkers More Efficient and Safe Access to Inspect and Repair our Bridges and Hard-to-Reach Locations Throughout the City. (Credit: Daniel Malone)
Assistant Civil Engineer Clara Medina Inspecting a PIA Safety Flag at the Manhattan Bridge Tower. (Credit: Daniel Wynne and John Mcallister)

November 2016: Ironworkers Repairing a Diaphragm Connection on the East 128th Street Pedestrian Bridge After a Recent Truck Strike.