

## Reconstruction of the 145th Street Bridge Over the Harlem River

Boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx  
March 2006 - September 2007



New York City  
Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor



New York City  
Department of Transportation  
Iris Weinshall, Commissioner

### BRIDGE HISTORY & PROJECT OVERVIEW

New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) is reconstructing the 145th Street Bridge over the Harlem River, connecting 145th Street in Manhattan with 149th Street in the Bronx. Constructed in 1905, the bridge was improved in 1957 by building approach spans over the Harlem River Drive and improved again in 1989 by constructing three spans over the Oak Point Link railroad underpass. The bridge is a swing-type, movable bridge that opens when marine vessels need to pass. The original 145th Street Bridge exhibits the effects of age, weather and the continual daily usage by motor vehicles and pedestrians. The bridge reconstruction will replace the entire bridge in three stages with limited impact on motorists, pedestrians, and nearby communities. There will be little or no impact on marine traffic throughout the project. The new swing span is being fabricated and assembled off site, and will be floated into place to minimize impact to the public. Contract completion is scheduled for September 2007.

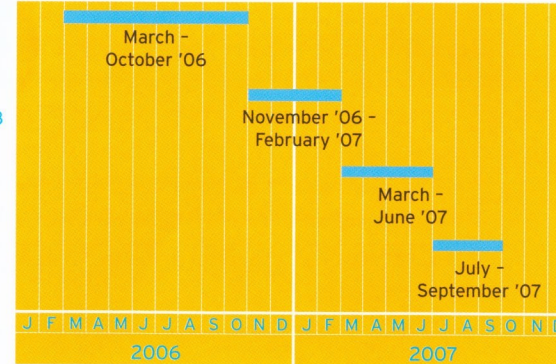
### CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE, BY STAGES

Stage 1  
PARTIAL CLOSURE

Stage 2 &  
Beginning of Stage 3  
FULL CLOSURE

Stage 3 Continues  
PARTIAL CLOSURE

Miscellaneous Work  
NO PERMANENT  
CLOSURE



#### Stage 1: March - October 2006

During this stage, the north half of the bridge is closed for construction; however, the south half will remain open to pedestrians and to vehicular traffic in both directions (one lane of traffic in each direction).

#### Stage 2 & Beginning of Stage 3: November 2006 - February 2007

During this stage, the bridge will be completely closed to vehicular traffic and pedestrians; therefore, pedestrians must use adjacent bridges or consider taking subways or buses for travel between the Bronx and Manhattan. Also, motorists are advised to follow detour



signs and variable message boards to alternate routes, via the Macombs Dam Bridge, the Madison Avenue Bridge, the Third Avenue Bridge and the Willis Avenue Bridge (See Travel Advisory Section below). Several major development and concurrent construction projects in the area may contribute to delays and congestion. Therefore, please allow extra travel time in case of delays.

#### **Continuation of Stage 3: March - June 2007**

During this period, the south half of the bridge will be closed for construction; however, the newly constructed north half will be open to pedestrian and to vehicular traffic in both directions (one lane of traffic in each direction).

#### **Project Closeout: July - September 2007**

During the final months of the project miscellaneous work including testing and final inspections will be performed. All traffic lanes and sidewalks will be open. Temporary bridge closures during off-peak hours are required for mechanical testing.

### **TRAVEL ADVISORY DURING FULL CLOSURE**

#### **Pedestrians**

Pedestrians must use adjacent bridges (the Macombs Dam or the Madison Avenue Bridges) or may take a subway or bus for travel between the Bronx and Manhattan. The 2, 4, and 5 subway lines stop at 149th Street, Grand Concourse in the Bronx. The 3 subway line stops at 145th Street, Lenox Avenue/Malcolm X Boulevard in Manhattan.

#### **Bus Passengers**

The BX 19 line, between Southern Boulevard/NY Botanical Garden in the Bronx and East 149th Street/Riverbank State Park in Manhattan will be detoured. For more information, log on to [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) or telephone (718) 330-1234 between 6AM and 10PM [non-English assistance (718) 330-4847] or use Guide-A-Ride maps and schedules on many bus stops. Please allow extra time when taking the bus.

#### **Motorists in Manhattan proceeding to the Bronx**

- Motorists on the FDR Drive northbound and traveling north on local streets (from south of 125th Street) should use the Willis Avenue Bridge.
- Motorists between 125th to 145th Streets should use the Madison Avenue Bridge.
- Motorists above 145th Street should use the Macombs Dam Bridge.

#### **Motorists in the Bronx proceeding to Manhattan**

- Motorists on the Major Deegan Expressway northbound and on local streets south of 149th Street should use the Third Avenue Bridge.
- Motorists from local streets north of 149th Street or in the northern section of the Bronx should use the Macombs Dam Bridge.
- Motorists on the southbound Major Deegan Expressway should continue to use alternate Harlem River crossings such as the Triborough Bridge.

#### **Hours of Work**

Construction activities are generally conducted on Monday through Friday from 7:00AM to 3:30PM. Night work and full bridge closures (during stages 1 & 3) are occasionally required for safety reasons over the Harlem River Drive to demolish or to install heavy material. These activities are not allowed during daytime hours on the bridge. Certain bridge reconstruction activities may also be conducted during evening hours or on weekends to keep the project on schedule.

#### **Expediting the Work**

To expedite the completion of the project and minimize the impact to the community and to the traveling public, there is a financial incentive/disincentive in the construction contract that specifies certain dates for completion of the stages and the reopening of travel lanes. If the contractor completes the work early and reopens the travel lanes before a milestone date, a financial incentive is awarded. Conversely, if the contractor fails to meet a milestone date, a monetary disincentive will be imposed for each late day.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

The NYCDOT has taken steps to reduce disturbance to nearby residents, businesses, schools and senior centers in the Bronx and Manhattan.

- Traffic Enforcement Agents are utilized to direct traffic and assist pedestrians.
- To tow disabled vehicles from the Bridge, please call (718) 764-0698.
- Variable message boards and construction detour signs are utilized to alert motorists to construction detours and alternative routes.
- NYCDOT Engineer's Field Office at the bridge continuously monitors the project.
- A Community Liaison is available to provide information regarding the project, and to answer questions.
- Updates regarding construction activities will be provided regularly.
- The contractor receives financial incentives to finish early and incurs disincentives for delay.



## OVERVIEW OF HARLEM RIVER ALTERNATE CROSSINGS



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call 311 for additional information, or with a problem, or comment. The 311 system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Check NYCDOT's website anytime at [www.nyc.gov/calldot](http://www.nyc.gov/calldot). In addition, NYCDOT has retained a Community Liaison, Martha Holstein, who will work with you. She can be reached at (718) 219-1606, or by email at [mholstein@urbansol.com](mailto:mholstein@urbansol.com).

## PROJECT TEAM

**Owner & Designer** - NYC Department of Transportation Division of Bridges  
**Prime Contractor** - Kiewit/TullyJV  
**Resident Engineering Consultant** - Parsons  
**Construction Support Services** - HNTB  
**Project Community Liaison** - Strategic Urban Solutions, Inc.