



New Kosciuszko Bridge

Construction Advisory: August 2016

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has awarded a \$555 million contract to construct Phase I of the new Kosciuszko Bridge. Upon completion, the new bridge will improve traffic safety, reduce congestion and improve travel speeds.

Please find below some of the work activities scheduled for the month of August 2016 that could impact you:

Brooklyn Connector, Brooklyn Approach and Local Street Reconstruction

- Temporary closure of Vandervoort Avenue underpass, between eastbound and westbound Meeker Avenues, for partial removal of existing BQE structure.
- Temporary closure of Morgan Avenue underpass, between eastbound and westbound Meeker Avenues, for partial removal of existing BQE structure and installation of new steel beams and concrete deck panels. During this time, there will be partial closures (left lane) of Meeker Avenue in the vicinity of Morgan Avenue.
- Temporary shifting of eastbound Meeker Avenue traffic, between Morgan and Vandervoort Avenues, to establish work zone needed for roadway reconstruction and paving.
- Pile driving operations and start of construction of new abutments at Varick Avenue under the BQE viaduct, between Thomas and Anthony Streets.
- Pile driving operations for new abutments at Vandervoort Avenue, between eastbound and westbound Meeker Avenues.

Queens Connector, Queens Approach and Local Street Reconstruction

- Temporary closure of 56th Road, between Laurel Hill Boulevard and 43rd Street, for placement of concrete on the new bridge deck.
- Preparatory work for construction of new pedestrian bridge at Laurel Hill Boulevard and LIE Interchange, including pile driving and installation of textured concrete fascia walls (T-walls).
- Temporary closure of 56th Road, between Laurel Hill Boulevard and 43rd Street, for installation of utilities.

Some of the previously-initiated work continuing in August includes:

Brooklyn Connector, Brooklyn Approach and Local Street Reconstruction

- Shifting of westbound BQE traffic onto new BQE roadway alignment.
- Implementation of turning restrictions at Morgan Avenue to facilitate the reconstruction of eastbound Meeker Avenue (through August 2016): **All Traffic** – temporary elimination of **right turns** from eastbound Meeker Avenue to Morgan Avenue; **Truck Traffic Only** – temporary elimination of **left turns** from eastbound Meeker Avenue to Morgan Avenue.
- Installation of new water main on Morgan Avenue, between eastbound and westbound Meeker Avenues.
- Placement of concrete slabs for roadway deck for new Brooklyn connector, between Vandervoort and Stewart Avenues.
- Closure of Varick Avenue, between Thomas and Anthony Streets, for partial removal of existing BQE structure and roadway reconstruction (through November 2016).
- Construction of new abutments at Morgan Avenue under the BQE viaduct.
- Removal and reconstruction of the BQE structure, between the westbound BQE off-ramp (Exit 34-Meeker/Morgan Avenues) and Apollo Street. Two (2) 11-foot-wide lanes will remain open at all times.
- Implementation of one-way traffic patterns on Vandervoort and Morgan Avenues under the BQE viaduct. Continuing through the end of 2016, only northbound Morgan Avenue traffic and only southbound Vandervoort Avenue traffic will be permitted beneath the viaduct.
- Closure of the sidewalk on eastbound Meeker Avenue, between the BP gas station and Vandervoort Avenue, and the sidewalk on Vandervoort Avenue, between eastbound Meeker Avenue and Anthony Street.
- Realignment of eastbound Meeker Avenue, including installation of new sidewalks and curbs, between Morgan and Vandervoort Avenues.

Queens Connector, Queens Approach and Local Street Reconstruction

- Placement of concrete slabs for roadway deck for new Queens connector, between 55th Avenue and 54th Road.
- Placement of concrete for new Queens approach structure.
- Continuation of construction and shifting of traffic onto new BQE on-ramps: from westbound LIE to westbound BQE and from Laurel Hill Boulevard to westbound BQE.
- Closure of 54th Avenue, between Laurel Hill Boulevard and 43rd Street (until further notice), for removal of portion of 54th Avenue viaduct, underground utility work on 54th Avenue and construction of new abutments.

Advance notices for specific activities will be distributed to residents and businesses prior to the start of work (water interruptions, traffic lane closures, detours, etc.)

The construction schedule is subject to change due to weather and unforeseen field conditions.

For information on project-related lane closures on the BQE and LIE Interchange, please check postings on 511ny.org; call 511; or visit the Kosciuszko Bridge website at www.dot.ny.gov/kbridge/closures.

The project team will make every effort to minimize impacts during this large construction project. However, some disruption and inconvenience typically occur on any construction project, including changes to vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns, loss of parking, noise, vibrations, and dust. To promptly and proactively address community concerns, NYSDOT has hired a full-time **community liaison, Christine Holowacz**. Christine is available to answer your questions, provide additional information and assist you in resolving construction-related issues. She can be reached at (347) 988-4412 or Kosciuszko@dot.ny.gov.

Please look for and observe all construction signs in the area. We appreciate your cooperation during construction of this historic bridge.