

Where to Find Traffic Information

by Christine Bruzzese

Reports on Bridges and Tunnels.

Department of Transportation (DOT) publishes *New York City Bridges and Tunnels Annual Condition Report*. This report discusses the conditions, design and construction programs, accomplishments and annual statistics for bridges and tunnels maintained by DOT. Holdings are from 1977 to present. *Bridge Traffic Volumes* presents average daily and hourly traffic volumes for 47 bridges operated by DOT and 9 bridges and tunnels maintained by Metropolitan Transportation Authority Bridges and Tunnels. Also included are historical annual statistics dating back to 1948 when these figures were first kept and a summary of trends and events over the yearly period. Coverage is from 1975 to 2002.

Annual Reports. The Department of Highways and Department of Traffic, precursors of DOT, produced *Annual Reports*, as did DOT. Department of Traffic published reports from 1951 to 1967, detailing programs for controlling and relieving traffic congestion and insuring safe traffic conditions. Statistics are also included. The Department of Highways oversaw streets and highways. Its *Annual Report* published from 1963 to 1967 explains the agency's functions and accomplishments. Find out more about the proposed Lower Manhattan Expressway in the 1967 report, for example. Holdings are complete. DOT also prepared *Annual Reports* for 1984 to 1988, which discuss the year's goals and accomplishments in maintaining roads and bridges, enforcing parking

violations, transportation safety, ferry operations and other functions. The City Hall Library maintains complete holdings of all of these publications.

Traffic Rules and Regulations.

Current traffic rules are published as Title 34 of the *Rules of the City of New York*. Earlier versions were prepared by Department of Traffic or Department of Transportation periodically from 1951 to 1988. When the Police Department had jurisdiction over traffic regulation, they prepared editions of their rules in 1938, 1943 and 1948.

Administrative Law Judge Manual.

The *Administrative Law Judge Manual* (1993) and its predecessor *Parking Violations Bureau Manual* (1979) explain the operations of the Parking Violations Bureau and the adjudication process. Procedures for serving summonses are examined as well as the hearing process and the role of the judge. Various violations are defined and explained as is the process of hearings by mail. Please note that internal codes for violations are not provided.

Websites. The Department of Transportation website at www.nyc.gov//dot provides links to maps, rules and publications. Try www.nyc.gov/records under "Publications" for current reports from DOT and other agencies on the subject of "Transportation."