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BRIDGE AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES DATE FOR CASHLESS TOLLING AT THE KINGSTON-RHINECLIFF BRIDGE

The New York State Bridge Authority has announced that cashless tolling will be implemented at the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge at midnight on the morning of Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Motorists will experience non-stop travel under gantries with state-of-the-art sensors and cameras that read E-ZPass tags and take license plate images. Vehicles with E-ZPass tags will be automatically charged and vehicles without E-ZPass tags will have their license plate image captured and a toll bill mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle via Tolls by Mail NY.

Cashless tolling is already in use on the Authority's Newburgh-Beacon, Bear Mountain, and Rip Van Winkle bridges. After the Kingston-Rhinecliff's cashless tolling system goes live, the Mid-Hudson Bridge will be the last Bridge Authority span to go cashless. The conversion to cashless tolling is expected to be fully complete across all of the Authority's spans by March 2022.

The new cashless tolling system will allow for safer and more seamless travel on the bridge's west approach. The current tollbooths will be demolished soon after the switch to cashless tolling takes place.

In addition to smoother and safer travel, cashless tolling also offers environmental benefits due to less engine idling and wasted fuel, leading to fewer vehicle emissions.

All drivers without an E-ZPass tag are strongly encouraged to obtain one to take advantage of savings and convenience. Tags can be ordered at <u>www.e-zpassny.com</u> or picked up at a number of <u>retailers</u> across the State. NY E-ZPass users pay discounted toll rates at Bridge Authority facilities and on other toll roads within the E-ZPass network.

Non-E-ZPass customers have a number of options to pay, including by mail, over the phone, online, and via the Tolls NY app. Customers who call **826 from most mobile devices will receive a text

message with a link to the Tolls by Mail NY website (<u>www.tollsbymailny.com</u>) and information on how to pay their toll bill. All Tolls by Mail customers will pay the full rate on tolls.

The Bridge Authority recommends all drivers download the <u>Tolls NY mobile app</u> to easily keep track of E-ZPass statements and pay Tolls by Mail invoices.

Information about the cashless tolling project can be found on the Bridge Authority's website, <u>www.nysba.ny.gov</u>, and its social media pages.

About the New York State Bridge Authority

The New York State Bridge Authority operates the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon, Mid-Hudson, Kingston-Rhinecliff and Rip Van Winkle Bridges. It also owns and maintains the structure of the Walkway Over the Hudson pedestrian bridge. The Authority is funded principally from bridge tolls and receives no state or federal tax monies for bridge maintenance and operation. Learn more at <u>www.nysba.ny.gov</u>. The New York State Bridge Authority can be found on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/NYSBridge</u> and on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/NYSBridge</u>.

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