Rehabilitation of the Hicks Street Wall
Mitigation Measures for Noise and Dust Control

Project Purpose and Need

The wall supporting the BQE along Hicks Street is deteriorated with portions of concrete showing spalls as deep as 6” and exposed reinforcing steel with marked section loss. Condition inspection reports from a 2017 inspection highlighted these deficiencies and an accelerating rate of deterioration over inspections performed in prior years. Since 2017, the wall has been consistently monitored and its structural integrity has become compromised. In the interest of public safety, an immediate repair is warranted. The rehabilitation will include removal of all the existing structural concrete to 1-2 inches behind the front mat of the existing reinforcement; installation of new rebars and placement of new concrete. The curb and safety walk will also be removed and replaced.

Starting Monday, October 5th the exit ramp will be fully closed to the public while repairs are conducted.

Anticipated Impacts and Mitigation Measures

NYCDOT will monitor conditions throughout the duration of the project and employ measures to mitigate construction-related impacts as necessary. Additionally, a liaison will be available to respond to concerns raised by community members, and one-week construction look-ahead schedules will be issued each Friday.

DUST: Concrete will be removed from the wall in small pieces, chips and dust. All of the material removed is standard concrete commonly used in bridge and highway construction, and does not contain asbestos or other contaminants. The dust becomes hazardous only in high concentrations. Health and Safety regulations limit exposure to this material in such concentrations for all workers, and public exposure levels will be below all regulations.

- **Wetting Methods:** When jack hammering or power chipping, the surface will be wetted and a water delivery system will supply a continuous spray of water at the point of impact to limit the amount of dust released into the air. The resulting slurry will be cleaned up to prevent it from drying and releasing dust into the air.
- **Vacuum Dust Collection Systems (VDCS):** Tools will be equipped with shrouds and vacuums to collect dust where practical.

In situations where neither of the above methods can be employed, individual isolated containment (tarpaulins around work platforms) will be put in place.

NOISE: Given the nature of the work and equipment used, some noise is expected. Noise levels will remain compliant with the City’s limits, and NYC DOT will make every effort to curb excessive noise.

- **Sound blankets** on temporary fencing will be deployed in the event of excessive noise levels.
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*Images depict representative equipment similar to that which will be used to complete this project.

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