

Theodore Roosevelt Bridge

Washington, D.C. | Moveable Median Application



ROAD ZIPPER™

Theodore Roosevelt Bridge

CASE STUDY
FOR MANAGED LANES

Increased Capacity, Reduced Congestion, Enhanced Safety

The Washington, D.C. DOT has been operating with Quickchange® Moveable Barrier (QMB®) technology on the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge since 1997. The moveable barrier was installed to provide more lanes into and out of Washington, D.C. This is just one of many moveable barrier sites throughout the Northeast Corridor.

The moveable barrier system enables the DOT to quickly reconfigure traffic lanes and directional capacity on the bridge in less than 15 minutes (the bridge is just under one mile in length). The Barrier Transfer Machine (BTM) safely transfers the barrier one or two traffic lanes at speeds from seven to ten miles per hour. A magnetic tape grooved into the pavement guides the BTM and ensures precise placement of the barrier wall.

Moveable barrier maximizes existing capacity by creating reversible lanes and contraflow operations. This proactive solution and those of other local transportation agencies in the Northeast Corridor have reduced head-on collisions while improving traffic flow.

The Theodore Roosevelt Bridge had been previously restricted to a maximum of six lanes, with three dedicated lanes in each direction. When the median was removed and replaced with moveable barrier, bridge capacity increased by one-third with four lanes in the peak traffic direction. According to local officials, “The moveable barrier has given us the ability to significantly improve traffic flow into and out of the District by making better use of all the lanes on the bridge.”



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