



16591  
05 JAN 2022

## ***PRELIMINARY PUBLIC NOTICE D05PPN-04-2021***

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District has received a proposal from the City of Wilmington with plans for construction of two new railroad drawbridges over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Cape Fear River, one immediately south of the US74/76 (Cape Fear Memorial Bridge), mile 26.8, and one between mile 30.2 and mile 30.3, at Wilmington, NC.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The proposed project is to construct two new railroad bridges to bypass the existing freight rail route between the railyard in Navassa, NC (Davis Yard) and the Port which will eliminate 32 at-grade crossings. The purpose of the project is to improve safety, regional mobility and freight rail operations, while also improving the resiliency, reliability, and operational fluidity of the sole freight rail route connecting southeastern North Carolina with the Port of Wilmington.

### **MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:**

<b><u>Proposed Bridge 1</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed Bridge 2</u></b>
Vertical Clearance:	Vertical Clearance:
Open – Unlimited	Open - 135 feet above mean high water
Closed – 9 feet above mean high water	Closed - 20 feet above mean high water (for train crossings)
	Partial Open - 40 feet above mean high water (when not open or closed)
Horizontal Clearance: (normal to axis of the channel)	Horizontal Clearance:(normal to axis of the channel)
102 feet between the bridge protective system	250 feet between the bridge protective system
North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88)] (Existing and Proposed bridges)	

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

Mariners are requested to provide navigational information, such as the sizes and types of vessels presently owned and operated on the waterway and nature of navigation (including the extent of nighttime navigation) on the waterway. Mariners are requested to comment on the navigational clearances and need for bridge protective systems, clearance gauges, and navigational lighting on the proposed bridge. Please submit the attached response form.

Interest parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed project. Comments will be received for the record at the office of Commander (dpb), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 through **04 FEB 2022**.

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HAL R. PITTS  
Bridge Program Manager  
By direction

This is a Web-searchable copy and is not the official, signed version; however, other than the signature being omitted, it is a duplicate of the official version.

Attachments: (1) Response Form

Wilmington Rail Realignment  
 Cape Fear River, immediately south of the US74/76 (Cape Fear Memorial Bridge), mile 26.8  
 at Wilmington, NC  
**Preliminary Public Notice D05PPN-04-2021**  
 Response Form

It is requested that anyone having an interest in this proposed project, from the standpoint of navigation, submit vessel information, comments, and recommendations on this form to the office of Commander (dpb), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 by **04 FEB 2022**.

<b>Vessel Information</b>	Please provide all requested information:
Vessel Type	
Use – <i>Commercial and/or Recreational</i>	
Vessel Height	
Draft	
Length	
Beam	
Tonnage	
Mooring Location	

Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments and Recommendations:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Wilmington Rail Realignment  
 Cape Fear River between mile 30.2 and mile 30.3  
 at Wilmington, NC  
**Preliminary Public Notice D05PPN-04-2021**  
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Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments and Recommendations:** \_\_\_\_\_

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