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16591 January 30, 2024

# PUBLIC NOTICE 01-24

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District has received application materials dated December 15, 2023, from ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ADOT) for approval of location and plans for the replacement of a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**BRIDGE, WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Alabama State Route 16 (US-90) Bridge across the Tensaw and Spanish Rivers mile 0.0 between Mobile and Baldwin Counties, Mobile and Spanish Fort, AL.

#### **CHARACTER OF WORK:**

The Alabama State Route 16 (US 90) bridge is a twin span bridge that has 2 westbound lanes and 2 eastbound lanes. ADOT proposes to replace the existing westbound bridge with a new 2 lane bridge that has a vertical clearance of 27.3' and a horizontal clearance of 115.2'. The new bridge will be built adjacent to and south of the current westbound bridge. During construction both current bridges will be open to vehicle traffic. Once the new bridge is completed, ADOT will remove the old westbound bridge.

## MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The proposed replacement bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. These clearances are an increase from current clearances over this section of the waterway at or near this mile.

	Existing	Proposed
Vertical	26.25 feet at Mean High Water	27.3 at Mean High Water
Horizontal	115 feet	115.2 feet

Datum: NAVD88

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)is the lead Federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is acting on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard for all environmental control laws. A Categorical Exclusion dated June 30, 2023, was issued, pursuant to NEPA, as amended. The U.S. Coast Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not

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have a significant impact for the purposes of NEPA for the project. Documents are available for review online at <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/reportaconcern.html">https://www.dot.state.al.us/reportaconcern.html</a> or reviewed at the above address, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, for this project was issued by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management on December 14, 2020.

The bridge is not located in the flood plain. The 100-year flood elevation is 15.4 feet, while elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 1.07 feet. Elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum. Approximately 40,567 cubic yards of fill material will be placed below mean high water level for the construction of the bridge and approaches.

## **SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

Mariners are requested to comment on the proposed navigation clearances, placement of a bridge protective system and other navigational safety issues, including need for clearance gauges and extent of nighttime navigation to determine the need for bridge lighting. Interested parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project including its possible impacts to navigation.

We will forward comments of an environmental nature such as those regarding wildlife refuges, public parks, historic sites, wetlands, floodplain issues, air, water quality, environmental justice, etc. to the FHWA. Comments will be received for the record at the address noted in the header or via email D08-DG-District\_DPB@uscg.mil through February 29, 2024.

Map of location and plans attached.

DOUGLAS BLAKEMORE Chief, Bridge Administration Branch By direction of the Commander Eighth Coast Guard District

"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."





