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29 SEP 2025

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC NOTICE D05PPN-08-2025

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Coast Guard East District has received a proposal from the Maryland Transportation Authority with plans for replacement of an existing highway fixed bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Chesapeake Bay, mile 138.0, between Sandy Point and Kent Island, MD, and 138.1 between Kent Island and Sandy Point, MD.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The proposed project is to replace the existing Chesapeake Bay Bridge eastbound 2-lane structure and westbound 3-lane structure with two (2) new structures carrying four (4) or five (5) lanes in both directions. The existing structures will be removed in their entirety. The purpose of the project is to address existing and future transportation capacity needs, reduce congestion, improve travel times and reliability, mobility, and roadway deficiencies. The project will also accommodate maintenance activities and navigation across Chesapeake Bay and at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge approaches of the US 50/301 corridor, while minimizing impacts on local communities and the environment.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<u>Chesapeake Bay: Western Channel</u>	<u>Chesapeake Bay: Western Channel</u>
Vertical: 185 feet above mean high water ¹ 182 feet above mean high water ²	Vertical: 230 feet above mean high water ⁷
Horizontal: 1,500 feet between bridge piers ³ 1,533 feet between bridge piers ⁴	Horizontal: 1,500 feet between bridge piers ⁸
<u>Chesapeake Bay: Eastern Channel</u>	<u>Chesapeake Bay: Eastern Channel</u>
Vertical: 58.0 feet above mean high water	Vertical: 58.0 feet above mean high water
Horizontal: 690 feet between bridge piers	Horizontal: 690 feet between bridge piers

¹ South structure (eastbound)

² North structure (westbound)

³ South structure (eastbound)

⁴ North structure (westbound)

⁷ Both new structures

⁸ Both new structures

Mezick Pond Entrance Channel: ⁵

Vertical: Not Applicable

Horizontal: Not Applicable

Kent Narrows Bridge: ⁶

Vertical: 65.0 feet above mean high water

Horizontal: 75 feet centered on axis of channel

Mezick Pond Entrance Channel:

Vertical: 31.5 feet above mean high water

Horizontal: 75 feet centered on axis of channel

Kent Narrows Bridge:

Vertical: 65 feet above mean high water

Horizontal: 75 feet centered on axis of channel

North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) used for 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 bridges.

Interested 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), Coast Guard East District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 at D5Portsmouth-BridgesPublicNotice@uscg.mil through **October 14, 2025**.

HAL R. PITTS
Bridge Program Manager
By direction

⁵ Crossing of Mezick Pond Entrance Channel by new north structure if north alignment is selected

⁶ Bridge will be increased in width (out-to-out distance) to accommodate additional travel lanes