

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Coast Guard East District

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16591
11 MAY 2026

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC NOTICE D05PPN-03-2026

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Coast Guard East District has received a proposal from the AMTRAK with plans for a replacement of an existing railroad drawbridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Gunpowder River, mile 78.86, at Chase, MD.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The proposed project is to replace the existing AMTRAK Gunpowder River Rail drawbridge (fixed in closed position) with a fixed bridge in the same vicinity and remove the existing drawbridge.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Vertical Clearance: 12 feet above mean high water	Vertical Clearance: 15 feet above mean high water
Horizontal Clearance: (normal to axis of the channel) 35 feet between pilings	Horizontal Clearance: (normal to axis of the channel) 35 feet between pilings

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 bridge.

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 **June 11, 2026**.

HAL R. PITTS
Bridge Program Manager
By direction