

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
United States Coast Guard  
Seventh District

909 SE 1st Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33131  
Staff Symbol: (dpb)  
Email:  
Lisia.j.kowalczyk2@uscg.  
mil

January 24, 2024

## PUBLIC NOTICE 02-24

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District, has received application materials dated 15 November 2023 from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for approval of location and plans for the replacement of a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**BRIDGE, WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Cortez Bridge across GICW/Sarasota Bay, mile 87.4, on SR 684, at Bradenton Beach, Manatee County, Florida. 27°28'7.30" N, -82°41'35.83"W (27.46869, -82.69328)

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** Proposed replacement of the existing low level moveable bascule highway bridge with a high-level fixed highway bridge. The existing bridge has been determined to be structurally deficient. The overall length of the bridge will be 2,930.5 ft long. The out-to-out width will range from 68.25 ft to 79.33 ft. The proposed bridge will improve vehicle travel and improve pedestrian facilities. The existing bridge will be removed in its entirety. Due to the size of the bascule piers, blasting may be necessary. A blasting plan will be coordinated with the appropriate agencies for review and approval. A temporary bridge will not be required, but a construction trestle will be used to access from each bridge end.

### 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 Closed	17.5 ft	65 ft
Vertical Open	Unlimited	65 ft
Horizontal	90 ft	100 ft

**Datum:** NAVD88

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The FDOT is the lead Federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FDOT is acting on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard for all environmental control laws. A Categorical Exclusion was issued on 18 September 2019 pursuant to NEPA, as amended. The U.S. Coast Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact for the purposes of NEPA for the project.

A water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, for this project was applied for from the South Florida Water Management District. The proposed project will impact 0.5 acres of wetlands. mitigation for proposed impacts will be provided at the FDOT Skyway Breakwaters project.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 7.8 feet, while elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 66.3 feet. Elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum. Approximately 1,359 cubic yards of fill material will be placed below mean high water level for the construction of the bridge and approaches.

The decision as to whether to grant approval of the location and plans for the proposed action rests primarily upon the effect it has on navigation.

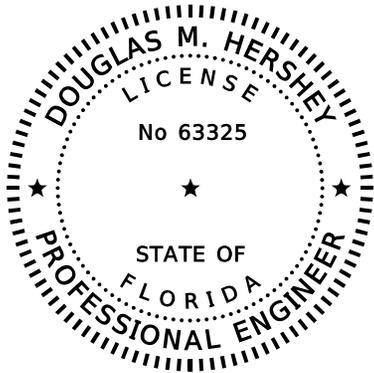
### **SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

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 FDOT. Comments will be received for the record via email at [Lisia.j.kowalczyk2@uscg.mil](mailto:Lisia.j.kowalczyk2@uscg.mil) through **February 23, 2024**

Map of location and plans attached.

Bridge Administrator  
By direction of the Commander,  
Seventh Coast Guard District

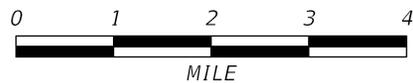
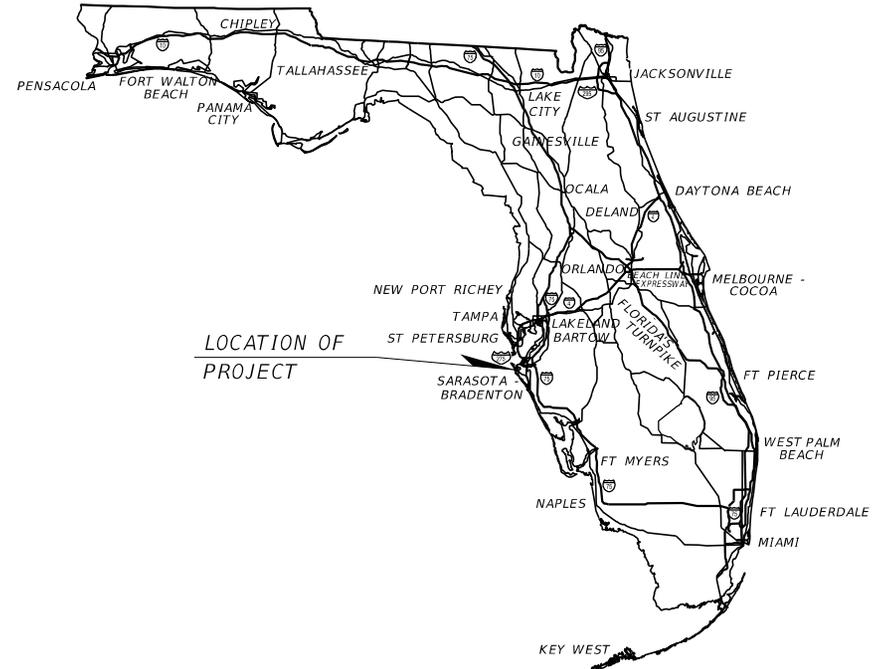


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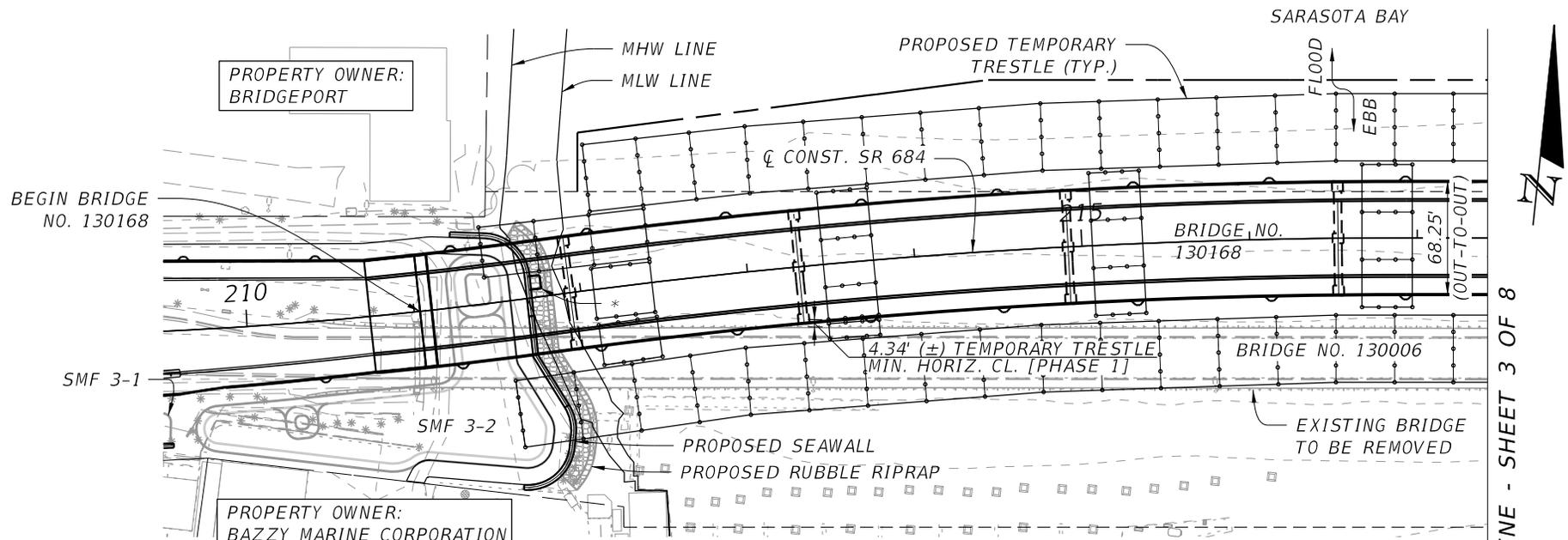
DOUGLAS M HERSHEY Date: 2023.10.21  
09:26:19-04'00'

ON THE DATE ADJACENT TO THE SEAL

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APPLICANT: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
CONSULTANT: H.W. LOCHNER, INC.  
NAME OF BRIDGE: SR 684 (CORTEZ ROAD) BRIDGE OVER SARASOTA BAY  
NAME OF WATERWAY: GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY  
MILE POINT: 87.4  
LOCATION: BRADENTON BEACH (MANATEE COUNTY), FLORIDA  
DATE OF PLANS: 07/19/2023



**PARTIAL PLAN**

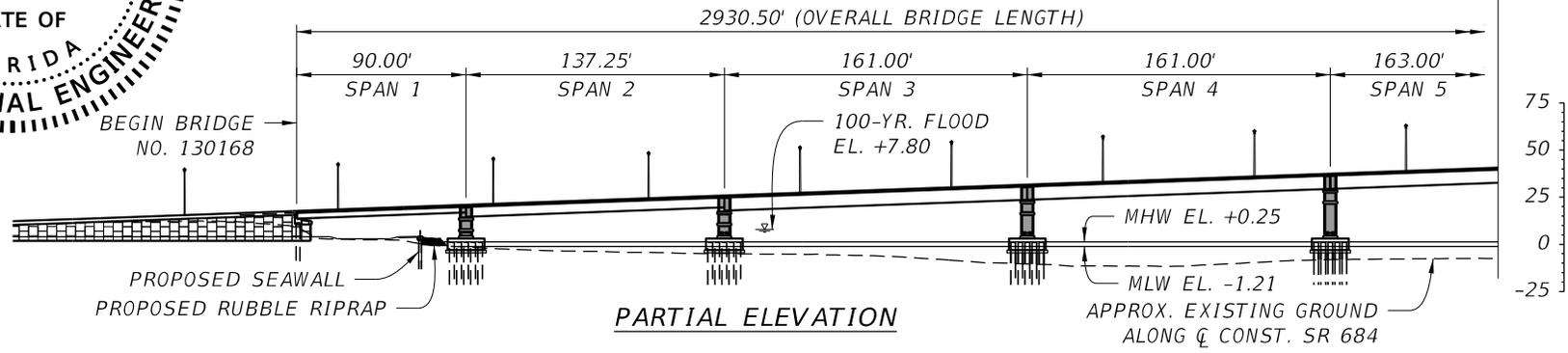
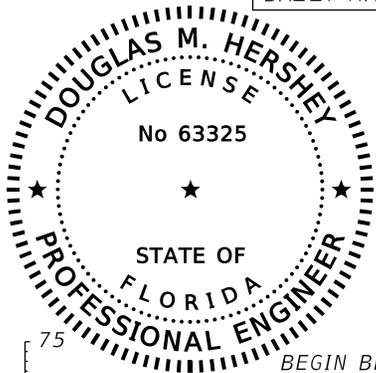
\* = COFFERDAM ANTICIPATED FOR OUTFALL PIPE CONSTRUCTION

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**PARTIAL ELEVATION**

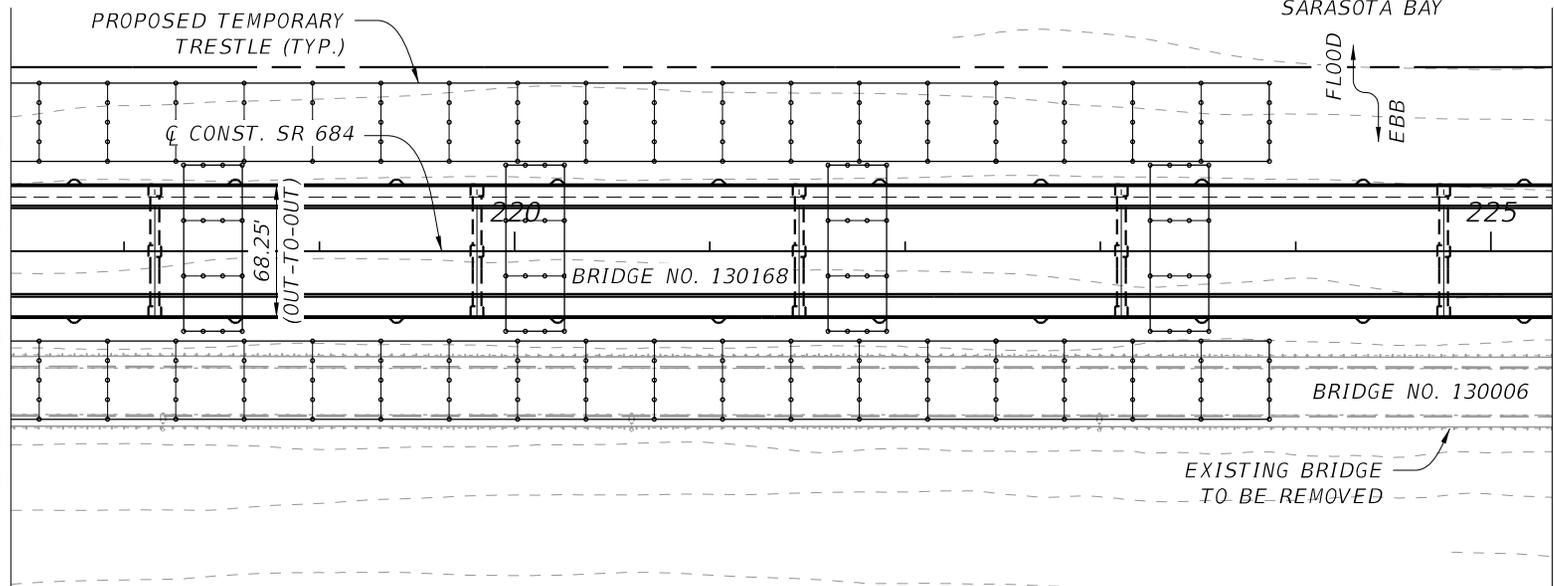
- NOTES:**
1. ALL ELEVATIONS ARE BASED ON NAVD 88.
  2. CONTRACTOR WILL DETERMINE THE LOW MEMBER ELEVATION OF THE TEMPORARY TRESTLE.
  3. RUBBLE RIPRAP & FILL = 466 CY.
  4. DESIGN MHW IS EL. +1.25.



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MATCHLINE - SHEET 2 OF 8



MATCHLINE - SHEET 4 OF 8

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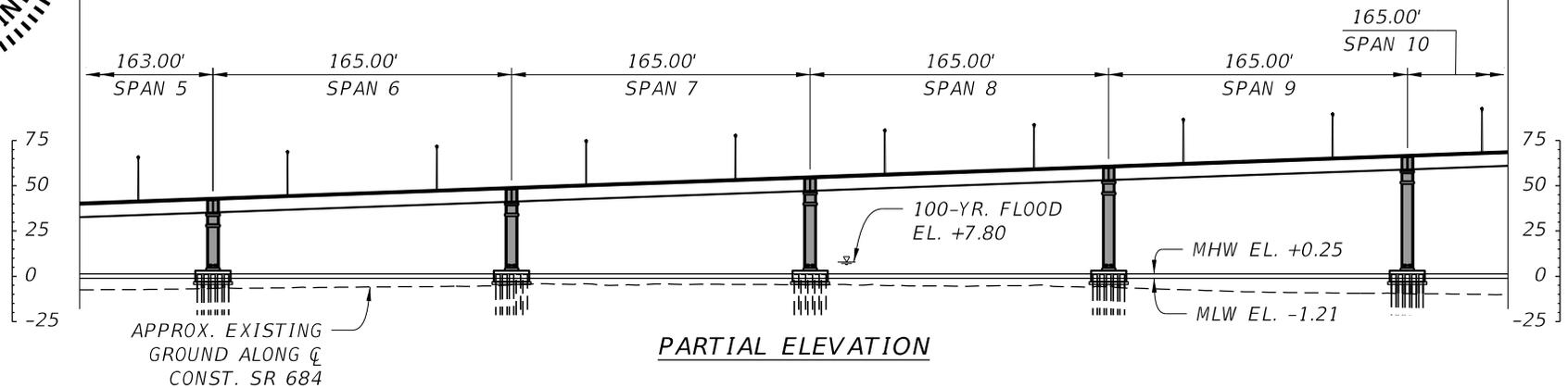
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PARTIAL PLAN

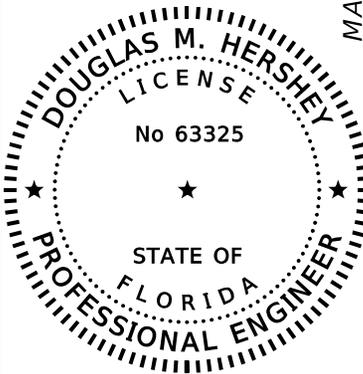
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2930.50' (OVERALL BRIDGE LENGTH)



PARTIAL ELEVATION



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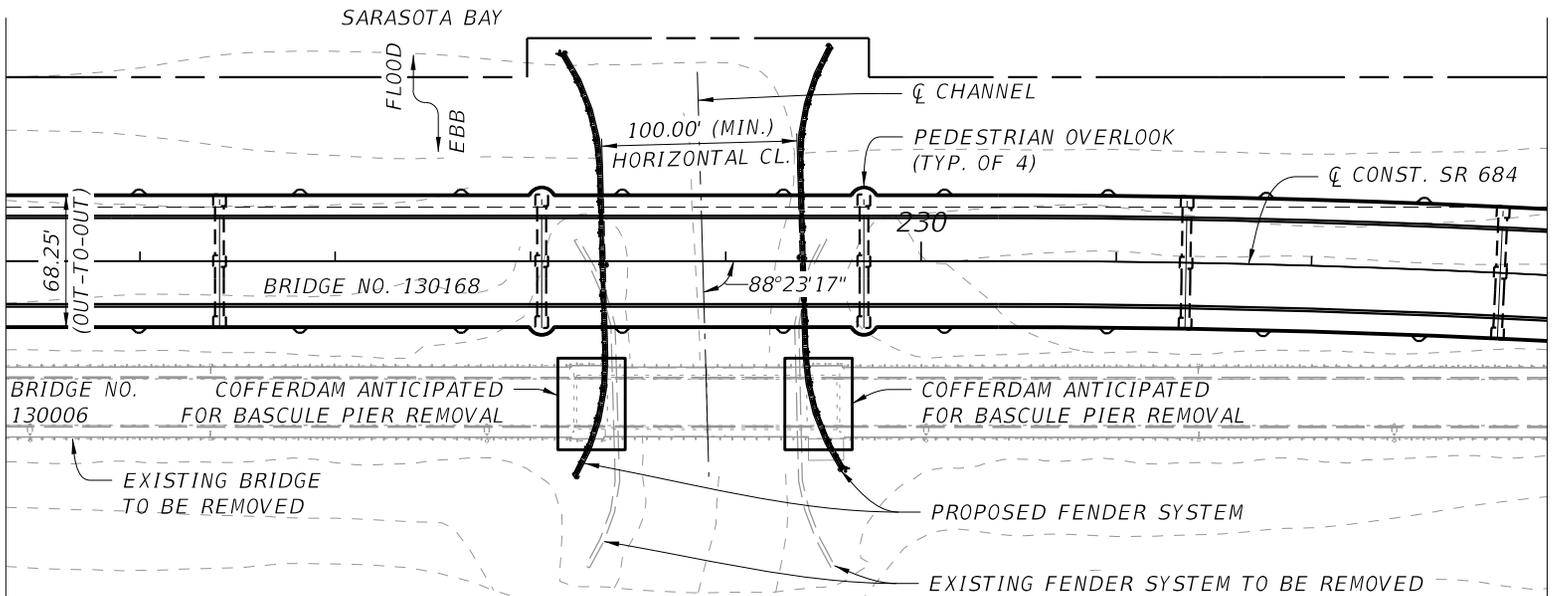


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MATCHLINE - SHEET 3 OF 8

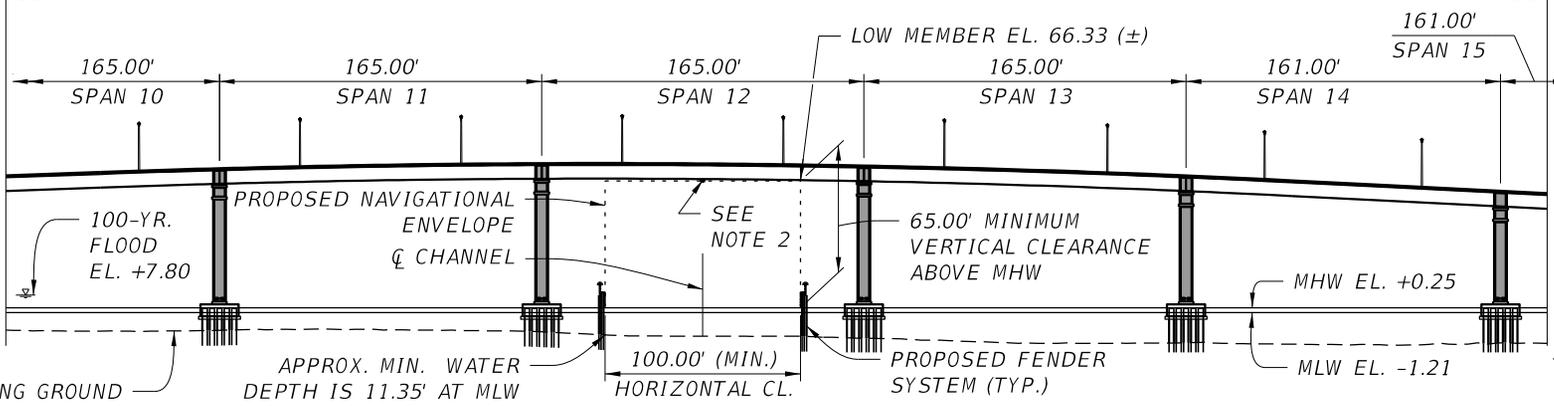
MATCHLINE - SHEET 5 OF 8



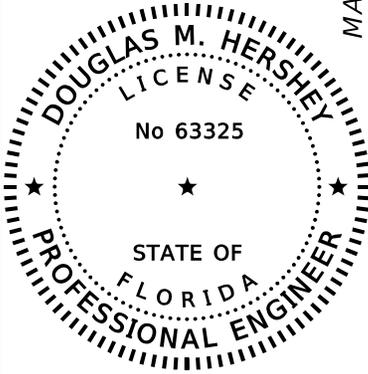
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**PARTIAL PLAN**

2930.50' (OVERALL BRIDGE LENGTH)



**PARTIAL ELEVATION**



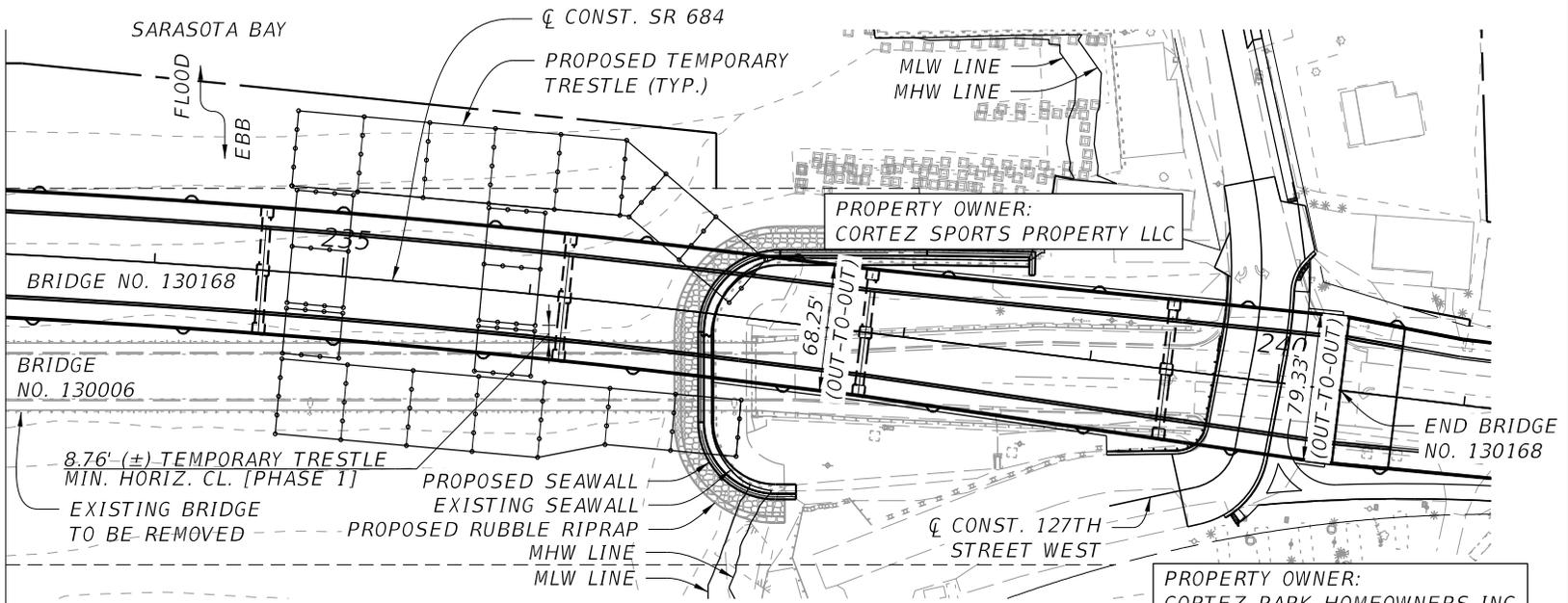
- NOTES:**
- ALL ELEVATIONS ARE BASED ON NAVD 88.
  - BRIDGE ELEVATION AT Q CHANNEL IS EL. 66.70 (±). VERTICAL CLEARANCE ABOVE MHW AT Q CHANNEL IS 66.45'.
  - DESIGN MHW IS EL. +1.25.



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MATCHLINE - SHEET 4 OF 8

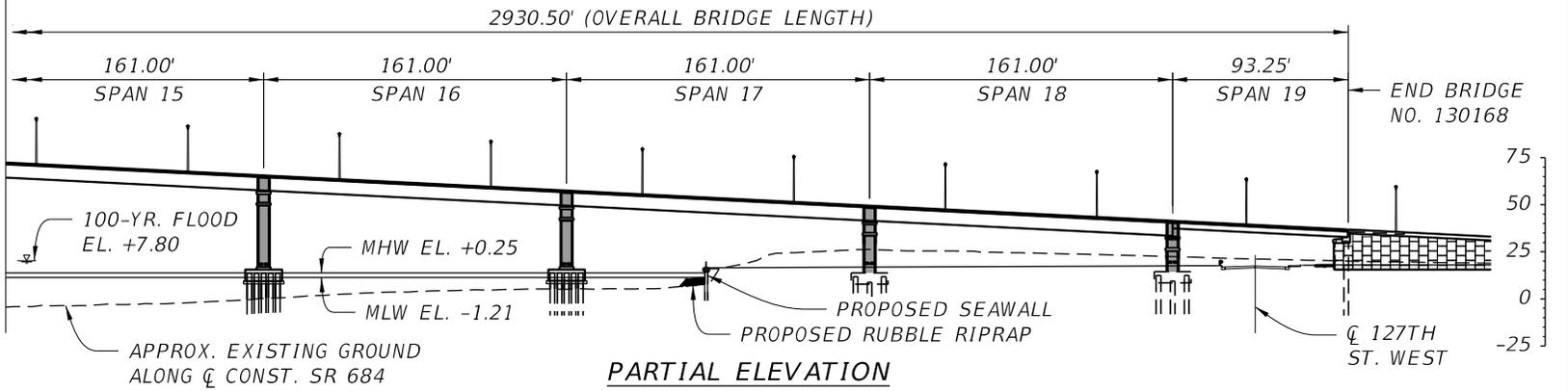


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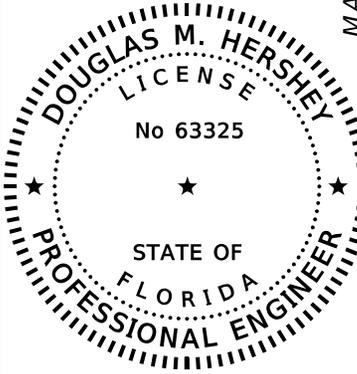
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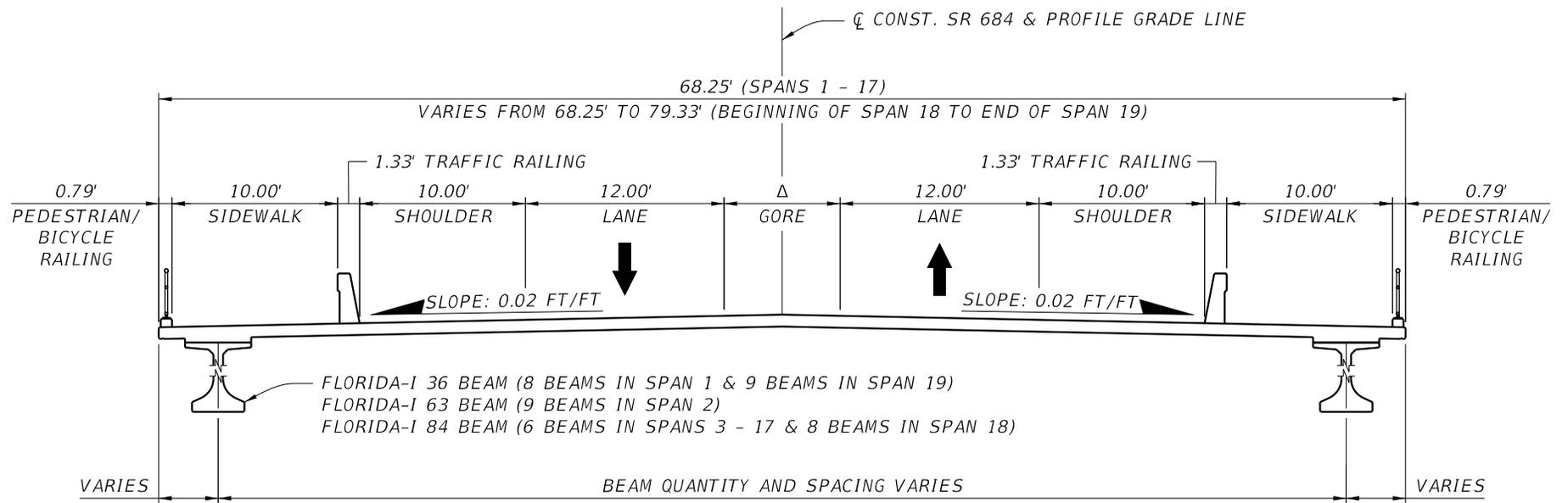
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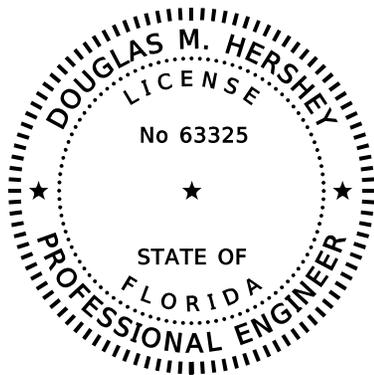


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**BRIDGE TYPICAL SECTION**

$\Delta$  = 0.00' (SPANS 1 - 17)  
 VARIES FROM 0.00' TO 11.08' (BEGINNING OF SPAN 18 TO END OF SPAN 19)



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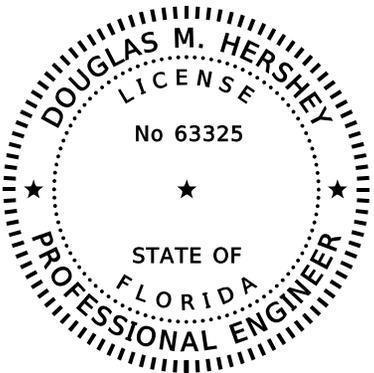
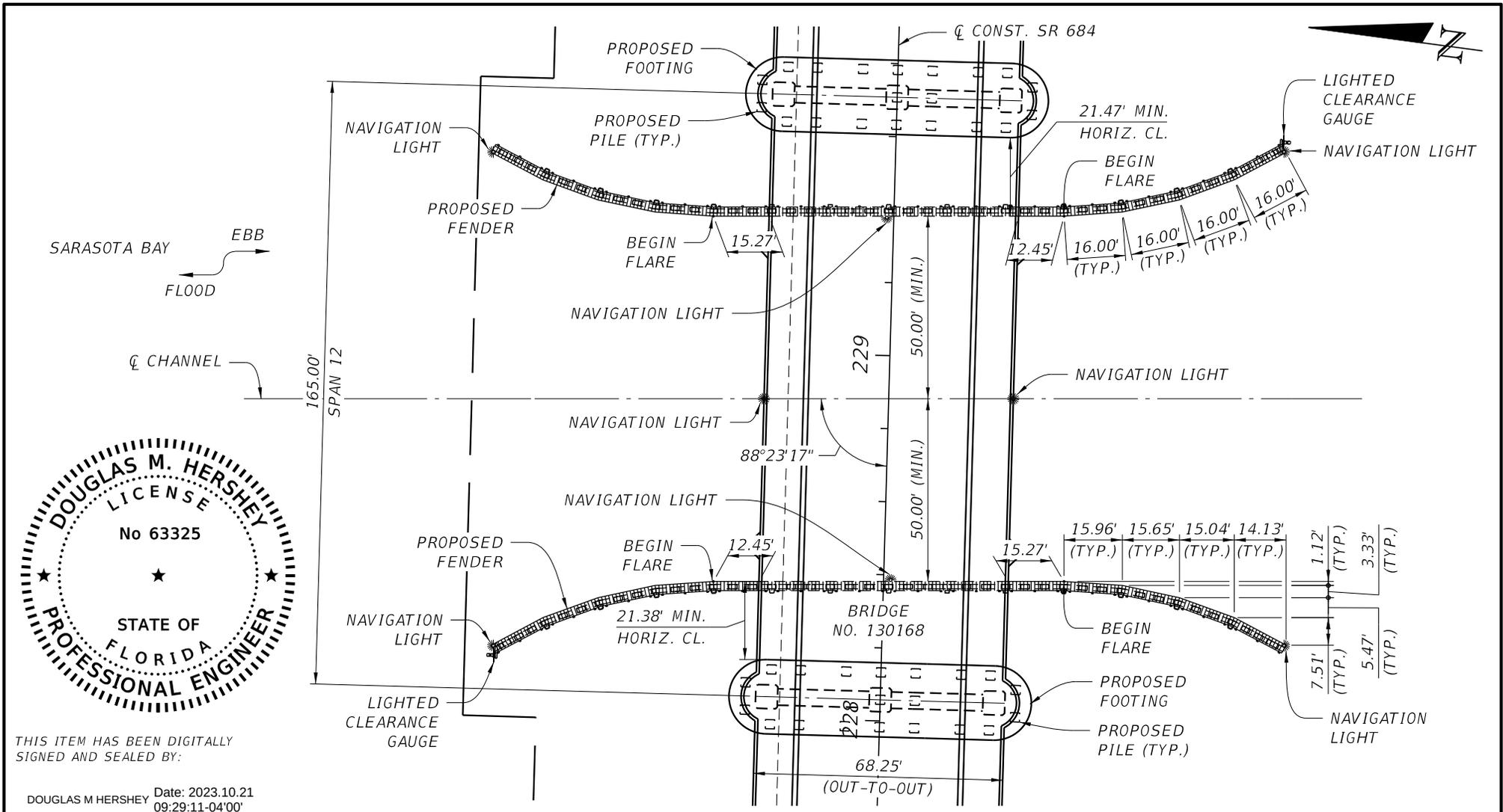
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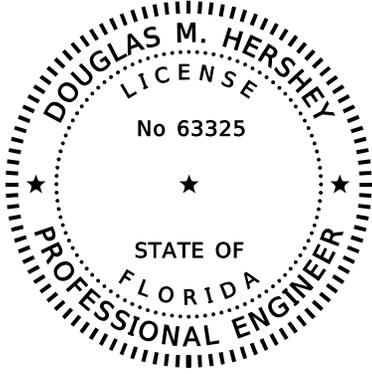
**PLAN**



**NOTES:**

- FOR PROPOSED FENDER DETAILS, SEE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARD PLANS INDEX 471-030 [FENDER SYSTEM - PRESTRESSED CONCRETE PILES AND FRP WALES]
- FOR PROPOSED NAVIGATION LIGHTS, SEE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARD PLANS INDEX 510-001 [NAVIGATION LIGHT SYSTEM DETAILS (FIXED BRIDGES)]

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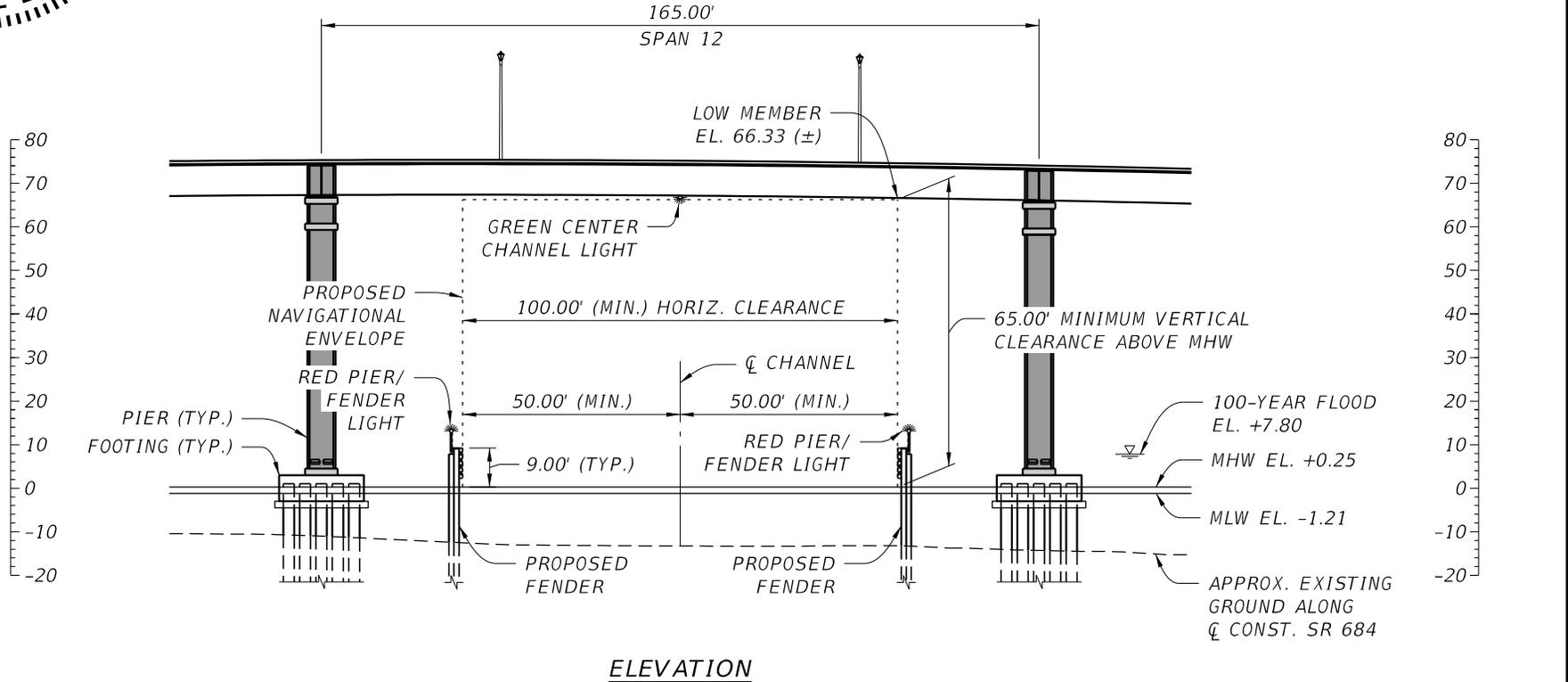


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