

Commander
United States Coast Guard
First District

One South Street Battery Bldg. Rm 303 N Y, New York 10004 Staff Symbol: (dpb) Email: SMB-D1Boston-

Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil

April 5, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE 1-199-23

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, First Coast Guard District, has received application materials dated 22 November 2022 from the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (TB&TA) for approval of location and plans for the modification of a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Throgs Neck Bridge across the East River, at mile 15.8, between the Boroughs of Queens and the Bronx, New York City, New York.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Modification of the existing fender system consists of its replacement with a new fender system at each bridge tower: steel piles, concrete fender beams and supports to be installed with a combination of cast in place and precast members protected with fiberglass reinforced plastic. This will provide greater protection to the bridge structure. Additionally, a mooring platform will be constructed on top of the fender to accommodate law enforcement, fire department and bridge inspection activity. The existing H-piles and columns comprising the existing fender system do not extend to the mudline and will be cut off at the top of each caisson. A turbidity curtain will be placed around the project-site prior to fender removal. The contractor will remove the timber facing and walkways from the steel-truss system using divers and barge mounted-cranes and placed on a barge to be transported.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The proposed modified bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. The horizontal clearance between the two bridge fenders is a decrease by eleven feet from the current horizontal clearance. The federal navigational channel of 1000 feet remains unchanged.

| | Existing | Proposed |
|------------|------------|------------|
| Vertical | 142 feet | 142 feet |
| Horizontal | 1,711 feet | 1,700 feet |

Datum: NAVD88

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Coast Guard, as the lead Federal agency, has made a tentative determination that the bridge modification warrants a categorical exclusion for the purposes of the National Environmental

Policy Act (NEPA) because it satisfies criteria for such actions listed in the Coast Guard's NEPA Implementing Instructions.

New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation analysis indicates that the project would not result in adverse effects as described in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 by letter dated October 19, 2016; with the condition that the proposed installation structures at bridge deck be finished to match the bridge.

Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, is not required for this project as it meets the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Blanket Water Quality Certification Conditions for Nationwide Permits 3 and 15 issued October 15, 2021, for Nationwide Permits in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Final Rule of December 27, 2021, effective February 25, 2022 to March 14, 2026. No wetlands will be taken or affected by this project.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 13.1 feet, while elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 142 feet; elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum. (To convert NAVD88 datum to NAVD 29 add 1.09 feet.)

The State of New York Department of State concurs with TB&TA concurrence with consistency certification as modified by letter dated October 7, 2022. The East River is not designated a Wild and Scenic River. Informal consultation with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWA) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) "not likely to adversely affect "determination is pending joint application coordinated through USACE submitted March 2022. The proposed project does not involve a "take" as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act or Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Bald and Golden Eagle Act is pending evidence of non-disturbance, including nests. The project does not have the potential to introduce or foster the spread of invasive species.

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 the need for clearance gauges and he 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 environmental impacts to include those impacts on minority and/or low-income populations, if any, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of the reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed work. Comments will be received for the record at the address noted in the header or via email at:

SMB-D1Boston-Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil through May 6, 2023.

Map of location and plans attached.

D. A. Fisher Bridge Program Manager By direction of the Commander, First Coast Guard District











