

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
First Coast Guard District

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1 South Street
New York, NY 10004-1466
Staff Symbol: (dpb)
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November 16, 2022

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC NOTICE (D01-2022)

The United States Coast Guard is soliciting public comments on a proposal by New York State Department of Transportation (NYDOT) on behalf of the bridge owner, CSX Transportation, for the replacement of the Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge across the Hudson River between Albany and Rensselaer, NY at mile 146.7. NYDOT proposes to replace the existing swing bridge (movable) with a lift bridge (movable). According to AMTRAK, the bridge opens approximately 300 times per year. The purpose of this project is to provide a safe, functional and efficient crossing that serves the needs of railroad and marine traffic. The proposed bridge is needed to replace the existing structurally deficient, and functionally obsolete bridge. An environmental assessment and a navigational study have been submitted and can be viewed on the NYDOT website at: <http://www.dot.ny.gov/livingstonavebridge/environmental>. A Coast Guard Bridge Permit application has not yet been submitted but would be required for this project.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Hudson River, mile 145.7 between Albany and Rensselaer, NY.

NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

	Vertical Clearance (MHW)	Horizontal Clearance East/West Channels**
Existing Swing Bridge – Open	135.0 ft*	100.0 ft /110.0 ft
Existing Swing Bridge – Closed	25.0 ft	
Proposed Lift Bridge – Open	60.0 ft	190 feet***
Proposed Lift Bridge- Closed	25.0 ft	

(*Vertical clearance through the existing bridge when open is limited by overhead wires.)

(**Although there are two existing channels, the east channel is the only channel with a fender system and is the navigational channel for maritime traffic.)

(***The east and west channels will merge.)

ENVIRONMENTAL: The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is the lead federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This project has not yet been classified under regulations implementing NEPA.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

The proposed 60 feet (MHW) vertical clearance for the replacement bridge is the same vertical clearance as the immediate downstream and upstream bridges.

Mariners are requested to comment on the proposed clearances, navigational access and safety issues, and nighttime navigation through the bridge, including the need for clearance gauges and lighting.

Boat owners in the project vicinity are requested to provide information about their vessels including type of vessel, length overall, draft, beam, and height from the waterline to the highest fixed point and to appurtenant structures (e.g., tuna towers, flying bridges, fixed antennas, outriggers and radar units) and whether these appurtenant structures can be safely disassembled, dismantled or lowered safely. Also provide where the vessel is primarily moored and the frequency of passage under the proposed bridge (i.e., number of times per month).

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 work. Comments will be received for the record at Commander, First Coast Guard District (dpb), Battery Bldg. One South Street, New York City, NY 10004-1466 or by e-mail to SMB-D1Boston-Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil through December 17, 2022.

It is requested that this information be brought to the attention of any person having an interest who may not have received a copy of this public notice.

Map of location and plans attached.

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER:

//D. A. Fisher//

D. A. Fisher
Bridge Program Manager
By direction

This is not the official, signed version; however, other than the signature being omitted, it is a duplicate of the official version.



