Commander (dpb)
United States Coast Guard
First District

408 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02110 Phone: 617-833-1311

June 25, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE 1-204-24

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, First Coast Guard District, has received application materials from the City of Boston for approval of location and plans for the superstructure replacement of a roadway bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

BRIDGE, WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Long Island Bridge over Boston Harbor (Western Way), Mile 0.0, between the City of Quincy, Norfolk County, and the City of Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Replace the superstructure, which was removed in 2015, to provide roadway access from Moon Island in the City of Quincy to Long Island in the City of Boston.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The City of Boston has proposed the clearances described in the table below. These clearances are an increase in vertical clearance and maintain the existing horizontal clearance.

	Original Superstructure	Proposed Superstructure
Vertical	51.0 feet above Mean High Water	51.75 feet above Mean High Water
Horizontal	150 foot navigation opening	150 foot navigation opening
	250 feet between piers	228.75 feet between fenders

Datum Proposed: NAVD88

On June 15, 2023, following a Public Notice specific to the proposed clearances, the Coast Guard provided the City of Boston a Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination stating that the proposed clearances would not unreasonably obstruct the free navigation of the waters over which the bridge is constructed. This preliminary determination did not constitue a final approval or final agency determination.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Coast Guard, as the lead Federal agency, has made a tentative determination that the project warrants a categorical exclusion for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On April 21, 2023, the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with Coast Guard's proposed finding of no adverse effect in accordance with Section 106 of the National

Historic Preservation Act due to the modifications and conditions placed on the project by the City of Boston. The modifications and conditions include the use of protective matting in the construction staging area and the completion of a Post-Review Discoveries Plan.

The temporary and permanent impacts resulting from the project will not exceed the 5000 square foot threshold that requires a Water Quality Certification. (314 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 9.03(1)(a)). The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has confirmed that a Section 401 Water Quality Certificate is not required. The project does not involve the placement of fill or dredging in wetlands. No wetland will be permanently impacted by this project.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 16 feet at Moon Island and 19 feet at Long Island, while elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 56.1 feet. Elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum.

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 environmental impacts to include 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 SMB-D1Boston-Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil through July 31, 2024.

Map of location and plans attached.

D.A. FISHER
Bridge Administrator
By direction of the Commander,
First Coast Guard District











