U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard



Commander United States Coast Guard First District One South Street Battery Park Bldg., Rm 303 NYC, NY 10004 Staff Symbol: dpb Phone: (571) 613-2415 Email: <u>SMB-D1Boston-Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil;</u> donna.d.leoce@uscg.mil;

24 October 2024

# **PUBLIC NOTICE 210-24**

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, First Coast Guard District, has received application materials dated September 26, 2024, from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) on behalf of the bridge owner, CSX Transportation Inc., for approval of location and plans for the replacement of a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

Further, the Department of the Army (USACE) has received an application from the NYSDOT for a Section 408 permission for certain work at or near the Hudson River Federal Navigation Project, as described in this public notice and shown on attached plans.

**BRIDGE, WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge across the Hudson River, mile 146.2, between the City of Albany, County of Albany and the City of Rensselaer and County of Rensselaer in New York State.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The character of the work is to replace the structurally deficient two-track railroad swing-span Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge with a two-track vertical-lift bridge. The replacement bridge will also carry a shared-use path (SUP). The purpose of the project is to improve reliability and reduce train delays; eliminate existing bridge and track deficiencies; and maintain and approve navigation.

The existing bridge will be closed and demolished once the proposed bridge is operational. The existing bridge superstructure, stone piers, and pier footings will be removed in its entirety. The piles will be cut to a minimum 2-feet below the mudline.

During the period between when the proposed bridge becomes operational and existing bridge pier in the new navigational channel is demolished, the horizontal clearance in the new navigational channel will be reduced to 95-feet. Additionally, there will be a short duration period during final stages of construction when the vertical clearance over the navigational channel is reduced to 25-feet.

# MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The proposed new replacement bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. The vertical clearance in the open to navigation position decreases from 135ft (limited by the overhead catenary wires for the existing bridge at Mean High Water (MHW)) to 60 ft MHW from the low member elevation of the bridge.

	Existing	Proposed
Vertical	Open-135-feet MHW* Closed-25-feet MHW	Open- 60-feet MHW
		Closed-25-feet MHW
Horizontal	100-feet in the eastern navigable portion (between fenders)	
	r (	226-feet Navigational Channel (between fenders)

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

### **Datum: Vertical NAVD88**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is the lead Federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FRA is acting on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard for all environmental control laws. An Environmental Assessment was signed on May 4, 2022, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on October 31, 2022, 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 and plans to issue a FONSI for the project. Documents are available for review online at <a href="https://www.dot.ny.gov/livingstonavebridge/environmental">https://www.dot.ny.gov/livingstonavebridge/environmental</a>.

A water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, for this project was applied for from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on May 29, 2024, and is pending review. This project will impact 0.07 acres of wetlands.

The applicant made a determination that the project is consistent with New York State's Coastal Management Program, and the New York State Coastal Program is anticipated to concur.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 21.5-feet. The elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 28.4-feet. Elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum. Approximately 3.5-cubic yards of fill material will be placed below MHW level for the construction of the bridge and approaches

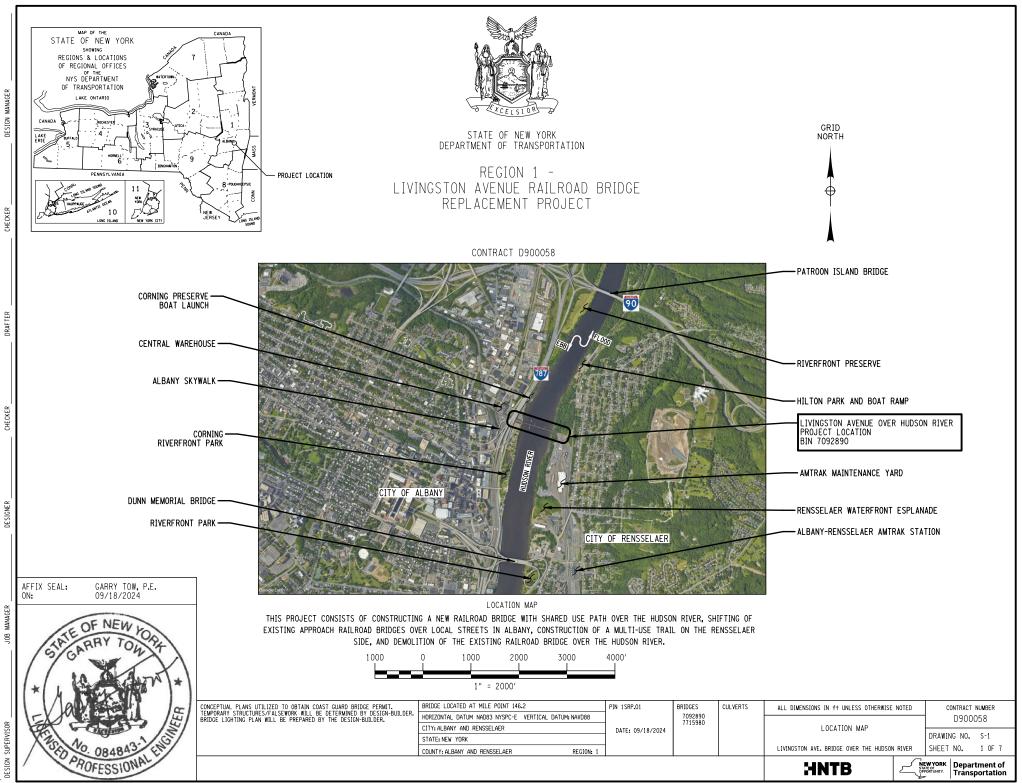
# SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

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 Federal Railroad Administration for appropriate handling. Comments regarding matters under the jurisdiction of the USACE will be forwarded to the USACE. Comments will be received for the record at the address noted in the header or via email SMB-D1Boston-Bridges-PublicNotices@uscg.mil through **November 23, 2024**.

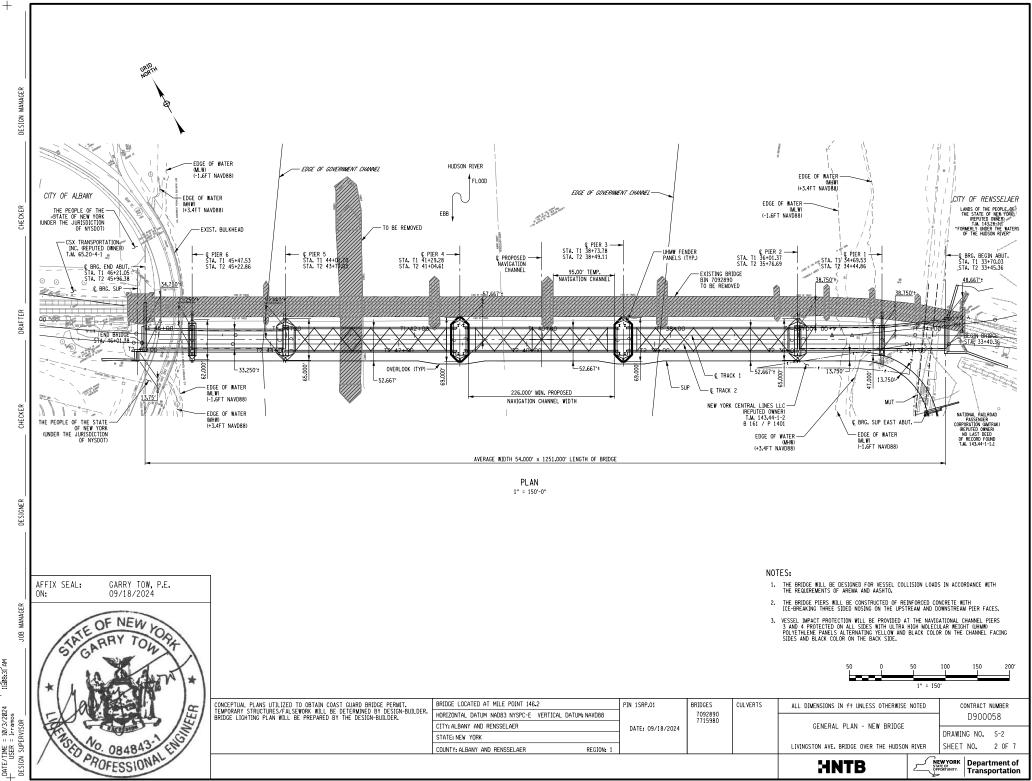
Map of location and plans attached.

Gregory P. Hitchen Bridge Program Manager By direction of the Commander, First Coast Guard District

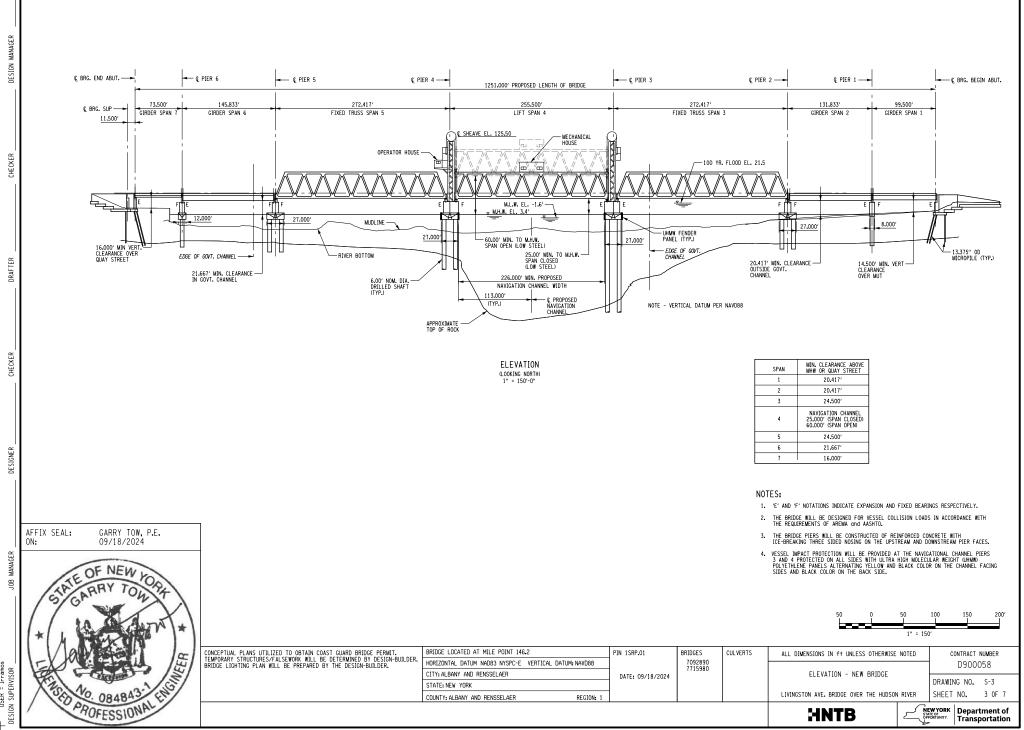


FILE NAME = 001.15RP.01.±rk.cov\_USCG-GEN-001.dgn DATE/TIME = 10/2/2024 11:50:40 AM USER = Irramos

+

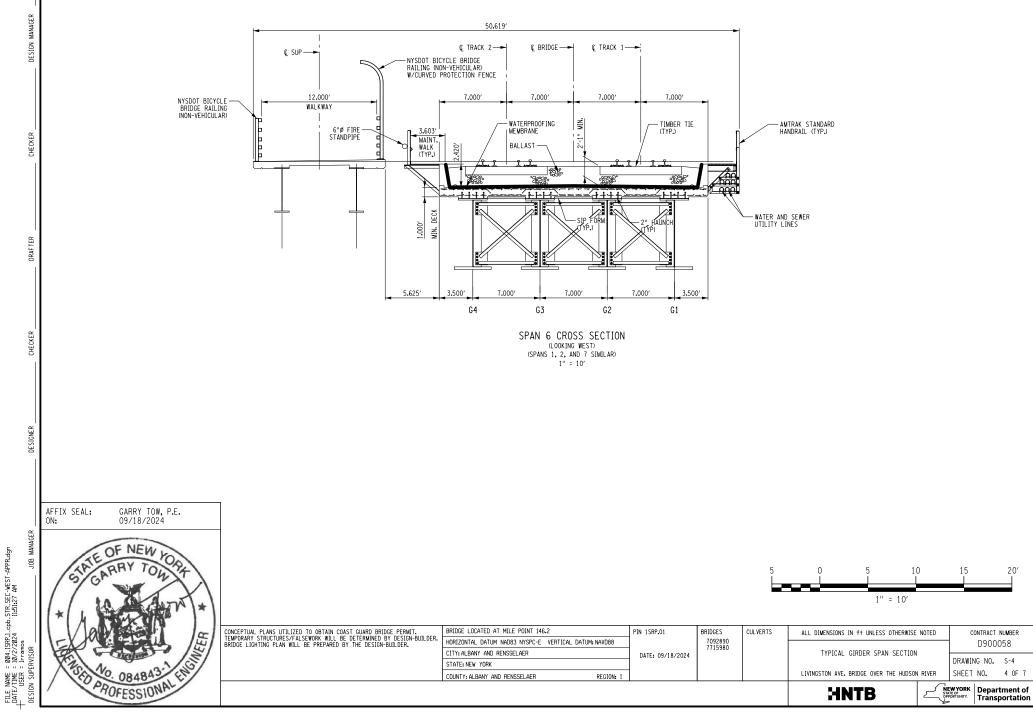


FILE NAME = 002.1SRP.01.cpb.gpe.dgn DATE/TIME = 10/3/2024 11:008:31 AM USER = Irramos

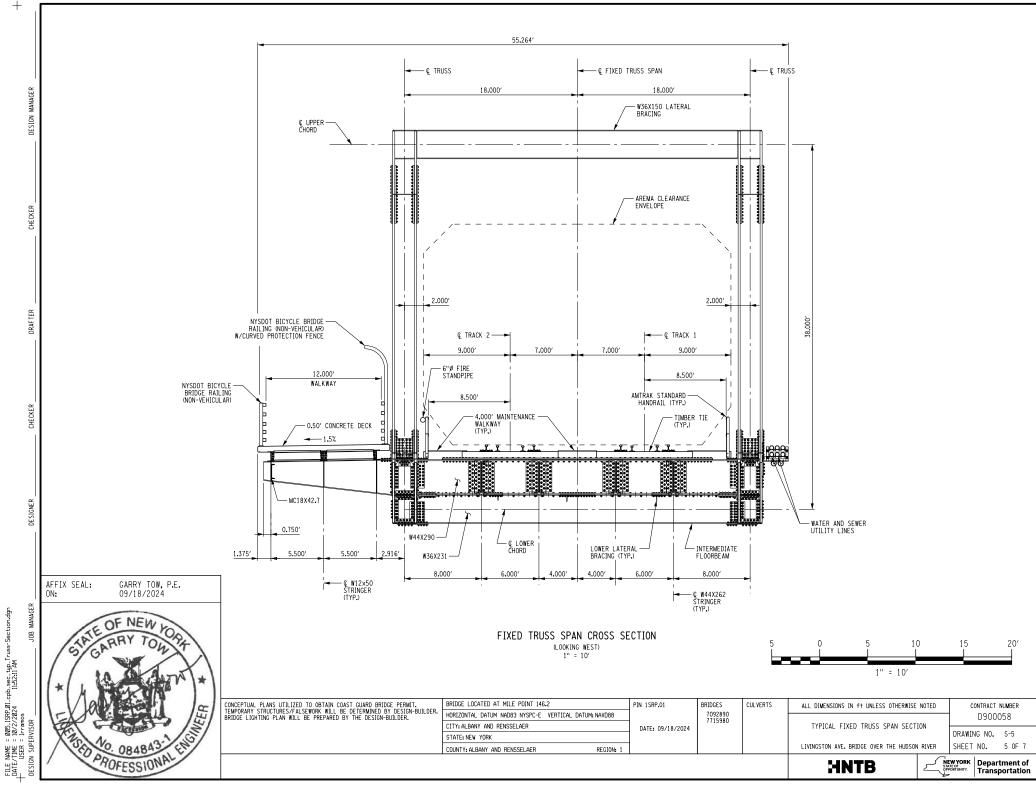


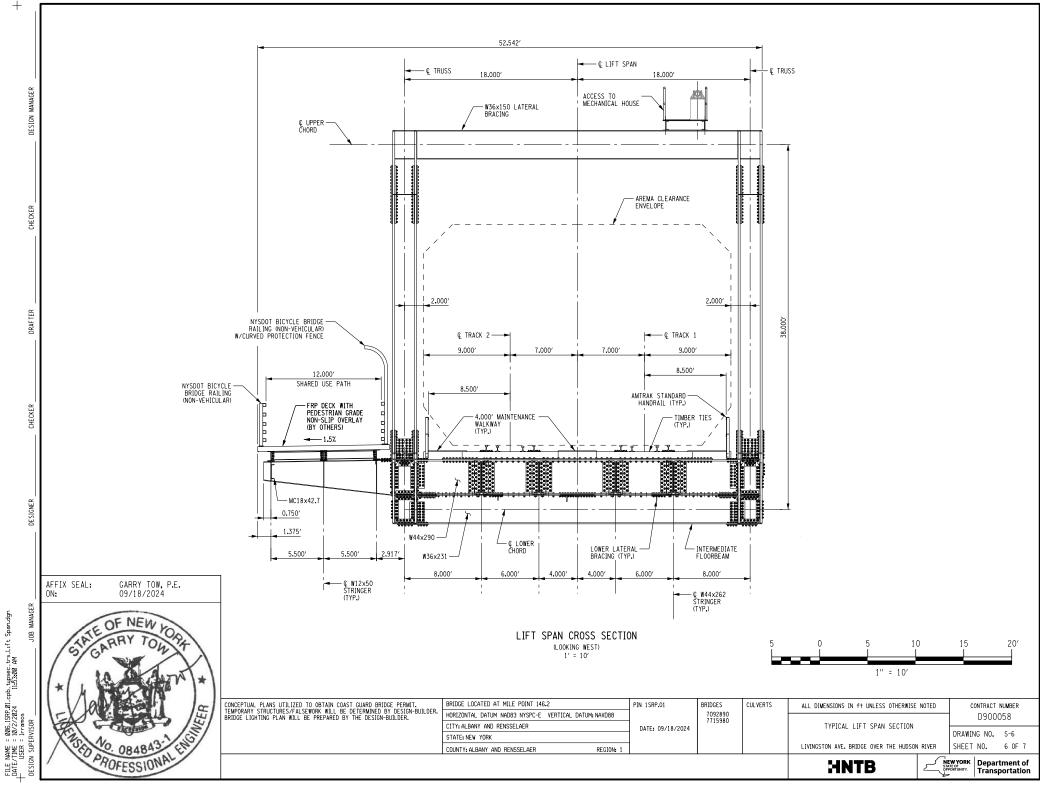
+

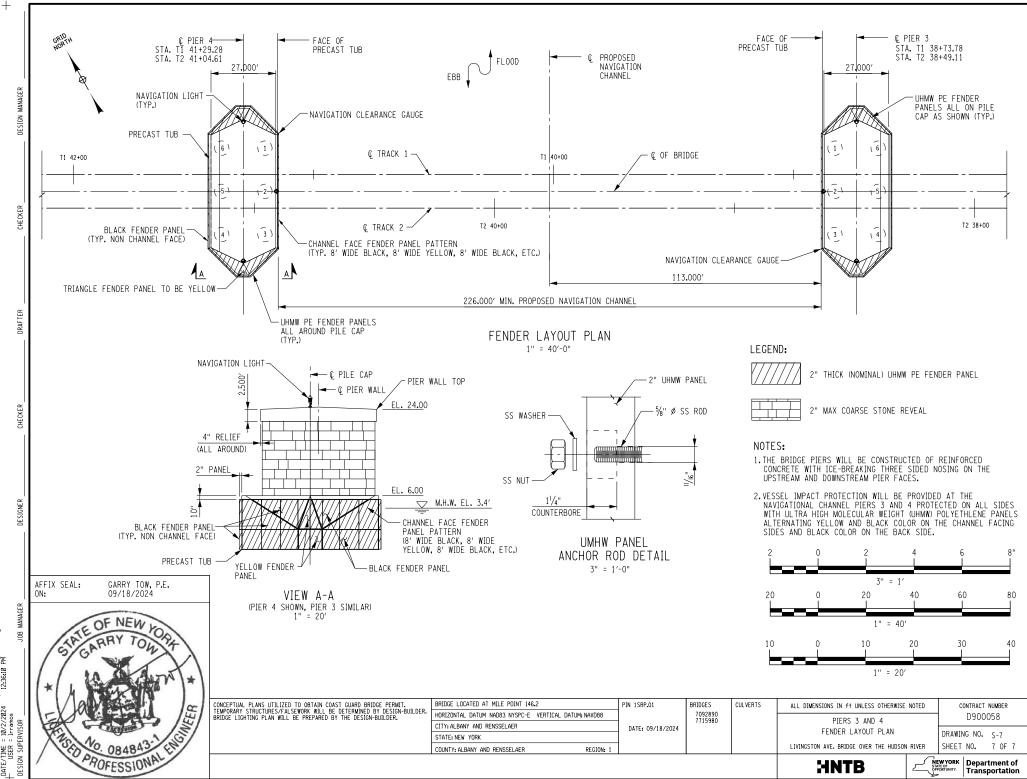
FILE NAME = 003.ISRP.01.cpb.elev.dgn DATE/TIME = 10/2/2024 11:49:41 AM USER = Irramos

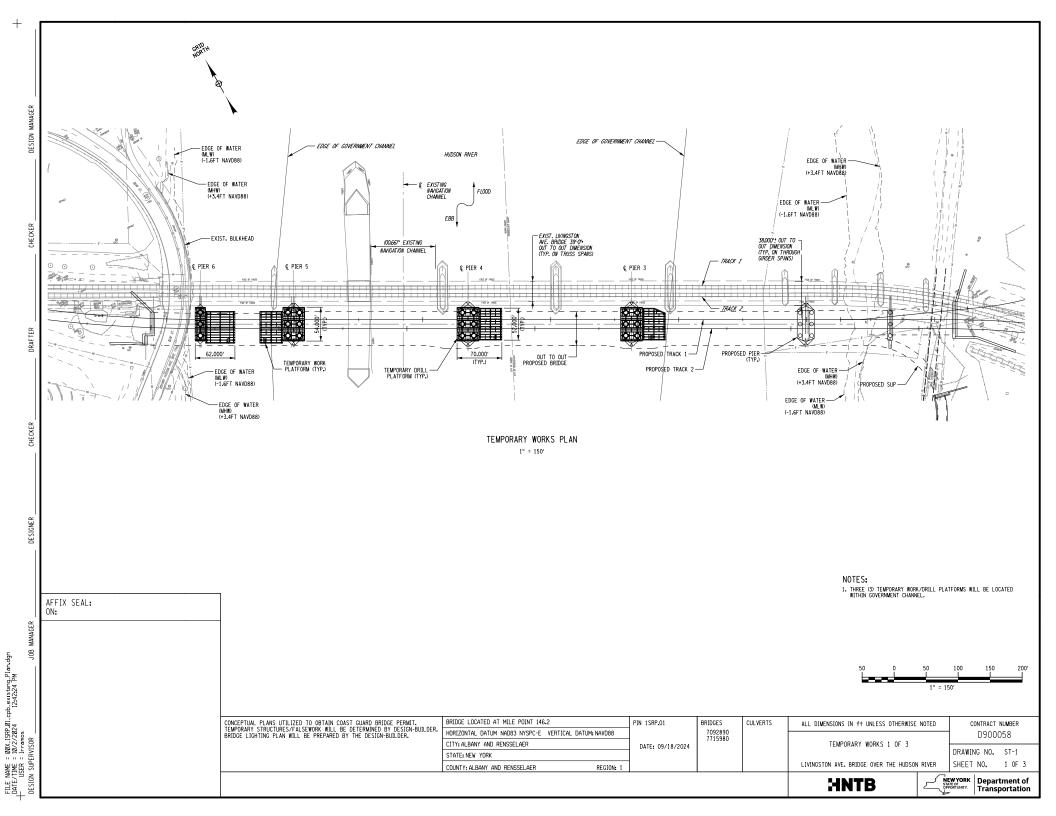


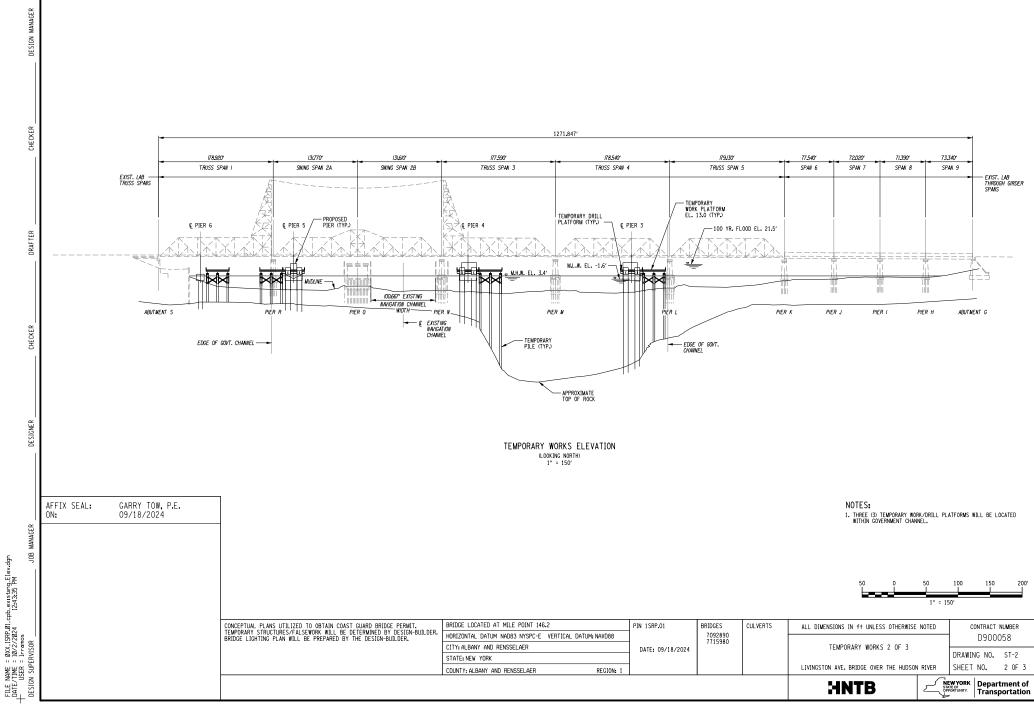
+











+

