

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
United States Coast Guard  
Fifth Coast Guard District

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16591  
24 FEB 2025

## ***PUBLIC NOTICE D05PN-02-2025***

All interested parties are notified that an application was received on August 30, 2024, from the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) by the Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, for approval of the location and plans for replacement of a collapsed fixed highway bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States. This is a supplemental public notice to provide revised removal conditions for removal of the existing bridge. The environmental considerations section has also been updated.

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Patapsco River, mile 5.2, between Baltimore County and Baltimore City, MD.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The purpose of the proposed project is to replace the collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge with a new fixed cable-stay bridge (Francis Scott Key Bridge) on the same alignment and within the existing right-of-way. The remnants of the existing bridge within the main navigation span of the new bridge will be retained and re-used as components of the bridge protection system for the new bridge. The remnants of the existing bridge outside the main navigation span will be removed to at least the mean mudline. The remnants of the existing bridge on land will be removed down to or below one foot below the existing ground line. The new bridge will meet current interstate highway design standards and provide for the needs of land transportation and the reasonable needs of navigation. To facilitate bridge construction, work trestles will be installed from the shoreline on each approach to the location of the main piers adjacent to the main (navigation) span of the bridge. All vessels will be required to transit the bridge in the main navigation span and no vessels will be permitted to transit beneath the work trestles.

**MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:**

<b><u>Existing</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed</u></b>
Vertical Clearance:  185 feet above Mean High Water (MHW)	Vertical Clearance:  230.9 feet above MHW at the limits of the Federal Navigation Channel
Horizontal Clearance: (normal to the axis of the channel)	Horizontal Clearance: (normal to the axis of the channel)
800 feet centered on the Federal Navigation Channel	800 feet centered on the Federal Navigation Channel; 1,100 feet between the areas of proposed pier protection surrounding the main piers adjacent to the Federal Navigation Channel

North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88)] (Existing and Proposed bridges)

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead Federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FHWA is acting on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) for all applicable environmental control laws and Executive Orders. The FHWA approved a Categorical Exclusion (CE) on July 23, 2024. The USCG has tentatively determined that the environmental documentation approved by the FHWA is adequate for USCG bridge permitting purposes and intends to prepare a USCG CE. Environmental documents are available for review at the address in the letterhead above, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays), from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood level is +8.0 feet from datum and low steel of the bridge in the navigation span is +230.9 feet from datum.

A water quality certificate was issued by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) via Water Quality Certification, Francis Scott Key Bridge Rebuild, 24-WQC-0028, Agency Interest Number: 4229, Tracking Number: 202461017 (Reference: 24-WL-0757 / 24-NT-0163) dated December 9, 2024.

The bridge construction site lies inside of a designated Coastal Zone Management area. The applicant provided the MDE with the project location information and a certification of consistency via a Joint Permit Application dated July 17, 2024, and the MDE issued a finding on December 9, 2024, that the project is consistent with the state's Coastal Zone Management Plan.

Comments received in response to this notice concerning environmental control laws and Executive Orders will be forwarded to FHWA as the lead Federal Agency.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

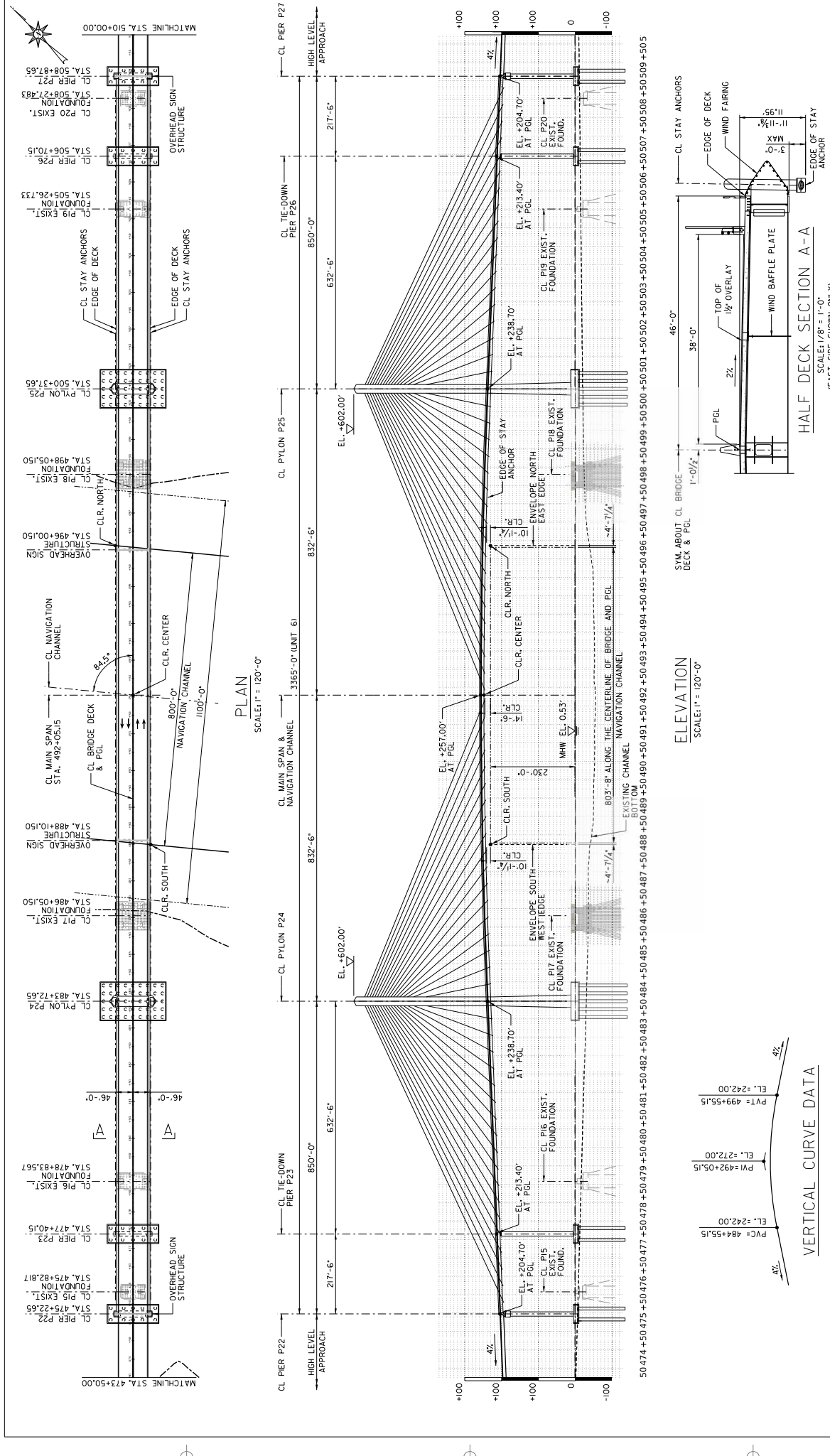
Mariners are requested to provide navigational information, such as the sizes and types of vessels presently owned and operated on the waterway and nature of navigation (including the extent of nighttime navigation) on the waterway. Mariners are requested to comment on the navigational clearances and need for bridge protective systems, clearance gauges, and navigational lighting on the proposed bridge.

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 project. Comments will be received for the record at the office of Commander (dpb), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 at [D5Portsmouth-BridgesPublicNotice@uscg.mil](mailto:D5Portsmouth-BridgesPublicNotice@uscg.mil) through **March 10, 2025**.

PITTS.HAL.R. Digitally signed by  
1121267272 PITTS.HAL.R.1121267272  
Date: 2025.02.24 11:23:46  
-05'00'

HAL R. PITTS  
Bridge Program Manager  
By direction

Attachments: (1) Plan and Elevation View dated February 24, 2025



**ASSUMPTIONS & REVISIONS**

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
A	RESUBMIT FOR ESTIMATE SUBMISSION	EAA 10/26/2025	EAA 10/26/2025
B	OK'ED ISSUED FOR ESTIMATING - REVISION 01	EAA 10/26/2025	EAA 10/26/2025
C	PROOF OF CONCEPT SUBMISSION	EAA 10/26/2025	EAA 10/26/2025

**CONTRACT NO.** K2-4903-0000  
**DRAWING NO.** CP-101

**PROJECT NAME** FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT I-495/MD 696 OVER THE PATAPSCO RIVER-BALTIMORE HARBOR

**GENERAL PLAN & ELEVATION**

**DESIGNED BY** EAA  
**CHECKED BY** EAA  
**DATE** 10/26/2025

**DRAWN BY** EAA  
**DATE** 10/26/2025

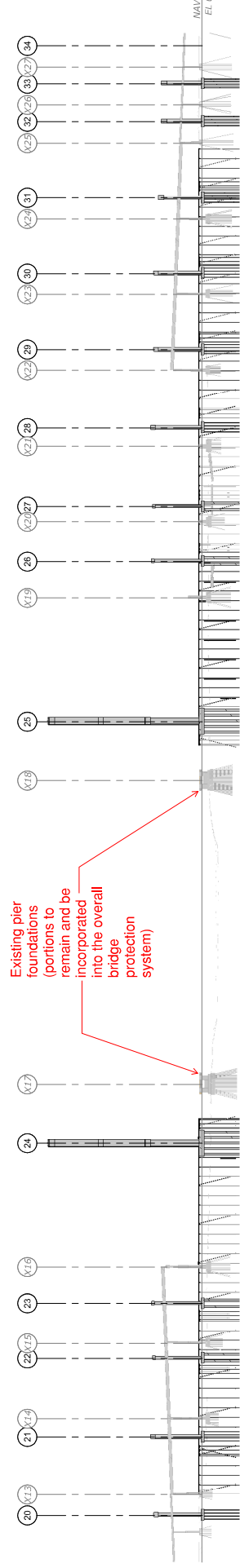
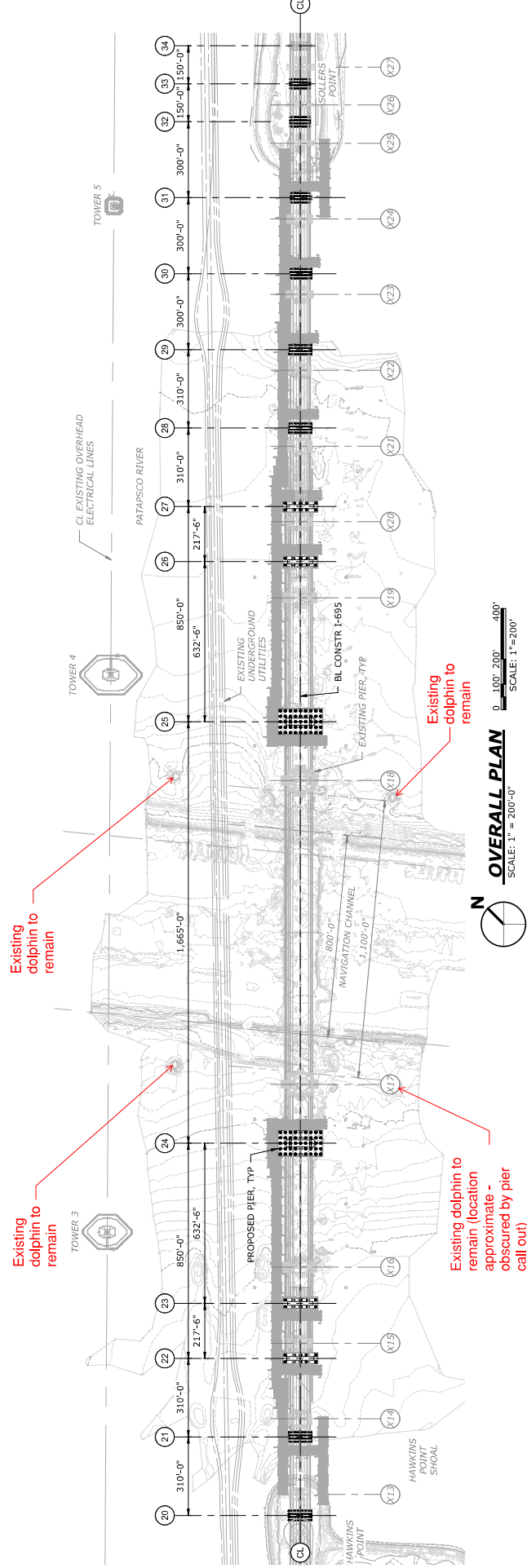
**SCALE** AS NOTED

**SHEET NO.** 8 **OF** 36

**Maryland Transportation Authority**  
*Engineering Division*

VERTICAL CURVE DATA

**PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION**



Full extent of proposed pier protection system is not shown as it is still under development.

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRWN	DESG	QCDC

PROJECT: FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT		JOB-TASK NO:
LOCATION: BALTIMORE, MD		
PROJECT TASK:		
SHEET TITLE: OVERALL PLAN & PROFILE		SHEET ID: TW100

