U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard



Commander United States Coast Guard Southeast District 909 Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Miami, FL 33131 Staff Symbol: dpb Phone: (571) 614-1005 Email: Maxwell.C.Utter@uscg.mil

16591 July 22, 2025

## Public Notice 07-25

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Southeast Coast Guard District has received application materials dated 17 February 2025 from the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) for approval of location and plans for the modification of an existing fixed bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**BRIDGE NAME, WATERWAY AND LOCATION**: South Selmon Expressway over Hillsborough River, mile 0.15, at Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

<u>**CHARACTER OF WORK</u>**: The project involves a modification to the Selmon Expressway Bridges (Structure IDs 100332 and 100333). The bridge will be widened inward, eliminating the present gap between the two spans. This project is part of a larger widening project of the Selmon Expressway from Bayshore Boulevard to Ashley Drive. The bridge is a fixed bridge and will remain fixed.</u>

## **MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:**

The proposed modified bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. These clearances are identical to current clearances over this section of the waterway at or near this mile. Vertical clearance is from low steel member elevation to Mean High Water.

	Existing	Proposed
Vertical	40'	40'
Horizontal	80'	80'

Datum: NAVD88

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The U.S. Coast Guard, as the lead Federal agency, has made a tentative determination that the bridge modification warrants a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because it satisfies criteria for such actions listed in the USCG's NEPA Implementing Instructions and the Department of Homeland Security Directive 023-01 (series).

Preliminary analysis indicates that the project would not result in adverse effects as described in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The State Historic Preservation Office issued a No Effect Determination Letter on February 14, 2025.

THEA submitted an Environmental Resource Permit Application to the Southwest Florida Water Management District to satisfy Water Quality Certification requirements on April 4, 2025. No wetlands will be taken or affected by this project.

The bridge is within a floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 10.80 feet. The elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 40.88 feet. Elevations are referenced to NAVD88 datum. The project will dredge 484 cubic yards of material below Mean High Water (MHW) and none above MHW. The project will fill 213 cubic yards of material above MHW and 403 cubic yards below MHW. The Applicant sent a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in November 2024 to request an exemption from Section 404 requirements.

No effects are anticipated from the proposed project under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, or the Coastal Zone Management Act. Consultations in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act will be conducted with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Several federally listed species have the potential to occur within the project area. However, it was determined the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect federally listed species. Consultations in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act will be conducted with NMFS and The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

No wetland impacts are anticipated because of the proposed project. The Coast Guard's initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with NMFS.

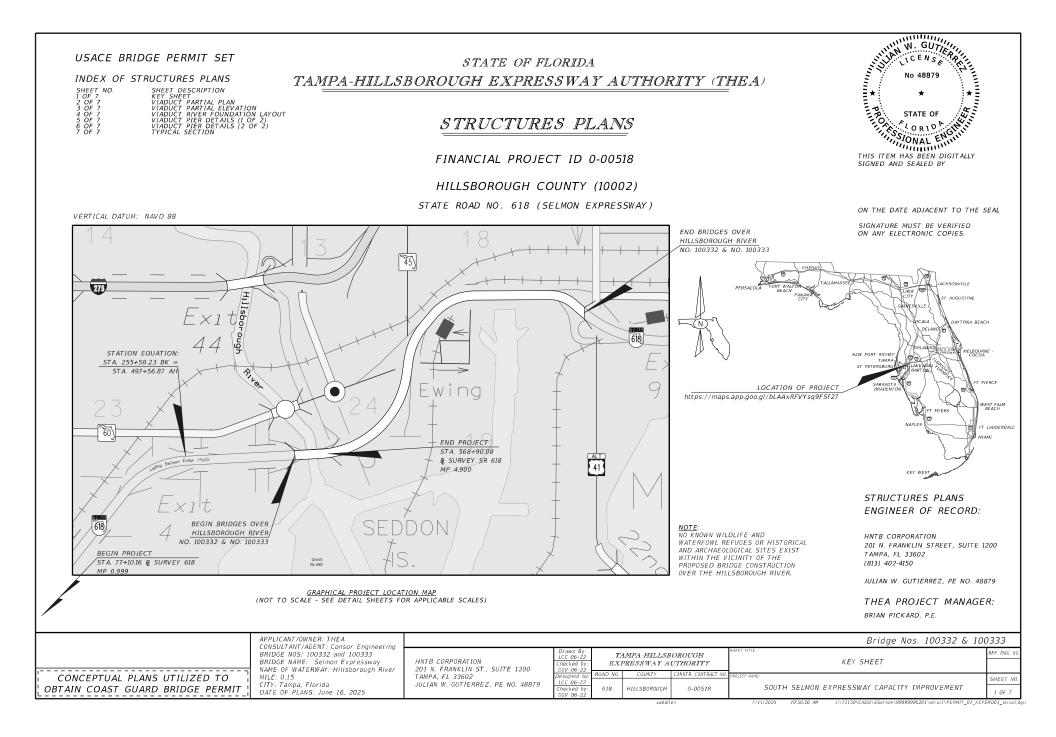
## **SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

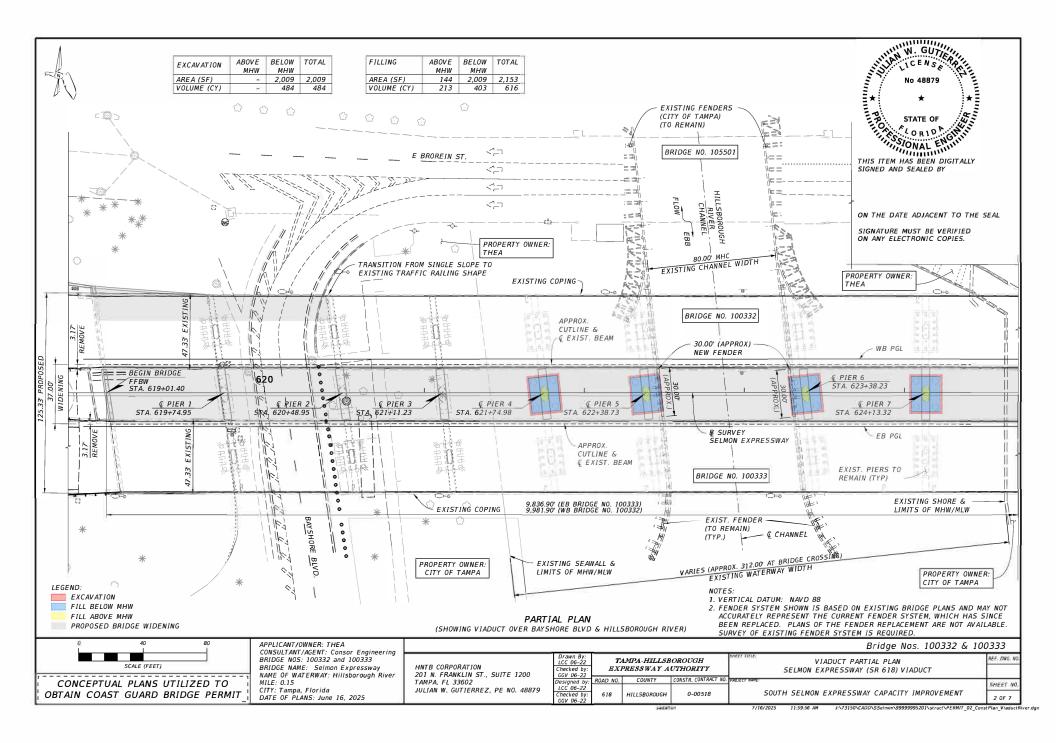
Mariners and maritime stakeholders are requested to provide navigational information, such as the sizes and types of vessels presently owned and operated on the waterway and nature of navigation (including the extent of nighttime navigation) on the waterway. Helpful vessel information includes the following: commercial or recreational, length, width or beam, draft, height or air draft, tonnage, normal transit area, and mooring location. 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 909 Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Miami Florida 33131-3028 or via email at <u>Maxwell.C.Utter@uscg.mil</u> for a 30-day period from the date of this public notice. Comments received will be made part of the project administrative record.

Map of location and plans attached.

Maxwell Utter Bridge Management Specialist United States Coast Guard Southeast District



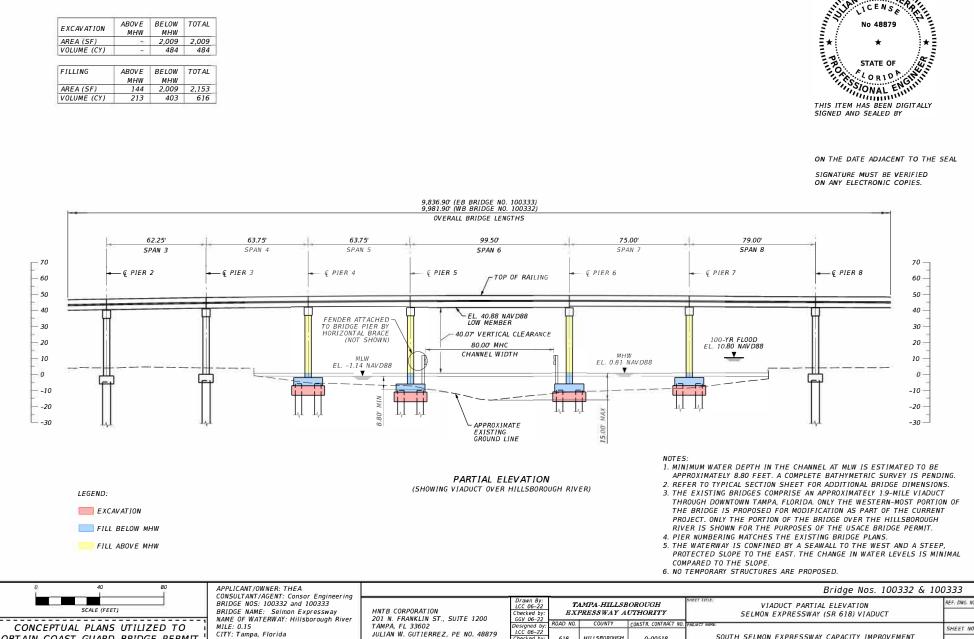


EXCAVATION	ABOVE MHW	BELOW MHW	TOTAL
AREA (SF)	3 <del>5</del> 7	2,009	2,009
VOLUME (CY)		484	484

FILLING	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
	MHW	мнw	
AREA (SF)	144	2,009	2,153
VOLUME (CY)	213	403	616

OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT

DATE OF PLANS: June 16, 2025



Checked by GGV 06-22

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SOUTH SELMON EXPRESSWAY CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT

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