

# NEW NICE MIDDLETON BRIDGE



Maryland  
Transportation  
Authority

## NEW NICE/MIDDLETON BRIDGE Replacement Project

Contract Number: NB-0543-0000  
Governor Harry W. Nice/Senator  
Thomas "Mac" Middleton Bridge  
Replacement Design-Build Project

AISC Steel Days / High Steel Open House  
10-19-2023



AECOM





Maryland  
Transportation  
Authority

With

General Engineering Consultant (GEC) JV



# Construction Inspection Team



# Design-Build Contractor

**SKANSKA**

 **CORMAN**  
K O K O S I N G

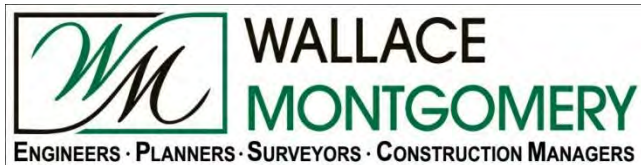
***McLean***

In partnership with

**AECOM**

# Designers

# AECOM

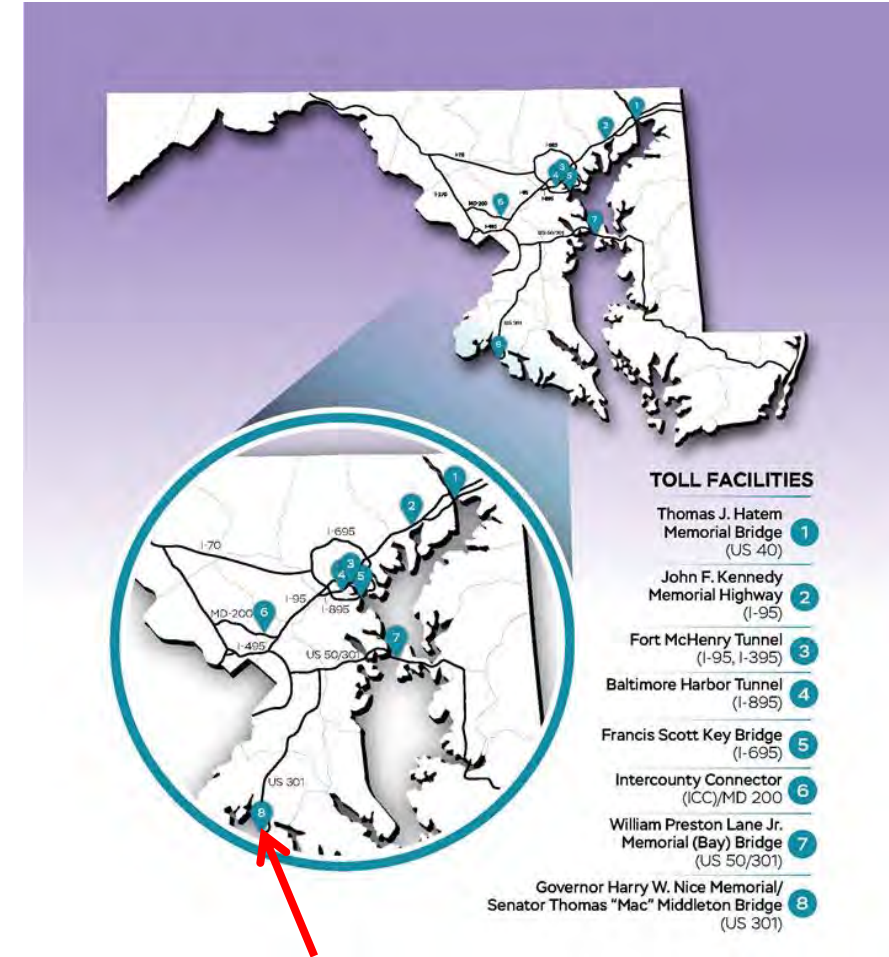


# Independent Design Quality Manager - IDQM



# Nice Bridge Fast Facts

- Construction dates: March 1938 – December 1940
- Original cost to construct: \$5 million
  - ✓ New Bridge cost \$462,957,000
- Named in 1968 for Maryland Governor Harry W. Nice
  - ✓ Renamed in 2018 to include Senator Thomas “Mac” Middleton
- Length of entire facility (including bridge and approaches): 2.2 miles
- Bridge length: 1.9 miles of two-lane bridge
- CY 2019 traffic volume: 6.6 million vehicles (average annual daily traffic: 18,200)
- FY 2019 toll revenue: \$21.0 million





# Existing Bridge

- Designed by Greiner – now AECOM
- Two-Lane Steel Bridge
- Steel Beam Approach Spans
- Rhomboid Girder Approach Spans
- Truss Approach Spans
- Through Cantilever Truss Main Span





# Most Significant Needs for New Bridge

- Severe Summertime Traffic
  - ✓ Routine weekend backups up to 4 miles
- Lane closure limitations for maintenance
  - ✓ Flagging operations required
- Safety Issues
  - ✓ Certain crash types more than double the Statewide averages



# Process & Timeline

- June 2018 – Multiple Pre-Solicitation Conferences
- **October 20, 2018 – RFQ Advertised**
  - ✓ November 9, 2018 held Pre-Proposal Conference
  - ✓ Short listed the four (4) most highly qualified teams
- March 8, 2019 – RFP issued to reduced candidate list
- Procurement team processed:
  - ✓ 435 questions in 20 confidential one-on-one meetings (5 per team)
  - ✓ 96 Alternative Technical Concepts from the teams
  - ✓ 420 questions answered via 14 addendums
- July 30, 2019 – Technical Proposals received
- **September 6, 2019 – Price Proposals received**
- October 4, 2019 – Notice of intent of award issued to Skanska-Corman-McLean (SCM) team
- October 23, 2019 – SCM team approved to commence early submittals
- November 21, 2019 – MDTA Board approval of SCM team
- January 24, 2020 – SCM team awarded the Contract
- October 12, 2022 – Bridge opened to traffic

**NEW NICE BRIDGE**

Attention Contractors and DBE Firms!  
Are you interested in working on the New Nice Bridge Design-Build Project?

**Join us for the Maryland Transportation Authority's (MDTA) Pre-Solicitation Conference**

**NOTE NEW LOCATION**

**Tuesday, June 12, 2018**  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Waldorf Jaycees Community Center  
3090 Crain Hwy., Waldorf, MD 20601  
*\*Project site visit 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.*

**JUNE 12**

\*Information regarding the site visit is available at [www.nicebridge.com](http://www.nicebridge.com).

Meeting location will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require auxiliary aids should contact the MDTA at 410-537-5675 (T11 for MD Relay) or email [gtf@mdta.maryland.gov](mailto:gtf@mdta.maryland.gov) no later than three business days before the date they wish to attend.

**WE WILL DISCUSS:**

- Project characteristics
- Design-Build delivery method
- Procurement schedule and process
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program requirements and how to get certified
- Project construction schedule

Representatives from the project team will be available to answer your questions. The forum also will provide the opportunity for DBE firms and Design-Build contractors to connect.

The MDTA will advertise the project in fall 2018 and begin construction in 2020.

The event is free. We encourage you to register by using the JUNE 12 button on the left.

# Proposal Phase Design Philosophy

The greatest economy in the design of any structure is attained by making the structure as simple as possible and with the greatest amount of duplication of spans, superstructure, substructure, and foundations. Everything becomes less time consuming and costly including shop drawings, fabrication, and erection. Repetition not only results in faster construction, but also results in higher quality.





# Proposal Phase Design Philosophy

- MDTA provided sufficient engineering data and comprehensive Performance Specifications, as well as other pertinent information to help make key decisions during the proposal phase design (Greatly reduced DB Teams Risk).
- Primary objectives during the design-build proposal phase was to evaluate the most economical, durable and constructible bridge types:
  - Understanding river mechanics & scour;
  - Foundation requirements;
  - Climate and exposure conditions as they relate to durability; and
  - Constructing the bridge in an aggressive marine environment.
- The level of development accomplished during the proposal phase facilitated starting construction as quickly as possible after project award (within 6-months).

# Proposal Phase Design Philosophy

- Foundations provide the greatest potential for cost savings:
  - Seven (7) foundation types and sizes were evaluated including concrete square piles, concrete cylinder piles and steel pipe piles. Pile lengths ranged from 69-feet to 191-feet in length with nominal bearing resistances between 1,200 to 3,115-kips
- Design Repetition increases production and improves quality (i.e. assembly line process) by maintaining families of bridge component sizes for columns, pier caps, footings, pile types & layout, etc.
- Water Line Footings results in direct savings by eliminating costly coffer cells
- Precast Foundations & Superstructure allows bridge component production to start early, compresses the schedule by accelerating erection, and improves overall quality because the concreting and curing are done in a controlled environment as opposed to in the air over water
- Span Optimization considering the number of spans & span lengths cost balanced against the number and heights of piers and supporting foundations

# Proposal Phase Design Philosophy

- Eight (8) superstructure types were evaluated for a wide range of span length arrangements including PSC girders, spliced PSC concrete girders, steel girders, and precast concrete segmental box girders
- The 9,966-foot long bridge (1.9-miles) is optimally divided into three distinct sections including the Low-Level Approach Spans, High-Level Approach Spans, and Main Channel Spans
- Design focused on consistent spans, constant depth, consistent colors, clean lines, gradual curvature's sight line, and openness to improve overall aesthetics

*Low-Level Approach Spans*



*High-Level Approach Spans*

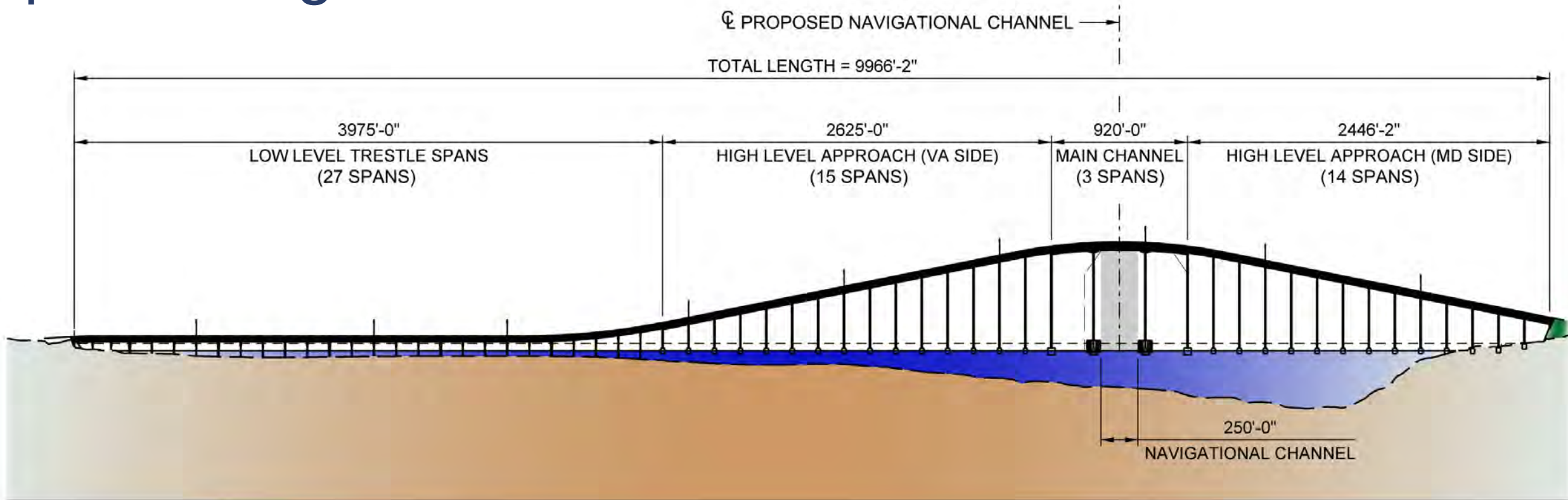


*Main Channel Spans*

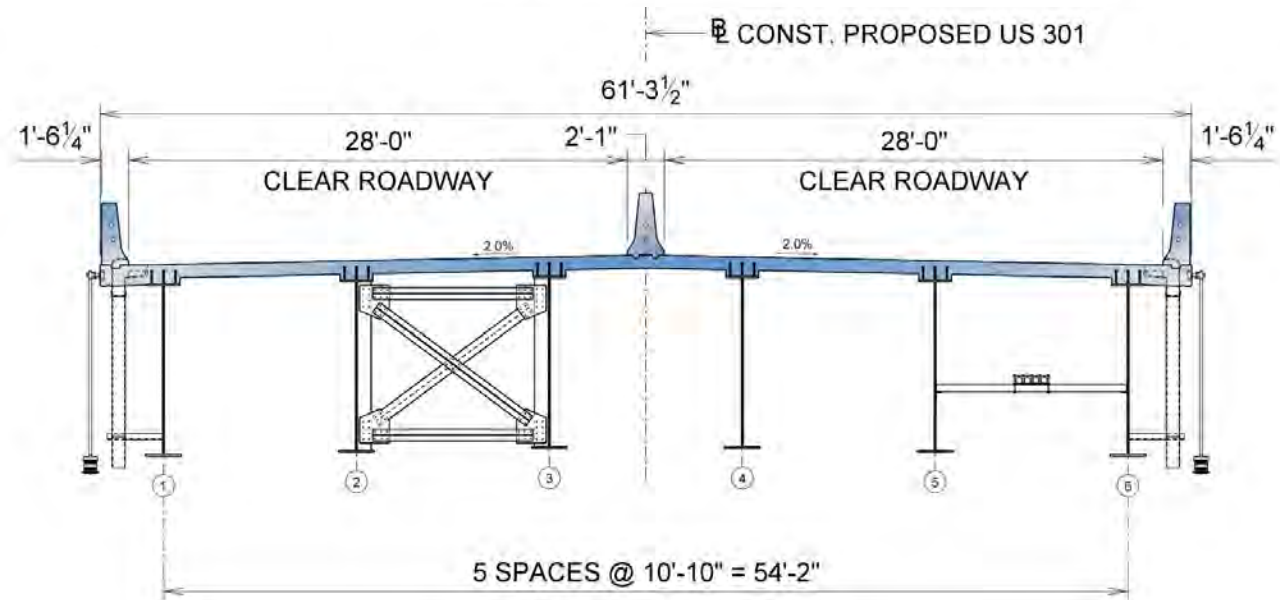
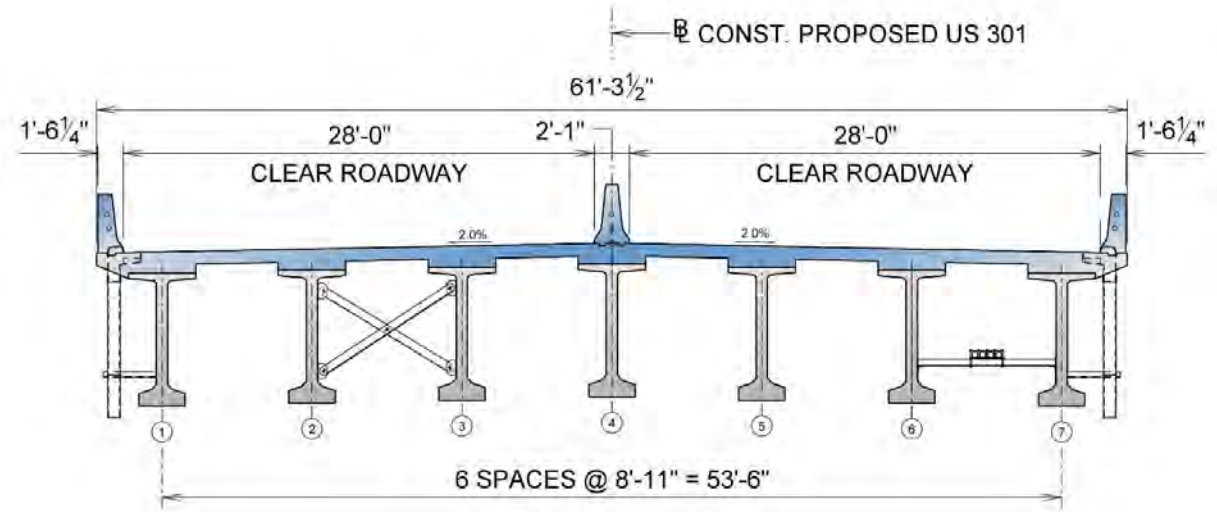
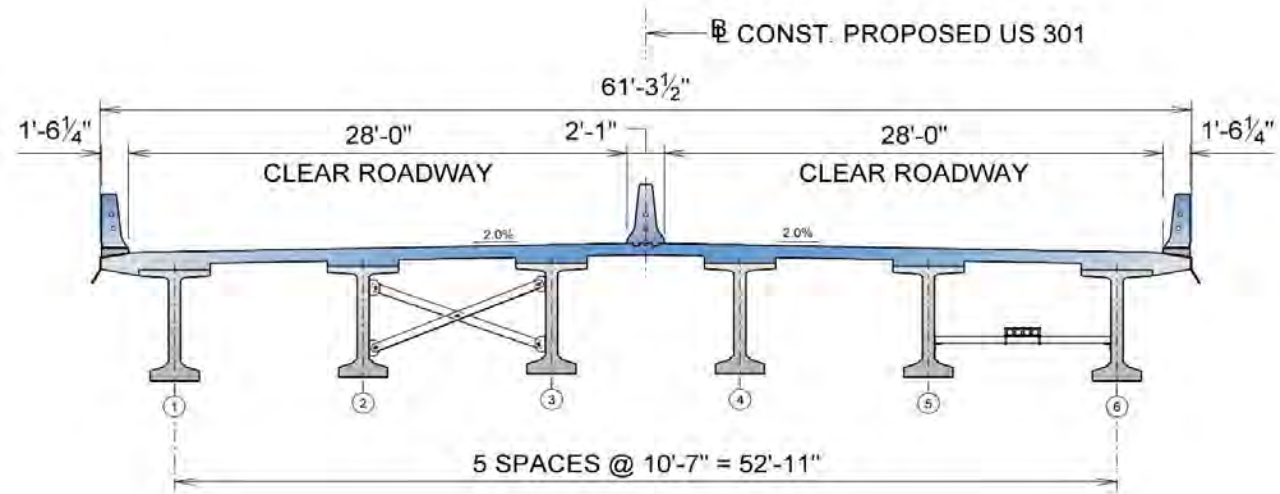




# Span Configurations



- Low-Level Spans – 79" Bulb-T's (150-ft typ span)
- High-Level Spans – 95" Bulb-T's (175-ft typ span)
- Main Channel Spans – Steel Plate Girders (285'-350'-285')



### Reinforced concrete decks include:

- 1/2-inch integral wearing surface & silane sealer;
- Low chromium carbon steel (deck and barriers);
- Concrete includes synthetic fibers for added corrosion protection.

# Design Criteria

AASHTO LRFD  
Bridge Design  
Specifications

MDOT Office of  
Structures  
Structural Details  
Manual

MDOT Office of  
Structures  
Guidelines, Policies  
and Procedures  
Memorandums

Performance  
specifications

75-year service life

Pier protection  
system



# Alternative Technical Concepts

- Pile spacing reduction from 3D to 2.5D
- Concrete deck design per AASHTO LRFD
- Steel girder spacing increase from 10'-6" to 10'-10"

Governor Harry W. Nice / Senator Thomas “Mac” Middleton Bridge Replacement Design-  
Build Project

***Key Elements in Final Bridge Design and Construction***

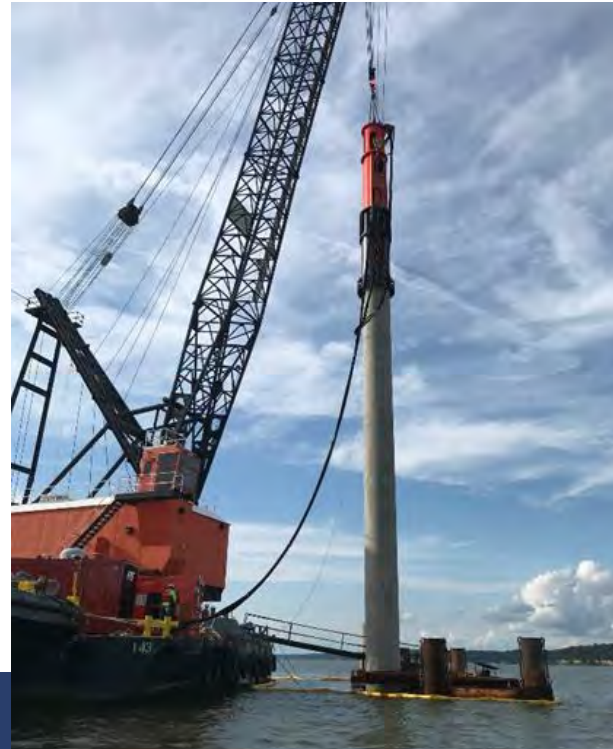




# Bridge Foundations

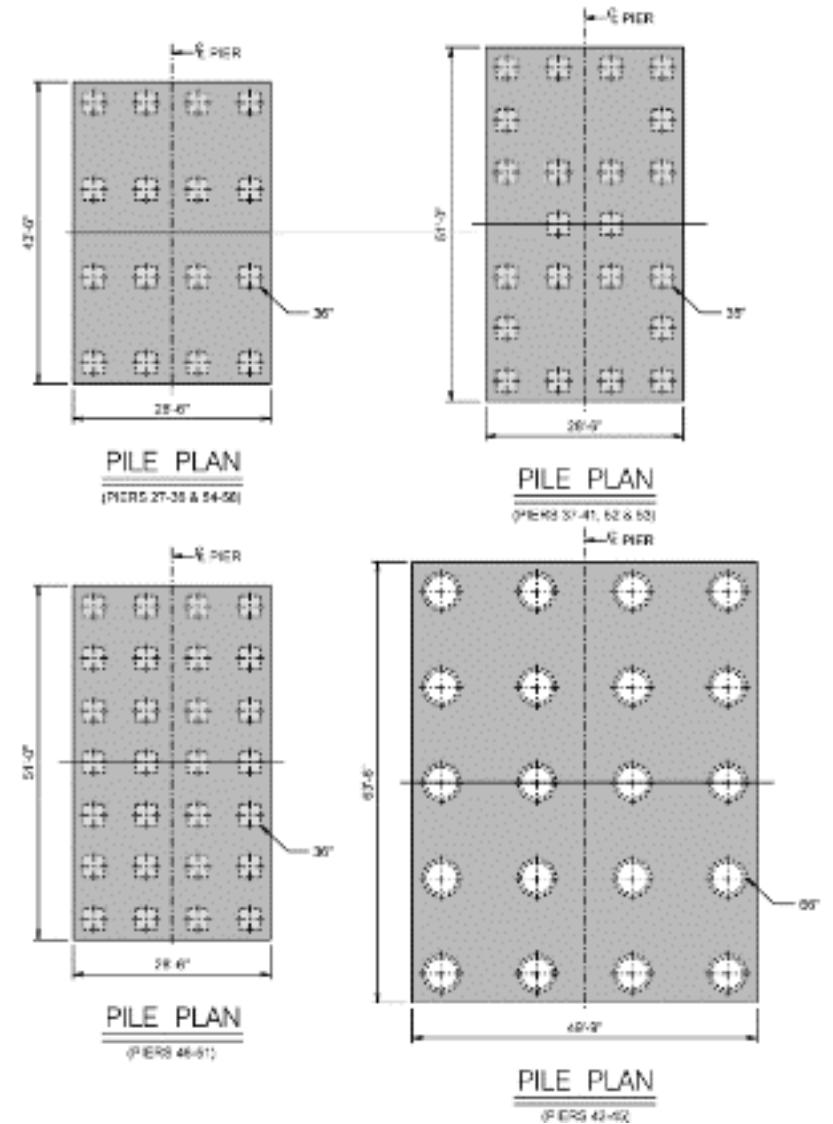
Prestressed Concrete Piles (7,000 psi):

- **36" square piles for High-Level & Low-Level Approach Spans**
  - ✓ Solid
  - ✓ Plain Prestressing Steel Strands (32 @ 0.6")
  - ✓ 100-ft to 190-ft Long (combined water and soft soils range 70 to 150-ft)
  - ✓ NBR up to 1,566 kips
  
- **66" cylinder piles for Main Channel Spans**
  - ✓ CFRP strands (36 @ 0.6")
  - ✓ Up to 188-ft Long
  - ✓ NBR up to 1,966 kips



# Bridge Foundations

- Loads distributed based on effective stiffness
  - Pile foundation stiffness
  - Pier stiffness
  - Bearing stiffness
  - Scoured and unscoured condition
- FB-MultiPier
- High Level - 16 to 28 piles
- Main Channel – 20 piles



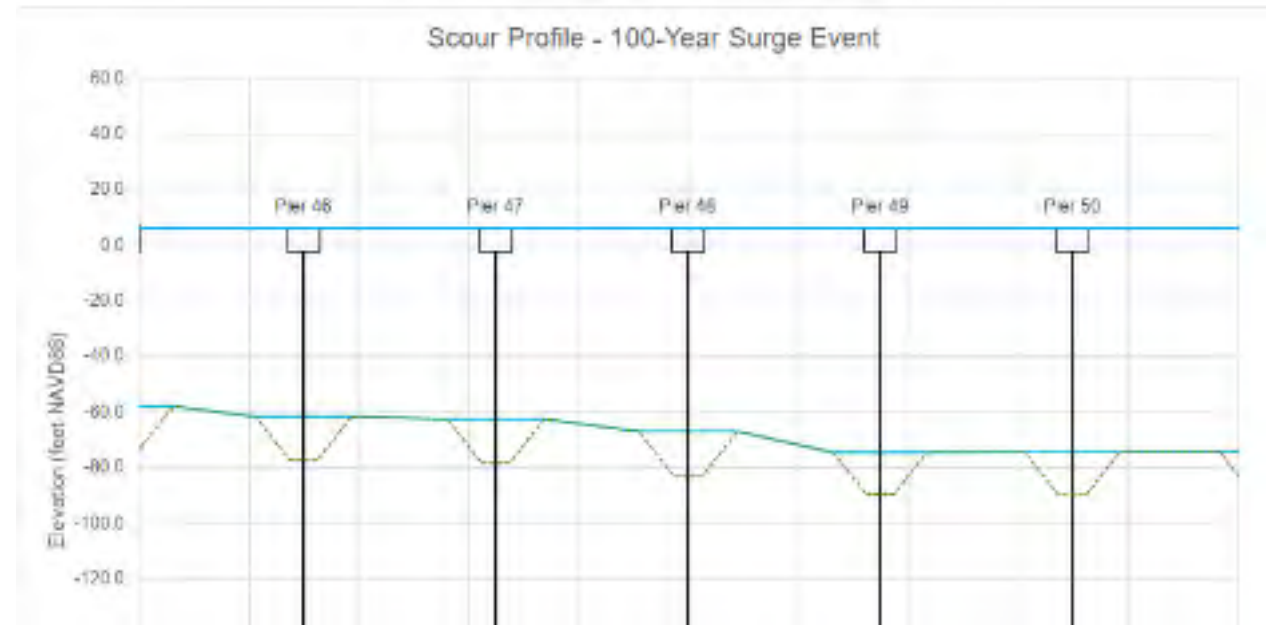


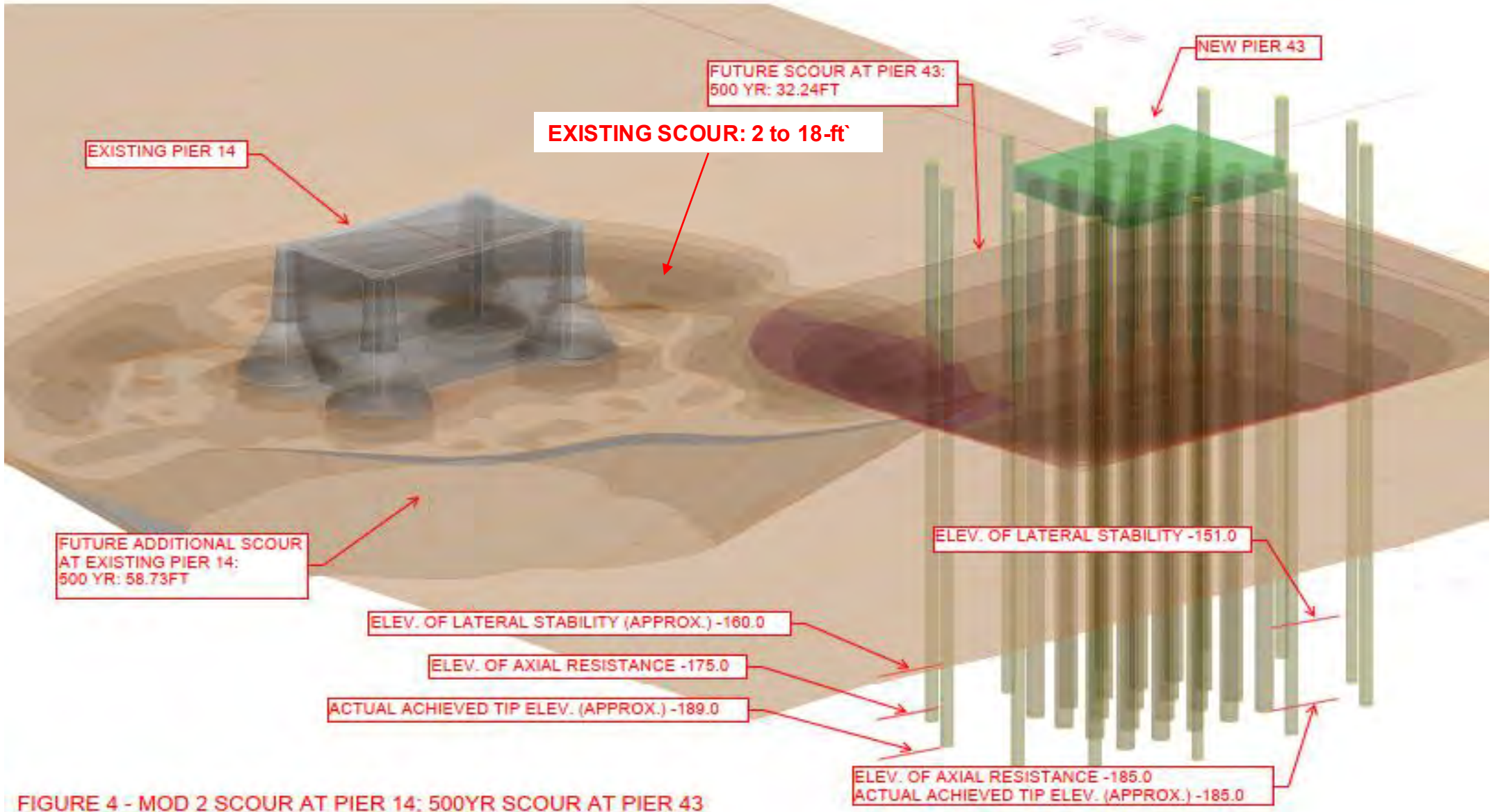
# Bridge Foundations

## Scour

- 100-yr storm for all load cases
- 500-yr storm for extreme event load case
- FB-MultiPier models considered both scoured and unscoured conditions.
- 3.5' to 16.5' for 100-yr
- 7.1' to 23.8' for 500-yr

## - Scour Profile





## ***Low-Level Approach Spans Pile Bents***

- 6 or 7 piles
- FRP jackets in splash zone
- 200-ton barge impact (water depth > 2-ft)
- For climate change and sea level rise, the RFP required a bottom of superstructure elevation above the Maryland Coast Smart Council construction requirements = El 12.62 (500-year flood elevation at 6.82)





## *High-Level Approach Spans – Waterline Footings*

- Precast tubs
- 7-ft deep
- 16 to 28 pile groups
- Piles embedded 3.5' with #11 dowels (galvanized)
- 200-ton barge impact





## ***High-Level Approach Spans - Substructure***

- Two Column Piers w/ diameters 6'-6" to 8'-6"
- 6'-6" for pier heights up to 51-ft
- 7'-6" for pier heights up to 86-ft
- 8'-6" for pier heights up to 120-ft



# Substructure

## High Level and Main Channel

- Typical pier cap 61' long, 8' deep, 9' wide
- Cap widths provide room for bearing replacement

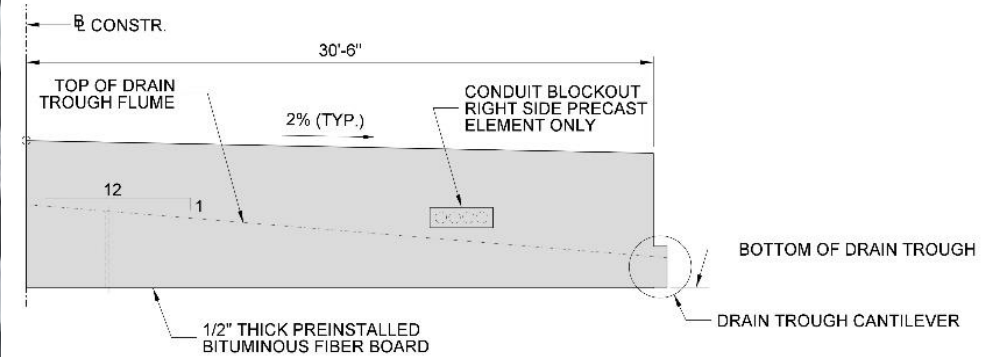
## Pier Cap Reinforcement





# Expansion Joint Pier Cap

- VDOT trough on pier cap
- RFP requirement
- Trough is precast in two sections

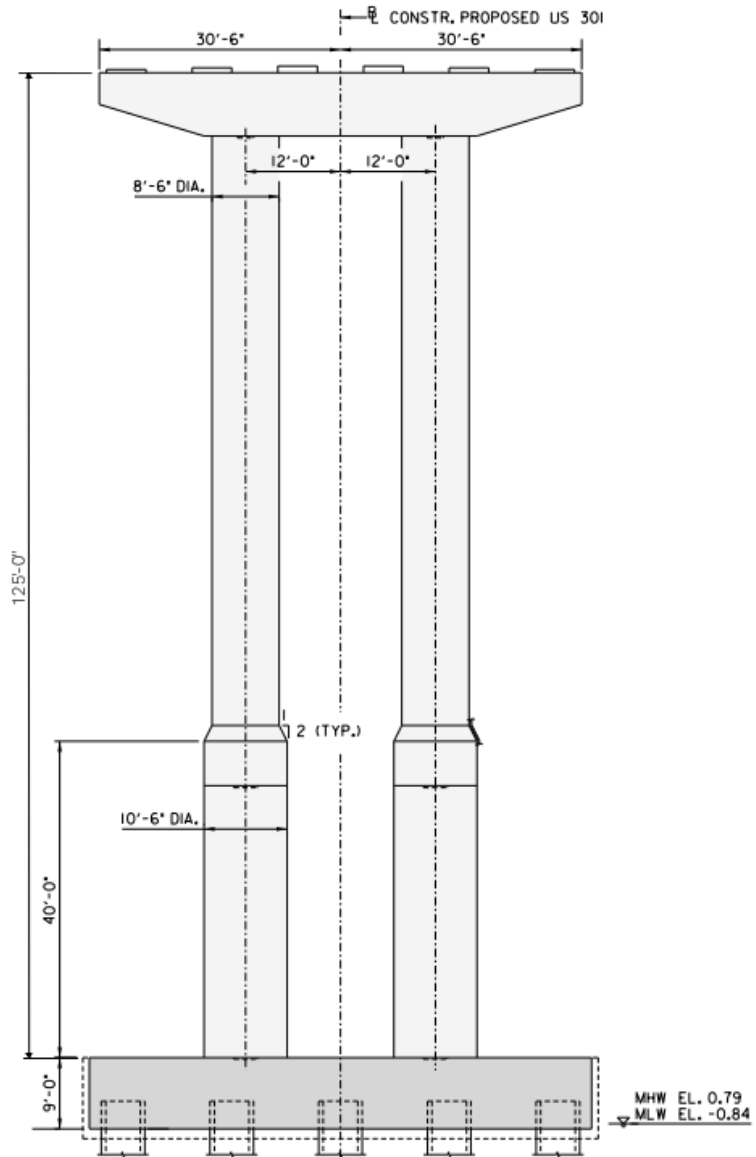


## *Main Channel Spans – Waterline Footings*

- Precast tubs
- 9-ft deep
- 20 pile group
- Piles embedded 3.5' w/ #11 dowels
- Interior filled with sand up to concrete plug
- Vessel Pier Protection







## ***Vessel Pier Protection***

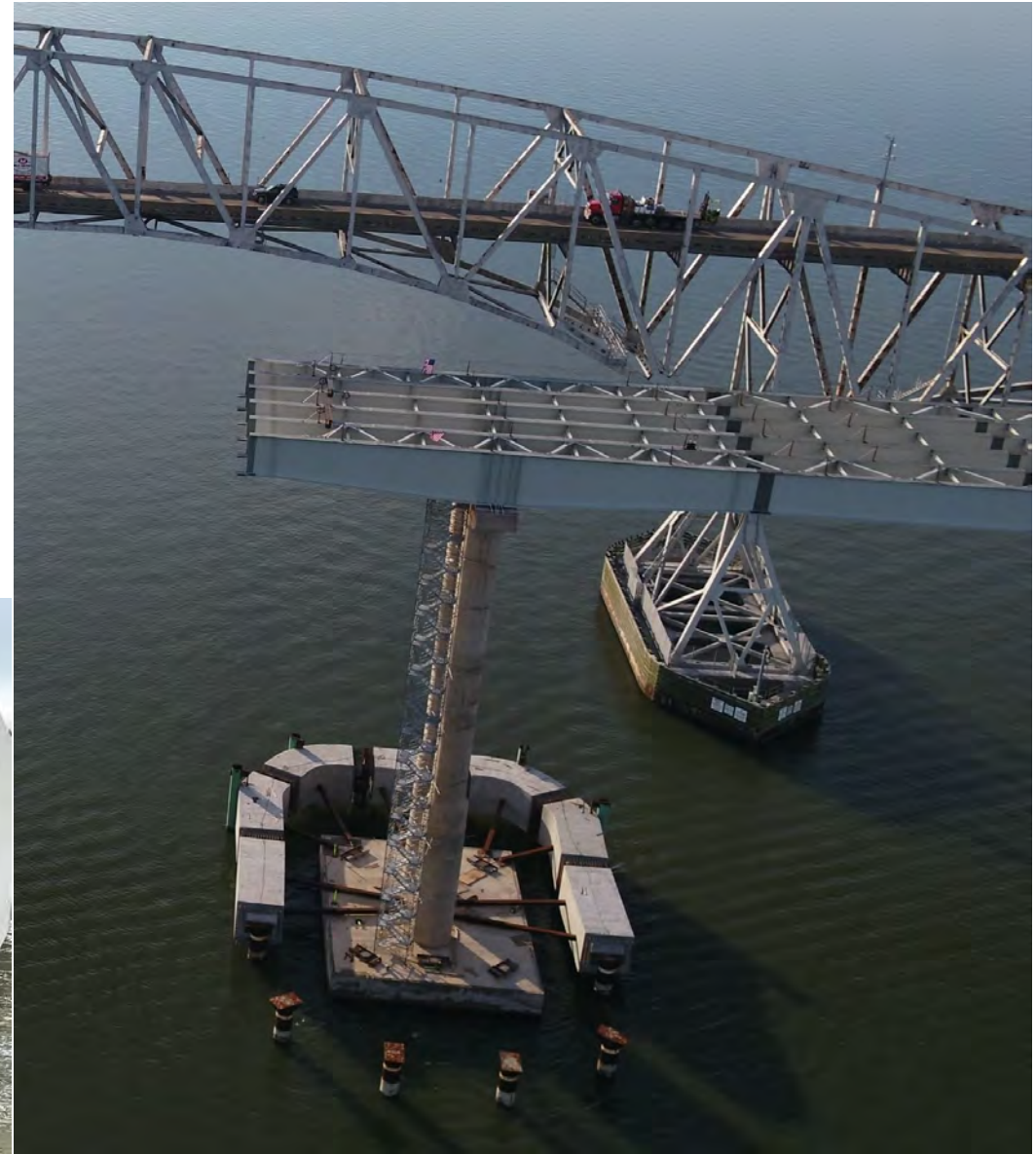
- 48" diam steel pipe piles
- A572 Grade 50
- 1½" wall – typical
- 1 7/8" wall in fixity zone
- Shear rings near pile head
- 8' of embedment into cap
- 22' filled with 8 ksi concrete
- FRP jacket



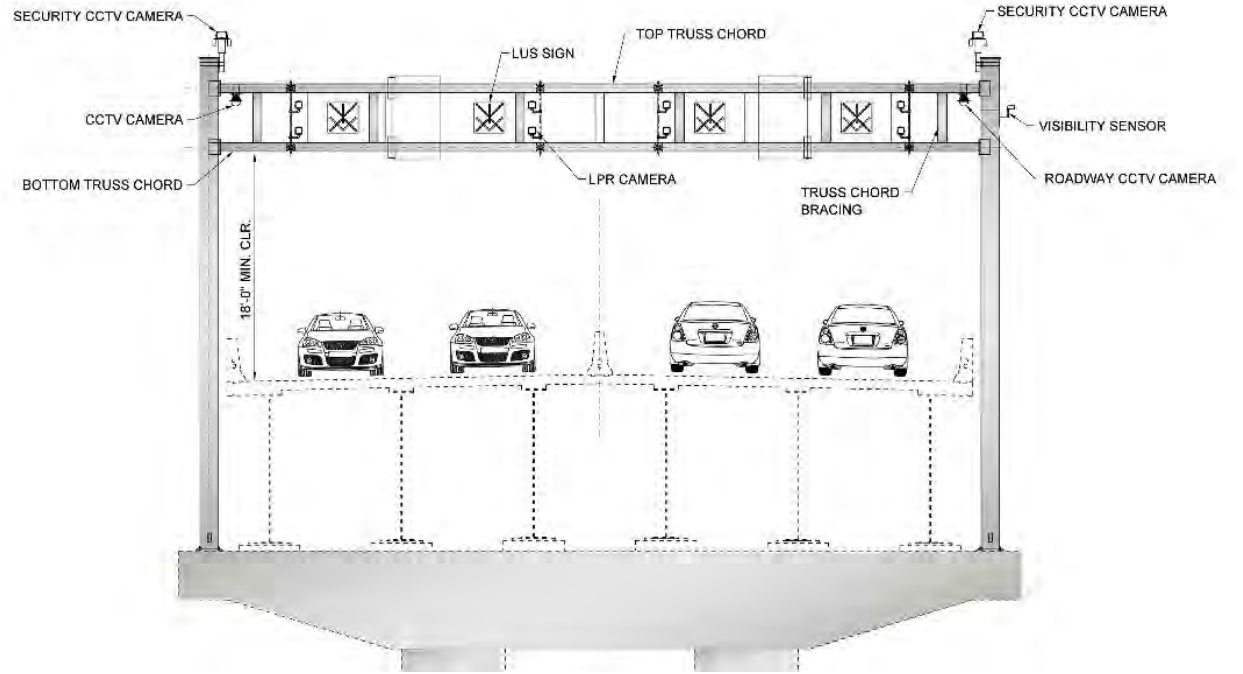


## ***Vessel Pier Protection***

- 5,000 DTW at 8 knots (42 annual vessels each direction)
- Reinforced concrete ring
  - Precast with CIP closures
  - Voided (foam filled) provided to reduce P-delta effects
  - Designed for large deformations
- Composite lumber
- Must maintain 250' horizontal channel clearance



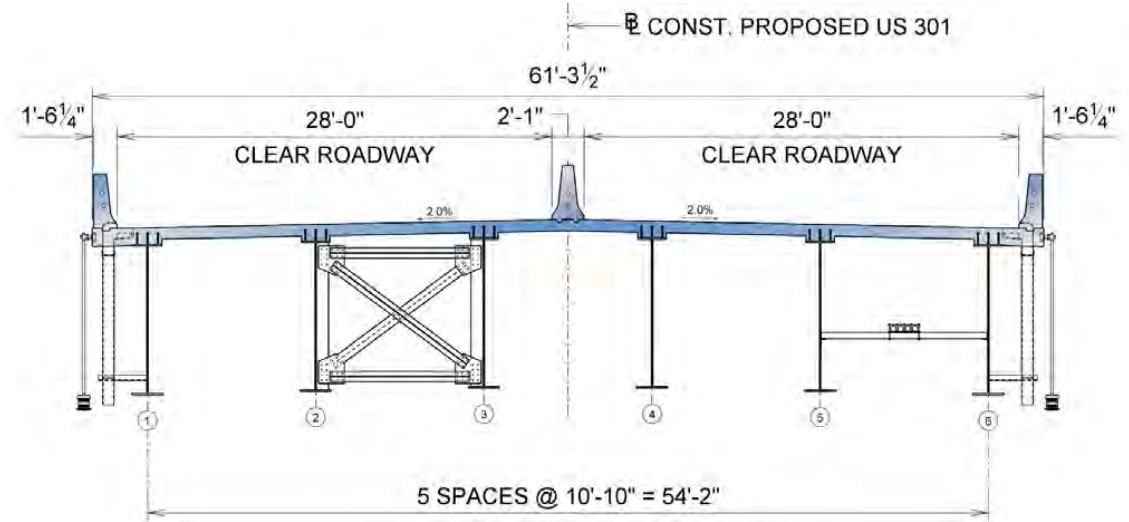
# Pier Supported Gantries



- Gantries required for lane use control signals
- Spaced approximately 1,000-ft
- Electrical platforms at some piers
- Pier caps 69'-6" long



# Main Channel Spans Superstructure

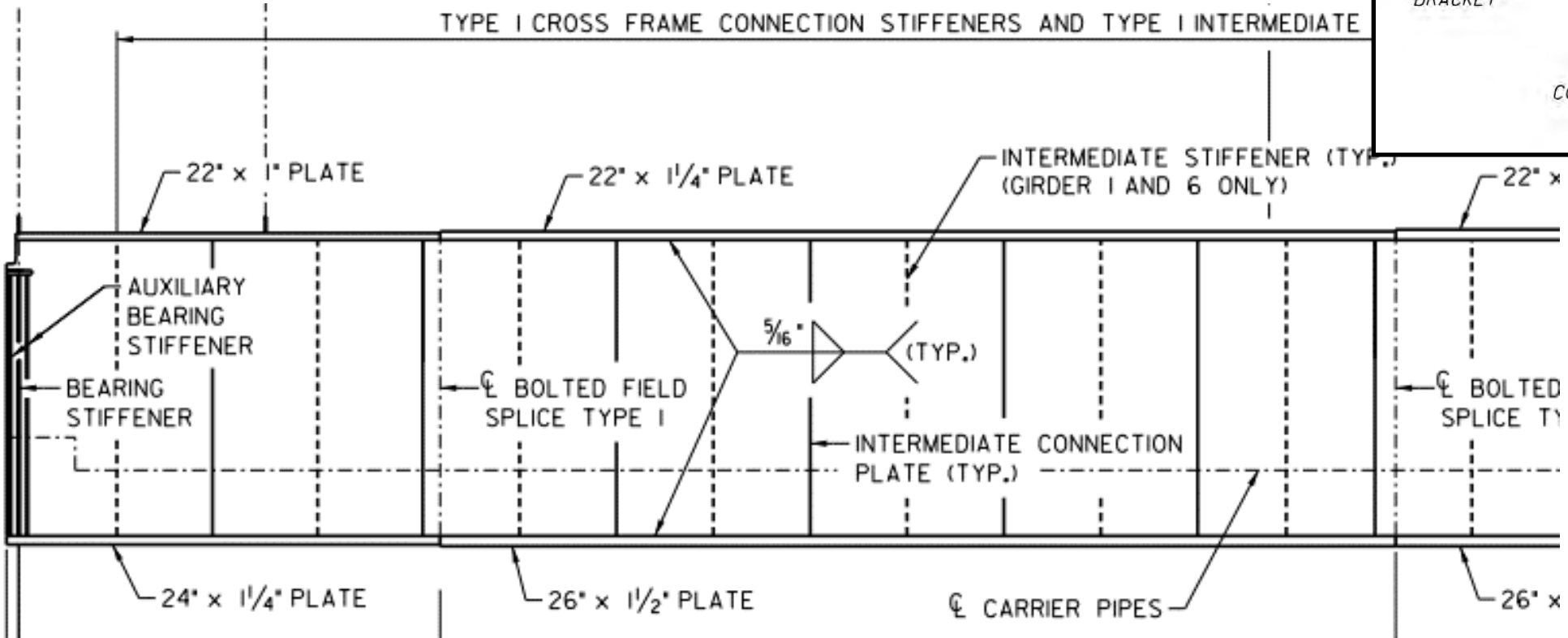
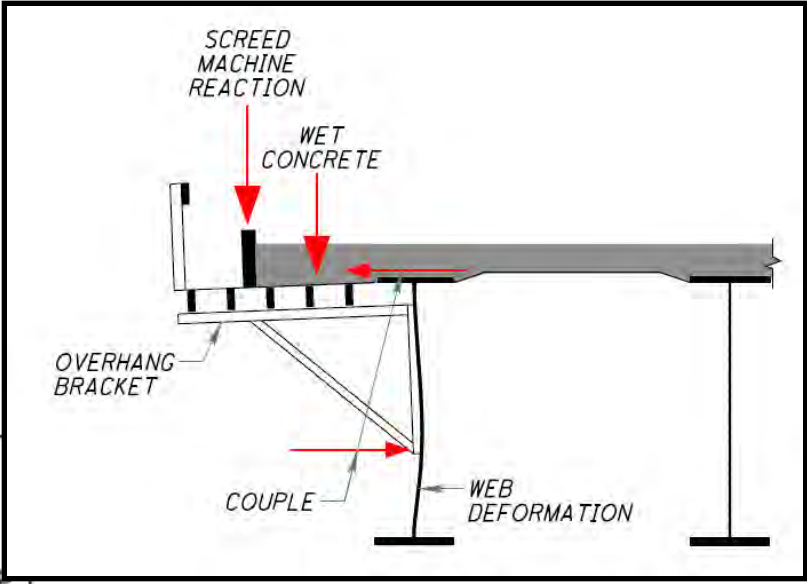


- 285' – 350' – 285'
- Variable depth plate girders (114" to 144")
  - HPS 70W flanges
  - Grade 50 webs
- 9" deck with low carbon/chromium steel
- 42" F-Shape Parapet
- Lateral bracing in exterior bays
- 1" diameter A325 bolts



# Main Channel Spans Superstructure

- Bridge deck overhang bracket load on web
- Additional transverse stiffeners to support deck overhang brackets.



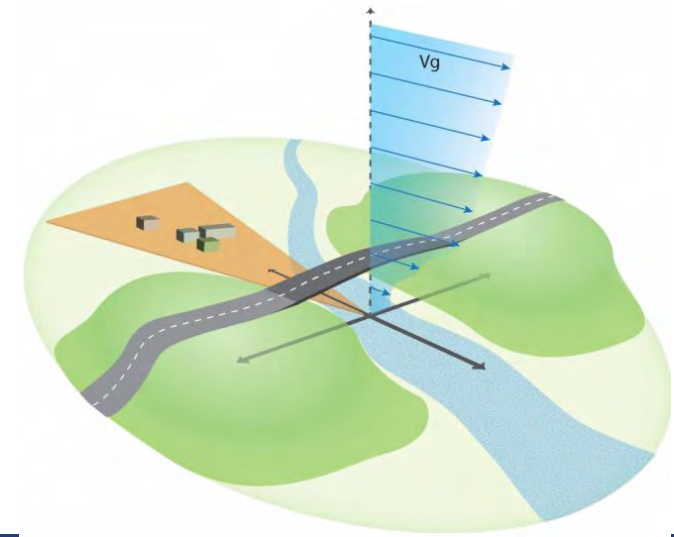
# Main Channel Spans Superstructure

- Evaluated against potential wind excitation when  $L/W > 30$  or as required by AASHTO.  $T < 1.0$  second
- RWDI performed climatological analysis to establish critical wind conditions
- Provided project required wind speeds for wind loading and aerodynamic stability
- Desktop (computer modeling) assessment of aerodynamic stability
- Determined risk of vortex shedding induced vibrations (VIO) at 30 to 50 mph
- Sectional Model testing performed with various wind faring options
- Buffeting Analysis provided equivalent static wind loads

**Table 2-1b: Recommended Wind Speeds at Bridge Site, AASHTO 8<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Wind Speed Applicable for	Return Period (years)	Mean Wind Speed (mph) at Deck Level 150 ft and Averaging Time		Corresponding 3-second Gust Speed (mph) at C 33 ft Open Terrain
Design during construction	28	64	1 h	85
Design of completed bridge	1400	85	1 h	112
Stability during construction	1,000	79*	10 min	101*
Stability of completed bridge	10,000	90*	10 min	116*

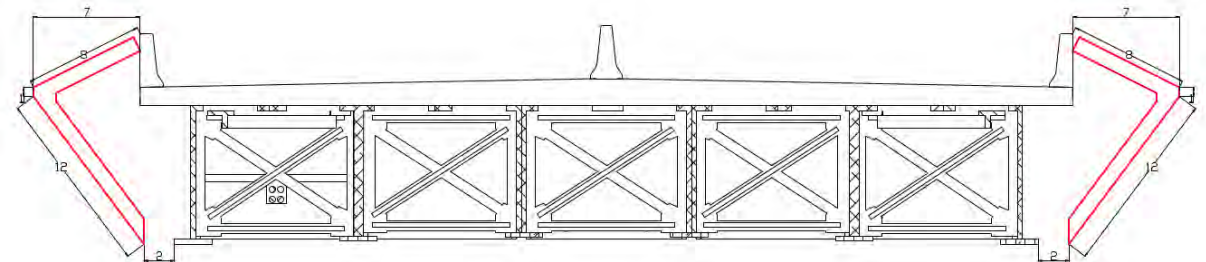
\*Includes reduction due to extreme wind climate directionality





# Wind Evaluation & Testing

- Site Specific Wind Study
- Section Model Tests
- Vortex-Induced Oscillations
  - Onset Wind Speed < 50 mph
- **Mitigation Strategies**
  - Tuned Mass Dampers (TMD)
  - Wind Fairings
  - ✓ 5% Increase Stiffness/Frequency  
(6" Increase Web Depth)
- **Design Wind Loads**
  - ✓ RWDI Buffeting Loads
  - ✓ AASHTO Wind Loads



Deck Section w/ Wind Fairings

# Main Channel Spans Superstructure

## Carboline Coating System

- 33-year service life
- 3 Coat system
  - Primer: Carbozinc 11HS @ 3.0-5.0 mils DFT
  - Stripe Coat: Carbozinc 859 applied at all weld seam, corners, edges.
  - Intermediate Coat: Carboguard 893 @ 5.0-8.0 mils DFT
  - Finish: Carboxane 2000 @ 5.0-7.0 mils DFT

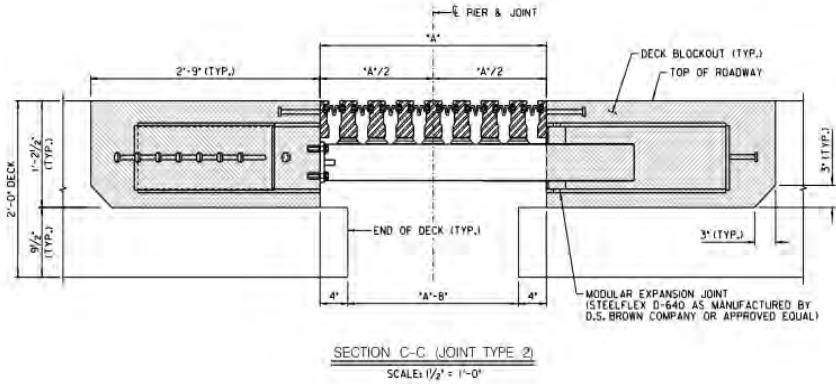
# Main Channel Spans Superstructure

## 1570-Kip Disc Bearings

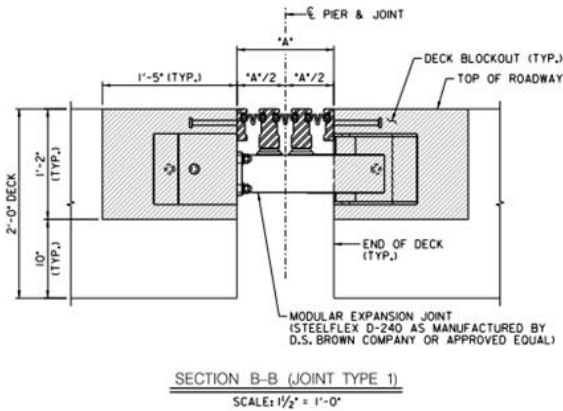




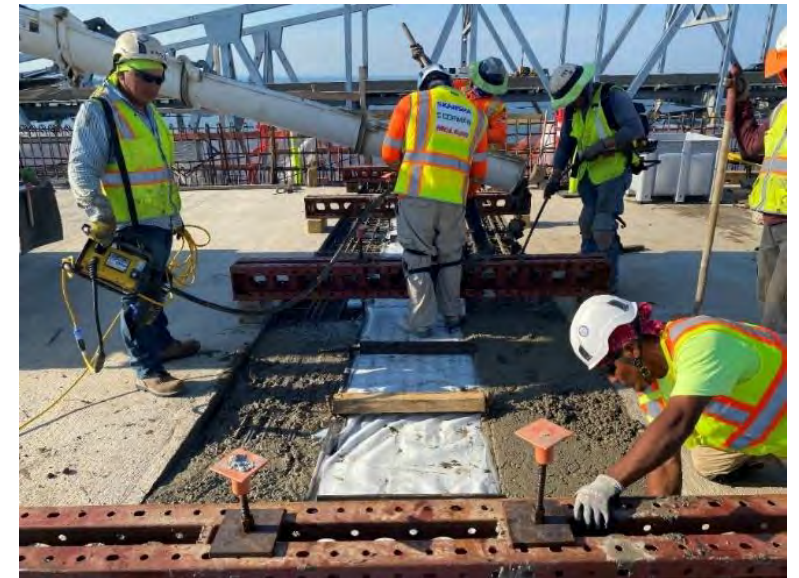
# Modular Expansion Joints



*24" movement range*



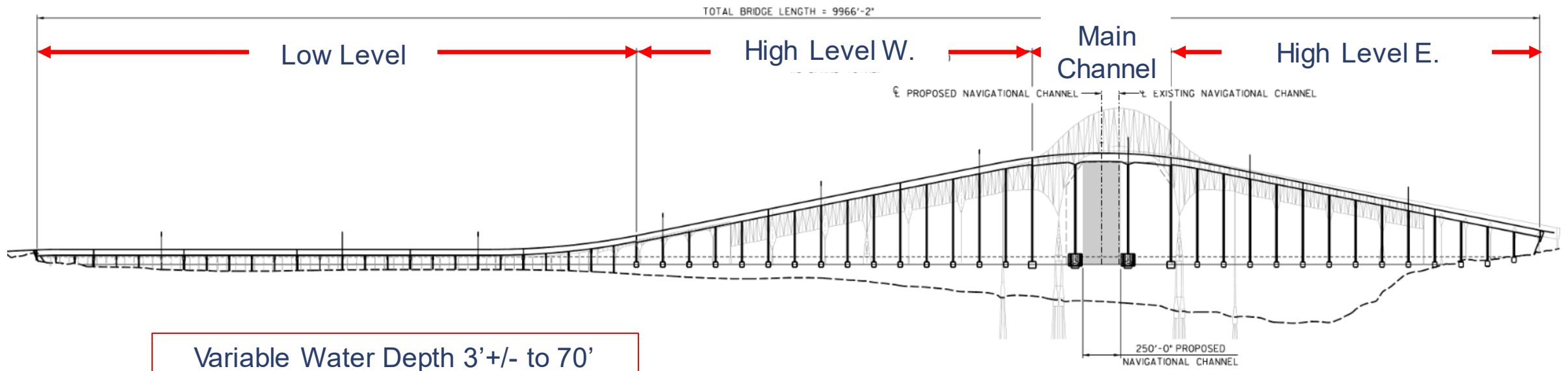
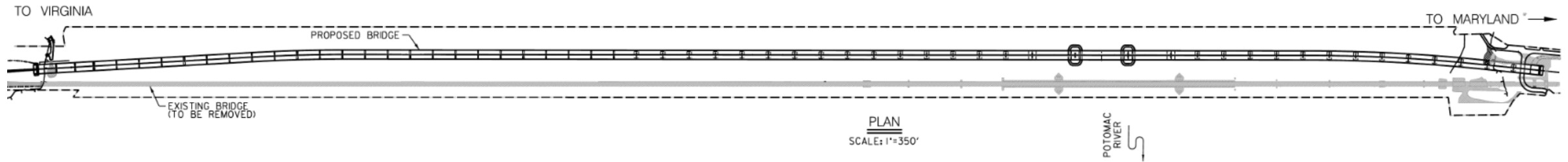
*9" movement range*





# Field Operations





Variable Water Depth 3'+/- to 70'

ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1"=350'



# Logistics - Maryland



Concrete Batch Plant  
Area

MD Trestle

Yard/Laydown



# Logistics - Virginia



Dredge Area

VA Trestle



# Heavy Lift and Marine Equipment

(2) 888 Ringers, (1) 4100 Ringer, (2) Whirley Cranes

During peak period the project employed over 20 cranes, over 30 barges, and 5 tug boats





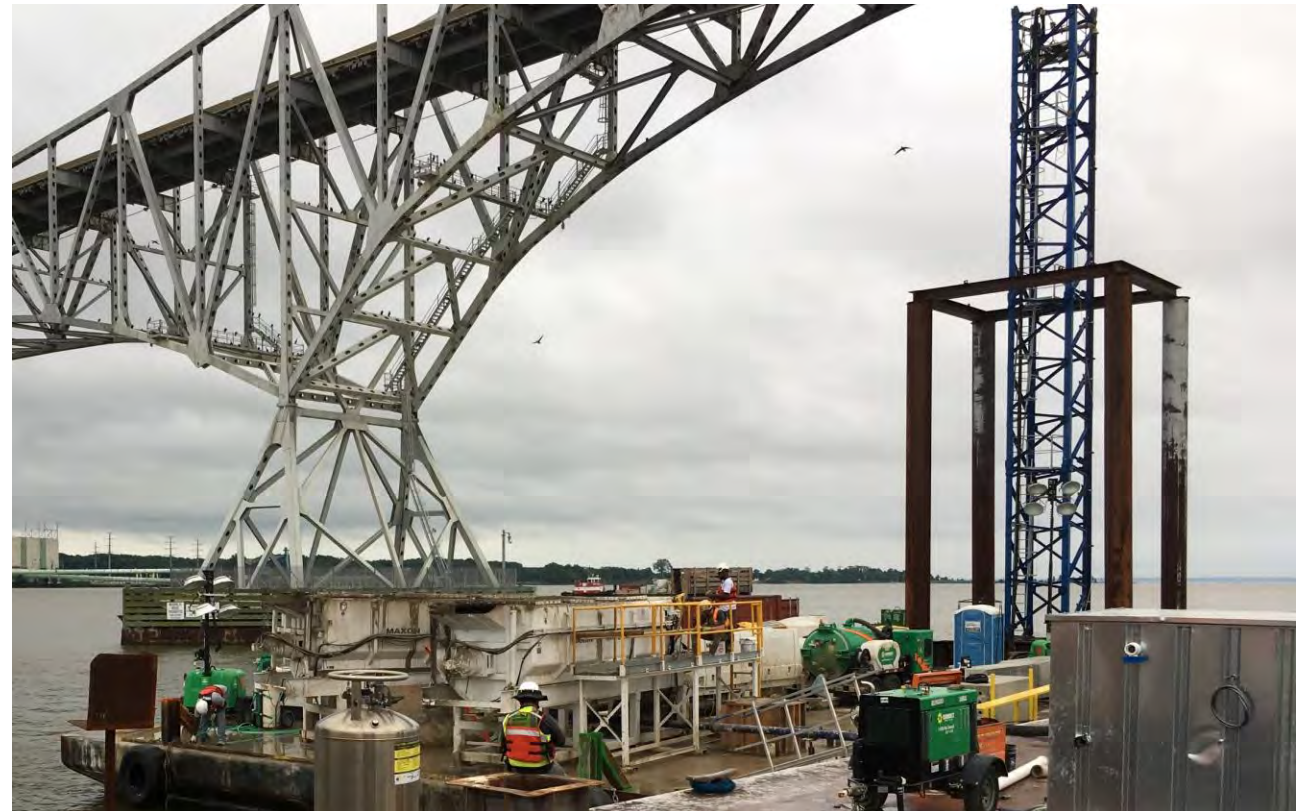
# Equipment – Concrete Batch Plant/Barge Loading





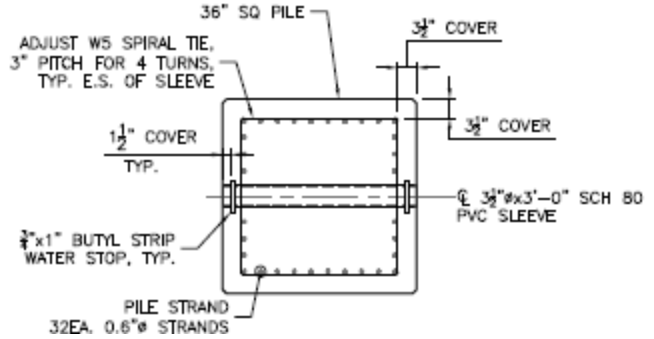
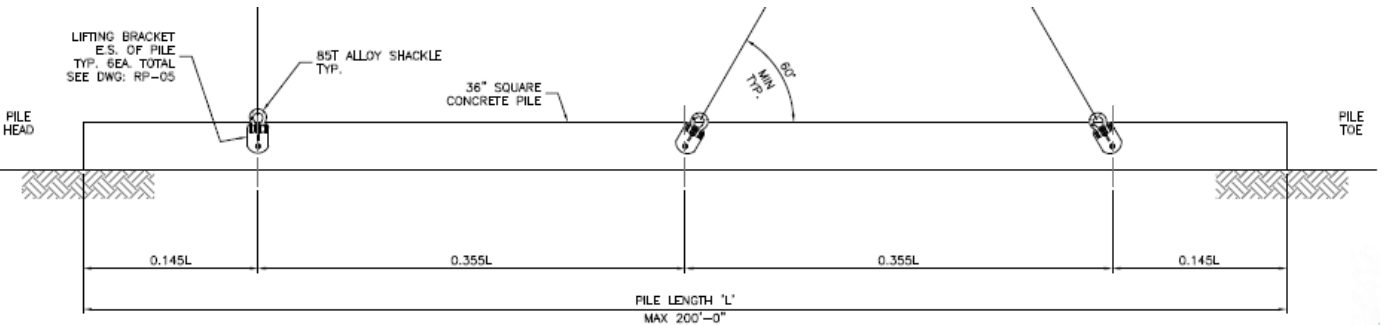
# Marine Concrete Delivery

- (2) Transport Barges w/ (2) lines of (3) 15CY Agitors
- (1) Placing Barge with (2) Remixers, (1) Pump, (1) Placing Tower/Boom



# Piling

- 36" Square Piles – approx 740 piles – Avg 166' (112 Ton) – Long 206' (139 Ton)
- 66" Cylinder Piles – 80 Piles – Avg 187' (122 Ton) – Long 200' (131 Ton)
- Test Piles (indicator/load test) used as production piles
- Piles delivered via barge from Cape Charles VA
- Pile hammers included hydraulic, air, and diesel hammers
- Pile rigging employed a through pin lifting assembly in lieu of "choking" with slings





# Pile Driving – “A” Frame Leads

Barges with “A” frames positioned using anchor lines and GPS



## Pile Driving – Template



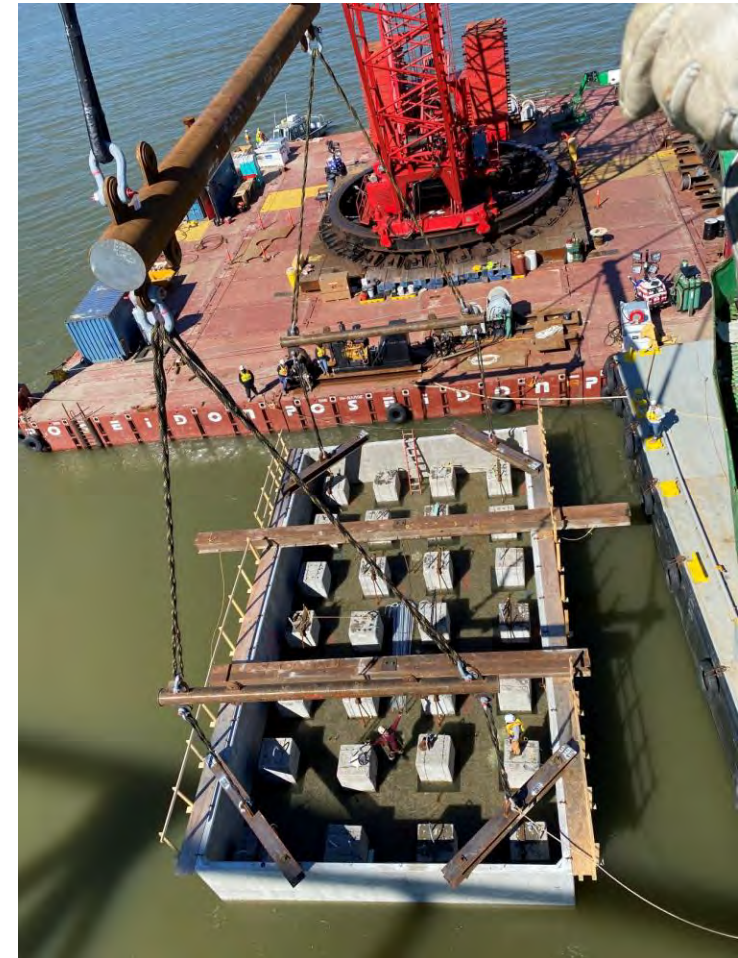


# Pile Driving – Hanging Leads





# Waterline Foundation – “Bathtub”







## Waterline Foundation – Precast “Bathtubs”

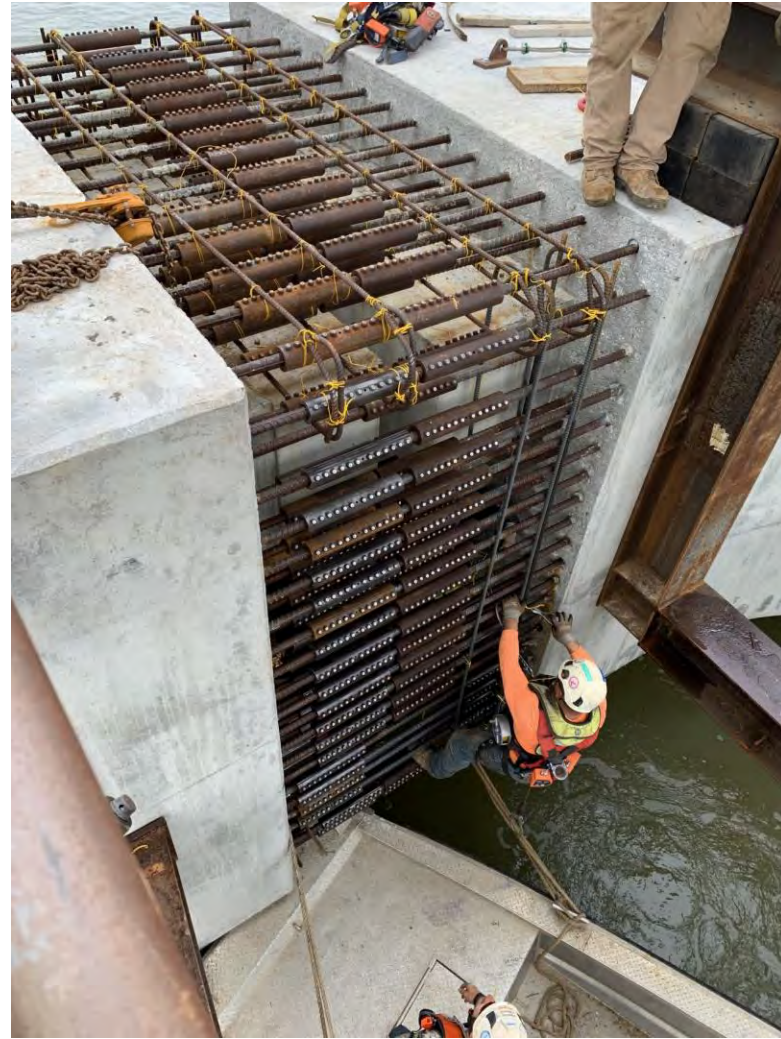
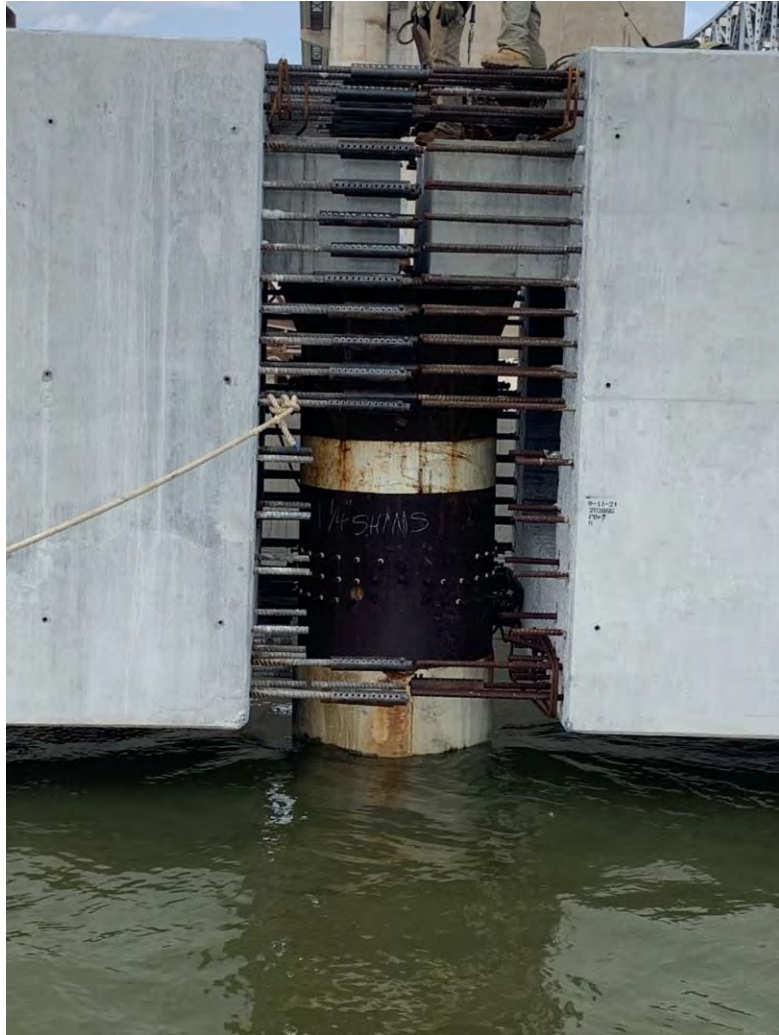
- Piles driven to elevation or cut to elevation using diamond wire saw
- Custom hanging system with embeds cast into bathtub
- Soffit forms, hung from piles prior to placing precast, are drawn up to the bottom of the foundation and grouted.
- Bathtub is pumped out, cleaned, and prepared for concrete fill with installation of pile dowels and reinforcing













# Prestressed Girder Erection



Low Level 27 Spans (79" PCEF)  
 6 Girders per span (qty 162)  
 3 Spans @ 125'  
 24 Spans @ 150'

High Level 29 Spans (95" PCEF)  
 7 Girders per span (qty 203)  
 All @ 175'

Majority tandem picks  
 Unit weight range 73T to 112T



# Superstructure Team Members



INTERLOCK STEELWORKERS, INC.



*Cosmec*



D.T. Read Steel Co



**CHANEY**  
ENTERPRISES



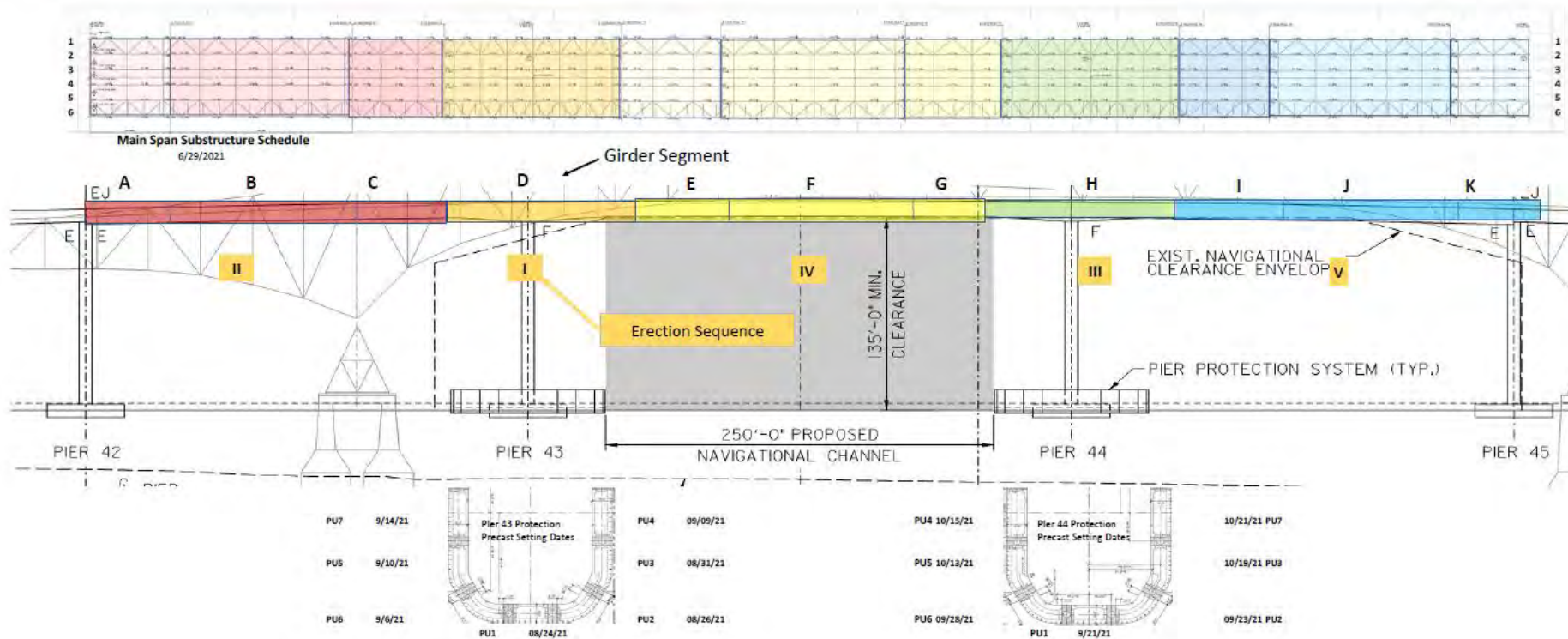
Paul J. Rach, Inc.  
CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

**HURTT**  
FABRICATING

# Superstructure – Steel

Harry Nice Bridge - Job No. 9007940  
 Rev. 6 Date 15 July 2021 added precast fender dates  
 T.O'Rourke

Main Channel Substructure, Pier Protection, Structural Steel Dates



3 Spans – Continuous  
 920' (285'/350'/285')  
 6 Girder Lines  
 11 Segments

Erection  
 Girder Pairs  
 3 Pairs X 5 Assemblies



# Project Timeline – Steel Spans

JV Agreement formed Winter 2016

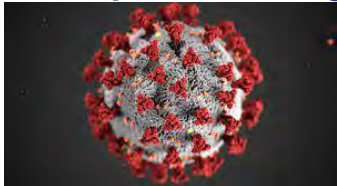
MDTA Notice of selection Fall 2019

MDTA Notice to Proceed March 2020

Main Channel Superstructure Released for Construction Dwgs. Nov.2020

Subcontract for Structural Steel December 2020

Shop Drawing Initial Submission February 2021



Initial Shop Visit April 2021

Start of Fabrication June 2021

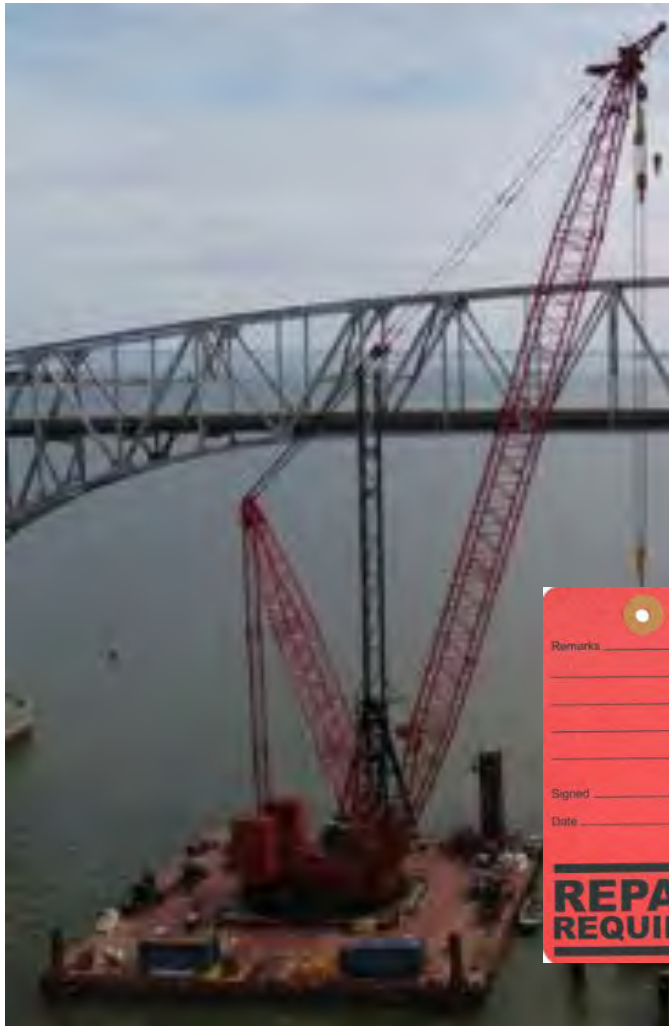
Complete Fabrication and Coating October 2021

Start field activities October 2021

Complete field activities March 2022







## Follow on Challenges

- Equipment parts availability
- Winter weather
- High winds
- Rough water



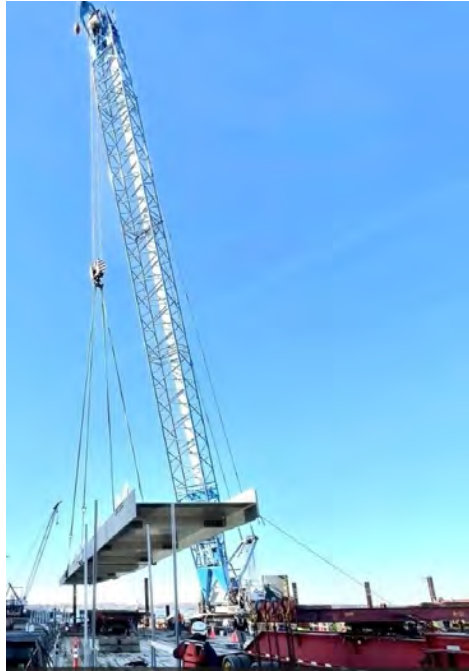


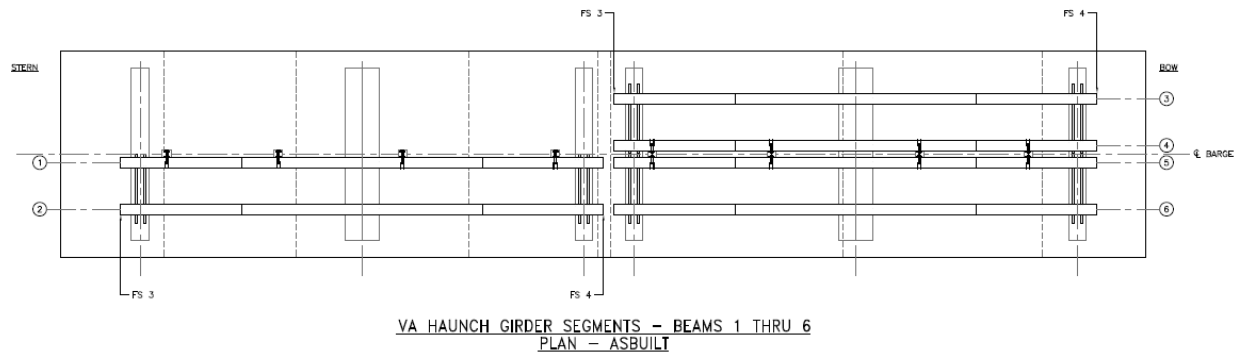
Photo credit High Steel



Photo credit High Steel

## Girder Logistics

- Haunched girders shipped horizontally and up-righted at the jobsite using a custom fabricated hitch
- Constant depth girders shipped vertically
- Majority of girders staged at the jobsite along the site access road
- Girder pairs assembled on transport barge
- Each barge load had an engineered loading and unloading plan



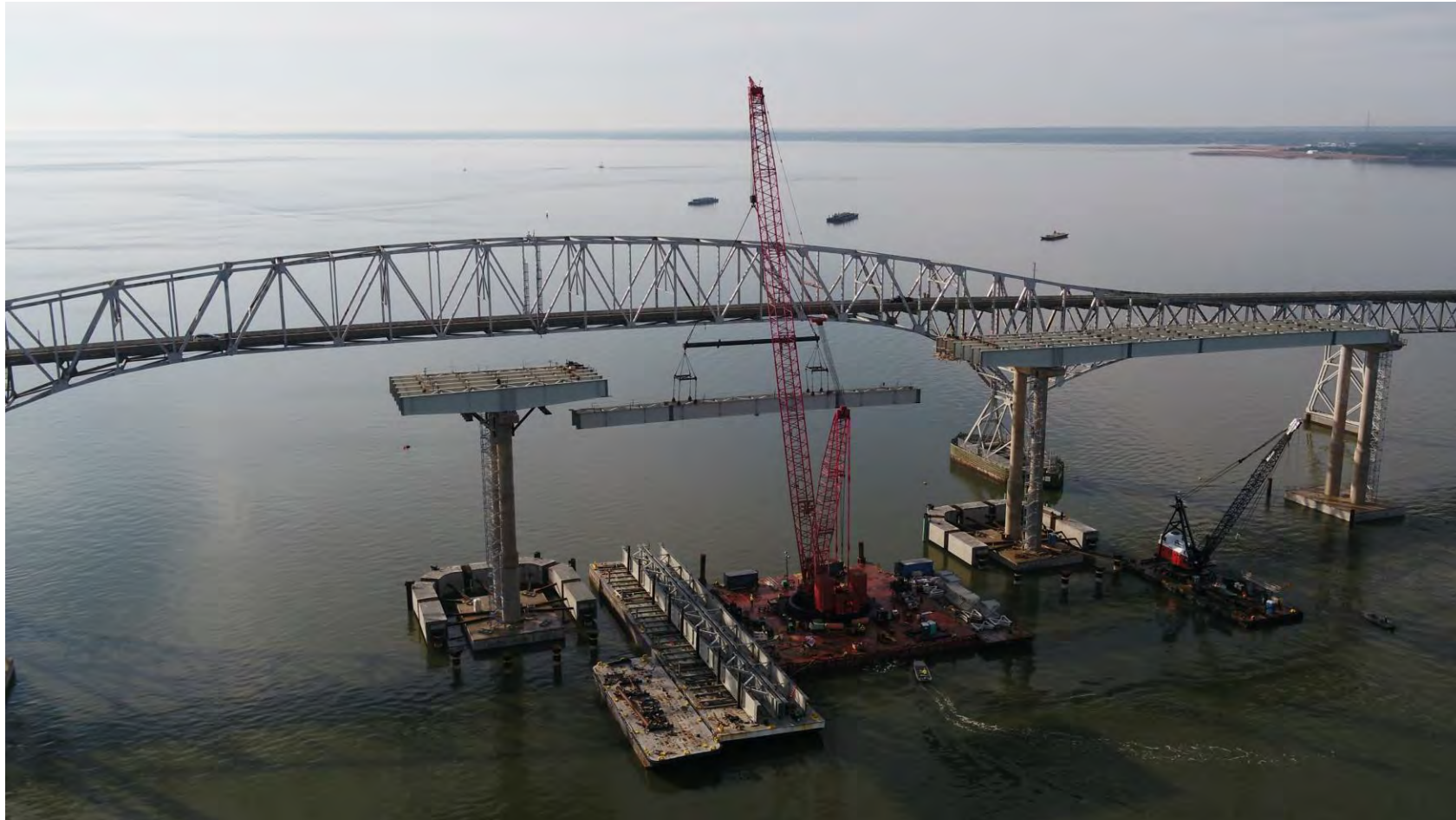








# 888 Ringer Used to Erect Steel Girders

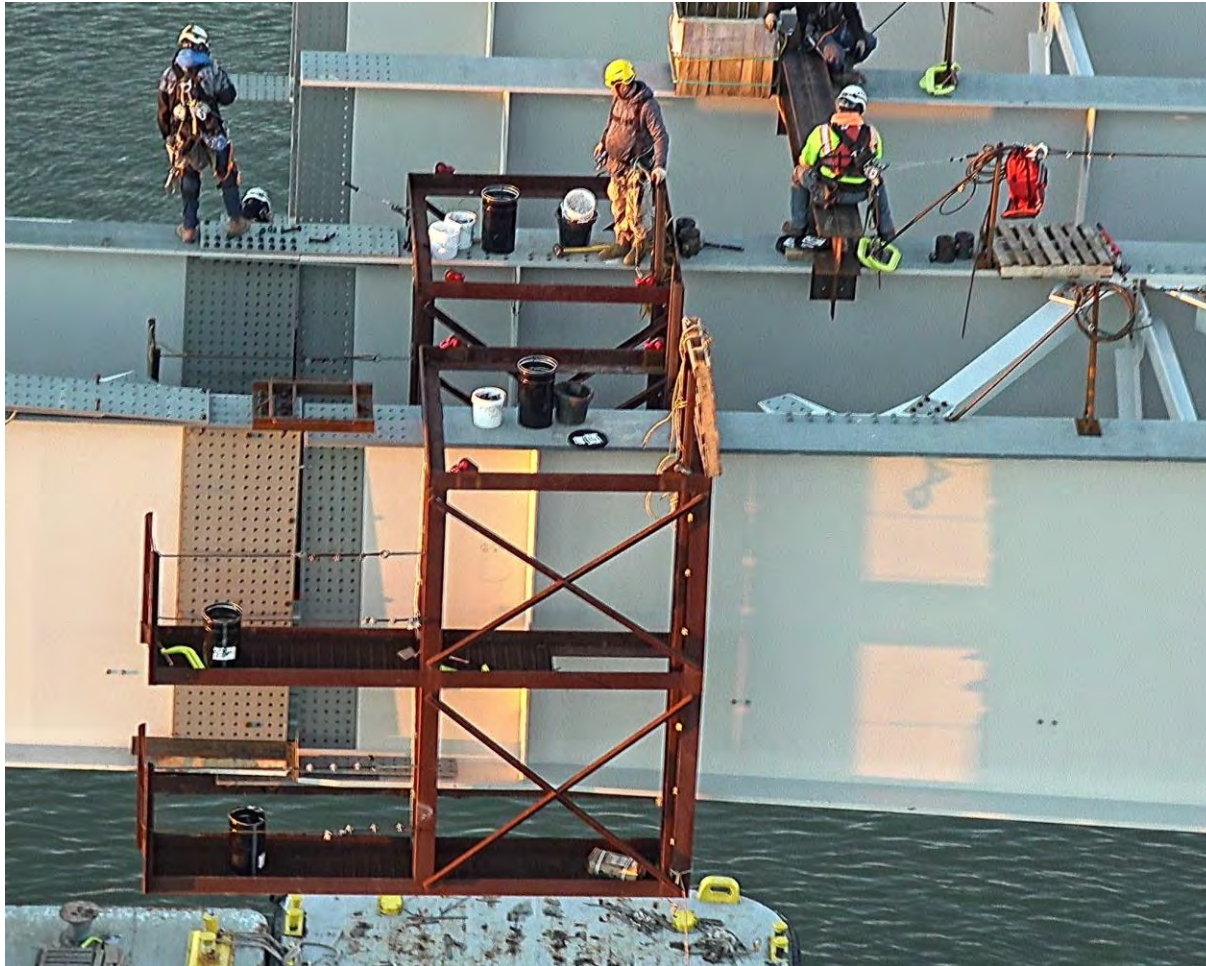


# Custom Fabricated Spreader Beams/Frames

Rigging consisted of standard slings/shackles/girder clamps







## Access

- Crew boats transported craft to barges/piers
- Stair tower installed at channel piers
- Fall protection installed on each girder during pre-assembly on barges
- Job specific bolt up frames fabricated
- Crane mats placed on girders to stage equipment and materials



- Erection sequence required postponing erection of flanking precast girder spans and drainage roughs
- Drop in span required jacking haunched girders to close a gap allowed for girder entry
- Bolt tensioning employed “turn of the nut”
- Stay in place decking used – installation performed after field survey and camber checks
- Studs field installed
- Touch up painting performed in two stages – areas concealed or having restricted access and upper regions of girders performed prior to decking – balance of touch up performed using underbridge access equipment after the deck and barrier were placed



# Nice Middleton Bridge Open 10/12/22





For more information, please visit us at:  
<https://mdta.Maryland.gov/NiceMiddletonBridge/Home>



**NEW NICE  
MIDDLETON  
BRIDGE**





We finished ahead of schedule and had a blast!

Thank You

