



Maryland

Department of the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary
Adam Ortiz, Deputy Secretary

August 6, 2025

Re: **Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Francis Scott Key Bridge Rebuild
Revision**

Tidal and Nontidal Authorization Numbers: 24-WL-0757(R1)/24-NT-0163

Tracking Number: 202461017

Public Notice Period: August 6, 2025 - September 6, 2025

Public Hearing Scheduled for August 20, 2025

Comments will be accepted until September 6, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or the Department) received an amendment/modification request from the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) to amend the proposed work associated with the Francis Scott Key Bridge rebuild within Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County to reflect the final design and final alignment of the bridge, which has been adjusted 260 to the east, as well as conceptual construction access. A public informational hearing will be held.

Project Details:

The applicant has applied to modify tidal wetlands license 24-WL-0757 and amend the nontidal application for the proposed replacement Francis Scott Key Bridge project over the Patapsco River in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The updates include adjusting the final alignment of the main span of the bridge 260 feet east of the original alignment to avoid conflicts with the large structural components of the original bridge, which are deep below the mudline of the Patapsco River. The amended application/modification request also includes impacts based on 50% design level plans, which include revised details for bridge piers, pier protection, roadway approaches, and roadway drainage associated with the final alignment. Tidal impacts have decreased from 553,820 square feet (12.71 acres) to 24,383 square feet (0.56 acres) of permanent impacts to tidal waters. Temporary impacts to tidal waters have remained the same at 10,605 square feet (0.25 acres). The project updates will also permanently impact 135,789 square feet (3.12 acres) of emergent nontidal wetlands, 101,681 square feet (2.34 acres) of the 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 187 linear feet (599 square feet) of an intermittent tributary to the Patapsco River, and 112 linear feet (337 square feet) of a perennial tributary to the Patapsco River. The project is proposed within the Baltimore Harbor and Patapsco River watershed, a Use II waterway within the project area, with Use I tributaries. The project is located along I-695 from southwest of Broening Highway to northeast of the B&O Railroad crossing, in Baltimore City, and Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties. Mitigation will be required for all permanent tidal waters, and nontidal wetland and waterway impacts. The Applicant has proposed to satisfy nontidal mitigation through payment into an approved mitigation bank and/or an off-site permittee responsible mitigation site, and tidal impacts through off-site and out-of-kind permittee responsible mitigation. The purpose of this project is to rebuild and include necessary access for the construction of the replacement Francis Scott Key Bridge.

Construction impacts will occur in Dundalk, Baltimore County, MD, and Hawkins Point, Baltimore City, MD.

To review the impact plates, proposed plans, or to review information on the full rebuild project and to review the entire plans for the project, please use the following links:

- <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/FrancisScottKeyBridge.asp>
- <http://www.keybridgerebuild.com/>

In addition, a copy of the plans and supporting project information will also be housed in the following locations and will be made available upon request:

- Sollers Point Branch of the Baltimore County Public Library, 323 Sollers Point Rd. Dundalk MD 21222
- Enoch Pratt Free Library – Cherry Hill Branch, 606 Cherry Hill Rd, Baltimore, MD 21225

Hearing Details:

A public information hearing for the proposed shift in alignment listed above will be held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in determining a decision. The scheduled hearing will include a court reporter to transcribe the comments made at the hearing and a sign language interpreter, and a Spanish interpreter will be present. Statements for or against this project may be presented orally at the hearing or in writing at the following address:

Maryland Department of the Environment
Tidal Wetlands Division – Suite 430
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
Attn: Matt Wallach

Comments may also be provided electronically to matthew.wallach@maryland.gov.

Hearing Schedule:

Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2025
Location: North Point Edgemere Volunteer Fire Department
Address: 7500 North Point Rd, Baltimore, MD 21219
Poster Session: 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Hearing: Will begin at 5:30 PM
Public Comment Closing Date: September 6, 2025

Please contact Matt Wallach, at matthew.wallach@maryland.gov or 410-207-0893 if you have any questions. Any correspondence should include the project number, with written comments accepted until September 6, 2025. Written comments, and requests to be included on the interested persons list will be accepted until September 6, 2025. This public notice for 24-WL-0757(R1) is solely for the 260 foot shift in alignment of the new Francis Scott Key Bridge. This public notice for 24-NT-0163 is for impact to nontidal wetlands and waterways. Only those issues subject to regulation by the MDE Nontidal Wetlands and Waterway Construction Divisions (impacts to nontidal wetlands, wetland buffer, and waterways, including the 100-year nontidal floodplain) and the Tidal Wetlands Division will be considered in rendering a decision to grant or deny the Nontidal MDE Permit and the modification to the Tidal Wetlands License. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list. Please refer to Subsection 5-907 and 5-204 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.23.02, 26.24.01, and 26.24.02 for information regarding the application process.

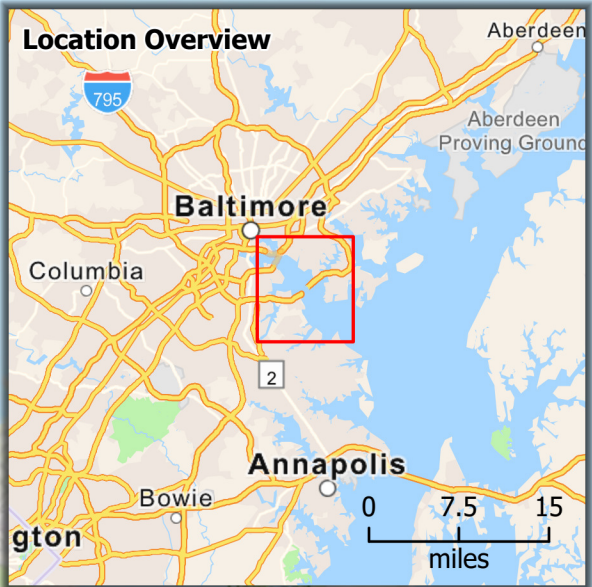
Sincerely,

Matthew Wallach

Matt Wallach
Tidal Wetlands Division
Maryland Department of the Environment

Enclosure: Overview map

24-WL-0757(R1)
 24-NT-0163
 202461017
 August 6, 2025
 Sheet 1 of 1



**FSK Bridge Rebuild Project
 Compensatory Mitigation Plan**

Appendix A:
 Project Vicinity Map

Baltimore City, Baltimore County,
 and Anne Arundel County, Maryland
 June 2025

