

Notice of Application for State Wetland Licenses, Private Wetland Permits, Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permits and/or Water Quality Certification and the Opportunity to Provide Written Comment or Request an Informational Hearing

The Water and Science Administration is reviewing the following applications for State Wetland Licenses, Private Wetland Permits, Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permits and/or Water Quality Certifications. The applications and related information are on file at the Administration. Arrangements may be made for inspection and copying of file materials. Interested parties may provide written comments on the application or request an informational hearing on any listed application. A request for a hearing must be in writing and provide the following information: 1) Name, Address, and Telephone Number of the person making the request; 2) The identity of any other person(s) the requestor is representing; and 3) the specific issues proposed to be considered at the hearing. Please refer to the case number (i.e., 00-NT-0000, 00-WL-000, 00-WP-000, 00-WQC-0000) which identifies each application. Address correspondence to the attention of the Administration contact contained in the project's public notice. If none is listed, send correspondence to the Wetlands and Waterways Program, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland, 21230. For questions regarding any public notice, you can contact the Wetlands and Waterways Program by Telephone; (410) 537-3751. Written comments or requests for a hearing must be received on or before August 15, 2024, unless otherwise noted in the Public Notice.

24-WL-0607/24-WL-0653/24-WQC-0022/202460906/MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY; A public information hearing for the proposed work listed below will be held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination regarding ratification of an emergency authorization (24-WL-0607 EX), as well as a decision on an application for a Wetlands License and a request for Water Quality Certification. Statements for or against this project may be presented orally at the hearing or in writing to the Maryland Department of the Environment, Tidal Wetlands Division; 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland, 21230, Attn: Matt Wallach. The hearing will be held Thursday, August 1, 2024, at Baltimore County Public Library, North Point Branch, located at 1716 Merritt Blvd., Dundalk, MD 21222. A poster session will be held from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM; the informational hearing will begin at 5:30 PM and end no later than 7:30 PM. Written comments will be accepted until August 15, 2024.

The applicant has applied for the demolition of the stable standing structures comprising the remaining Francis Scott Key Bridge in preparation for bridge reconstruction. The demolition will consist of two phases. The first phase, authorized in July 2025 under 24-WL-0607EX as an emergency authorization, allows for the mechanical removal of the remaining parapet, median, deck, and six remaining girders that are over water. The material will be removed by both truck and barge. This first phase of the project includes the placement of up to one hundred 36-diameter temporary piles, three temporary buoys, up to 60 soil borings/geotechnical investigations, and the following temporary investigative in-water tests: 14 test piles, six drill shaft tests, and six static load

tests. The second phase, 24-WL-0653, will include the removal of the remaining four protective barrier structures (dolphins) and bridge pier structures, both above and below the water line. This removal will consist of both mechanical means and the use of blasting. Subaqueous blasting and blasting above the water line will be used on the remaining eleven in-water piers (piers 14 – 24) and four dolphins. The existing dolphins and piers will be removed to two feet below the mud line. The material will be removed via barge with both clamshell and excavators and will include the removal of buried pier segments and associated structures. The project will result in 8.29 acres of temporary impacts to the Patapsco River. A Water Quality Certification, 24-WQC-0022, has been requested for both phases of work described herein. The purpose of this removal of the remaining Francis Scott Key Bridge structures will allow for the planning and eventual construction of a replacement bridge at this location. Written comments will be accepted until August 15, 2024.

Additional information on this project is available at the following links:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/FrancisScottKeyBridge.aspx>

and

<http://www.keybridgerebuild.com/>

For more information contact Matt Wallach at matthew.wallach@maryland.gov or 410-207-0893.