

Chesapeake BAY CROSSING STUDY
TIER 2 NEPA

AGENCY COORDINATION PLAN

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

APPENDIX B

OCTOBER 2026

MDTA Maryland Transportation Authority

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Chesapeake BAY CROSSING STUDY
TIER 2 NEPA

Coordination Plan

October 2025

Table 1: Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies[1]

Role	Federal Agencies	Maryland / State / Local Agencies
Lead Agencies	• Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Maryland Division	• Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA)
Cooperating Agencies	• US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) • US Coast Guard (USCG) • Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) • National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) • US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) • National Park Service (NPS)	• MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) • MD Department of Environment (MDE) • Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Participating Agencies	• Federal Transit Administration (FTA) • Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) • US Navy -Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) • Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) • Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	• MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) • MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) • Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) • Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) • Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) • Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) • Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) • Queen Anne's County • Anne Arundel County • Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

[1] FHWA regulations define Cooperating agencies as Federal, State, Tribal, or local agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact related to the Study. See 23 C.F.R. 771.107. USDOT authority at 23 U.S.C. §139(d) defines the roles of Participating agencies.

Table 2: Notified Agencies*

Federal and State Agencies	**Federal**					
	• US Geological Survey • FHWA – Virginia Division • FHWA – Delaware Division • US Army • Naval Support Activities (NSA) Annapolis • US Naval Academy • Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)					
	State					
	• Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) • Maryland State Police • Maryland Department of Agriculture • MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) • Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs • Maryland Natural Resources Police • Maryland Department of Commerce					
Metropolitan Planning Organizations	• Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) • Tri-County Council – Lower Eastern Shore	• Tri-County Council – Southern Maryland • Salisbury/Wicomico MPO • Wilmington Area Planning Council	• Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) • Calvert-St. Mary's MPO			
Counties and Municipalities	**County**	**Municipalities**				
	Anne Arundel County **	• Annapolis	• Highland Beach			
	Baltimore City	• None				
	Baltimore County	• None				
	Calvert County	• Chesapeake Beach	• North Beach			
	Caroline County	• Denton • Federalsburg	• Goldsboro • Greensboro	• Henderson • Hillsboro	• Marydel • Preston	• Ridgely • Templeville
	Cecil County	• Cecilton • Charleston	• Chesapeake City • Elkton	• North East • Perryville	• Port Deposit • Rising Sun	
	Dorchester County	• Brookview • Cambridge	• Church Creek • East New Market	• Eldorado • Galestown	• Hurlock • Secretary	• Vienna
	Harford County	• Aberdeen	• Bel Air	• Havre de Grace		
	Kent County	• Betterton	• Chestertown	• Galena	• Millington	• Rock Hall
	Montgomery County	• None				
	Prince George's County	• None				
	Queen Anne's County**	• Barclay • Centreville	• Church Hill • Millington	• Queen Anne • Queenstown	• Sudlersville • Templeville	
	St. Mary's County	• Leonardtown				
	Somerset County	• Crisfield	• Princess Anne			
	Talbot County	• Easton	• Oxford	• Queen Anne	• St. Michaels	• Trappe
	Wicomico County	• Delmar • Fruitland	• Hebron • Mardela Springs	• Pittsville • Salisbury	• Sharptown • Willards	
	Worcester County	• Berlin	• Ocean City	• Pocomoke City	• Snow Hill	
	Sussex County, DE					
	Kent County, DE					
	New Castle County, DE					

* Notified Agencies will be informed through the Study's public involvement activities along with the general public.

**Denotes a County that is also a Participating Agency

Table 3: Tier 2 Study Coordination Schedule
Blue highlights indicate public engagement.
Italicized rows indicate completed coordination.

Coordination Point	Parties Involved	Coordination Method	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Anticipated Coordination Timeframe
Study Announcement and Initiation	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*Interagency Coordination Meetings (ICMs)*	• *Announce start of the Tier 2 Study.* • *Review material being presented at the September 2022 Public Open House #1, with opportunity to comment.* • *E-Blast sent to all Agencies and Stakeholders to announce Tier 2 Study.*	*July – August 2022*
	Lead, Cooperating, Participating, and Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	*E-Blast*		
		Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)	• *Public Open House #1 held to summarize the Tier 1 Study results, introduce, and describe objectives of the Tier 2 Study, and review the next steps.*	*September 2022*
Guiding Principles and Coordination Plan	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site*	• *Summarize results of Public Open House #1. Agencies introduced to draft Guiding Principles and draft Coordination Plan.* • *Review and discussion on draft Guiding Principles and draft Coordination Plan, with opportunity to comment.*	*October 2022 – March 2023*
			• ***MDTA requests agreement from Cooperating & Participating Agencies on the schedule included in the Coordination Plan.***	***April 2023***
Purpose and Need (P&N)	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site*	• *Agencies introduced to draft P&N elements.* • *Review and discussion of draft P&N elements, with opportunity to comment.* • *Agencies introduced to full draft P&N Statement.* • *Review and discussion of draft P&N Statement with opportunity for comment.* • *Discuss alternatives screening approach.*	*April 2023 – June 2024*
			• ***MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Preliminary P&N Statement.***	***June 2024***
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	*Postcard, E-Blast, and Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)*	• *Public Open House #2 to present the P&N and Preliminary Alternatives and provide the public an opportunity to offer input.*	*September 2023*

Coordination Point	Parties Involved	Coordination Method	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Anticipated Coordination Timeframe
Resource Assessment Methodologies	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site*	• *Agencies introduced to draft resource assessment methodologies.* • *Review and discussion of draft resource assessment methodologies, with opportunity to comment.* • *Review updated draft resource assessment methodologies.*	*April 2023 – September 2024*
			• ***MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies with special expertise on select resource assessment methodologies.***	***October 2023 – September 2024***
Preliminary Alternatives	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*ICMs*	• *Agencies introduced to preliminary alternatives.* • *Review and discussion of preliminary alternatives, with opportunity to comment.* • *Discuss screening results of preliminary alternatives; identify proposed Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study (ARDS).*	*July 2023 – October 2024*
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	*Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)*	• *Public Open House #2 to present the P&N and Preliminary Alternatives Development and provide the public an opportunity to offer input. (Also shown in P&N)*	*September 2023*
Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	*Lead, Cooperating, Participating, Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public*	*Federal Register*	• *NOI to prepare an EIS published in the Federal Register*	*November 2024*
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	*Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)*	• *Public Open House #3 to announce NOI, obtain feedback on scoping of EIS, and introduce proposed ARDS.*	*December 2024*

Coordination Point	Parties Involved	Coordination Method	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Coordination Timeframe
Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study (ARDS)	*Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies*	*ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site*	• *Agencies introduced to proposed ARDS and rationale for ARDS selection.* • *Draft ARDS Concurrence Package provided to Cooperating Agencies for review and comment.* • *Review and discussion of draft ARDS, with opportunity to comment.*	*September 2024 – February 2025*
			• ***MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on ARDS.***	***February 2025***
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative			• Agencies introduced to draft technical findings. • Review and discussion of draft technical findings, with opportunity to comment. Agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise will be asked to review and provide comment on select technical reports. • Agencies introduced to DEIS. DEIS provided for Agency review and comment. • Review and discussion of MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative with Cooperating Agencies and opportunity to comment.	March 2025 – January 2026
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, Public	Federal Register, Postcard, E-Blast, Social Media Posts, News Release	• Notification of DEIS available for public comment	January 2026
		Public Hearing (Virtual and In-Person)	• Public Hearings to receive public testimony on the DEIS and MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative.	February 2026
Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site	• Agencies review and discuss preliminary Conceptual Mitigation opportunities • Review and discuss draft Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation plan, with opportunity to comment	March – June 2026
			• **MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation plan**	**June 2026**

Coordination Point	Parties Involved	Coordination Method	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Coordination Timeframe
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD)	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site	• Present summary of FEIS/ROD to Agencies. Review and discussion of FEIS with opportunity to comment. • FEIS/ROD complete.	June – November 2026
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, Public	Federal Register, Postcard, E-Blast, Social Media Posts, News Release	• Notification of Availability (NOA) of FEIS and ROD	November 2026

Note: in addition to coordination items listed above, MDTA will provide agencies with draft materials electronically for review throughout the Study as appropriate. ICMs will typically be fully virtual meetings attended by invitation only. All dates are subject to change; affected parties will be notified, and the Coordination Plan updated as appropriate during the course of the Study.