
CHESAPEAKE
BAY CROSSING STUDY
TIER 1 NEPA

Coordination Plan
Updated April 2021

Table 1: State and Federal Agencies

Role	Federal Agencies	Maryland / State Agencies
Lead Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Maryland Division 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA)
Cooperating Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) • US Coast Guard (USCG) • Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) • National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) • MD Department of Environment (MDE) • Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Participating Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Park Service (NPS) • Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) • Federal Transit Administration (FTA) • US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) • Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) • US Navy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) • MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) • Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) • Critical Areas Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays (CAC) • Maryland Emergency Management Agency • Maryland Board of Public Works • Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) • Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)
Notified Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Aviation Administration • US Geological Survey • FHWA – Virginia Division • FHWA – Delaware Division • Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) • US Army 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland State Police • Maryland Department of Agriculture • MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) • Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) • Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) • Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs • Maryland Natural Resources Police • Maryland Department of Commerce

Table 2: Local Agencies and Regional Stakeholders

Role	Counties	Municipalities	MPOs	Other
Participating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cecil County • Kent County • Queen Anne’s County • Talbot County • Caroline County • Dorchester County • Somerset County • Wicomico County • Worcester County • Harford County • Baltimore County • Anne Arundel County • Calvert County • St. Mary’s County 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) • Calvert-St. Mary’s Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) • Tri-County Council – Lower Eastern Shore • Tri-County Council – Southern Maryland • Salisbury/Wicomico MPO 	
Notified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sussex County, DE • Kent County, DE • New Castle County, DE • Baltimore City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities within the fourteen participating counties (see list below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dover/Kent County MPO • Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG) • Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chesapeake Bay Program Members • Chesapeake Bay Foundation • Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay • Waterkeepers Chesapeake • Chesapeake Bay Commission • Chesapeake Bay Trust • Chesapeake Conservancy • Oyster Recovery Partnership • The Nature Conservancy • Preservation Maryland • Federally Recognized Tribes (see list below) • State Recognized Tribes (see list below) • Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area • Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Areas • Annapolis, London Town, & South County (Four Rivers) Heritage Area • Southern Maryland Heritage Area • Cecil Land Trust • Harford Land Trust

Role	Counties	Municipalities	MPOs	Other
<p>Notified (Cont'd)</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gunpowder Valley Conservancy • North County Land Trust • Scenic Rivers Land Trust • American Chestnut Land Trust • Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust • Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage • Eastern Shore Land Conservancy • Lower Shore Land Trust • Ducks Unlimited-Wetlands America Trust • Kent Conservation & Preservation Alliance • Kent County Bay Bridge Monitoring Committee • Queen Anne’s Conservation Association • Rural Maryland Council

List of Federally Recognized Tribes:

- Delaware Nation
- Delaware Tribe of Indians
- Oneida Indian Nation
- Onondaga Nation
- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Tuscarora Nation
- Seneca-Cayuga Nation
- Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Eastern Shawnee Tribe
- Shawnee Tribe

List of State Recognized Tribes:

- Piscatawa Indian Nation
- Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland
- Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Subtribes of Maryland
- Cedarville Band of Piscataway
- Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians
- Accohannock Indian Tribe
- Pocomoke Indian Nation

List of Municipalities in the Counties Adjacent to the Bay:

Anne Arundel County

- Annapolis
- Highland Beach

Baltimore County

- (none)

Calvert County

- Chesapeake Beach
- North Beach

Caroline County

- Denton
- Federalsburg
- Goldsboro
- Greensboro
- Henderson
- Hillsboro
- Marydel
- Preston
- Ridgely
- Templeville

Cecil County

- Cecilton
- Charlestown
- 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

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

Table 3: Public and Agency Meetings

Blue highlights indicate public involvement.

Italicized rows indicate completed coordination.

Meeting	Date/Timeframe	Public or Agencies Involved	Key Topic(s)
Elected Officials Meetings	Ongoing	Elected Officials	Coordinate with elected officials as appropriate throughout the study.
Community Meetings	Ongoing	Public, special interest groups	Meetings with community associations or advocacy groups as appropriate.
<i>Pre-Notice of Intent (NOI) Early Coordination Meetings</i>	<i>July –Early September 2017</i>	<i>FHWA, MDTA, USACE, MDE</i>	<i>Lead Agencies meet with state and federal permitting agencies to introduce study and get feedback on study approach</i>
<i>Interagency Coordination Meeting (ICM) (Scoping Meeting)</i>	<i>October 2017</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies</i>	<i>Agencies comment on study scoping, draft coordination plan, and preliminary Purpose and Need (P&N) concepts.</i>
<i>Public Meeting #1 (Scoping Meeting)</i>	<i>November 2017</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Introduce the study, give an overview of the tiered NEPA process, present the preliminary P&N, and request input on the scope of issues to be included in the Tier 1 EIS. Provide the public an opportunity to offer early input using an online forum. Satellite locations available for those who cannot participate online.</i>
<i>ICM</i>	<i>December 2017</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies</i>	<i>Agencies introduced to draft P&N summary, draft coordination plan, draft Guiding Principles memorandum, and draft study methodologies with opportunity for comment.</i>
<i>Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Conference</i>	<i>December 2017</i>	<i>Attendees of MACo Winter Conference – County agencies</i>	<i>Project introduction, discussion of preliminary P&N and schedule. Additional MACo Conferences will be attended as needed throughout the study.</i>
<i>ICM</i>	<i>January 2018</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies</i>	<i>Review and discussion of draft P&N summary, draft coordination plan, draft Guiding Principles memorandum, and draft study methodologies</i>

Meeting	Date/Timeframe	Public or Agencies Involved	Key Topic(s)
ICM	February 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Guiding Principles memorandum. MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating and Participating Agencies and on the schedule included in the coordination plan. Agencies introduced to draft screening criteria and draft P&N Statement. Agencies provide comment.
ICM	March 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Review and discussion of draft screening criteria and draft P&N Statement. Agencies provide comment.
ICM	April 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Review and discussion of draft screening criteria and draft P&N Statement. Overview of the materials to be presented at the May 2018 Public Meeting. Agencies provide comment.
Public Meeting #2	May 2018	Public	Public Meeting to present the P&N and screening criteria.
ICM	June 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Review of updates to draft P&N Statement. Summary of May Public Meetings.
ICM	July 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	MDTA requests concurrence on draft Purpose and Need Statement from Cooperating Agencies. Agencies provide comment.
ICM	September 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Review and discussion of draft screening criteria. Agencies provide comment.
ICM	November 2018	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Present the preliminary range of alternatives. Agencies provide comment.
ICM	September 2019	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Discuss preliminary range of alternatives. Present the preliminary MDTA recommended CARA. Agencies provide comment.
Public Meeting #3	September/October 2019	Public	Meetings to present the range of alternatives and recommended CARA.
Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Conference	December 2019	Attendees of MACo Winter Conference – County agencies	Meetings to discuss the range of alternatives and recommended CARA.
ICM	January 2020	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	MDTA requests agency comment on the Draft Alternatives Concurrence Package.

Meeting	Date/Timeframe	Public or Agencies Involved	Key Topic(s)
ICM	February 2020	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	MDTA requests concurrence on draft CARA from Cooperating Agencies for inclusion in Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Agencies provide comment.
ICM	February 2021	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	MDTA presents summary of DEIS to agencies. Agencies provide comment.
DEIS Public Hearing	April 2021	Public	Public Hearings to receive public testimony on the DEIS and MDTA-Preferred Corridor Alternative.
ICM	Summer/Fall 2021	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Review of Public Hearing input. MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on the Preferred Corridor Alternative.
ICM	Winter 2021/2022	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	Present summary of Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to agencies.

Note: ICMs are assumed to be held in-person with virtual call-in capability. Full virtual meetings will be considered where appropriate as the study progresses. ICMs will not be open to the public. All dates are subject to change; affected parties will be notified and the Coordination Plan updated

Table 4: Key Coordination Points

Blue highlights indicate public involvement.

Coordination Point	Public or Agencies Involved	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Method Used for Coordination	Coordination Timeframe
Notice of Intent (NOI) for EIS	Lead Agencies	None- notification	Federal Register notice	October 2017
Study Announcement – Scoping Letter including invitations to cooperate/participate	Lead, Cooperating, all Participating, and Notified	Send Cooperating and Participating agencies an invitation letter within 45 days of NOI. Response from Cooperating or Participating Agency invitations within 30 days. Notices sent to other agencies and stakeholders.	Letter/email	Within 45 days of NOI
Scoping, Study Methodologies, Purpose and Need	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies comment on study scoping, draft coordination plan, draft P&N concepts, and study methodology. • Agencies introduced to draft P&N summary, draft coordination plan, draft guiding principles 	ICM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2017 • December 2017 • January 2018 • February 2018 • March 2018

Coordination Point	Public or Agencies Involved	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Method Used for Coordination	Coordination Timeframe
Scoping, Study Methodologies, Purpose and Need (Cont'd)		memorandum, and draft study methodologies with opportunity for comment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discussion of draft P&N summary, draft coordination plan, draft Guiding Principles memorandum, and draft study methodologies. Agencies introduced to Draft P&N Statement and draft screening criteria, with opportunity to comment. MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Guiding Principles memorandum. MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating and Participating Agencies on the schedule included in the coordination plan. Agencies introduced to draft screening criteria and full draft P&N Statement. Agencies provide comment. Review and discussion of draft screening criteria and draft P&N Statement. Agencies provide comment. MDTA requests concurrence on P&N Statement. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 2018 June 2018 July 2018 September 2018
	County Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project introduction, discussion of preliminary P&N and study schedule. Additional MACo Conferences will be attended throughout the study as needed. MDTA requests concurrence via email from counties on schedule included in the coordination plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MACo Conference Mail/Email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2017 March 2018
	Notified Agencies	Notification in conjunction with Public Scoping Meeting.	Letter/email Notification	November 2017

Coordination Point	Public or Agencies Involved	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Method Used for Coordination	Coordination Timeframe
	Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Meeting #1 (Scoping Meeting) to introduce the study, give an overview of the tiered NEPA process, present the preliminary P&N, and request input on the scope of issues to be included in the Tier 1 EIS. Provide the public an opportunity to offer early input using an online forum. Satellite locations available for those who cannot participate online. Public Meeting #2 - to present the preliminary P&N and screening criteria. 	Public Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 2017 May 2018
Range of Alternatives and Corridor Alternatives Retained for Analysis (CARA)	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies, County Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss preliminary range of alternatives. Present the preliminary MDTA Recommended CARA. Agencies provide comment. MDTA requests concurrence on CARA from Cooperating Agencies for inclusion in DEIS. Agencies provide comment. 	ICM, MACO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter 2018/2019 Fall 2019, Winter 2019/2020 Winter 2019/2020
	Public	Public Meeting #3 - Meeting to present the range of alternatives and recommended CARA.	Public Meetings	September/October 2019
MDTA-Recommended Preferred Corridor Alternative and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS); Preferred Corridor Alternative	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft EIS Complete Review of DEIS and Public Hearing input. MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Preferred Corridor Alternative. 	ICM and electronic document sharing via email or a share site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2021 Summer/Fall 2021 Summer/Fall 2021
	Notified Agencies	Notification of DEIS.	Letter/email notification	February 2021
	Public	Public Hearings to receive public testimony on the DEIS and MDTA-Recommended Preferred Corridor Alternative.	Public Hearing, Federal Register	April 2021
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD)	Lead, Cooperating, federal/state and MPO Participating Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present summary of FEIS/Record of Decisions (ROD) to agencies. FEIS/ROD Complete 	ICM and electronic document sharing via email or a share site	Winter 2021/2022

Coordination Point	Public or Agencies Involved	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Method Used for Coordination	Coordination Timeframe
	Notified Agencies	Notification of FEIS.	Letter/email notification, Federal Register notice	Winter 2021/2022
	Public	NOA in Federal Register.	Federal Register notice	Winter 2021/2022

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 not be open to the public. All dates are subject to change; affected parties will be notified, and the Coordination Plan updated.