



Fall River-Somerset: Proposed Fender System Repairs

Thank you for joining us.

This meeting will begin shortly.





Fall River-Somerset

Proposed Fender System Repairs

Virtual Design Public Hearing

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, December 10, 2024

Project File No. 612882



Zoom Hearing Controls



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 305-224-1968 Webinar ID: 842 0507 7077



Live Transcript

- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom



- Use the View button in the upper right-hand corner to adjust the meeting view settings to your preference



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call:

[+1.888.799.9666]

Audio Settings ^



Raise Hand



Q&A



Live Transcript

Leave

Public Hearing Notes and Procedures

Public record

- While this virtual public hearing is not being recorded by zoom, MassDOT may choose to retain and distribute the images, audio and the Q&A transcript from this hearing.
- All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- If you are not comfortable being part of the official record, please refrain from using the Q&A feature or you may choose to excuse yourself from the hearing. Information from this hearing will be posted on the Mass.gov website.

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the hearing.
- This hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the presentation.

Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program> to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated, however we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments.

Agenda

- Why was this project initiated?
- What do we want to accomplish?
- What alternatives were considered?
- What is the preferred alternative?
- What are the environmental, cultural resource, and community impacts?
- Questions and answers

Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT**

- Aaron Silvia (District 5 Bridge Section)
- Alyson Bedard (Bridge Preservation)
- Albin Napit (Project Manager)
- Lisa Szamreta (ROW Agent)
- Hung Pham and Miranda Briseno (Producers)
- Diane Hayes (District 5 Project Development)
- Gareth Saunders (Government Affairs)
- Shane Sousa (District 5 Bridge Section)

- **WSP (Designer)**

- Will Varrell (Design Engineer)
- Erica Levin (Design Engineer)
- Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis (Communications & Public Involvement)

- **Stenographer**

- Advanced Court Recording

- **Language Translation Speakers**

- Portuguese:
 - Rodrigo Barroso
- Spanish:
 - Marwell Padilla

Public Advertisement

SouthCoastTODAY | The Standard-Times



The Herald News

O Jornal

- Mass Media
 - *O Jornal* (11/27-12/3)
 - *The Herald News* (11/27-12/3)
 - *South Coast Today* | *The Standard Times* (11/27-12/3)
 - Fall River Public Access Cable TV (beginning 11/26/24)
 - Somerset Public Access Cable TV (beginning 11/26/24)

- Mailing to 70+ identified maritime stakeholders:
11/25/24



Flyer Drop Sites

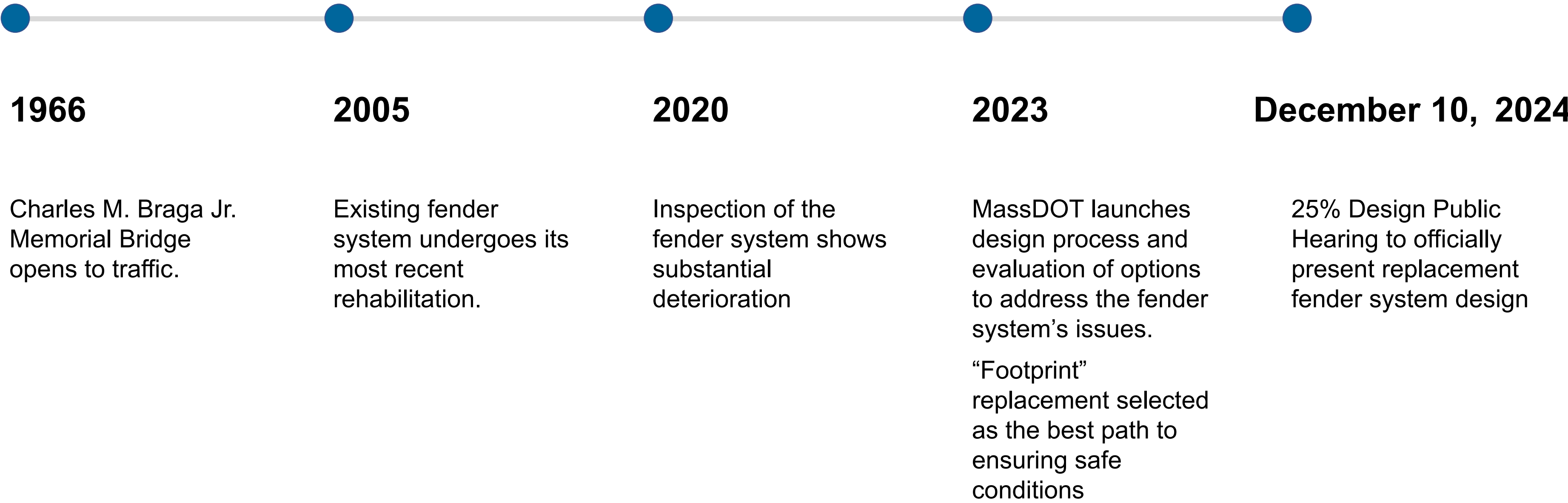


Thank You To Those Who Shared Our Flyers

State and Municipal:

- State Delegation for Fall River and Somerset
- Registry of Motor Vehicles
- Office of Mayor Paul Coogan
- Fall River City Council
- Office of Administrator Paula Ramos
- Somerset Board of Selectmen
- Fall River School Department
- Disability, Senior, and Veterans' Commissions of Fall River and Somerset

How did we get here?



Project Location

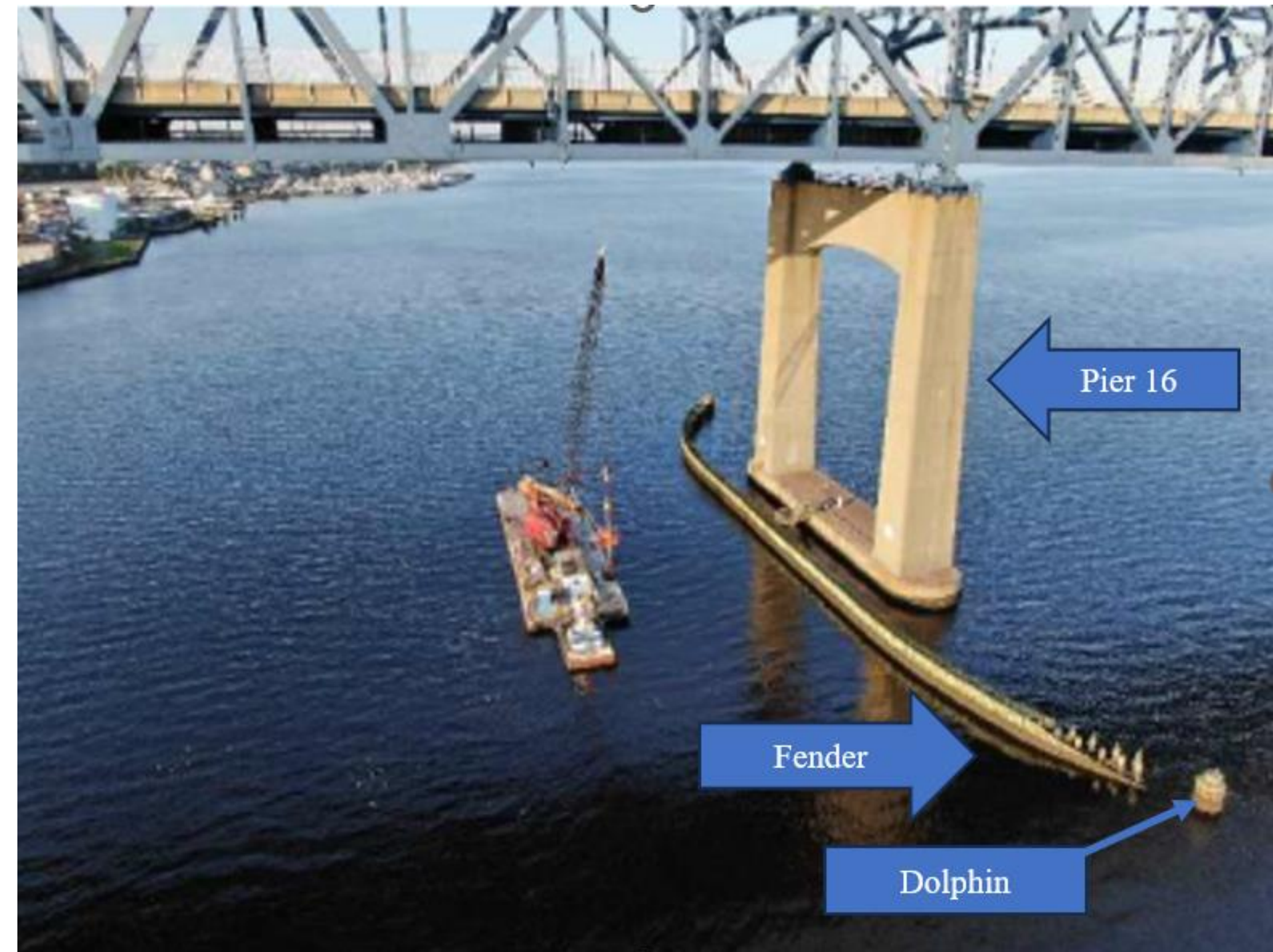




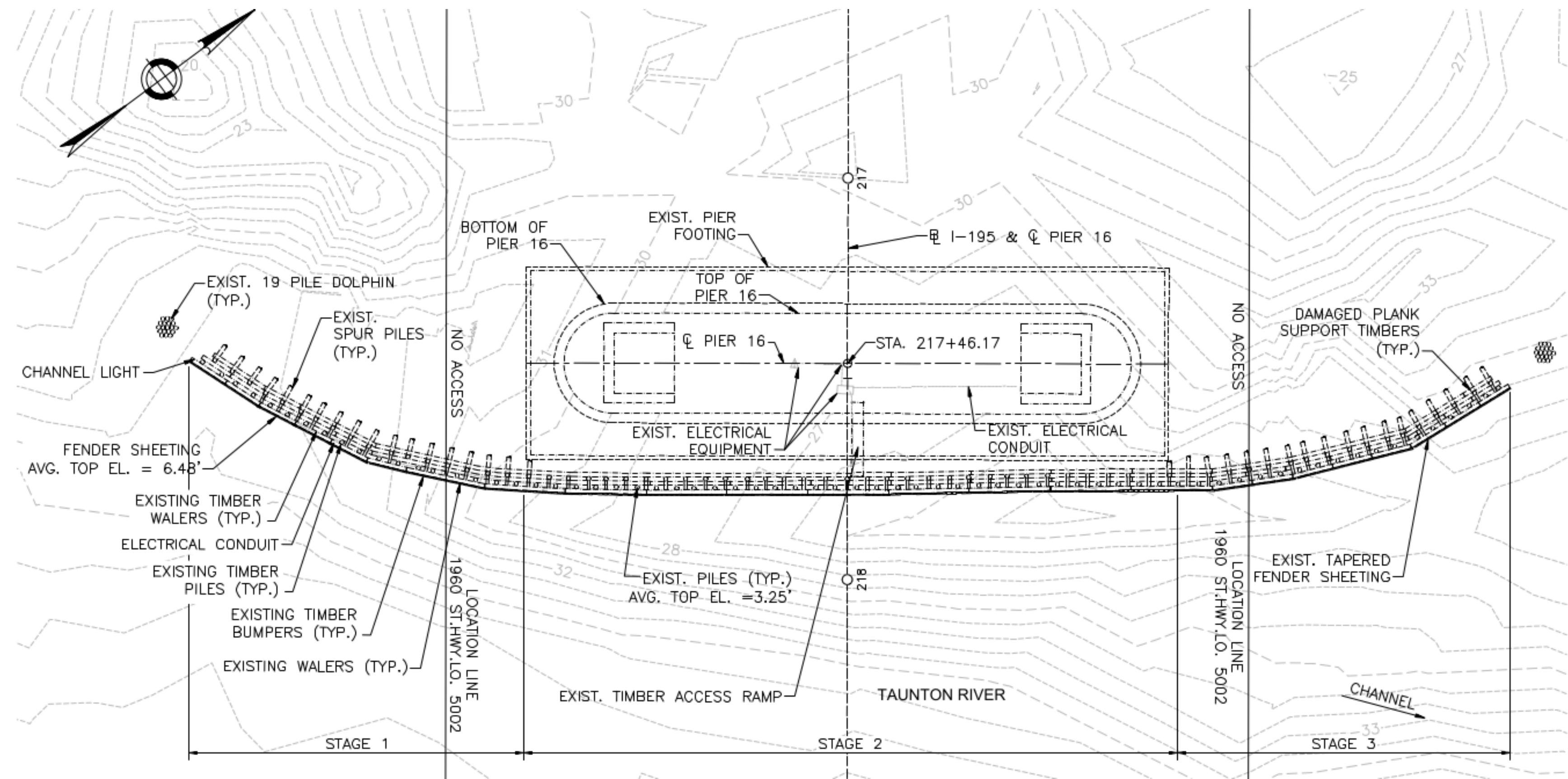
**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Today's Fender System

- Key characteristics:
 - 335 feet long
 - Central, straight section parallel to the pier base
 - Outer sections curve away from the channel
 - Separate structures “dolphins” define and protect each end of the fender
 - Generally composed of timber
 - Supported by vertical and diagonal piles driven into the riverbed
 - Access walkway connected with the base of Pier 16
 - Equipped with navigation lights for nighttime operation



Today's Fender System - Overview



Existing Issues

- A critical safety component for the Braga Bridge
- Significant deterioration throughout the fender structure
- Connections between vertical and diagonal piles severely deteriorated
- Fender system does not currently provide adequate protection to Pier 16



Fender Walkway



- Loose boards detached from the fender

Pier Connection



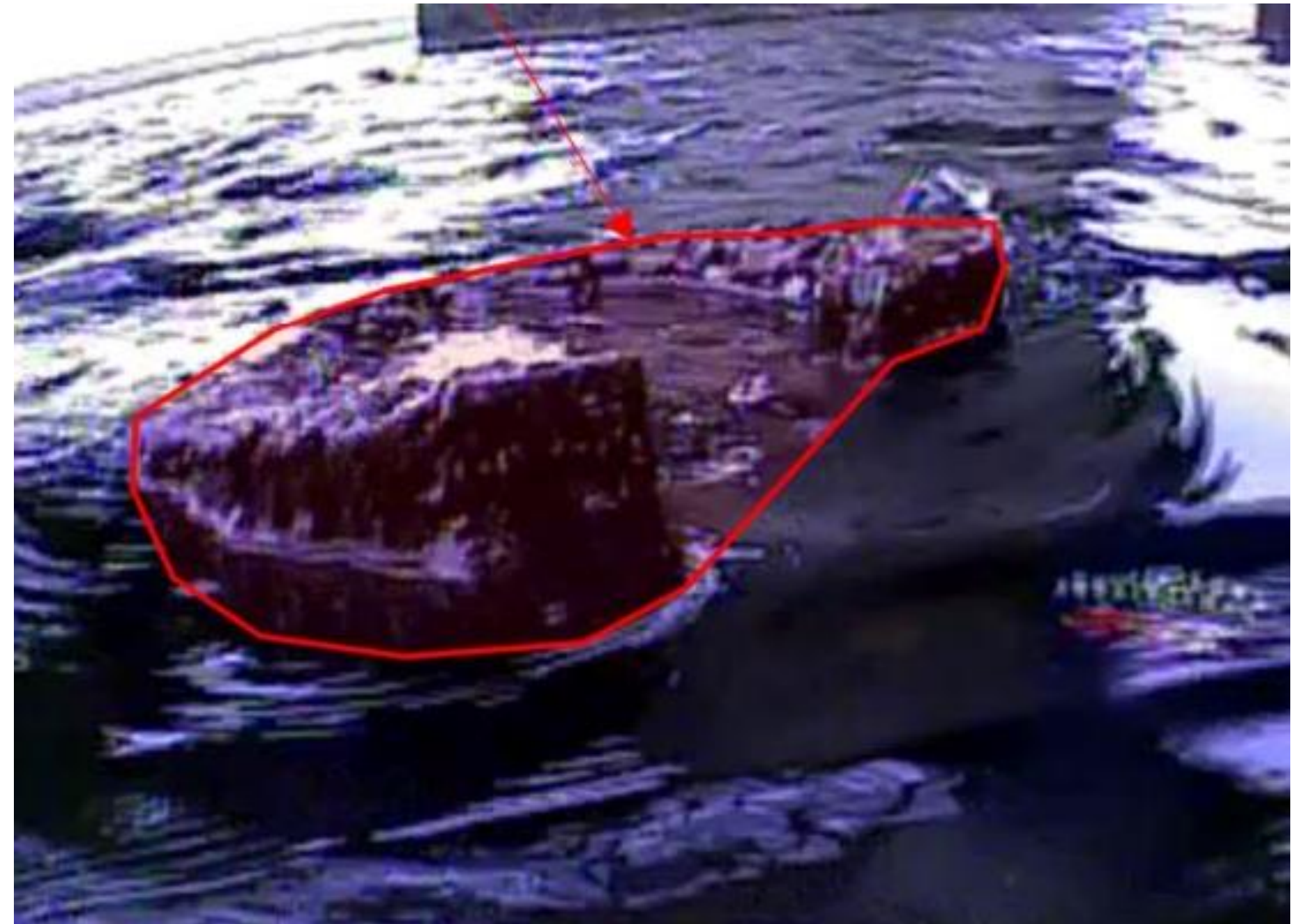
- In good condition, but loose from the fender

Typical Piles



- Loose bolt connections

Diagonal Piles



- Critical condition
- Fungal decay present
- Not providing required lateral support

Collapsing Facing



- Located at the fender's north end

Deteriorated Wales



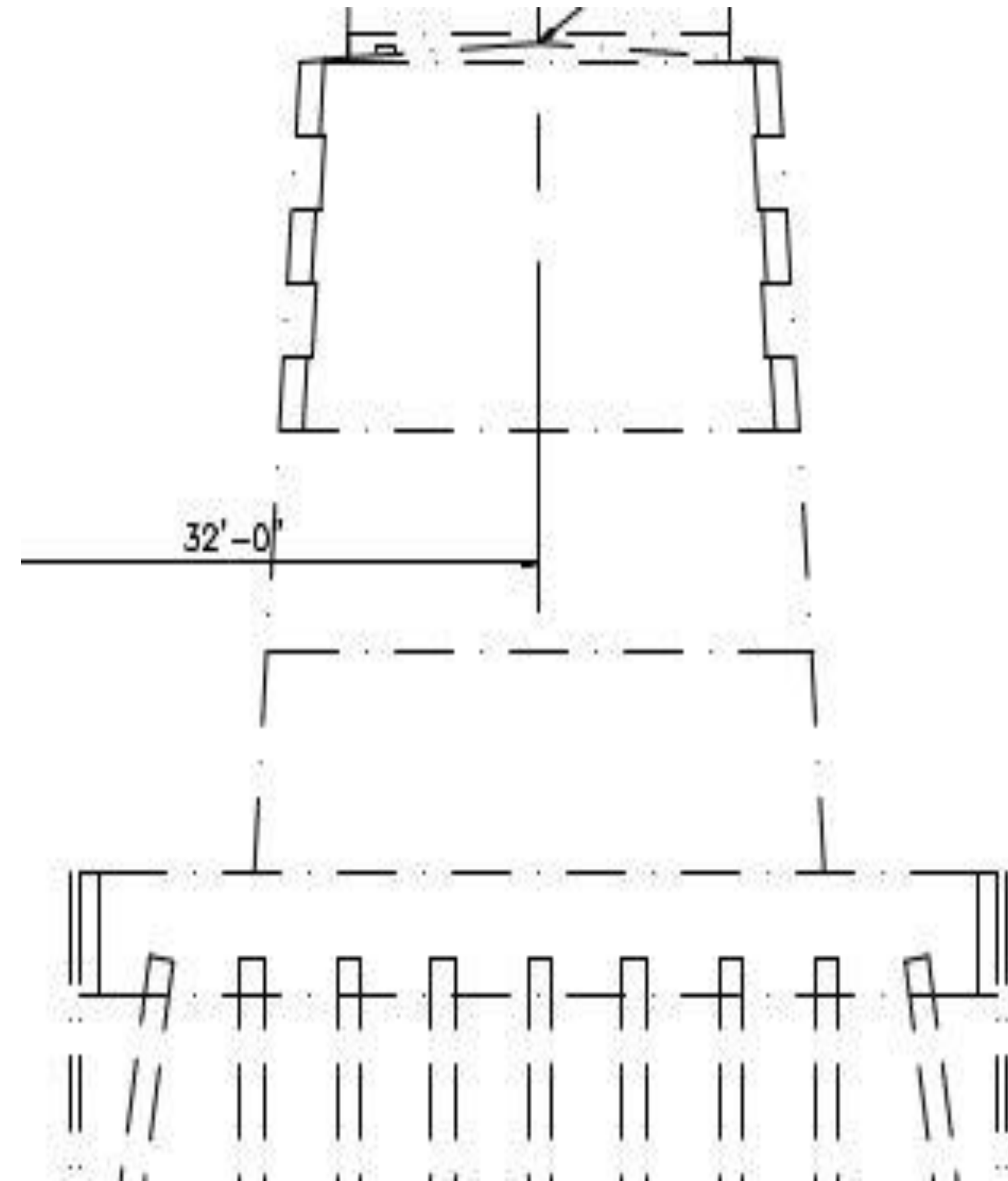
- Inadequate support of the facing



**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

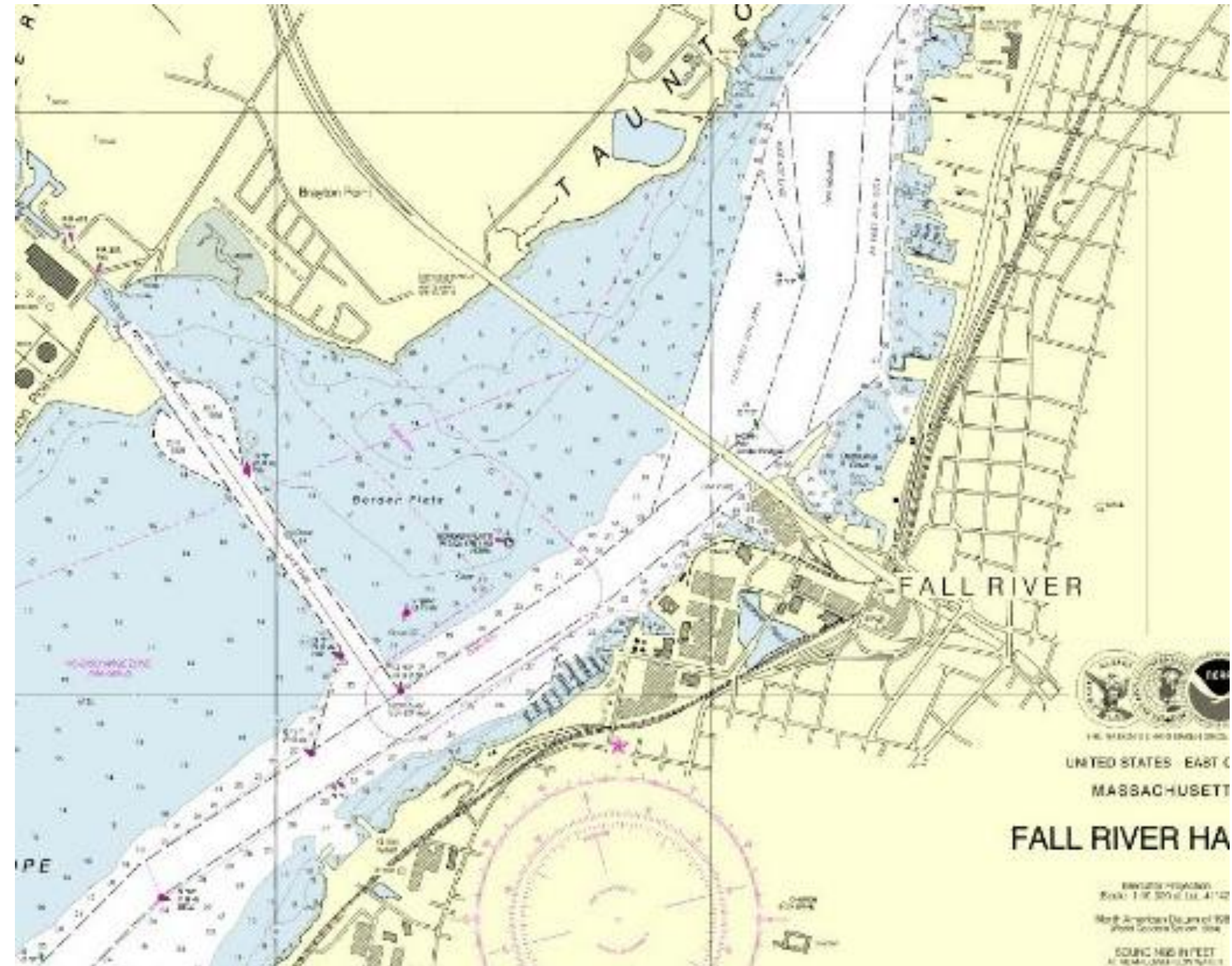
Project Goals

- Address the deteriorated fender system
- Maintain safe travel
 - Over the Braga Bridge
 - Through the navigation channel



Project Cost and Funding

- We estimate the total construction cost is approximately \$6.23 million state-funded project

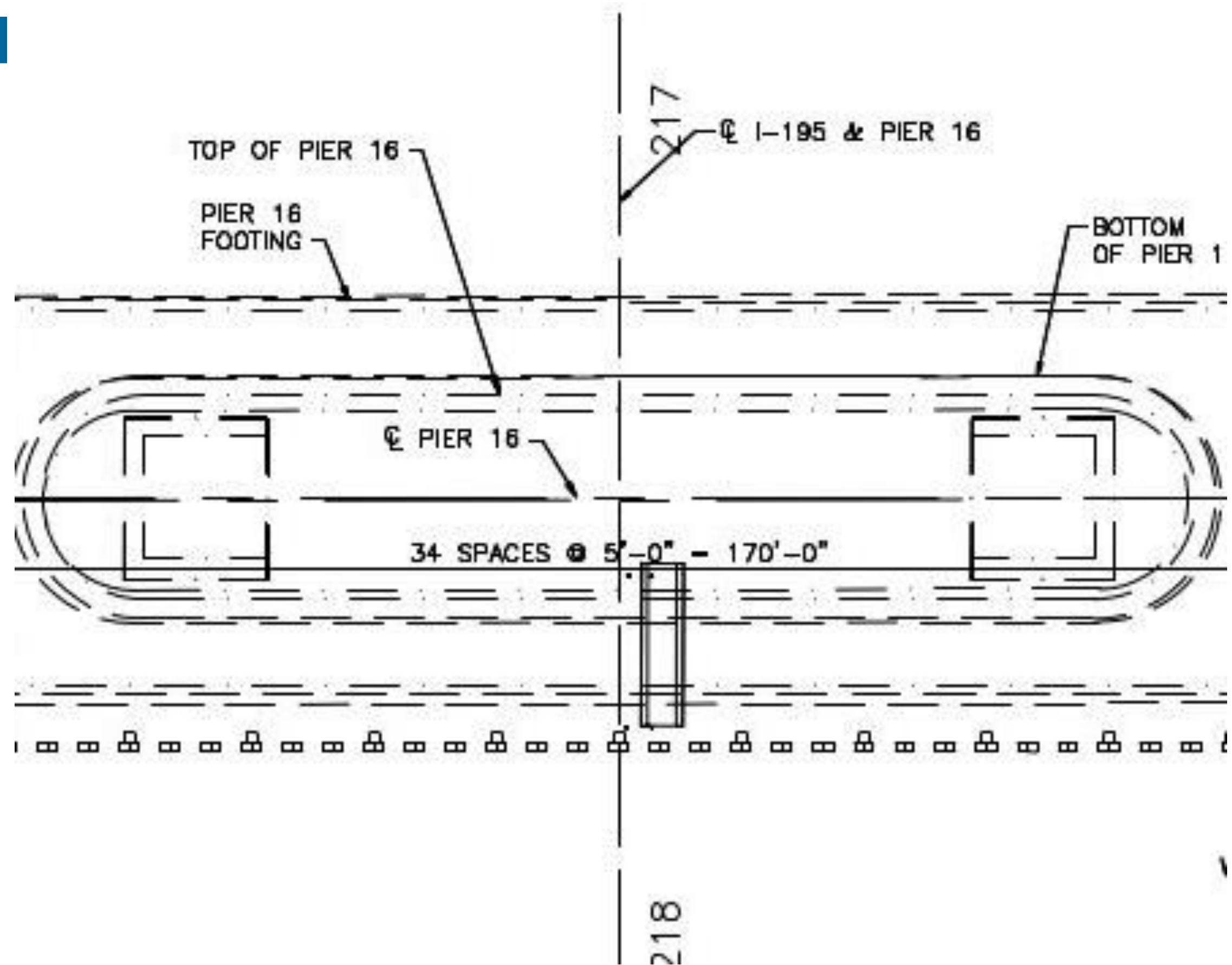




**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

Alternatives Considered

- Alternative 1: No Build
 - Navigation hazard
 - Pier unprotected
- Alternative 2: Repair Existing Fender
 - Deterioration is too widespread
- Alternative 3: Full Replacement
 - *Restores protection to Pier 16*
 - *Supported by US Coast Guard and Northeast Marine Pilots' Association*
 - *Preferred*



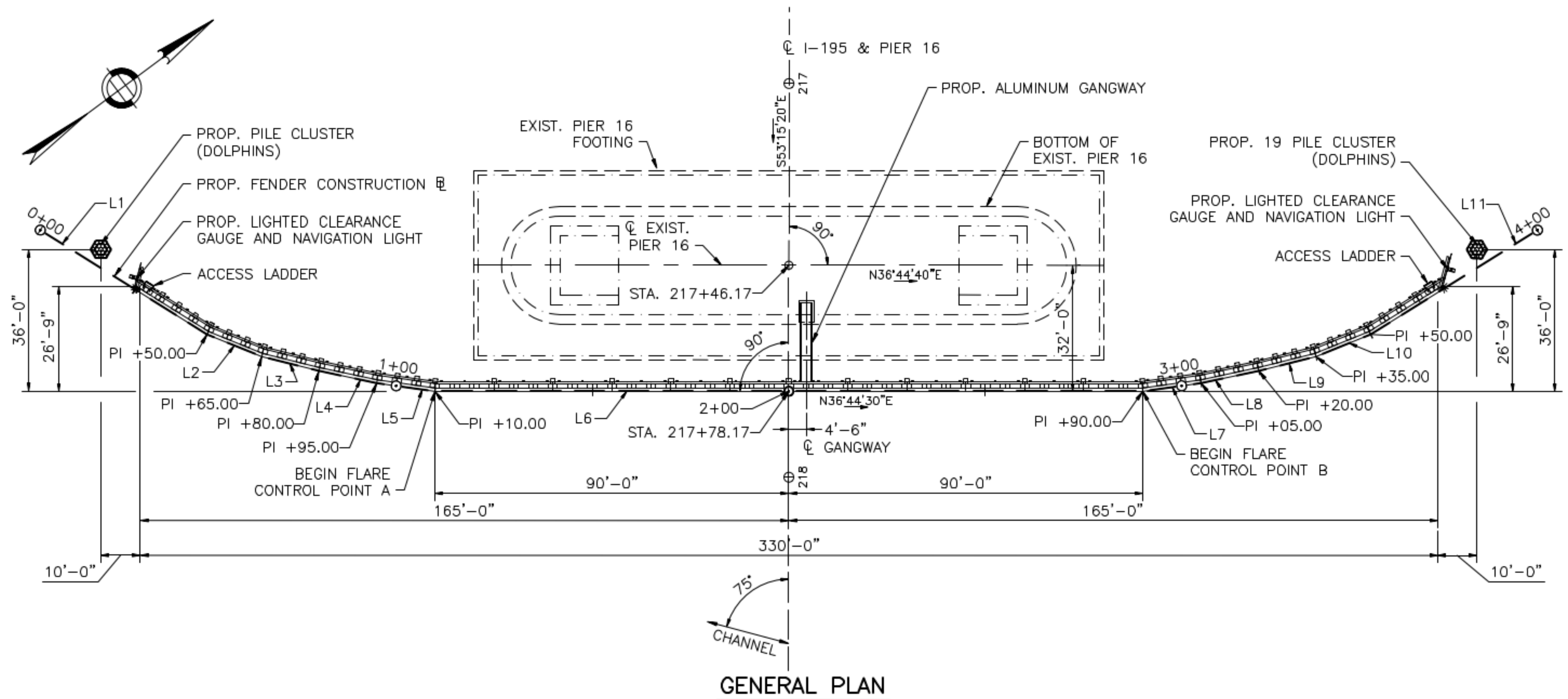


**What is the
preferred
alternative?**

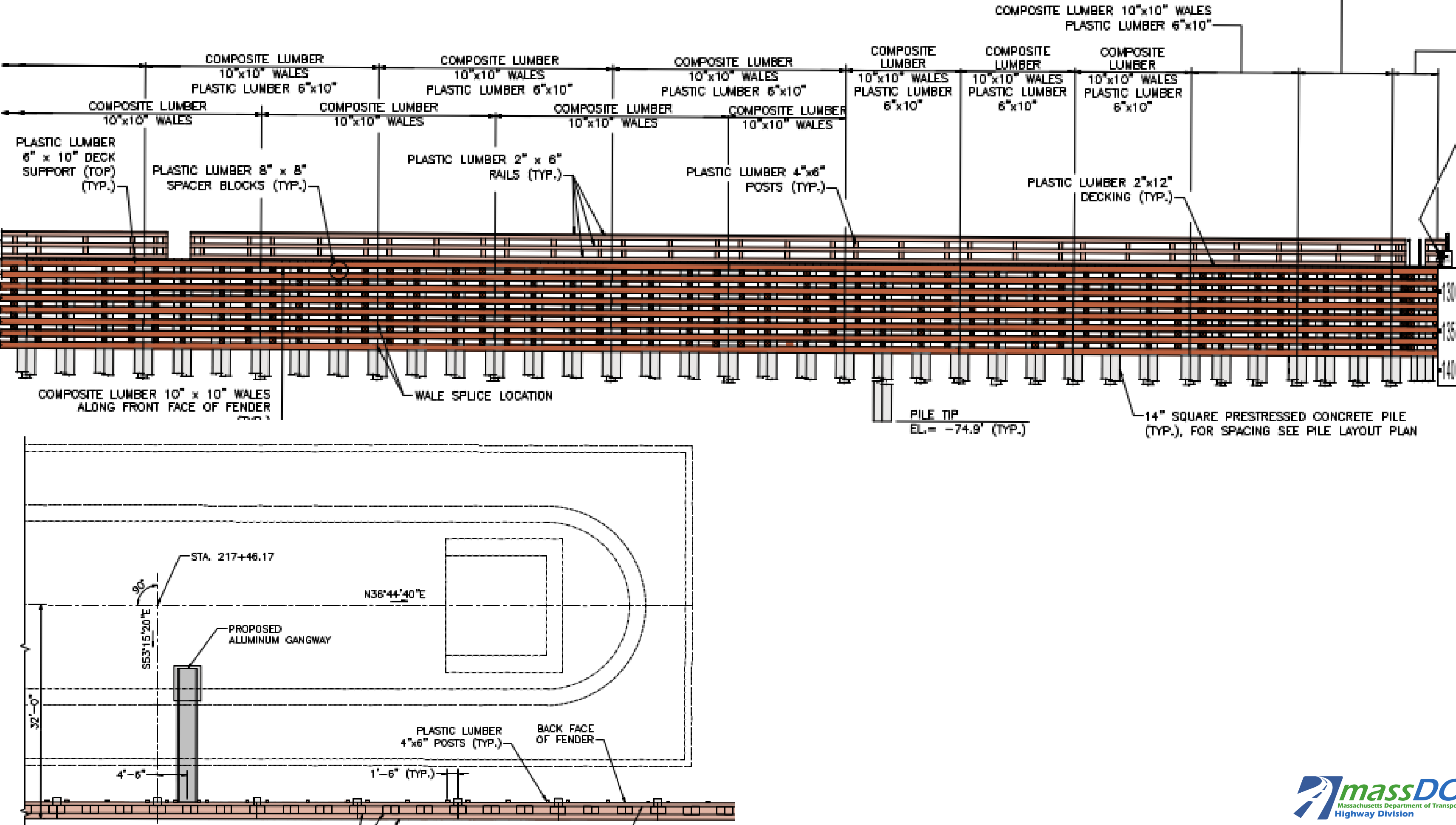
Preferred Alternative – Satisfies Project Goals

- Fully remove existing fender system
- Place new system in its footprint
- Reinforced polymer pile dolphins
- Concrete piles support a new marine timber wall
- New navigation lighting
- New, lit under-bridge clearance signs

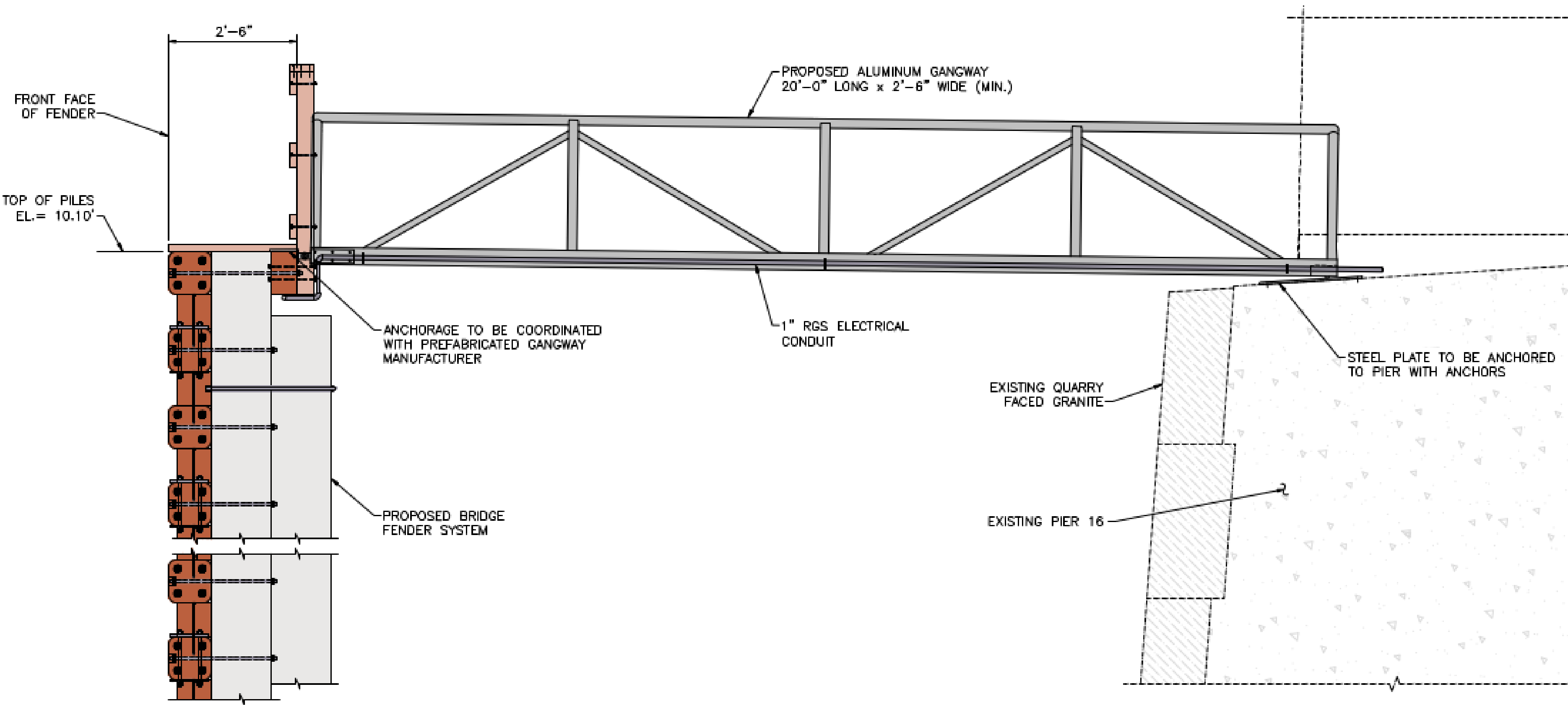
Proposed Fender System - Overview



Proposed Fender System – Side View and Pier Gangway

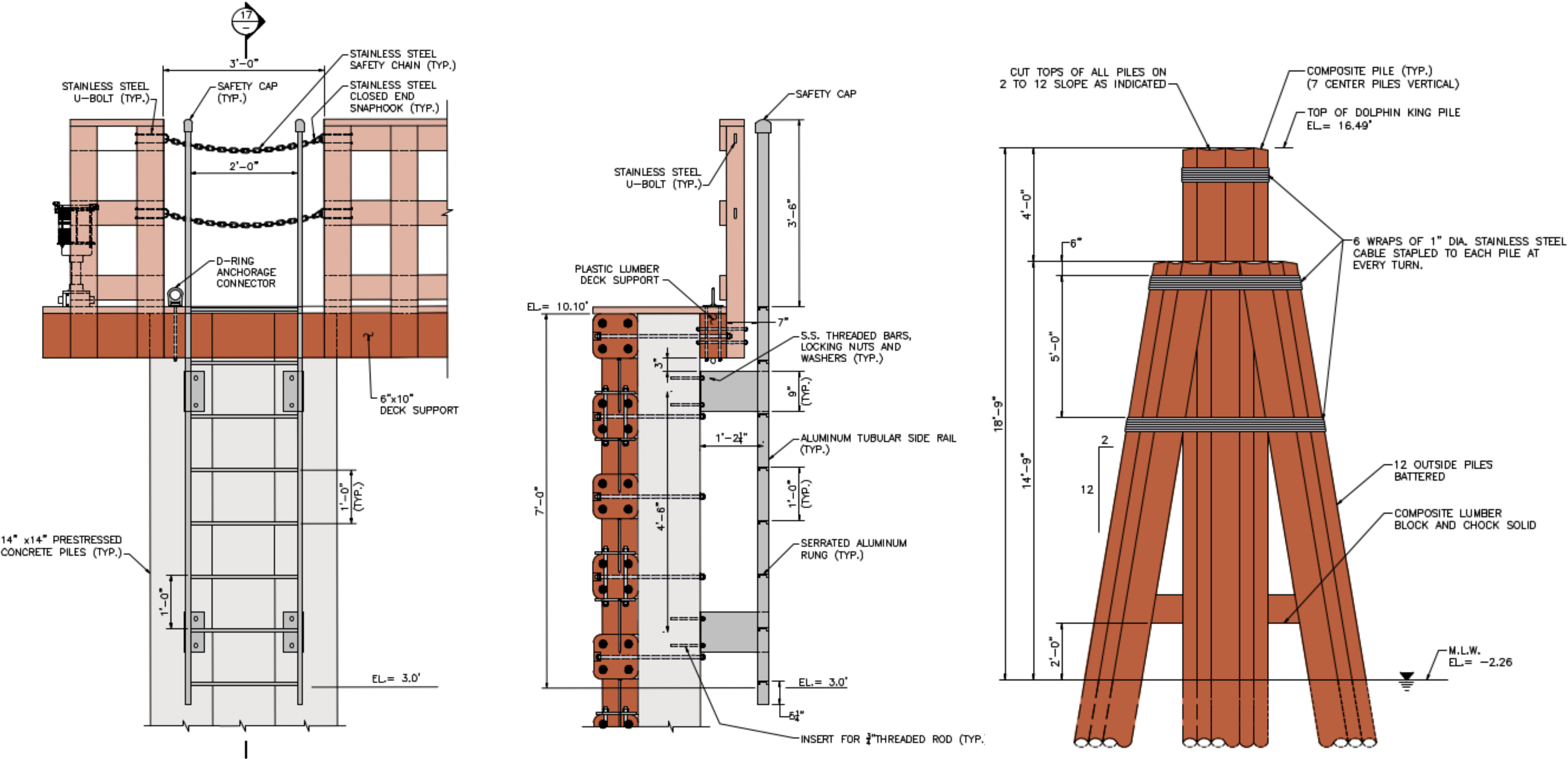


Proposed Fender System – Pier Gangway Detail



GANGWAY DETAIL

Proposed Design – Access Ladder, Typical Section & Dolphin



Proposed Construction Approach:

- All work completed from the water
- Remove existing fender system
- Install the fender template to guide installation of the new fender system
- Install the concrete piles
- Install the dolphins.
- Remove the fender template.
- Install the new marine lumber facing on the piles, walkway, and railings.
- Install navigation lighting and vertical clearance sign.
- Approximate duration of 15 months





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion

25% Design Public Hearing

- MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of this project.
- At this stage of design, no private property impacts are anticipated
- A state land transfer is required

At this stage of design, the Right of Way process has not been finalized. This meeting is an opportunity for the public to comment on any impacts to properties.



**How will the
road user be
affected?**

Road and Waterway Impacts

- All construction will take place from the water
- Roadway traffic over the Braga Bridge will not be impacted
- Construction will be staged to keep the navigation channel open while the new fender system is built



What are the environmental, cultural resource, and community impacts?

Environmental Impacts

- Design has been coordinated with:
 - US Army Corps of Engineers
 - US Coast Guard
 - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- Section 106 (historical regulation) review not required.
- All marine timber from the existing fender will be removed and disposed of in an approved facility
- No major silt-producing activities are associated with the project
 - Maximum volume of soil is 377 cubic yards associated with pile extraction
- Land Under Water (LUW) impacts:
 - 1,225 square feet of temporary impact
 - 286 square feet of permanent impact
- Construction timed to avoid impacts to fish breeding and migration
- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures plan will be required of any future contractor

Our next steps



Virtual Design
Public Hearing
(December 10,
2024)



Right-of-Way
Acquisitions
(Commonwealth of
MA. & MassDOT)



Final Design
(Winter 2024)



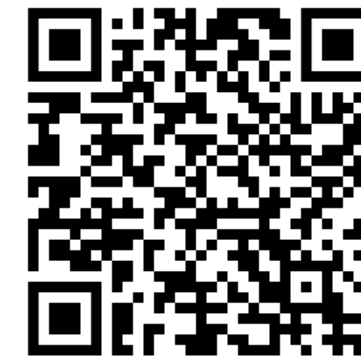
Project
Advertisement
(Early 2025)



Construction
Begins
(Late 2025)

How to reach us

- Submit email comments to:
BridgePreservationProjects@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Upcoming Events for Highway Division web site at <http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events> or used the QR Code:
- Submit written comments to:
Alyson Bedard, P.E., Bridge Preservation Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Suite 7110, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Bridge Preservation, Project File No. 612882



ss., Quequechan Light House.



Questions and
answers

Questions and answers



- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions (Alt + Y if using a phone)



- Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button



- Please state your name before your question



- Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, limited to 2 minutes, to allow others to participate



- To ask a question via phone, dial *9 and the moderator will call out the last 4-digits of your phone number and unmute your audio when it is your turn

All questions and comments are subject to disclosure for public records. Please use these functions for project related business only.



Thank You

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