
CHESAPEAKE
BAY CROSSING STUDY
TIER 2 NEPA

Coordination Plan

November 2023

Table 1: Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies¹

Role	Federal Agencies	Maryland / State / Local 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) • US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) • National Park Service (NPS) 	<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"> • 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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) • MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) • Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) • Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) • Maryland Board of Public Works – Wetlands Division (BPW) • 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 Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations define Cooperating agencies as federal, state, and local agencies with either a statutory or regulatory responsibility related to the Study and/or that can provide valuable technical input on issues for which the agency has special expertise. See 40 C.F.R. § 1501.8. USDOT authority at 23 U.S.C. §139(d) lays out the roles of Participating agencies.

Table 2: Notified Agencies*

Federal and State Agencies	Federal	State					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> US Geological Survey FHWA – Virginia Division FHWA – Delaware Division US Army Naval Support Activities (NSA) Annapolis US Naval Academy Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) Tri-County Council – Lower Eastern Shore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tri-County Council – Southern Maryland Salisbury/Wicomico MPO Wilmington Area Planning Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG) Calvert-St. Mary’s MPO 				
Counties and Municipalities	County	Municipalities					
	Anne Arundel County **	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annapolis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highland Beach 				
	Baltimore City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 					
	Baltimore County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 					
	Calvert County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chesapeake Beach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Beach 				
	Caroline County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denton Federalburg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goldsboro Greensboro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henderson Hillsboro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marydel Preston 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ridgely Templeville 	
	Cecil County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cecilton Charleston 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chesapeake City Elkton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North East Perryville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Deposit Rising Sun 		
	Dorchester County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brookview Cambridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Creek East New Market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eldorado Galestown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hurlock Secretary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vienna 	
	Harford County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bel Air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Havre de Grace 			
	Kent County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Betterton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chestertown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galena 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Millington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rock Hall 	
	Montgomery County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 					
	Prince George’s County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 					
	Queen Anne’s County**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barclay Centreville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Hill Millington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen Anne Queenstown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sudlersville Templeville 		
	St. Mary’s County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leonardtown 					
	Somerset County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisfield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Princess Anne 				
	Talbot County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxford 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen Anne 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Michaels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trappe 	
	Wicomico County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delmar Fruitland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hebron Mardela Springs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pittsville Salisbury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharptown Willards 		
	Worcester County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berlin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocean City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pocomoke City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
<i>Study Announcement and Initiation</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies</i>	<i>Interagency Coordination Meetings (ICMs)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce start of the Tier 2 Study. Review material being presented at the September 2022 Public Open House #1, with opportunity to comment. 	July – August 2022
	<i>Lead, Cooperating, Participating, and Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public</i>	<i>E-Blast</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-Blast sent to all Agencies and Stakeholders to announce Tier 2 Study. 	
			Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<i>Guiding Principles and Coordination Plan</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies</i>	<i>ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDTA requests agreement from Cooperating & Participating Agencies on the schedule included in the Coordination Plan. 	Spring 2023
<i>Purpose and Need (P&N)</i>	<i>Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies</i>	<i>ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Spring 2023 – Winter 2023/
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on P&N Statement. 	Winter 2024

Coordination Point	Parties Involved	Coordination Method	Coordination Required (roles and responsibilities)	Anticipated Coordination Timeframe
	<i>Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public</i>	<i>Postcard, E-Blast, and Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Open House #2 to present the P&N and Preliminary Alternatives and provide the public an opportunity to offer input. 	<i>September 2023</i>
Resource Assessment Methodologies	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Spring 2023 – Fall 2023
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies with special expertise on select resource assessment methodologies. 	Fall 2023
Preliminary Alternatives	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). 	Summer 2023 – Summer 2024
	<i>Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public</i>	<i>Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>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)</i> 	<i>September 2023</i>
Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an EIS	Lead, Cooperating, Participating, Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	Federal Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOI to prepare an EIS published in the Federal Register 	Summer/Fall 2024
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, and Public	Public Open House (Virtual and In-Person)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Open House #3 to announce NOI, obtain feedback on scoping of EIS, and introduce proposed ARDS. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Spring – Winter 2024
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on ARDS. 	Fall 2024
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative (Conceptual Mitigation coordination occurring concurrently)	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies introduced to draft technical findings. Review and discussion of draft technical findings, with opportunity to comment. Agencies with regulatory jurisdiction or specialized expertise will be asked to review and provide comment on select technical reports Agencies introduced to DEIS, including the MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative. DEIS provided for Agency review and comment. Review and discussion of DEIS and MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative with opportunity to comment. 	Winter/Spring 2025 – Winter 2026
			Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, Public	Federal Register, Postcard, E-Blast, Social Media Posts, News Release
	Public Hearing (Virtual and In-Person)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Hearings to receive public testimony on the DEIS and MDTA Recommended Preferred Alternative. 	Winter 2026	
Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation	Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies	ICMs and electronic document sharing via email or share site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies review and discuss preliminary Conceptual Mitigation opportunities Review and discuss draft Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation plan, with opportunity to comment 	Summer 2025 – Spring 2026
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDTA requests concurrence from Cooperating Agencies on Preferred Alternative and Conceptual Mitigation plan 	Spring 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present summary of FEIS/ROD to Agencies. Review and discussion of FEIS with opportunity to comment. FEIS/ROD complete. 	Spring – Fall 2026
	Notified Agencies, Stakeholders, Public	Federal Register, Postcard, E-Blast, Social Media Posts, News Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of Availability (NOA) of FEIS and ROD 	Fall 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.