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For Immediate Release

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MDTA ISSUES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ON BAY BRIDGE PROTECTION PROJECT

BALTIMORE (February 2, 2026) – The Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) today released a Request for Proposals (RFP) inviting qualified design-build teams to submit proposals for a project to enhance the existing protection of the main span piers on both the eastbound and westbound spans of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

While the Bay Bridge's existing pier protection meets federal requirements, this project will be developed using the latest safety standards from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, adding an extra layer of protection and helping ensure the bridge remains safe and reliable for years to come.

Interested firms can access the RFP through [eMaryland Marketplace Advantage \(eMMA\)](#). The total project cost is estimated at \$175 million, and the selected firm will be responsible for complete design and construction of marine-based protective structures for the central span piers of both bridge spans.

Proposals will be evaluated based on several factors, including relevant experience, technical expertise, qualifications of proposed personnel and cost-effectiveness. The selected firm must be a heavy marine firm with a strong track record of managing complex infrastructure projects and demonstrated commitment to delivering high-quality results.

In October 2025, MDTA hosted an industry forum during which MDTA representatives provided an overview of the anticipated design-build process and engaged with potential heavy marine contractors, consultants and subcontractors. The link to the meeting materials is available at <https://mdta.maryland.gov/BayBridgeProtection>.

Important Dates:

- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** June 2026
- **Expected Award:** Fall 2026
- **Notice to Proceed:** Fall 2026

Additional geotechnical investigations, as needed, and the start of the design, will begin after the Notice to Proceed. Construction is anticipated to start in Spring 2027.

The Bay Bridge Protection Project is fully financed by toll revenues paid by customers using Maryland toll facilities and not by federal funding. As the planning and design process progresses, MDTA will continue to engage the community in discussions about the project. To learn more about the Bay Bridge Protection Project efforts, please visit mdta.maryland.gov/BaybridgeProtection.

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