

Construction Sequence 2

Approach Roadways

The new Nice/Middleton Bridge is being built immediately north of the existing bridge. Work on the Maryland and Virginia approach roadways connecting US 301 to the new Nice/Middleton Bridge began in summer 2020. Both approaches are scheduled to be completed in fall 2022, just prior to when the new bridge opens.

Before construction began on the approaches, erosion and sedimentation control measures were installed to trap and prevent displaced soil from entering into the Potomac River and other environmentally-sensitive areas. Vegetation was then cleared from the approach areas.

The approaches for the new bridge have begun taking shape with the placement of approximately 60,000 cubic yards of soil (about 5,000 dump trucks full). The soil is being placed to create earthen embankments that back up to the bridge's concrete abutments. The approaches link the elevated portion of the bridge to the shores in Maryland and Virginia.

Once the earthen embankments and supporting foundations are completed, the approaches will have pavement, signs, pavement markings, and traffic barrier installed. Storm drains and stormwater management facilities will be constructed to collect runoff from the roadway and provide water quality treatment before stormwater runoff enters the Potomac River and other environmentally-sensitive areas.

Two temporary construction platforms or trestles, one on the Maryland shore and one on the Virginia shore, have been built out onto the river. These dock-like structures connect to the shore and facilitate bridge construction in shallow waters. The Maryland trestle extends 240 feet from the shore into the river, while its Virginia counterpart reaches 360 feet into the river.

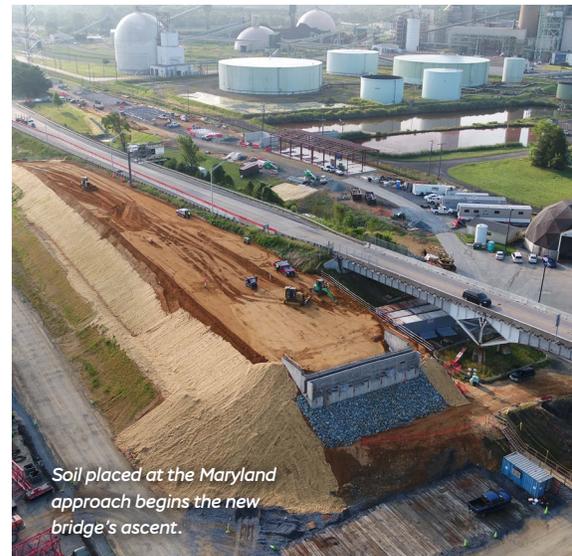
To receive public and mariner alerts, please use this link:
[nicemiddletonbridge.com](https://www.nicemiddletonbridge.com).

The MDTA thanks the public for their patience as the new bridge is built.

MDTA has made all-electronic tolling permanent statewide, making E-ZPass Maryland even better for our customers. To sign up for E-ZPass, go to [DriveEZMD.com](https://www.DriveEZMD.com).

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Soil placed at the Maryland approach begins the new bridge's ascent.

The Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) is replacing the existing Nice/Middleton Bridge with a new bridge that will:

- Increase the vehicle capacity with four 12-foot-wide lanes, replacing the old bridge's two 11-foot-wide lanes
- Improve safety by installing a barrier separated median between eastbound and westbound lanes, adding two-foot shoulders and other improvements that meet current safety standards
- Eliminate safety issues at toll booths by replacing them with highway speed toll lanes
- Enable tall ships to pass beneath its 135-foot clearance



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