



Northbound Gold Star Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation (Project No. 94-261)

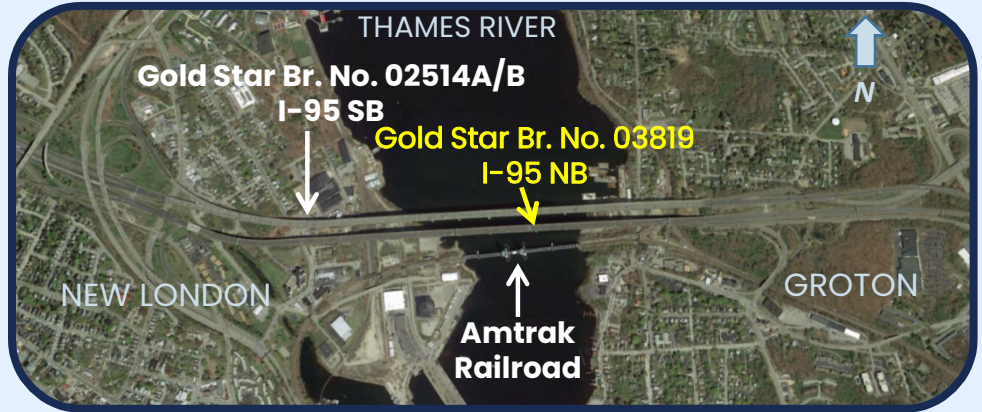
I-95 NB over Thames River, New London – Groton

Fact Sheet

March 2025

BRIDGE FACTS

The Northbound (NB) Gold Star Memorial Bridge carries 5 lanes of I-95 vehicular traffic over the Thames River, multiple railroad tracks, and local roads between New London and Groton. The 1.2-mile-long structure carries almost 60,000 vehicles daily and is the largest in the state.



Map Data: Google



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- Strengthen and repair structural steel members in the girder spans
- Replace all bearings on the girder spans and select bearings on the truss spans
- Replace existing bridge deck and joints
- Replace existing parapet and fence with MASH compliant 3-rail steel barrier and stainless-steel mesh fence
- Replace concrete approach slabs
- Repair concrete substructures
- Install new light standards and support framing
- Replace overhead sign structures
- Full superstructure painting

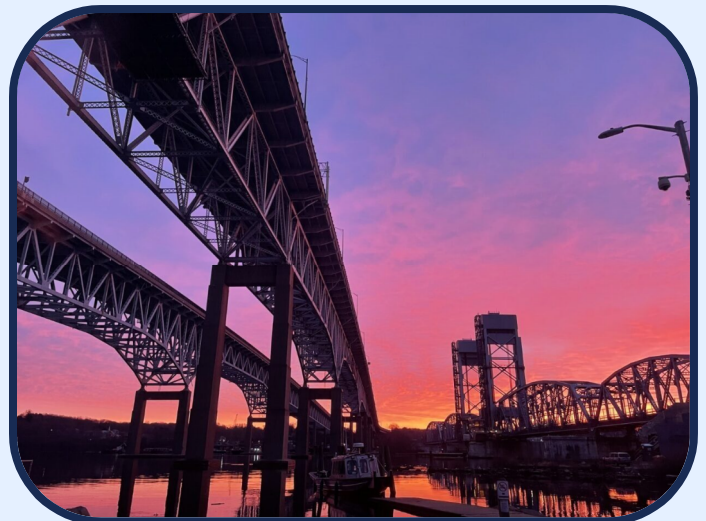
WHY REHABILITATE THE BRIDGE?

STRUCTURAL DETERIORATION

- Bridge Deck is rated poor and requires replacement to extend the service life of the bridge.
- Bridge Superstructure is rated poor and requires structural repairs to extend the service life of the bridge.
- Bridge Substructure is rated fair and requires preservation work to bring it to a state of good repair.

PERMIT VEHICLE ACCESS

- Bridge load capacity prevents permit vehicle crossings, causing a detour of approximately 17 miles to these road users.





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HOW WILL THE BRIDGE BE REHABILITATED?

The rehabilitation work will be accomplished under State Project 94-261. For ease of construction, and to minimize disruption to the traveling public, the work will be completed in two main stages. Stage 1 consists of work on the outer sections of the bridge deck, while Stage 2 consists of work along the center section of the bridge deck.

STAGE 1: OUTER SECTIONS

West Approach Girder Spans:

- Existing deck system demolition
- Steel strengthening and repairs installation
- New deck system installation

Truss Spans:

- Existing deck system demolition
- New deck system installation

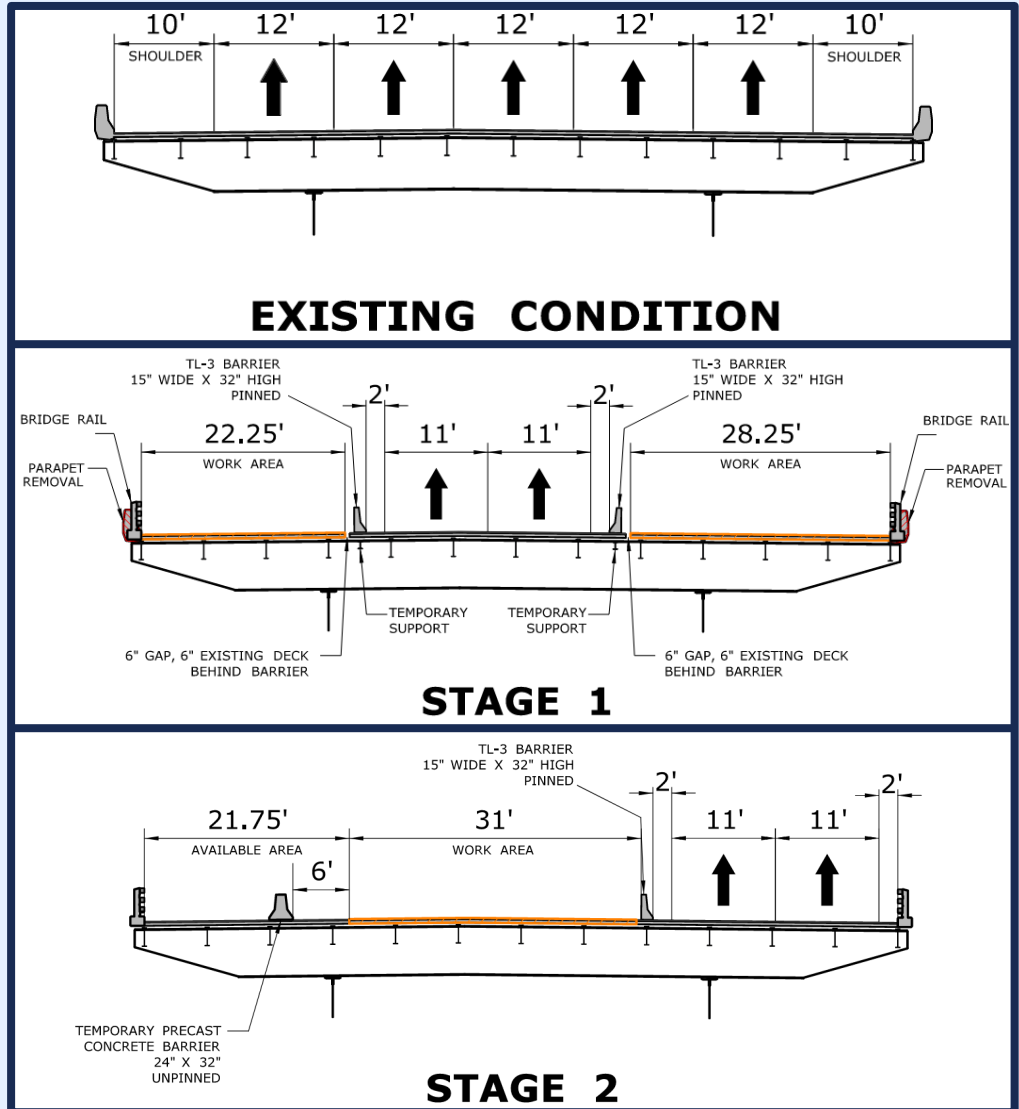
East Approach Girder Spans:

- Existing deck system demolition
- Steel strengthening and repairs installation
- New deck system installation

STAGE 2: CENTER SECTION

All Spans:

- Existing deck system demolition
- New deck system installation



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Consultant Selected – July 2022 – HNTB
- Received Federal BIP Grant – December 2022 - \$158.15 million
- Preliminary Design Completed - January 2024
- Anticipated Final Design Completion – December 2024
- Anticipated Construction Notice to Proceed – June 2025
- Anticipated Project Completion – September 2029
- Estimated Construction Contract Value – \$500 Million





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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Connecticut Department of Transportation is committed to engaging stakeholders like you throughout the project. The questions here are some of the most frequently asked questions. However, don't hesitate to contact the Gold Star Memorial Bridge team with additional questions or queries. We'd love to hear from you!

What is the Gold Star Memorial Bridge?

The Gold Star Memorial Bridge consists of separate Northbound and Southbound structures carrying Interstate 95 over the Thames River, New England Central Railroad, Providence and Worcester Railroad, and local roads in New London and Groton. The Northbound structure is the subject of this rehabilitation project (94-261). Note: Project #0094-0261 was previously Project #0094-0235.

Why are these projects necessary?

The Northbound Gold Star Memorial Bridge needs rehabilitation to address the poor condition of the deck and bridge steel superstructure and to ensure that the structures continue to safely carry passenger vehicles and legal trucks, as well as oversized/overweight vehicles, which are currently restricted from using the bridge, well into the future.

When will I start to see construction on the Northbound Gold Star Memorial Bridge?

Construction for the rehabilitation of the Northbound Bridge is anticipated to begin in June 2025 and be completed in Fall 2029.

Will I-95 be impacted by construction?

Impacts will occur as detailed in the "What's Happening Near You section" located on the home page of the Gold Star Memorial Bridge website. The project website can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOTGoldStar94-235VPIM>.

What if I have a question or concern regarding the Gold Star Memorial Bridge?

Comments or questions can be submitted via email at DOT.GoldStarBridgeProjects@ct.gov.



CTDOT PROJECT TEAM (Design)

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Project Manager, Tracey Brais, PE

Project Engineer, Luis Alfonzo, PE

Consultant Engineering Designer, HNTB