



# Attention Waterway Users

## *Smooth Waters Initiative*

The Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) is rebuilding the Francis Scott Key Bridge to reconnect the I-695 Baltimore Beltway and restore a vital transportation link. The rebuild project is rooted in the needs of local communities—supporting daily life, strengthening connections, supporting the movement of people and goods across the country, and ensuring a modern bridge that will serve Marylanders for generations to come.

The MDTA is asking for your cooperation in keeping construction workers and waterway users safe!

### Safety Guidelines:

#### Slow Down Near Construction Zones

- Maintain speeds of 6-knots or less to minimize wake.

#### Obey Safety Zone-No Entry Area

- Avoid entry into all USCG-Authorized Safety Zones at all times.
- Do not attempt to transit under the temporary construction trestle at any time.

#### Federal Navigation Channel Remains Open

- The areas between the Navigation Channel and the pre-existing main span piers are available for diversionary use by small recreational vessels.
- All vessels should control their wake at all times when transiting adjacent to construction equipment and listen for important communication from project vessels via VHF FM marine radio channels 16 and/or 13.

#### Stay Informed

- Check the [USCG District 5 Local Notice to Mariners](#) for real-time updates and navigation alerts.

### Why this Matters:

- Construction barges and crews are operating daily.
- Excess wake creates dangerous conditions for workers and equipment.
- Slowing down helps prevent injuries and delays.

