

Project Update

Tappan Zee Bridge Controlled Demolition – Saturday, January 12, 2019



As previously reported, in September 2018, Tappan Zee Constructors (TZC), with project engineers, learned that the old Tappan Zee Bridge's east anchor span, which was already out of service, was damaged but stable with certain key components highly stressed.

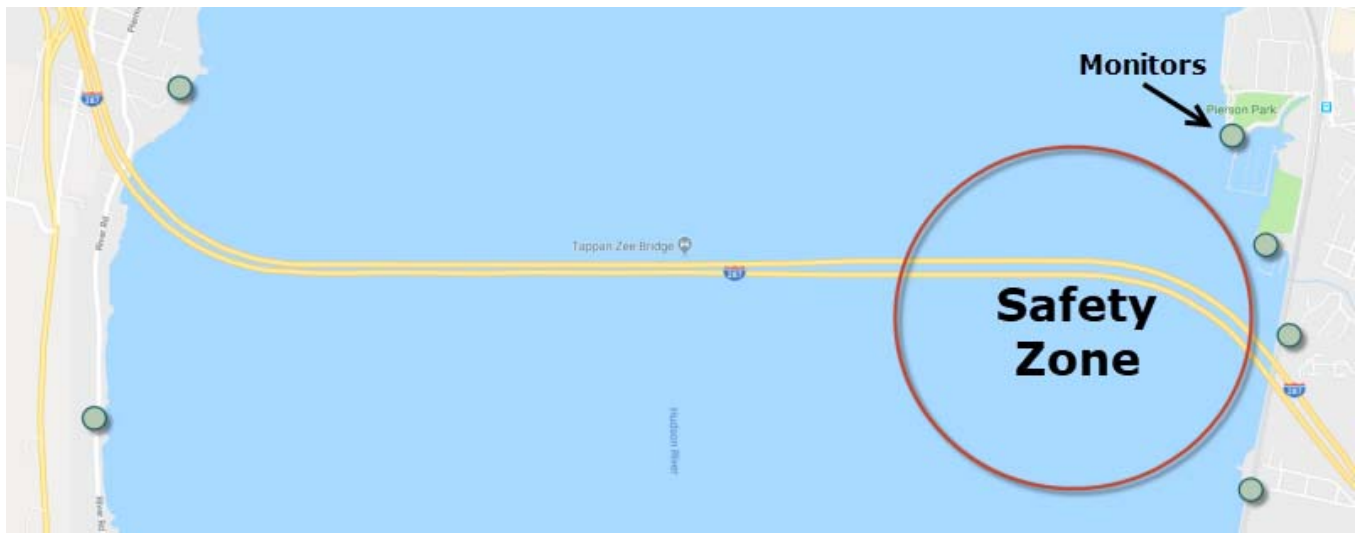
Since that time, the span has been closely monitored, and it has been determined that the original removal plan is no longer the safest method of removal.

Following a careful and extensive review of dismantling operations and additional engineering analyses, it has been determined that a revised means of controlled demolition utilizing charges is the safest way to lower and remove the span. TZC has hired demolition and salvage experts to plan and accomplish this operation, which is scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2019, at approximately 9:30 a.m.

The charges will be used to deliberately fail vertical members supporting the span, allowing the demolition team to safely lower the span eastward, away from the main navigation channel, using specialty marine salvage equipment. Marine salvage experts will then remove the material from the river during the following weeks. The steel will be recovered with the assistance of chains, previously laid on the riverbed. The chains will support the salvaged structure in the river, enabling TZC to place the material on barges for removal from the project site.

TZC is working with federal, state, and local authorities and meeting with environmental stakeholders in connection with the operation. During the controlled demolition period, the Hudson River's main navigation channel will temporarily be closed at 7:30 a.m. for approximately 3 hours and traffic on the New York State Thruway (I-87/I-287) – between exits 11 (Nyack – South Nyack – US Route 9W) and 9 (Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow – Route 9) - will be stopped in both directions by State Police at 8:55 a.m. for approximately 45 minutes. Motorists are strongly encouraged to avoid the area and find alternate routes on the day of the activity. The traffic stop will be lifted after TZC determines that the area is safe to reopen to traffic. Also, TZC is coordinating with Metro-North Railroad regarding trains on the Hudson Line, which may be only minimally affected.

Additionally, the U.S. Coast Guard is planning to establish a 2,500-ft. safety radius around the controlled demolition site during the operation (illustrated below). No residential areas are within the safety zone, and local residents are not anticipated to be affected. However, monitors placed in key locations in Westchester and Rockland counties will monitor any vibrations or air-blasts generated by the demolition.



Motorists should avoid the area and take alternate routes on the day of the activity. Variable message signs will be displayed on the Thruway and surrounding highways in advance, beginning on Friday, January 4. The latest updates and schedules can be found at NewNYBridge.com.

Key Operation Info

- Controlled demolition and lowering of old bridge's east anchor span by TZC
- Scheduled for the morning of **Saturday, January 12, 2019**
- Requires temporary hold of Thruway traffic - between exits 11 (Nyack - South Nyack - US Route 9W) and 9 (Tarrytown - Sleepy Hollow - Route 9) - in both directions for approximately 45 minutes
- Navigation channel under bridge will be closed for several hours
- This is a one time occurrence - additional controlled demo not anticipated

East Anchor Span Stats

- 672 feet long
- 6,500 tons
- 140 feet above the water

Environmental Impacts and Safety

- Brief demolition noise (comparable to a single set of fireworks)
- Material to be recovered and removed from river in the coming weeks
- Coast Guard establishing 2,500-ft safety radius around the operation

All construction activities and schedules are subject to change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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