



St. Lucie River Railroad Bridge Fact Sheet

Mariners are encouraged to sign up for text alert updates by texting "STL" to 888-384-0037

What work is Brightline doing at the St. Lucie River RR Bridge?

- Brightline's rehabilitation of the St. Lucie River Railroad bridge is necessary to improve the reliability of the bridge in preparation for Brightline's expansion to Orlando.
- The scope of work includes replacement of the mechanical components, electrical and control components and machining of the four trunnions in place. (Trunnions are the axles on which the drawbridge rotates.)
- Bridge work is being coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast, Martin County, City of Stuart and federal, state and local law enforcement organizations.
- The schedule has also been shared by the U.S. Coast Guard in the Notice to Mariners.

What is the benefit?

- The bridge has not received these improvements or rehabilitation of the components since it was built in the 1920s. The planned rehabilitation will improve the reliability of the drawbridge.

When is the work happening?

- Prep work began on the bridge in 2021 and the temporary modification schedule required for the rehabilitation was approved by the USCG in February 2023.
- Due to the type of construction work and necessary safety precautions the navigation channel will be impacted as follows:

Overnight bridge closures: 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday, April 16 to Friday, April 28

- Drawbridge to remain in the down (closed) position overnight; no boat passage for vessels requiring an opening of the drawbridge. Vessels able to pass without an opening may do so at any time. All mariners should exercise caution when in the navigation channel.
- Bridge will remain in the up (open) position from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily.
- *Normal bridge operations daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.*
- *Drawbridge returns to full normal operations 6 a.m., Friday, April 28.*

Full bridge closure – 6 a.m., Monday, May 1 to 6 a.m., Monday, May 22

- Drawbridge to remain in the down position; no boat passage for vessels requiring an opening of the drawbridge.
- Vessels able to pass without an opening may do so at any time. Exercise caution.
- Brightline crews will work 24/7.

Overnight bridge closures: 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday, May 22 to Monday, May 29

- Drawbridge to remain in the down position overnight; no boat passage for vessels requiring an opening of the drawbridge. Vessels able to pass without an opening may do so at any time. Exercise caution.
- Bridge will remain in the up (open) position from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily.
- *Normal operations from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.*
- *Drawbridge returns to full normal operations 6 a.m., Monday, May 29.*

Why is the work taking place now?

- The schedule was determined in coordination with multiple agencies and organizations and based on extensive public feedback, including from the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast. The work has also been coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard and Florida East Coast Railway. The work must be done prior to the start of hurricane season due to safety concerns and evacuation protocols.
- The entire bridge rehabilitation project is expected to be complete in summer 2023.

How will the replacement of the drawbridge and rehabilitation of the entire bridge impact the mariner community?

- Improve reliability and efficiency of the bridge.
- Improve operations by replacing all electrical and mechanical components of the bridge.

How can the public stay informed and updated?

- Brightline will use fixed and variable message signs along the channel to communicate information.
- **Mariners are encouraged to sign up for text alert updates by texting “STL” to 888-384-0037. The text alert system will be used regularly to send schedule updates and important communications for mariners.**
- Brightline will also provide updates via Twitter @GoBrightline and on the [Brightline website](#).
- Brightline will partner with local agencies and organizations to spread the word in advance of navigation channel impacts.

What type of mitigation measures is Brightline implementing post construction and prior to operations?

- Brightline is implementing a real-time bridge opening and closure app so mariners know when the bridge is projected to be opened and closed.
- Brightline will add a countdown clock and bridge monitor at the bridge. Construction of the bridge monitor house is currently underway and will not impact the navigation channel. A bridge monitor will be able to speak with the mariners via radio and provide bridge opening and closure information.