



## From Ocean City Fire Department About Rt. 50 Bridge Closure

### Project Overview

1. This winter's work is a critical portion of a larger, multi-year bridge project.
2. The focus of the Winter 2026 project is addressing the mechanical systems, including the drawbridge interlocks at the nose, and restoring structural capacity.
3. Next year, SHA anticipates completing painting of the bridge as part of the larger scope.

### Bridge Closure – Vehicular & Pedestrian Traffic

1. The bridge will be **fully** closed to all traffic beginning January 20 at 7:00 a.m.
2. The planned reopening is February 3 at 12:00 a.m.

The contractor is very familiar with the bridge and is hopeful the closure could be shorter, but due to the age of the structure, unexpected conditions are possible. If delays occur, SHA will communicate directly with Ocean City, and we will promptly share updates with all partners.

During the closure, the bridge will be completely impassable to everyone:

- No vehicles
- No pedestrians
- No bicycles or scooters
- No fishing from the bridge

A bridge tender will be present throughout the closure.

### Marine Traffic Impacts

1. Marine closure window: January 6 – March 20 (if needed; could reopen earlier).
2. Work on the mechanical systems and bearings will make the main channel impassable to marine traffic.
3. The main channel will be closed to all vessel traffic for up to 75 days or less.
4. Barges will be positioned in the channel.

**Vessels able to pass under the flanking spans may do so**