



MARITIME MATTERS – September 2019



USCG

- USCG SNY is monitoring hurricane conditions that may impact the Sector operations. Although Dorian did not have any noticeable impact on NY/NJ, internal USCG posted Level 4 as a precaution.
- The fire that destroyed the dive boat in California is under study by USCG and NTSB. It is expected that the resultant report will have national impacts.
- A member of the USCG SNY vessel boarding team went into the water near Ambrose, but was rescued within minutes, and is OK. Procedures will be reviewed.
- In response to channel deviation, Sandy Hook Channel 11A buoy has been placed in position.
- The Kosciuszko Bridge has been re-opened as of August 28



USACE

- The 50ft dredging project in Newark Bay has been completed.
- The 40ft dredging project in Newark Bay has been awarded, and should commence shortly.
- The dredging in Sandy Hook Channel is being delayed due to the need for multi-Federal Agency agreement. The matter is now being addressed at a District Commander level, and it is expected that agreement will be achieved shortly.
- In conjunction with a beach replenishment project, the Jamaica Inlet will undergo maintenance dredging.



NOAA

- NOAA staff is very busy monitoring, and responding to seasonal hurricane activity.
- NOAA has put the NRT units in a state of readiness, and is positioned to immediately respond as needed.
- Confirmed that the KVK will be the central core for the Precision Navigation study/implementation. NOAA will be reaching out to various HOPs members, the Deep Draft Working Group, VTS, Oil Terminal Roundtable, and others as necessary to gather data/requirements.



PANY/NJ

- Dredging of berths 21 and 23 will begin in November. Berths 56, 70, 72, 90, and 92 will also be done, with all work expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- Summer soundings are being finalized, and should be made available shortly.
- The Port of NY/NJ anchorage study being jointly sponsored by USACE and PANY/NJ continues on schedule as a presentation was made to the USACE North Atlantic Division in late August. It

will be important for Port of NY/NJ stakeholders to advocate for the need to implement this project.

Bigger/Better/Deeper/Safer

- The original Port of NY/NJ 50 ft channel project has been completed, but is now under review to ensure that the Channel is compatible with the needs of modern vessels.
- The original design was to accommodate the REGINA MAERSK class/size of vessels, but today's vessels are much larger, and have expanded safety requirements for meeting, passing, turning, etc.
- A jointly sponsored study by USACE and PANY/NJ has been initiated to review the Port Channels to identify any areas that may have to be modified in order to improve the safety and efficiency of vessel traffic.
- On August 9, 2019, USACE and PANY/NJ held a meeting of a broad array of Port users to explore possible areas of interest; and possible mitigations that would enable safer navigation.



NJDOT

- Jersey Channel dredging funding is closed for this year
- McLaren Engineering has been retained to create a plan for the removal/refurbishment of the Liberty State Park barge. It is expected that they will propose a modular design based upon Statue of Liberty requirements. The RFP for the project replacement will be released before the end of 2019.



NYCDOT-Staten Island Ferry

- NYCDOT, Staten Island Ferry is holding simulator exercises at Mitags in order to study risks/mitigations for the proposed NYC Ferry Route/landing at St George Staten Island.



NYCEDC

- NYSERDA will host Offshore Wind open houses in Staten Island on September 9, and in Far Rockaway and Sunset Park on Sept 25, 2019.
- NYCEDC Ferry and NYCDOT are studying the potential to establish a new landing at Pier 7 in Staten Island.
- The NYC Fall Ferry Schedule was released on September 9, 2019.
- NYCEDC made a presentation regarding their Lower Manhattan Climate Resiliency Study. Lower Manhattan Resiliency (LMCR) will be a comprehensive strategy to adapt Lower Manhattan to the impacts of climate change. As the study progresses, there will be extensive outreach to potentially impacted stakeholder groups.

Tidal Energy

- The Verdant Power Roosevelt Island Tidal Energy (RITE) Project is re-emerging. The updated RITE Project will deploy several arrays of underwater tidal turbines which will provide tidal energy electricity which will be connected to the NYC Grid. The turbine arrays will be deployed on the west side of Randall's Island above the 59th Street Bridge. A series of marker buoys will identify the area where the turbines will be deployed, and no impact is expected for commercial vessel traffic.

- It is expected that buoy installation will take place during October 2019, and that turbine arrays will be deployed during the 2nd Qtr of 2020.



UNGA

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) will return to the United Nations Building in NYC from September 22-28, 2019. Although peak activity is expected September 23-25, 2019, waterway closures may take place at various times. Operational procedures will be similar to last years. Monitor USCG and NYPD for details and closure notices.

LNG Bunkering in NYC

- It is planned that a CARNIVAL CRUISE vessel will receive LNG bunkers via an ATV/barge during its' projected call at the NYC Manhattan Passenger Vessel Terminal in September 2020.
- In order to ensure safe and secure operations, CARNIVAL, ABS, Shell, and their fuel provider, held simulation sessions in Mitags with key Port of NY/NJ operational stakeholders (USCG, Pilots, etc). The Mitags simulations stressed waterborne maneuvers and operations.
- CARNIVAL also sponsored a HAZID session with concerned terminal/landside stakeholders (NYPD, NYFD, terminal, etc). The HAZID exercise stressed the safety and security of fuel transfer and landside coordination.
- All invited stakeholders were able to make inquiries and recommendations.



IMO

- The theme for the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) September IMA 2019 is "Empowering Women in Maritime Industries".
- We are pleased and proud to note that our very own Bethann Rooney of the PANY/NJ has been selected as an Honoree!!
- Well deserved, Beth!!!

NJ Public Access

- On July 22, 2019 NJDEP held an administrative meeting in Trenton to establish regulatory provisions to administer NJ Sen. Smith's recent Public Access legislation.
- We are pleased to advise, that based on MAPONY's strong advocacy on this matter, NJDEP expects to follow the outlines of the legislation, such that all facilities with a currently valid Federal Facilities Security Plan will be exempted from providing public access to their facilities, and the footprint of that facility will be "grandfathered" to not be obligated to pay for "alternative" access when getting permits.

NYC MWAB

- On September 18, 2019 a meeting of the NYC Mayor's Waterfront Advisory Board heard presentations regarding coastal wetlands and ecology.
- Among others, MAPONY/NJ is a member of the MWAB and represents the interests of the commercial maritime industry.

Raritan River Bridge

- The current plan to replace the Raritan River Bridge is to construct a lift bridge that would allow a 110ft air draft.

- It must be considered that if there is any expected usage of upstream terminal facilities, an air draft of 130-140 ft would be recommended.
- NJDOT is working with NJEDA to study the recommendations.
- Public comment on this matter closed on September 18, 2019.
- We will advise the outcome, when known.

Tug & Barge Day

- The Tow Boat and Harbor Carriers Association will sponsor this year's Tug & Barge Day on October 2, 2019 at the HOMEPORT facility.
- Come out for a great day of viewing our Port of NY/NJ tugs and barges!



Offshore Wind

- EQUINOR has submitted their DRAFT Navigational Safety Risk Assessment (NSRA) for their initial New York Bight OSW development lease area, and they have asked our Harbor Safety, navigation and Operations to make comment thereon before they finalize it and submit it to BOEM/USCG. They have asked for HOPs comments before the end of September.
- An ad-hoc committee has studied the NSRA and has prepared detailed responses to the Draft document.
- Although there are myriad issues, the primary issues are: (1) the size of the setback from shipping lanes. EQUINOR supports the 1nm setbacks common in European developments, while HOPs supports the 2nm setbacks recommended by USCG and a most recent Dutch White Paper; (2) EQUINOR acknowledges a potential for establishing designated "pass-through" lanes, but does not specifically designate same. HOPs joins USCG opinion that "pass-through" lanes are essential to the success of the Marine Transportation System, and the Blue Highway. Although the relatively small size of the EQUINOR development area may be avoidable, this is especially relevant due to the impending large area developments expected in the New York Bight which will create cumulative blockages of transit.

HSRP

- NOAA's Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP), a Federal Advisory Committee, held their semi-annual in-person meeting in New Orleans on August 27/28, 2019.
- HSRP is responsible for overseeing NOAA activities such as PORTS, meteorological observations, inundation, surveys, Precision Navigation, geodesy, NRTs, etc.
- The meeting highlighted inundation issues, Precision Navigation and new geodetic reference points.
- MAPONY/NJ represents the interests of the Northeast USA and commercial navigation and port issues. The MAPONY/NJ participation ensures that our area receives full NOAA attention, and recognizes our issues, such as Precision Navigation, PORTS, and current and other sensor surveys.