

desiring passage of a vessel have to make their requests known to the operator of a drawbridge, frequently some time in advance. This advance notice is normally a single phone call. Advance notice has been required under the existing rule for drawbridges on the Chicago River and a simple verbal request for bridge openings would continue to be required under the proposed rules.

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this action under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal, if adopted, will not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that, under section 2.B.2.g.5 of Commandant Instruction M16475.1B, this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A Categorical Exclusion Determination statement has been prepared and placed in the docket.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

For reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 117 as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATING REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 117 continues to read as follows:.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 499; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g).

2. Section 117.391 is revised to read as follows:

§ 117.391 Chicago River.

The draws of the bridges operated by the City of Chicago shall operate as follows:

(a) For commercial vessels:

(1) From April 1 through November 30—

(i) The draws of the bridges across the Chicago River from its mouth to the junction of the North and South Branches, across the South Branch from the junction to and including the Roosevelt Road, and the Kinzie and Ohio Street bridges across the North Branch shall open on signal; except that, from Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., the draws need not be opened for the passage of commercial vessels.

(ii) The draws of the bridges across the North Branch of the Chicago River at Grand Avenue, the bridges across the

North Branch of the Chicago River north of the Ohio Street bridge to and including North Halsted Street, and bridges across the South Branch of the Chicago River north of South Halsted Street to, but not including Roosevelt Road, shall open on signal; except that, from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., the draws need not open for the passage of commercial vessels.

(iii) The draws of the bridges across the North Branch of the Chicago River north of North Halsted Street and the South Branch of the Chicago River south of South Halsted Street shall open on signal; except that, from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. the draws need not be opened for the passage of commercial vessels.

(iv) Subject to the restrictions in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) through (a)(1)(iii) of this section, the draws of the Randolph Street, Cermak Road, and Loomis Street bridges across the South Branch of the Chicago River, shall open on signal. The draws of the following bridges in Chicago shall open on signal if tended or within 30 minutes after notice is given to the City of Chicago Bridge Desk:

South Branch

Washington Street
Madison Street
Monroe Street
Adams Street
Jackson Boulevard
Van Buren Street
Congress Street (Eisenhower Expressway)
Harrison Street
Roosevelt Road
Eighteenth Street
Canal Street
South Halsted Street

West Fork of the South Branch

South Ashland Avenue
South Damen Avenue

Chicago River, North Branch

Grand Avenue
Chicago Avenue
North Halsted Street
Ogden Street
Division Street

(2) From December 1 through March 31, the draws of the highway bridges across the Chicago River, the North Branch of the Chicago River, and the South Branch of the Chicago River shall open on signal if at least 12 hours notice is given. However, the bridges need not open during those periods of time specified in paragraphs (a)(1) (i), (ii) and (iii) of this section.

(b) For recreational vessels:

(1) From April 1 through November 30—

(i) The draws shall be scheduled to open, before 1 p.m., twice on Saturdays and twice on Sundays if requests for passage have been received at least 20 hours in advance. If the bridges have been authorized to remain closed for portions of a Saturday or Sunday to accommodate special events, openings shall be scheduled after 1 p.m. as necessary to provide two openings.

(ii) The draws shall open on Monday and Friday, after 6:30 p.m. Each opening requires notice that has been given at least 6 hours in advance of a vessel's requested time of passage.

(iii) The draws shall open on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., or as soon thereafter as practical, if a request for passage has been given at least 20 hours in advance.

(iv) The draws shall open at times in addition to those listed in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (b)(1)(iii) of this section, after notice has been given at least 20 hours in advance requesting passage for a flotilla of at least five vessels. However, the bridges need not open during those periods of time specified in paragraphs (a)(1) (i), (ii) and (iii) of this section.

(2) From December 1 through March 31, the draws of the highway bridges across the Chicago River, the North Branch of the Chicago River, and the South Branch of the Chicago River need open on signal only if at least 48 hours notice is given. However, the bridges need not open during those periods of time specified in paragraphs (a)(1) (i), (ii) and (iii) of this section.

(3) Paragraph (b) of this section applies to the following listed bridges:

Main Branch

Lake Shore Drive
Columbus Drive
Michigan Avenue
Wabash Avenue
State Street
Dearborn Street
Clark Street
LaSalle Street
Wells Street
Franklin-Orleans Street

South Branch

Lake Street
Randolph Street
Washington Street
Monroe Street
Madison Street
Adams Street
Jackson Boulevard
Van Buren Street
Eisenhower Expressway
Harrison Street
Roosevelt Road