

OLD BRIDGE / NEW BRIDGE: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The short answer? The new bridge is bigger, stronger, safer, better for the environment, and more versatile for the traveling public.



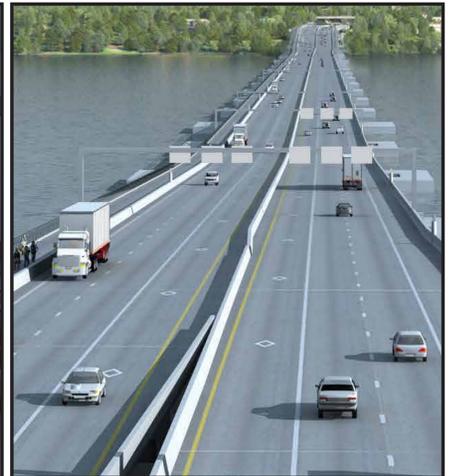
New bicycle and pedestrian path



Old drawspan



New, 11,000-ton pontoon



Construction of new gravity anchor



New, larger anchor cable



New stormwater wells in pontoons

BRIDGE FEATURE	OLD BRIDGE	NEW BRIDGE
Open to traffic	August 1963	April 2016 (planned)
Design life	50+ years	75+ years
Length	7,578 ft	7,708.5 ft
Width (roadway deck, midspan)	60 ft	116 ft
Right shoulder width	4 ft	10 ft
General-purpose lanes	4	4
Bus / HOV lanes	No	Yes, 1 in each direction
Bicycle & pedestrian path	No	Yes, 14 ft wide
Roadway height above water	6.5 ft	20 ft
Drawspan	Yes	No
Highest clearance for boats	64 ft	70 ft
Number of pontoons	33	77
Size of biggest pontoons	360 ft L x 60 ft W x 15.66 ft H; 4,725 tons	360 ft L x 75 ft W x 28 ft H; 11,000 tons
Number of anchors	58	58
Size of biggest anchors	26 ft L x 26 ft W x 16.75 ft H; 132 tons	40 L x 40 ft W X 23 ft H; 420 tons
Diameter of steel anchor cables	2 ³ / ₁₆ inches	3 ¹ / ₈ inches
Built to withstand winds up to...	57 mph; 77 mph as later retrofitted	89 mph (a once-in-a-century storm)
Tolls to cross bridge	Yes, until 1979	Yes
Runoff / stormwater management system	No	Yes
Capacity for light rail	No	Yes, with retrofit