



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2016-0230]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Lake Washington Ship Canal, Seattle, WA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the University Bridge, mile 4.3, and the Montlake Bridge, mile 5.2, both crossing Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA. The deviation is necessary to accommodate the “Beat the Bridge” foot race event. This deviation allows the bridges to remain in the closed-to-navigation position to allow for the safe movement of event participants.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on May 15, 2016.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG-2016-0230] is available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click "SEARCH." Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or e-mail Mr. Steven Fischer, Bridge Administrator, Thirteenth Coast Guard District; telephone 206-220-7282, e-mail d13-pf-d13bridges@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Seattle Department of Transportation requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule for the University Bridge, mile 4.3, and the

Montlake Bridge, mile 5.2, both crossing Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA, to facilitate safe passage of participants in the “Beat the Bridge” foot race. The University Bridge provides a vertical clearance of 30 feet in the closed-to-navigation position. The Montlake Bridge provides 30 feet of vertical clearance in the closed-to-navigation position throughout the navigation channel, and 46 feet of vertical clearance in the closed-to-navigation position throughout the center 60 feet of the bridge. Vertical clearances are referenced to the Mean Water Level of Lake Washington. The normal operating schedule for both the University Bridge and Montlake Bridge is in 33 CFR 117.1051. During this deviation period, the University Bridge, mile 4.3, need not open to marine vessels from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on May 15, 2016. The Montlake Bridge, mile 5.2, need not open to marine vessels from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. on May 15, 2016. Waterway usage on Lake Washington Ship Canal ranges from commercial tug and barge to small pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass through the bridges in the closed positions may do so at any time. Both bridges will be able to open for emergencies, and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessel operators can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: March 23, 2016

Steven M. Fischer
Bridge Administrator
Thirteenth Coast Guard District

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